## CITY OF SPOKANE ETHICS COMMISSION Advisory Opinion

November 9, 2022

Honorable Mayor Nadine Woodward City of Spokane 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd. Spokane, WA 99201

Re: **ADVISORY OPINION**: Application for the City of Spokane Salary Review Commission – re: Carl Reed Jessen

Dear Mayor Woodward:

At your request, the Commission scheduled the interview of applicant Carl Reed Jessen for a vacancy existing on the Salary Review Commission. See the application of Carl Reed Jessen attached hereto.

On October 19, 2022, the City of Spokane Ethics Commission held a public meeting and interviewed Mr. Jessen. The interview was conducted pursuant to the Salary Review Commission ordinance, SMC 2.05.020 A. 3 &4, which provides:

## A. Membership.

The commission shall consist of five members who are residents and registered voters of the City. Appointment shall be as follows:

- Three Commission members shall have experience in the field of personnel management, or a demonstrated knowledge in the administration of compensation and benefits. Two Commission members shall have experience in finance, business management, or other related fields that demonstrate experience beneficial to the review of total compensation and establishment of salary.
- 2. All members shall be at-large appointments nominated by the mayor and appointed by the city council.
- 3. Applications for positions to the salary review commission shall be reviewed by the City's ethics committee pursuant to SMC 1.04.170 as an advisory opinion for potential conflicts of interest or other conflicts with the ethics code.
- The ethics committee's advisory opinion shall be filed with the mayor's office and with the city council. (emphasis ours).

The Ethics Commission Members interviewed Mr. Jessen, and unanimously found no conflicts or potential conflicts existed in Mr. Jessen's employment history, personal interests or relationships that would prohibit him from serving on the City's Salary Review Commission, and determined the applicant met the requirements to serve as stated by the Ethics Code.

If no future conflicts or potential for conflict arise, Mr. Jessen can serve on the Salary Review Commission. Should a future conflict or potential for conflict arise for Mr. Jessen in a matter that is before the Salary Review Commission, Mr. Jessen must publicly announce the conflict or potential for conflict and recuse himself from all discussions and decisions on the matter. SMC 01.04A.et.seq.; RCW 42.23.et. seq.; RCW 42.36. et. seq.

Very truly yours,

Sarah O'Hare Co-Chair

City of Spokane Ethics Commission

Clavton McFarland

Co-Chair

City of Spokane Ethics Commission