

• LOCAL •

Ward 5's Vacon seeks re-election

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HOLYOKE – Ward 5 City Councilor Linda L. Vacon, who has announced her campaign for re-election, has a way of cutting through clutter.

"This is ridiculous," Vacon said last month, when a councilor questioned a testimonial dinner for the former police chief.

"I believe we are subjecting the city to liability by leaving this person (in office)," Vacon said in February about former Tax Collector Robert F. Kane.

Vacon, 56, is in her first term and is seeking another two years in the seat in the fall election. Each councilor is paid \$10,000 a year.

Vacon wrote in an email May 14 that she sees her job as a ward councilor as helping the city grow by welcoming new business while safeguarding the quality of life in neighborhoods.

"The focus of my position has been constituent service, common sense and clear communication," Vacon said.

"It has been an honor and a



Linda L. Vacon

enter a new campaign season," she said.

privilege to represent the people of Ward 5 and the city of Holyoke. I remain as committed as ever to work for you, for Holyoke as we

She is on the council Redevelopment Committee and the Public Service Committee. She belongs to the Greater Holyoke Chamber of Commerce and Holyoke Taxpayers Association.

Also, Vacon is on a task force of taxpayers, business owners and officials Mayor Elaine A. Pluta appointed in March to find ways to reduce property taxes.

Election day is Nov. 8.

A preliminary election would be held Sept. 20 to narrow the field of some races if necessary.