

SSMMA BUSINESS MEETING
OCTOBER 21, 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 July 15 and September 16, 2021 meeting minutes with a change in the end time to 6:46 p.m. instead of 7:46 p.m. for the September 16 minutes. Mayor Roudez moved to approve the Minutes and it was seconded by Mayor Alsberry, motion was approved.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. Kolosh reported on the Climate Action Plan (CAP) launched by the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus (MMC) for the Chicago Region in partnership with the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy. The CAP is taking steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and climate related hazards that threaten the community, economic health and the natural environment. The MMC requests that each council of government and individual members adopt the resolution as presented.

Kolosh asked for a motion to approve the MMC's Climate Action Plan for the Chicago Region. Mayor Reinbold moved to approve the resolution and it was seconded by Mayor Roudez, motion was approved.

B. Kolosh reported that the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) sent notices out in July about the draft demand forecasts/allocations to all that draw water from Lake Michigan. The last review was done in 2008 and the current review is designed to adjust allocations to meet future demands to the year 2050. Several SSMMA members have questioned IDNR about the proposed allocations as they significantly reduce water available-potentially threatening economic development and planned growth in many communities.

IDNR hosted one-two hour webinar yesterday and another one is scheduled tomorrow at 10 a.m. to discuss any concerns on the allocations, due in November. SSMMA staff will continue to work with the MMC and other COGS to raise awareness and facilitate further discussions on the issue. A discussion followed.

C. The Village of Lansing will host SSMMA's annual holiday Jingle and Mingle Dinner on December 2 at 6 p.m. at the Lansing Serbian Social Center. Stay tuned for registration information and sponsorship opportunities.

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Director DeLaurentiis introduced Loren Williams of PC's For People to give a presentation. He discussed the amount of time we spend online, especially during the pandemic, for school, services, meetings, connections, etc. and those that don't have the ability because of not having a computer. PC's For People is a nonprofit organization that tries to get computers into the hands of low-income individuals through electronic recycling and reuse. They will pick up, delete data and refurbish old computers for no charge, hold recycling events or set up a collection bin for your municipality. They are partnering with DCEO in the [Connect Illinois Computer Equity Network](#) and have a resolution with [Cook County](#) to collect all of their decommissioned computers. DeLaurentiis has a copy of that resolution if anyone wants to do the same in their municipality. Their office is currently in Oak Forest, but are looking for new warehouse space 20-40k sf that meets their needs. Visit <https://www.pcsforpeople.org/> for more information or contact Loren at lwilliams@pcsforpeople.org, 773-988-6908.

- B. DeLaurentiis introduced Bo Kemp of the Southland Development Authority (SDA) to give a presentation on the partnership with the South Suburban Land Bank. Formed in 2012 with funding through HUD and SSMMA, the core intentions were to act as a pass-through entity where municipalities would transfer properties to the Land Bank and they would prep those properties and sell them on their behalf. Since July, through internal changes, the SDA has been managing and operating the Land Bank and will continue to do so in the future with a long-term strategic relationship.

The purpose of this presentation is to inform municipalities about how to leverage this opportunity and see what your goals are. Between the Land Bank and SDA, there are some changes that need to be made to some Intergovernmental Agreements to allow for a greater overlap of the two entities and to increase membership.

Moving forward, the goals are as follows:

- Development Partnership
 - Single Asset Projects
 - Master Planned Areas
 - Community & Neighborhood Scale
- Financing Advisory
- Networking Support
- Resource Center

Call 708-400-7063 or contact Bo Kemp at bo.kemp@southlanddevelopment.org for opportunities or visit <https://www.southlanddevelopment.org/> for more information.

- C. DeLaurentiis reported that Cook County Community & Economic Development Administration (CEDA)'s resident low income water bill grant program and municipal water planning session is underway. CEDA wants to help eligible residents pay for water bills and has set up a meeting this Monday at 1 p.m. to explain to municipalities how the program will be implemented and how utilities will be impacted. Water department staff should join if they are able.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Mayor Reinbold reported on the following topics:

1. Legislators were back in session this week for Veto Session but were sent home after two days. They will be back next week and are expected to focus on the passage of a new congressional district map. Other bills to be considered are Video Gaming-Push Tax and Police Reform- SAFE-T cleanup trailer bill.

The Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF) bill for 8% restoration will be taken up in Spring Session by Representative DeLuca as well as the SSMMA Southland Reactivation bill.

SSMMA supports SB 188, TIF Revenue for Business Disruption, sponsored by Representative Meyers-Martin. And SSMMA opposes Tax Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act, SB 2298 introduced by Senator Gillespe from Arlington Heights.

