



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Inspector General Selection and Retention Committee Meeting Minutes June 1, 2018, 10:00AM

*Note: Below is a summary of the meeting as required by Florida's Sunshine Law; See AGO-82-47.
For more detailed information, please refer to the audio file on the Office of Inspector General's website,
<http://www.coj.net/departments/inspector-general/inspector-general-committee>*

Location: City Hall, St. James Building, 117 West Duval Street, Don Davis Room

1. Call to Order: Committee Chair Judge Elizabeth Senterfitt called the meeting to order at 10:02AM.

2. Pledge of Allegiance: Judge Senterfitt opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call - Committee Members Present:

- Brian Aull, Chair, Ethics Commission (arrived at 10:36AM)
- Honorable Charlie Cofer, Public Defender for the Fourth Judicial Circuit
- Sam E. Mousa, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), designee for Honorable Lenny Curry, Mayor
- Honorable Judge Elizabeth Senterfitt, designee for Honorable Mark Mahon, Chief Judge, and Chair of the Inspector General Selection and Retention Committee
- Honorable Anna Lopez Brosche, City Council President
- L. E. Hutton, designee for Honorable Melissa Nelson, State Attorney for the Fourth Judicial Circuit
- Niki Brunson, Chair, TRUE Commission

Office of Inspector General Staff Present:

- James R. Hoffman, Inspector General (IG), Office of Inspector General (OIG)
- Lisa A. Green, Deputy Inspector General (DIG), OIG

4. Approval of the April 5, 2018 Minutes

Judge Senterfitt asked the Inspector General Selection and Retention Committee (Committee) if there were any questions or corrections to the April 5, 2018 minutes.

Charlie Cofer, Public Defender, motioned to approve the April 5, 2018 meeting minutes as circulated. CAO Sam Mousa seconded. **Motion Carried.**

5. Planning for Open Inspector General Position

Judge Senterfitt explained Inspector General James Hoffman has resigned, and the Committee needs to choose an Interim Inspector General and decide how to move forward with the selection of a new permanent Inspector General.

CAO Sam Mousa made a motion that the Committee place DIG Lisa A. Green as Interim Inspector General. Council President Anna Lopez Brosche seconded. Mousa suggested that DIG Green excuse herself from the room for the ensuing discussion, and Green exited the room.

CAO Mousa explained DIG Green has been the most stable person in the Office for some time now. She understands the Office, and it would provide continuity to let Green serve as the Interim Inspector General. Council President Brosche stated that DIG Green has provided stability and continuity within the Office. Green has continued to gain experience and demonstrate leadership within the Office. Brosche expressed her support for Green as both the Interim and permanent Inspector General.

CAO Mousa added that DIG Green has grown in the position, improved her leadership skills, and improved her cooperation with individuals. Mousa stated he would also support the Committee considering Green for the permanent Inspector General position.

Charlie Cofer, Public Defender, asked for details of DIG Green's background and experience. IG Hoffman explained that Green was a special agent with the USDA Office of Inspector General and has worked with the City's Office of Inspector General since 2015.

According to the Ordinance Code, it is the Committee's responsibility to choose an interim, and the final selection goes before City Council. IG Hoffman noted the Ordinance Code requires that the Committee choose the permanent IG from a list of candidates provided by the Employee Services department. CAO Mousa stated that, as an alternative, a waiver to the Ordinance provision could be presented to City Council.

L.E. Hutton, State Attorney's Office, explained he has had interactions with Green and has found her very competent.

Senterfitt asked if there were any public comments on the motion to offer the position of Interim Inspector General to Lisa Green. No one came forward.

Committee members voted on the motion to select Lisa A. Green as the Interim Inspector General. **Motion Carried.**

CAO Mousa explained that interim directors within the City are not given an increase in pay, and he made a motion to handle the Interim Inspector General position in the same manner. Council President Brosche seconded the motion that the Interim Inspector General position not come with an increase in salary. **Motion Carried.**

Judge Senterfitt asked for discussion on the next steps for selecting a permanent Inspector General. CAO Mousa stated that the Committee could choose to select Green and waive the Ordinance provision or they could go through the selection and interview process.

