

SSMMA BUSINESS MEETING
JANUARY 20, 2022 - ZOOM
MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kolosh called the Zoom meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and introductions in the chat box.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Kolosh asked for a motion to approve the October 15, 2021 meeting minutes. Mayor Alsberry moved to approve the Minutes and it was seconded by Mayor Einhorn, motion was approved.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. Kolosh reported that SSMMA's annual Legislative Breakfast on Friday, January 28, 2022 at Idlewild Country Club in Flossmoor has been moved to a virtual webinar format. The webinar will begin at 8 a.m., webinar registration is already available.

B. Director Chad Sperry from Western Illinois University gave a presentation on NG 9-1-1. This is a statewide program that delivers emergency calls, messages, and data to the appropriate public safety answering point (PSAP) and other appropriate emergency entities based on the location of the caller. Databases are being transferred to geo-spatial data through GIS. Required data such as address points and other layers are still needed. Contact Kai Funahashi with SSMMA if you need assistance or Chad at ce-sperry@wiu.edu for questions.

C. Kolosh reported that consultants working with the Governor's Office and IDOT had a meeting with Mayors Reinbold, Gardiner, Alsberry, Chalmers-Currin, Agpawa, himself and Director DeLaurentiis on development priorities for the site and the importance of the South Suburban Airport. It seems it is the State's intent to advance development of the SSA site in collaboration with local leaders. Please meet with them if they contact you. Mayor Einhorn commented that Will County members were not in attendance.

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Director DeLaurentiis reported on the updated eligible expenses and the final rules for ARPA funding that was issued January 6. Important to note that you can now claim revenue loss, no more than 10 million dollars. Contact Kristi with questions.

B. DeLaurentiis reported that Melissa Doud will send out invoices for 2022 membership dues with no increase in prices later this week.

C. DeLaurentiis asked for members to share CEDA's low income water assistance program with their residents. CEDA will pay municipalities directly if payments are approved. Manager Wachtel commented that CEDA was unresponsive with completing their agreement and Kristi will step in to help.

D. The February 17 Business meeting is on the calendar as on call. SSMMA will send out a notice once a decision on whether a meeting is needed is made.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Mayor Reinbold reported on the following topics:

1. The spring session has a shortened calendar this year, some dates have already been canceled. Committee meetings are being held remotely. House leadership is requiring 60 committed votes before any bill is being called. SSMMA's 3 Main Priorities include:

- Southland Reactivation Act HB 1842/SB 2178. Will allow south suburban communities to reactivate and bring back blighted tax exempt/distressed properties to the tax rolls.
 - LGDF HB 4169/SB 3010. Increases Local Government Distributive Fund levels from 6% to 8%. Please contact the following legislators that have yet to sign on: Senators Sims and Jones III, Representatives Burke, Jones, Rita, Slaughter, Hurley and Ozinga. Special thanks to Representative DeLuca who has been a champion for this bill and other members that have signed on: Representatives Meyers-Martin, Evans, Smith, Davis and Senators Cunningham, Joyce, Hastings and Harris.
 - Capital Bill and Infrastructure-Need to get projects obligated, restore dropped projects and inform legislators of new projects.
2. Bi-weekly Legislative briefings will resume tomorrow for mayors and managers. There will also be weekly legislative calls to keep you informed of pending legislation. Stay tuned for notices and action alerts.
 3. IML will hold its Lobby Day on March 23 this year but SSMMA is not planning any events and will not hold a drive-down. Mayors must make their own plans to travel. Please still contact your legislators on important issues.
 4. SB 2298 TIF Reform legislation, has been filed by Senator Gillespie. -An amendment was filed today that adds a requirement that before the redevelopment plan can move forward there is an insurmountable obstacle to get written consent/approval from every member of the JRB member taxing body. We are waiting to hear from IML who had major input on the reform and see what happens, stay tuned. A discussed ensued.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Mayor Kolosh reported on the following topics:

1. COVID-19 update-SSMMA region 11.82%, Cook 13.4%, Will 17.6%, hospitalized patients have decreased or stabilized in last 5 days.
2. As a follow up to Kristi's report on ARPA funds earlier, please contact her if you have any questions. Unless you received more than 10 million in funds, the reporting deadline is April 30.
3. There are current EMS staffing problems as of late. Plans for a committee meeting are in the works for later this spring to discuss possible legislative solutions. Mayor Einhorn also commented that the causes are varied and there are no simple solutions, every municipality is affected. A discussion ensued.

C. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Mayor Einhorn and Leslie Phemister reported on the following topics:

1. There is an STP-L call for projects that opened on January 11, 2022 and closes March 22, 2022. There was a virtual training session held last week for anyone that needed help with the application process. Contact Leslie for assistance with the application.
2. The UWPF application for SSMMA ADA Transition funding was not funded.
3. The next meeting will be held February 8 at 2:00 p.m.

D. HOUSING COLLABORATIVE

Mayor Vanderbilt reported on the following topics:

1. At the last committee meeting in December, the focus was on CEDA'S water bill program as discussed earlier and IDHA's Rental Repayment program for both tenants and landlords-visit illinoishousinghelp.org for questions.
2. Please join us or send a proxy for the next Housing Committee meeting on February 10 at 9:00 a.m.

E. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/CSEDC

Reggie Greenwood reported on the following topics:

1. The Southworks Robotics is getting prepared for the next competition in April. Amazon has donated \$75,000 towards the initiative to connect high schools with companies. There are 21 high schools and 25 companies signed up so far.
2. GSU is doing 2 studies: Electric Vehicles and electric charging stations. Questions include how can companies get involved in the electric supply chain and where are electric charging stations needed?
3. Development is still coming to the region. There is a huge development in Country Club Hills that is going up quickly with over a million square feet. Carvana is opening in University Park also.
4. The Ascending House incubator in Matteson is close to opening and will have a meeting there to show how the shared space development can support our region.

6. REGIONAL AGENCY REPORTS

Jim Garrett of the Chicago Southland Convention and Visitors Bureau reported that the recent star report issued ranked the southland 1st in occupancy at 57%, up 10% from last year. Thank you to all those mayors that have completed the records request sent this month. The 2022 Visitors Guide will be available and sent out soon. The event grant deadline is February 1, funding is available, call Kim Kislowski for questions. The suburban Cook County hospitality recovery initiative has securing funding, thank you to all legislators that supported us.

7. OTHER

Marcel Bright from Congressman Rush's office has emailed information for 2 FEMA grants for fire departments: Community risk reductions to educate the public on fire safety and funding for training and research and development. The application period is January 18 – February 18.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Kolosh asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was moved by Mayor Reinbold and seconded by Mayor Bilotto, meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.