Public discourse is typically healthy in generating ideas and views, even when the manner is not always agreed upon or the topics not ideal. However, it seems that members of the community have not been able to distinguish between personal and professional responsibilities and rights. Even worse, targeting of my family with aggression for any reason is not acceptable.

Despite any perceived flaws, my city-specific actions have been focused on creating a community with better services and avoiding this council's continued complacent and rubber stamp mentality. Although there are always better ways something could have been done, I stand by anything I have said professionally or personally.

I find it unfortunate that the greater Skamania county continues to, time and again, override the feelings of the population of the city of Stevenson. While their concern of the community as a whole is admirable, it is important to recognize each agency's autonomy and need to serve those they specifically represent. I would urge our community to continue to focus on the issues rather than the rhetoric of the day. If people are willing to to be offended by some correspondences and yet not be offended about the physical actions of others that put their neighbors in actual harm's way, what does that say about this community?

This council position has always made me feel proud to be a part of our community. While I would happily continue championing the causes I think are important for this community despite any and all criticisms, I draw the line with targeting my family. If this is what our community tolerates, I have nothing left to offer.

I resign from this council, knowing I had fought for others while trying to keep this community moving forward with society.

Matthew Knudsen



Letter

Matthew Knudsen <matthew.knudsen@ci.stevenson.wa.us> To: Leana Kinley <leana@ci.stevenson.wa.us>

Wed, Dec 9, 2020 at 3:23 PM

Yes.

As of today.

On Wed, Dec 9, 2020 at 2:50 PM Leana Kinley <leana@ci.stevenson.wa.us> wrote: | Matthew.

Do you want this included in the council packet? And what is the effective date of your resignation?

Thanks,

Leana Kinley, EMPA, CMC

City Administrator 7121 E. Loop Rd/PO Box 371 Stevenson, WA 98648-0371 (509) 427-5970

On Wed, Dec 9, 2020 at 2:28 PM Matthew Knudsen <matthew.knudsen@ci.stevenson.wa.us> wrote:

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Matthew Knudsen

City Council Member, Seat #5 | City of Stevenson, Washington

PO Box 371 | Stevenson, WA | 98648-0371

503-730-3827

--Mat

Matthew Knudsen City Council Member, Seat #5 | City of Stevenson, Washington PO Box 371 | Stevenson, WA | 98648-0371 503-730-3827