David Madore
15 hrs

Do not watch today’s Board Time if you have high blood pressure:

It has become clear that Clark County citizens no longer have a representative form of government. It’s been replaced by a government of the professionals, by the professionals, for the professionals ruling over the people.

This is just one of multiple outrages from today’s Board Time. The new liberal majority not only has turned policy making over to staff, but our county manager is refusing to allow county councilors to even know what policy they are crafting until after the planning commission adopts it.

The secret policy making process by the executive branch usurps the authority of the legislative branch so that citizen representatives are no longer necessary except to rubber stamp it at the end. Staff is now leading and county councilors are following.

This is no longer citizen government accountable to the people. This is an oligarchy ruling over the people. See the definition: http://onlinedictionary.datasegment.com/word/oligarchy

Is this representative government of the people, by the people, for the people or have we lost home base?

Here is the video clip of that portion of the meeting: http://www.cvtv.org/vid_link/17807?start=4724&stop=6057

Board of County Councilors Board Time
February 10, 2016
will begin in a moment.

Angus Lee, Joshua Grod, Cheryl Folkers and 8 others like this.

5 shares

Kevin VanGelder This was the whole purpose of the County Charter, it just took them a few years to implement their evil intentions.

Like Reply 1 15 hrs

Kj Hinton The Three Stooges in action.

Like Reply 2 15 hrs

Jennifer Clark David Madore. Good things you are banning people for their bad manners. Let’s see what will happen here?
Like  Reply  11 hrs

Kj Hinton Nothing. Why do you ask?

See, your sort refer to David as all sorts of things all sorts of names

Remember, God hates hypocrites

Like  Reply  11 hrs

Jennifer Clark God hates? Hmm

Like  Reply  1 3 hrs

White a reply

Eric Cordova This makes me sick, sorry I ever contributed a dime of my money or a moment of my time to them It will not happen again

Like  Reply  1 15 hrs

Don Railsback David, you need to file an ongoing public records request for all emails and documents within the county

They cannot legally withhold it from you If Boldt refuses to allow you to access all the info, you need to file a petition to recall him It's not that difficult

By now, the good people of the county would be open to tossing him out on his butt

Like  Reply  2 14 hrs

David Madore Don Railsback, done. Thanks

Like  Reply  3 13 hrs

Kim Wingett-Bertrand Vicky

Like  Reply  13 hrs

Trevor Winton Just to clarify I am trying to understand - I watched the video and the County Manager et al were saying that the policy proposal would be presented to the Council at the same time it was presented to the Planning Commission (before adoption, not after) Did I misunderstand? Furthermore they were reiterating the fact that the Council would be the final arbiter of the policy (and could even participate in steering it via work sessions according to Marc Boldt's comments) I share the concern about staff being the driving force of the vision for our county when that should be the elected Council's job. From the comments given it sounds like what is taking place has been the way the process has worked since at least the Legal Council's time there (16 years?) From what I was hearing the staff is currently drafting a proposal based on the direction already given to them by the Commission/Council in previous meetings, is that correct? If all that is true wouldn't it make sense to address/edit the proposal once it's drafted and presented as currently planned? Forgive me for the long string of questions but I'm trying to understand what's happening Thanks in advance

Like  Reply  2 13 hrs

Brian Grier Get real David, you've caused all of this yourself

Like  Reply  5 12 hrs

David Madore Trevor Winton, good questions. As councilors, we listen to citizens and staff for ideas and solutions to problems. We then propose policies which are then handed off to staff to facilitate the process.

That has been the appropriate sequence all along and the norm for my 3+ years as a policy maker. Policy making is also law making the same way that only Congress (the legislative branch) is authorized to make law at the national level while the president (the executive branch) is the administrator of that law.

We certainly want to work together as a team for the benefit of the citizens. If the executive branch has ideas and an agenda to make policy and county law, the appropriate way is to share those ideas with the legislative branch. If the county legislators agree that those potential policies/laws are good for the citizens, then we can
get behind them and enroll the help of staff to make them a reality.

But the county manager is bypassing the legislators to craft law while preventing councilors from even discovering what is being crafted. In this case, the policies are to change our 20 year Comp Plan with a tight schedule. By rushing these through in forced secrecy, the councilors will not have enough time to participate until it is essentially too late.

Good government welcomes transparency and collaboration. It never shuns scrutiny or transparency. Each branch also respects the other while understanding that each has different authority and responsibility.

Like  Reply  1 12 hrs  Edited

Jennifer Clark  Collaboration is not about gluing existing egos together. It's about the ideas that never existed until after everyone entered the room. You don't like secrecy? News to me. You don't even have the decency to give your fellow Councilors the heads upon the half the stuff you are working on until the meeting or right before. Again, it's not the fact of them not working for the citizens, it's them working better for the citizens as a whole not your selected few. This isn't a dictatorship. Since you like examples, I will refer to the changes you brought in today to board time for correcting the 1/5 minutes that are out of compliance due to your timely process. (20 days you had to make the changes) I respect we act differently and we all have something to contribute but you speak out one side of your mouth and follow something different for yourself. Remember Integrity -- The choice between what's convenient and what's right.