2. The Illinois Gaming Board eliminated Lynwood and Calumet City for the South Suburban Casino License. A special meeting on October 28 at 9 a.m. will have final presentations for Homewood/East Hazel Crest and Matteson. The next IGB meeting is November 18.
3. There will be a committee meeting in December to discuss the 2022 Legislative Priorities, watch for a calendar invitation. Please also watch for any action alerts that may be needed in next week's Veto Session.

4. IML's Brad Cole made a few comments on Veto Session:
 - SB 188-IML's bill is expected to get some traction and move to the House.
 - IML has been working with Senator Gillespe and has been opposed to SB 2298 all along, she has proposed some changes but it probably won't be brought back up until spring session.
 - The Gaming Bill, not only the push tax (not many communities have adopted it) but an increase in the non-home rule annual terminal fee from \$25 to \$250, nothing for home rule fees.
 - IML agrees that municipalities are rightfully owed 10% LGDF but whatever we can get will be better than what we have. They are afraid that if they settle at 8%, then it will never get back up to the 10% full restoration.
 - Please continue to read the IML Statehouse Briefing for updates. The South Suburban region has great representation on the IML Board with Mayors Alsberry, Chalmers-Currin and Reinbold participating and will help in approving the Legislative Agenda.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Mayor Kolosh reported on the following COVID-19 topics:

1. Illinois' 7-day rolling average positivity numbers are 2.2%, Suburban Cook 1.8%, Will County 3.4% and SSMMA region 2.74%. Illinois fully vaccinated 63.4%, SSMMA region 47%.
2. SSMMA has issued changes in deadlines for ARPA project and expenditure reporting:
 - Metro Cities next due January 31, 2022.
 - Non-Entitlement Units (NEUs) of local government due April 30, 2022.

SSMMA will hold an ARPA workshop for municipalities that are considering using funds for water infrastructure projects. Keep watch for a workshop invite in November. Please contact Director DeLaurentiis for any questions.

C. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Mayor Einhorn was not in attendance therefore Leslie Phemister reported on the following topics:

1. The new marks were received for the STP-L money which is an increase of \$400,000 in 2022 and a call for projects opens on January 11, 2022 and closes March 22, 2022. There will be a virtual training session on December 7 for anyone that needs to walk through the application process.
2. Coronavirus Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRSA) \$2.1 million funds have been received to spend on a transportation project. These funds have stipulations: innovation, equity, safety, readiness and a 20% match. The TAG committee is reviewing and will come to the Transportation Committee for discussion.
3. The Federal Highway Administration requires all municipalities with more than 80 employees to have an ADA Transmission Plan. We know many of you do not have this plan and SSMMA is creating an application for the Unified Work Program that is open now and will close on October 27. It's a regional plan that will identify and prioritize current pedestrian barriers, schedule for barrier removal and establish procedures for addressing future accessibility needs.
4. The Cook County Department of Transportation, Metra and the Federal Railroad Administration is holding a Railroad Trespass Prevention Summit on October 27 from 1-4:30 p.m.

D. HOUSING COLLABORATIVE

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

1. At the last committee meeting in September, there was a discussion about Cook County Legal Aid for those facing eviction, information is available on our website.
2. The SDA gave a great presentation on the updates to the Land Bank.
3. Representatives from MMC and CMAP gave a presentation on their Homes for a Changing Region program specifically focusing on senior and aging in place, information at <https://mayorscaucus.org/homes-planning-available/>. If you're interested in participating, email me ASAP at Sarah.kobetis@ssmma.org.
4. Please join us or send a proxy for the next Housing Committee meeting on revised date December 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 hiring event for manufacturing and logistics companies and Amazon. These companies have had to increase wages, starting wages have gone up and it's a tremendous economic opportunity for our region.
2. There was a virtual manufacturing day tour and over 700 high school students participated. The Southworks Robotics is getting prepared for the next competition, stay tuned for details.
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. The area is still hot and there is a lot of interest, bringing the airport will help.

6. REGIONAL AGENCY REPORTS

Jim Garrett of the Chicago Southland Convention and Visitors Bureau reported that jobs are available in the hospitality industry and the CSCVB will coordinate with CSEDC on possibly a job fair. Local festival grant workshop this Tuesday, call Kim 708-895-8200 to sign up. The Festival and Events Guide will be here next week and thank you to all the mayors that submitted events. All mayors are invited for the Board of Directors Meeting next Wednesday at 5 p.m.

7. OTHER

Mayor Alsberry reported that Cook County will come to your community to provide testing or vaccinations to all that are in need, especially the homebound residents.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Kolosh asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was moved by Mayor Alsberry and seconded by Mayor Reinbold, meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.