



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

February 17, 2016

Ordinance 18235

Proposed No. 2016-0112.1

Sponsors Gossett

1 AN ORDINANCE related to the appointment of the
2 director of the office of law enforcement oversight;
3 amending Ordinance 15611, Section 4, as amended, and
4 K.C.C. 2.75.030; and declaring an emergency.

5 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

6 SECTION 1. Findings:

7 A. Section 265 of the King County Charter, which was approved by the voters in
8 November 2015, provides in part that the King County office of law enforcement
9 oversight "shall have a director who is appointed by a majority of the county council to
10 serve a term of four years and until a successor is appointed."

11 B. K.C.C. 2.75.030 prescribes, among other things, the process for appointment
12 and removal of the director of the office of law enforcement oversight.

13 C. K.C.C. 2.75.030.A. currently provides in part: "The director shall be
14 appointed by the executive and confirmed by the council." This provision was adopted
15 before Section 265 of the King County Charter and is inconsistent with Section 265 of
16 the King County Charter.

17 D. K.C.C. 2.75.030.B. currently provides in part: "Candidates for appointment
18 shall be selected by a committee of five members that shall recommend three candidates
19 for the director position to the executive, one of which must be selected." This provision,

20 too, was adopted before Section 265 of the King County Charter and is inconsistent with
21 Section 265 of the King County Charter in that K.C.C. 2.75.030.B. assumes that the
22 selection committee's recommendation will be made to the executive, rather than the
23 council.

24 E. The recommendation of candidates for appointment to fill the current vacancy
25 in the position of director of the office of law enforcement oversight is imminent.
26 Therefore, to support an existing county office, it is urgent that the provisions of K.C.C.
27 2.75.030 that are referred to in subsections C. and D. of this section be amended to
28 conform to Section 265 of the King County Charter.

29 SECTION 2. Ordinance 15611, Section 4, as amended, and K.C.C. 2.75.030 are
30 each hereby amended to read:

31 A. The director shall be appointed by ~~((the executive and confirmed by))~~ a
32 majority of the council. The executive shall conduct a nationwide search for the director
33 to identify candidates with the following characteristics:

- 34 1. A reputation for integrity and professionalism, as well as the ability to
35 maintain a high standard of integrity in the office;
- 36 2. An understanding of and a commitment to the responsibilities of the office;
- 37 3. Demonstrated leadership and a history of effective management and
38 administration;
- 39 4. The ability to gain the trust and respect of sheriff's office employees;
- 40 5. The ability to work effectively with the executive, council, prosecuting
41 attorney and sheriff, as well as other public agencies, labor organizations, private
42 organizations and citizens;

43 6. An openness to innovation and new ideas;

44 7. Sensitivity to and knowledge of the particular needs and concerns of

45 minorities and women in a law enforcement setting;

46 8. The ability to work effectively under pressure with controversial issues and

47 the ability to effectively communicate with diverse groups;

48 9. No history of employment in the sheriff's office;

49 10. A history that includes the establishment of a reputation for even-

50 handedness and fairness in dealing with both complainants and regulated parties; and

51 11. The selected director must pass a complete criminal background check prior

52 to confirmation.

53 B. Candidates for appointment shall be selected by a committee of five members

54 that shall recommend three candidates for the director position to the ~~((executive, one of~~

55 ~~which must be selected))~~ council. The selection committee shall be composed of: one

56 member appointed by the King County Police Officers' Guild; one member appointed by

57 the Puget Sound Police Managers' Association; one member appointed by the chair of the

58 county council; and one member appointed by the county executive. The fifth member

59 shall be appointed by the other four members. If none of the three recommended

60 candidates has the support of a majority of the council, the council may direct by motion

61 the commencement of a new recruitment and recommendation process.

62 C. The director shall serve a term of four years, unless removed for cause at any

63 time by motion approved by a majority of the council, and shall be considered by the

64 county council for reappointment at the end of each term of office.

65 D. The director, with consultation of the council and within the amount available
66 or budgeted by appropriation, may employ staff or use the services of consultants as may
67 be necessary for conduct of the office's duties. These employees or contractors must pass
68 a complete criminal background check before employment.

69 SECTION 3. The county council finds as a fact and declares that an emergency
70 exists and that this ordinance is necessary for the immediate preservation of public peace,

71 health or safety or for the support of county government and its existing public
72 institutions.
73

Ordinance 18235 was introduced on 2/16/2016 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 2/16/2016, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn,
Mr. McDermott, Mr. Dembowski, Mr. Upthegrove, Ms. Kohl-Welles
and Ms. Balducci
No: 0
Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



J. Joseph McDermott, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: None