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Council clash expected at Enmax huddle

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Conflicting opinions about city-owned utility Enmax are expected to clash Tuesday when the board and shareholders sit down for an emergency meeting.

Ald. Diane Colley-Urquhart, who has asked all Enmax board members to step down, said she will be asking pointed questions over the many controversies involving the company. She said she's concerned about the company's governance and the board's oversight ability.

"A lot of questions that I have, that I'd be asking very pointedly, relate to the compensation package given to (former president and CEO Gary) Holden — whether it includes pension, whether Enmax property is still at his property," said Colley-Urquhart.

She said she also wants to know about the timing of the board's decision to pay Holden a \$4.6 million severance.

Colley-Urquhart's call for the resignation of all board members includes two of her council colleagues — aldermen Gord Lowe and Brian Pincott.

Lowe said he disagrees with Colley-Urquhart that the board should resign.

"The board is solid, the governance is solid — I disagree vehemently with Ald. Colley-Urquhart," said Lowe.

Pincott sided with Lowe, dismissing Colley-Urquhart's call for resignation.

Mayor Naheed Nenshi said council will discuss Enmax's governance and a strategic review of the company.

"I hope that we're able to set the parameters for the strategic review that Enmax has long been calling for and be able to move forward on that," said the mayor.

Nenshi said discussion on the company's governance will include executive and board compensations as well.

Lowe said he expects that council will come out with a solid endorsement of Enmax's strategic plan and its governance.

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