

SSMMA BUSINESS MEETING
JULY 15, 2021 - ZOOM
MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kolosh called the Zoom meeting to order at 6:03 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 June 17, 2021 meeting minutes. Mayor Roudez moved to approve the Minutes and it was seconded by Mayor Einhorn, motion was approved.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. Kolosh reported that on July 1, 2021 the Executive Committee appointed Mayor Alsberry as Delegate and Mayor Reinbold as Alternate Delegate to the Metropolitan Mayors Executive Committee. Thank you to both for their service and for representing SSMMA on the Regional Task Force and other regional issues as needed.

B. Kolosh reported that also on July 1, the Executive Committee appointed himself as SSMMA's representative to CMAP's Council of Mayors Executive Committee replacing former Mayor Williams. Along with Mayor Einhorn, currently on the committee, he stated he looks forward to representing SSMMA municipalities.

C. On July 13, SSMMA hosted an information session about the American Rescue Plan Act program. SSMMA provided general background information about ARPA funding, U.S. Treasury guidelines and eligible uses (based upon the U.S. Treasury's Guidance and FAQ's). Thank you to members of U.S. Senator Durbin's office that were able to join us and for their leadership and support. SSMMA will share updates and information as it becomes available and please reach out to Director DeLaurentiis with any questions you may have.

Director DeLaurentiis attended a national presentation webinar with Senator Durbin's office and the U.S. Treasury specifically for local governments and congressional offices. There was a little more clarity provided as to when reports are due: first report due end of October. SSMMA will issue an email tomorrow with links to site. Public comment is available for outlining use of funds and general recommendations to calculate revenue loss.

D. Our first event since March 2020 will be the annual Vendor Fair/Member Appreciation Event at Glenwoodie Golf Club on September 16, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. We are looking forward to finally seeing everyone in person and supporting our Associate Members! Registration information will go out in August.

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Due to COVID-19, not all projects from the Capital Bill list were re-appropriated. SSMMA has been in contact with legislators about lost projects, hoping to get a correction in Veto Session. While SSMMA has notified all Southland legislators of previous awards that did not get re-appropriated, effected municipalities need to reach out to their House and Senate members to ask for help in getting dropped awards reinstated.

B. DeLaurentiis has been sharing information on the American Recovery Plan's awards to individual municipalities and guidance on eligible expenses. Automatic payment distribution from the State was expected in July but SSMMA has just learned that the State has not applied for ARPA funding as of yet. They are going to open a portal for non-entitlement communities with populations under 50,000 and are not entitled to CDBG funding, stay tuned for more information.

C. Participation is needed in the Little Calumet Watershed Planning Commission. Meetings are held quarterly at 4:30 p.m. before the board meetings.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Mayor Reinbold was unable to attend therefore DeLaurentiis reported on the following topics:

1. Governor Pritzker signed 4 criminal justice bills into law today, his office is sending the information out. A cannabis expansion bill was also signed into law.
2. SSMMA, working with the COG Coalition and MMC on Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF) will continue pushing for full restoration. It currently holds at 6% and hoping to restore to 10% as promised. Strategy sessions are under way.
3. Veto Session begins in October. SSMMA is strongly opposing the new TIF Bill, SB 2298 and hoping that the Southland Reactivation Act Bill is considered this fall. .
4. Mayor Einhorn asked about why the Excise/Telecommunications tax is decreasing. A discussion followed with a determination that more information is needed

B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Mayor Kolosh reported on the following COVID-19 topics:

1. Illinois currently has 742 new confirmed cases and a 2.3% positivity rate. IDPH is monitoring indicators to identify early increases of transmission calculated for resurgence and if interventions are needed to control further spread.

The entire State is in Phase 5 but mask and social distancing are still in place for public transportation and anyone with preexisting health conditions.
2. SSMMA is continuing to update the one stop COVID-19 Dashboard [website](#) by zip code. Please contact Kai Funahashi if you need assistance. Kai and the COVID-19 Dashboard have been nominated for a Regional Excellence Award with CMAP for the assistance it's provided the south suburban region during this time. Thank you Kai for the creation and maintenance of the site—we believe it is worthy of recognition!

C. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Mayor Einhorn and Leslie Phemister reported on the following topics:

1. Please keep Leslie up to date on all your project information. A few people have been dropped off because of missing a step or failing to submit updates to IDOT. Look to the upcoming newsletter for STP news, CMAP has projects that were identified and are out for public comment.
2. The next committee meeting will be held on September 7.

D. HOUSING COLLABORATIVE

Mayor Vanderbilt was not in attendance therefore Sarah Kobetis reported on the following topics:

1. Please join us or send a proxy for the next Housing Committee meeting on September 9 at 9:00 a.m.

E. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/CSEDC

Reggie Greenwood reported on the following topics:

1. CSEDC has been sending information out and would like all to promote the Amazon hiring event next week. The amount of development in our region is extraordinary, there is a million square foot project just beginning in Country Club Hills, one in University Park and possibly three more coming soon.

6. REGIONAL AGENCY REPORTS

Jim Garrett of the Chicago Southland Convention and Visitors Bureau reported that the hotel occupancy continues to rise and the industry is bouncing back. The Star Report shows up 79% compared with 51% last year and revenue is up 113%. Stay tuned for a new Visitors Guide. They are hosting a blood drive on September 2, please share with others.

Commissioner Sims had a question about staffing levels and a discussion followed.

Marcel Bright from Congressman Rush's office discussed the current child tax credit for 2021 that begins today. For each child above 6 years-\$250/month and for children under 6-\$300/month through December. A discussion followed.

7. OTHER

8. ADJOURNMENT

Kolosh asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was moved by Mayor Polk and seconded by Mayor Roudez, meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.