



SPOKANE CITY COUNCIL
808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd.
Spokane, WA 99201-3335
(509) 625-6255

Ben Stuckart
Council President

February 8, 2016

808 West Spokane Falls Boulevard
7th Floor – Mayor’s Office
Spokane, Washington 99201

Dear Mayor Condon:

At the Public Safety Committee meeting today, February 8th, 2016, the City Council had several questions about the administration’s recent announcement of Mr. Jim McDevitt as the “Director of Law Enforcement”. Mr. Whitney requested these questions be asked via a letter as no one from the administration was there or able to provide answers. I have tried to compile these questions from Council as best as I could.

The City Council is requesting answers to the following questions:

1. Is there a current job description for “Director of Law Enforcement”? If not, is one being crafted as a permanent position or as a temporary position?
2. What type of authority does this position have? Does the “Director of Law Enforcement” have the authority to hire and terminate other City employees?
3. Is the “Director of Law Enforcement” position in lieu of an acting or interim Chief of Police, or should we expect an acting or interim Chief of Police to be named later? Please provide a Spokane Police Division organization chart in addition to this answer.
4. Jim McDevitt does not meet the eligibility requirements of a Chief of Police as outlined in RCW 35.21.333. Is the City of Spokane violating Washington state law by making Mr. McDevitt Chief of Police, by default, by appointing him “Director of Law Enforcement”?
5. If Mr. McDevitt is not considered Chief of Police, is the City of Spokane violating Spokane Municipal Code 03.10.010 that requires the Chief of Police to be head of the Police Division? If so, does the Administration plan to bring a subsequent ordinance to be considered by Council that makes the necessary changes to the Police Division?
6. What is the estimated amount of the total expenditures for the “Director of Law Enforcement” temporary position? Please outline salary and benefits. In which departmental budget will this position be funded? Spokane Municipal Code 07.09.010 governs the process for establishing new employee positions. When shall the City Council expect to consider the creation of this position?



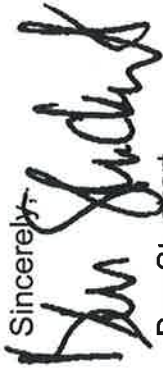
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7. Who will handle the operational role of a commissioned Chief of Police? What, if any, operational changes can our constituents expect under this new, but temporary, organizational model?

Because of the short timeframe necessary to find solutions to these issues, I am requesting response to these questions by close of business on Monday, February 15th, 2016.

Thank you for your consideration of my questions.

Sincerely,


Ben Stuckart
President, Spokane City Council

cc Tyler Whitney, Mayor's Policy Advisor
Spokane City Council