

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

VICE CHAIR

- Community and Economic Development Committee
- Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development Committee

MEMBER

- Public Safety and Health Committee



JOSÉ G. PÉREZ

ALDERMAN, 12TH DISTRICT

BOARD MEMBER

- Hispanic Elected Local Officials

MEMBER

- Kinnickinnic River Neighborhood Association
- Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District Commission
- National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials
- National League of Cities
- Walker's Point Association
- Walker Square Neighborhood Association

June 27, 2019

Regarding the Emergency Management and Communications Director, some interesting facts were omitted from the letter:

Not speaking on behalf of the employee whom had publicly been named to fill the position...I think it would be news to her that her name in fact was going to be moved forward by the mayor (because it never formally was). It was very strange that the administration made an opinion request as to whether or not the position would be a cabinet level position....even though it was replacing a cabinet level position. There appeared to be a lot indecision about the position, which may have assisted in the position being empty to this day. While the position remains vacant we've endured several confusing instances regarding who has the authority to "close" City Hall during the polar vortex this winter and we also had a mail letter scare in which my staff (that isn't trained in emergency management) served as the initial primary alarm bell for members of the City Clerk's Office.

Now we're told someone has declined the offer to accept the position: maybe it's because, the Mayor hasn't even announced he's running yet...or maybe because they got a glimpse of the friction between the mayor and the council...or quite possibly they found out the Ex. Director of FPC whom they would technically still work for, is leaving. Any of them seem possible to me, but all in the City is damaged and vulnerable while the Administration figures things out. All the while no one from the Administration, from the office of the Mayor, appeared before this committee and gave us any plans, projections, updates...it's been nothing but an arrogant silence regarding a position state statute affixes a clear time frame to be filled upon it being vacant. Lastly, although I may not have a smoking gun, it stands to reason without someone in that position the City has likely lost out on funding during this period that the position was vacant.

Regarding the Ex. Director role, as people around City Hall will surely talk, it's been brought to my attention her last day is tomorrow. I wish her and her family well. She took the job under challenging circumstances and I thank her for her efforts. Again, I look at the Administration, not her as an employee for answers. I look at the administration for withholding information on a position that we the council confirm. Clearly we will now be without an executive director while we have ongoing work of the ACLU settlement, the Community Collaborative Committee and have a Police Chief that is posting dramatic crime reduction numbers under his watch with a super bowl type event happening next year in the DNC, with no stated certainty of his future.

SI USTED TIENE UNA PREGUNTA O SOLICITA TRADUCCIÓN SOBRE ESTA CARTA, FAVOR DE COMUNICARSE AL 414-286-2861

CITY HALL, ROOM 205, 200 E. WELLS STREET, MILWAUKEE, WI 53202
PHONE (414) 286-2221 • FAX (414) 286-3456 • jperez@milwaukee.gov • www.milwaukee.gov/district12



June 27, 2019

Page 2

The uncertainty abounds. Where is the leadership from the Administration? Even Executive Director Butler has implied she'd love to have 9 members on the FPC, but she needs 7 to conduct business. What the Administration gave on the other hand was a cold shoulder to the former Chair of the FPC and two out of touch nominees that the council was forced to step up and deny. Also, I attended the FPC meeting in which not only did the named monitor in the ACLU settlement, the Criminal Justice Institute, state the FPC needs to undergo a staffing analysis (as they are understaffed) but they hinted that it is likely their role in the process may still render the FPC needing outside consultant help (i.e more money). No Ex. Director, no matter how quickly someone is nominated and appointed, is about to be a sad but real reality with many questions unanswered.