

Personnel & Policy Committee
Addendum to Report Provided in February 8, 2016 Council Agenda

Note: *The italicized text represents the Committee's recommendations.* The underlined text is an amendment to the draft proposed by Councilor Stearns. This text, with amendment, is scheduled to be discussed by the entire Council at its February 8th Council meeting.

Item 2. Council Policy Regarding Communications with City Attorney

Requests from a Councilor seeking information, advice, or feedback from the City Solicitor may be presented routinely and directly to the City Manager. Requests denied by the City Manager, if pursued, must be submitted to both the City Manager and the City Mayor, or in the absence of the Mayor, the Council President. The submission must be in writing and articulate the reasons why access to legal counsel is requested. The City Mayor or Council President when acting on behalf of the City Mayor, with input from the City Council, will decide whether the request will be forwarded to the City Solicitor. By vote of the entire Council, an individual Councilor may be authorized to communicate directly with the City Solicitor. The Council may place limits (i.e., subject matter, hours of work, etc.) on that interaction, as deemed necessary. Notwithstanding any other language in this policy, the chair of committee overseeing personnel issues shall have the authority to consult directly with the solicitor on all matters related to the City Manager's contract and performance, provided the Council is briefed on such matters at the following meeting of the Council, in executive session or as appropriate. Notwithstanding any other language in this policy, the Mayor shall have the authority to consult directly with the solicitor on all matters during a vacation or absence of the City Manager, provided the City Manager is briefed upon return.