Like  Reply  2 11 hrs

David Madore  Jennifer Clark, the direction from the board was to review the video and the resolutions and correct the omissions and inaccuracies. Truth and accuracy is everyone's job. Right? Is it rational to assume that only one councilor should do that? This is very basic stuff.

The agenda title is simple. Just copy the title from line 1 of the resolution. Example: on resolution 2015-12-27, line 1 says “Policy to cut unnecessary red tape and lower costs.” It does not say “Policy regarding modification of code to eliminate requirements not imposed under State or Federal Law.” Right? Prosecuting Attorney Chns Horne reiterated that in Board Time today.

Here’s the resolution: https://www.clark.wa.gov/Files/the-gnd/2015-12-27.pdf
You don’t need me to fix that Right?

Our minutes record every vote. Yet, the January 5 meeting, page 4, 3rd action, omits the 3 to 2 vote to end debate.

Here’s the exact video link where that action is omitted in the minutes: http://www.cvtv.org/vid_link/17737?start=7220

Pretty simple. You don’t need me to fix that Right?

Like  Reply  10 hrs  Edited

Jennifer Clark  The direction of the board was for you to email me your notes after that hearing on 1/26, you stated “fine I got it all typed up right now and will email it”. Stewart started she wanted to review to ensure accuracy. Did you forget you said that? You also started there was errors in the 1/12 minutes so those were delayed as well. You finally emailed them on 2/9 at 8:00 pm with two changes and none to the 1/12 minutes. (Did you later claim that in a public meeting?) We were out of compliance due to your delay. Not transparent at all. You are constantly bringing up “these errors” which most of the time aren’t necessarily the case but that isn’t said in the public. You are making accusations about my work/ performance in a public venue and it is demoralizing and most of the time not correct or just your perspective of how you like to read. I have stated multiple times for you to bring this forward to me ahead of time even at your one on ones with my boss as you get these documents five days prior to approving them. You are creating a hostile work environment.

Like  Reply  3 10 hrs

David Madore  Jennifer Clark, no offense is intended. Let’s focus on simple concise accurate basic representation of the facts as just shared in the message above yours. I apologize for not providing...
the corrections sooner. It's been a time consuming challenge working to defend our citizens from friendly fire.

I do not have the authority to direct you. Councilors have only one employee, the county manager. I responded to you here because you asked for answers. Thanks

Like Reply 9 hrs Edited

Jennifer Clark You know exactly what you are doing at all times. There are two kinds of people in this situation - stupid people and people who don't care. Sir, you are not a stupid man. See I will always respect you in the office, no matter how much I dislike you or disagree with your opinions, it's called being professional and I too am there to serve the citizens. Like I said before, integrity is everything (even when people aren't looking) - YOU should treat people the same whether you are the CEO or the janitor. As you need every person in company to make your business successful. You say you are a proud father of three grown daughters and boast about being a loving husband, as a father or husband, would you find it acceptable for someone else to treat them that way at work (or anytime) the way you conducted yourself yesterday at Board time especially towards myself, McCauley, or staff? I didn't think so.

Like Reply 3 · 33 mins Edited

David Madore Trevor Winton, here's the answer to your second question

The question about county councilors participating "before or after planning commission translates to "after" in practical terms. Here's how: The proposed policy/law must be published 2 weeks in advance before the planning commission can act on it. So there is no way to hide it from the policy makers at that point. But the policy makers cannot change it during that window because it cannot be a moving target.

The planning commission can recommend some changes, but substantial changes normally require the process to back up several steps and then take another loop through the process. Up to that point, the councilors would be out of that loop if the county manager has his way. Policy makers would be following and responding rather than leading and driving.

Comp Plan updates are our most formal and lengthy process. The Comp Plan, once adopted, will impact citizens for 20 years. If there ever was a process that required citizen representatives to participate and lead, this is it.

Like Reply · 12 hrs Edited

Trevor Winton Thanks for the info, David Madore. Is the staff currently drafting a proposal based on previous direction from the Commission/Council or was their draft development spurred by a new or different method? I guess I'm trying to understand the process as it was compared to how it is now playing out compared to how it should play out under the charter. I see your point about it the practical after adoption. But I'm trying to understand if this is a departure from previous process and/or a process that bypasses the Council. If I am understanding correctly the staff is drafting a proposal based on the direction of the commission/council. When that proposal is finished they will submit it to both the planning commission and the council for review. At which point either group can make modifications and/or send it back to the drawing board. Is that correct? Is that how the process worked before as well? Because it sounds like what staff is saying is that the council is, or should have been, the leading factor in the development of this draft. But the staff simply executes. But if what is actually happening is that the staff under the direction of the County Manager is drafting a proposal completely separated from the Council without their direction and I agree this is quite alarming because I want an elected voice steering that process. Again, sorry for the long string. At some point I may just need to pick up the phone.

Like Reply · 13 hrs

David Madore Trevor Winton, the Council has not given any direction to the county manager about any policy, nor do we have any idea what policy staff is crafting. There are very important policy changes that I've invested many hours into for our council to consider and then potentially hand to staff to shepherd through the process.
The remaining time is so short, that we will not get a second chance. The county manager's agenda to confidentially rush his through while not even giving us the opportunity to submit ours, amounts to a hijacking of the legislative authority that belongs to the people.