



Leana Kinley <leana@ci.stevenson.wa.us>

Pledge

5 messages

Rick May <rick@mayandassociates.net>

Mon, Aug 9, 2021 at 10:47 AM

To: citycouncil@ci.stevenson.wa.us

Cc: Julie May <julie@creatingspirals.com>, "annie.mchale@ci.stevenson.wa.us" <annie.mchale@ci.stevenson.wa.us>

Dear City Council,

I am aware of Annie's written pledge. Annie's pledge deals directly with what it means to honorably serve on the Council. I believe it is an appropriate guide for our Council. Council has also already agreed to recite Annie's pledge. I suggest the Council honor its agreement. Thank you.

Rick May

Leana Kinley <leana@ci.stevenson.wa.us>

Mon, Aug 9, 2021 at 11:35 AM

To: Rick May <rick@mayandassociates.net>

Cc: citycouncil <citycouncil@ci.stevenson.wa.us>, Julie May <julie@creatingspirals.com>, "annie.mchale@ci.stevenson.wa.us" <annie.mchale@ci.stevenson.wa.us>

Rick,

Do you want your comments included in the next update of the council packet to be recorded for the August 12th meeting?

Thanks,

Leana Kinley, EMPA, CMC

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

On Mon, Aug 9, 2021 at 10:47 AM Rick May <rick@mayandassociates.net> wrote:

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Rick May

Robert Muth <robert.muth@ci.stevenson.wa.us>

Mon, Aug 9, 2021 at 11:56 AM

To: Rick May <rick@mayandassociates.net>

Cc: City Council <citycouncil@ci.stevenson.wa.us>, Julie May <julie@creatingspirals.com>, "annie.mchale@ci.stevenson.wa.us" <annie.mchale@ci.stevenson.wa.us>

Rick/Recipients of Email:

Just some background, for 8 years under Frank Cox (RIP), the Mayor never invited the Council or attendees to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Anderson when elected Mayor began the practice of inviting anyone to stand and recite the Pledge prior to council meetings. The invitation to open a meeting with the Pledge has no bearing on the Oath of Office taken by any elected official. The Oath requires the elected official to adhere to the US and Washington Construction and to faithfully execute the duties of the elected office.

During the February 2020 Council meeting, the Council discussed changes to the City Council Rules of Procedure. Section 4 of the draft as presented included a provision which recited the Mayor would open all meetings by inviting the Council and attendees to stand and recite the Pledge. Two Councilmembers objected to the draft language and offered an alternative to the recitation of the Pledge. After discussion, the Council removed any reference to the Pledge or the alternative statement offered by other members of Council from Section 4 of the Council Rules. The Council then approved the revised Rules of Procedure by a majority vote; not a unanimous vote as I voted No.

If you refer to Section 4 of the Rules, the Rules provide for the Mayor to call the meeting to order. The Rules do not prohibit the Mayor from inviting anyone to stand and recite the Pledge. Thus, this is a Mayor's choice in how the Council Meeting is opened.

I am providing background and not opining either way on a person's decision to stand, recite the Pledge or do something different during those few seconds before we begin City business.

As a reminder, Stevenson is a Mayor-council form of government. The oldest and most common in Washington. Under this form of government, the mayor is elected to serve as the city's chief administrative officer.

The council is separately elected and serves as the city's legislative body. This is a separation of powers based on the traditional federal and state models of government. As with the federal government, the executive branch cannot direct or control how the House and Senate operate; and vice versa.

The council has the sole authority to formulate and adopt city policies. The mayor is responsible for carrying out those policies. The mayor does not set a policy for the City of Stevenson. The mayor attends and presides over council meetings, but does not vote on any issue put to a vote, except in the case of a tie. The mayor does have veto authority of legislation passed by the council. This creates a "strong mayor" form of government.

Please be cool during this week's heatwave.

Thank you.

Robert C. Muth

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Rick May <rick@mayandassociates.net>

Mon, Aug 9, 2021 at 1:23 PM

To: Robert Muth <robert.muth@ci.stevenson.wa.us>

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Hello Robert,

Thank you for the pertinent background information. The additional information is appreciated.

Rick May

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Rick@mayandassociates.net
503-341-2932

Rick May <rick@mayandassociates.net>
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Mon, Aug 9, 2021 at 1:24 PM

Yes please include. Thank you.

Rick

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