Council President Brosche stated that she was not in favor of giving Green a test period as Interim IG. Brosche stated that no other IG has had a test period. Green has had the longest test period of any previous IG. There is a morale factor and a continuity factor for the Office and the

City. Judge Senterfitt explained she is concerned about why the Office has lost IG Cline and now IG Hoffman. Sheryl Steckler has offered to help with the new selection process.

DIG Green applied and interviewed for the position previously and was not selected. Council President Brosche explained that the Committee has chosen the right people at the right time in order to move the office forward, but she does not want the Committee to overlook Green at this point in time.

CAO Mousa explained that he believes DIG Green was not selected previously because she had a reputation for being uncooperative. CAO Mousa stated she has matured into the position and understands how to work together to better prevent fraud and abuse. There is a financial benefit and a continuity benefit to selecting Green. The Office has improved and now has stability. Selecting a new IG would be starting all over again.

CAO Mousa stated that DIG Green's heart is in the job, and he does not believe the Committee could select another person who will better understand the City's processes and organization. CAO Mousa motioned to select Green as the permanent Inspector General. The ultimate legislation appointing her would include a provision to waive the section of the Code that requires the Committee to select the IG from a list of candidates submitted by the Employee Services Department. Someone on the Committee would need to address the bill to City Council on behalf of the Committee and explain the Committee thought it was important to maintain consistency and continuity. It would require 10 votes to pass. Brosche seconded the motion. Brosche indicated she is happy to introduce the Bill, and Mousa and Brosche offered to advocate for the Bill.

Judge Senterfitt expressed reservations about moving so quickly and selecting an IG today. The selection of an IG was not on the agenda for the meeting. There has not been an opportunity for public comments.

CAO Mousa amended his motion to schedule another meeting within about two weeks to vote on the selection of DIG Green as the permanent IG and the waiver of the Ordinance. This would allow time for the meeting to be publicly noticed. Brosche seconded. **Motion Carried.**

The Committee will reconvene on June 19, 2018, at 10AM, in the Don Davis Room.

6. Comments from the Public

Judge Senterfitt asked if there were any public comments. No one came forward.

7. New Business

DIG Green reentered the meeting. IG Hoffman reported that there were some questions in the Rules Committee on the changes to the OIG Ordinance Provisions regarding penalty provisions (Sec. 602.309). One concern was why the OIG needed its own separate penalty provisions and why the Florida Statutes concerning tampering with a witness were not sufficient. IG Hoffman explained the Florida Statutes are geared toward an official investigation by a prosecutorial agency of the state, which does not apply to the OIG. There was also a question regarding

whether the penalty provisions gave the Office authority to prosecute. IG Hoffman explained that the provisions do not give the OIG authority to prosecute; the OIG can only make a referral to the State Attorney's Office. Hoffman has met with one member of the Rules committee already and will meet with two more members Monday and Tuesday of next week. The Ordinance changes will go back before the Rules Committee on June 5, 2018, and the City Council on June 12, 2018.

The Finance and Intake Unit Manager resigned, and the Executive Assistant was promoted into that position. The OIG is going through the process of filling the part-time Executive Assistant position.

IG Hoffman stated he agreed with the decisions of the Committee during this meeting and added that a shorter time period for hiring is best because it is a small office and it is difficult to get the work done with a vacancy.

IG Hoffman recommended that the Committee set up a select committee on oversight to examine different organizations within the Consolidated Government and review the best, most efficient way to provide oversight and ensure there is no duplication of efforts. The Office of the Council Auditor; Office of Ethics, Compliance and Oversight; and the OIG are tasked with providing oversight. There are also various Committees and Commissions tasked with improving economy and efficiency of government.

Judge Senterfitt announced to DIG Green that the Committee had decided to offer her the position of Interim IG and will meet on June 19th to discuss selecting her as the permanent IG and waiving the Ordinance Provision that requires a selection process. Her salary would remain as is for the time being. Green stated that it would be her honor to serve as the Interim and the permanent IG.

8. Adjournment

With no further comments, Judge Senterfitt adjourned the meeting at 10:59AM