



MUNICIPAL LEAGUE OF METRO ST. LOUIS

LINKING LOCAL COMMUNITIES
STRENGTHENING LOCAL
GOVERNMENT

MEETING NOTICE

DATE: March 21, 2024

TO: Mayors, Board Chairmen, Chief Administrative Officers
& Affiliate Members

FROM: Pat Kelly, Executive Director

RE: Membership Meeting, **7:00 pm**,
Thursday, March 28, 2024,
Manchester Community Center
Refreshments will be served at 6:30 pm

The March League Meeting will be held at the above time and location. The physical address is 359 Old Meramec Station Road, Manchester, MO 63011.

Program: The speaker for the evening will be Bret Berthold, Executive Director, and CEO of MSD Project Clear. Mr. Berthold's topic for the evening will be educating the voters about the two propositions on the April 2, 2024, ballot which will affect wastewater and stormwater rates for residents in St. Louis City and St. Louis County.

Also enclosed for your review are the Minutes of the February meeting.

We hope you will be able to join us.

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City of Clayton

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City of Jennings

Pat Kelly
Executive Director

MINUTES
MUNICIPAL LEAGUE OF METRO ST. LOUIS
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
February 22, 2024
Olivette City Center

I. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Tim Lowey at 7:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

II. Approval of Minutes of January 25, 2024 Meeting

The Minutes from the January 25, 2024, meeting were approved.

III. Finance Report

Executive Director Pat Kelly gave the monthly Financial Report as follows: Expenditures during the first seven months of the fiscal year, July 1, 2023, through January 31, 2024, totaled \$251,699.48 and were allocated as follows: General Expenses - A. Personnel Expenses \$166,673.01; B. Operating Expenses \$83,538.27; Special Events & Training Academy \$1,441.20. The total unexpended General Fund budgeted balance is \$196,499.52 – 44% of the budget with 43% of the fiscal year remaining. General Fund cash and investments as of December 31 totaled \$718,459.29. Expenses from the restricted settlement fund totaled \$12,233.90. The Cell Phone Settlement fund balance as of January 31 is \$636,564.31.

IV. President's Report

- A. Vice President Lowery asked for a moment of silence in honor of Bridgeton Mayor and Past League President Terry Briggs who recently passed away.
- B. He noted that there had been considerable press coverage of the proposed legislation to eliminate the sales tax on food and the detrimental impact that would have on local governments. Florissant has passed a resolution urging legislators to oppose these bills.
- C. Vice President Lowery reported that the League Board and the Metro Mayors have approved hiring a constitutional lawyer to review whether the legislature has the authority to limit voter approved taxes, such as the sales tax on food and the senior citizen property tax freeze. Staff is reviewing the draft report and the lawyers have developed very good arguments as to why this would be unconstitutional.
- D. He announced that the Nominating Committee will be chaired by Moline Acres Alderwoman, Darlene Bell and will meet after the April municipal elections. There will be at least one seat available on the board. Terms are now three years. Elected officials interested in being considered by the committee should send a letter and bio to the League office by April 5.
- E. The next meeting will be on March 28 in Manchester.

V. Executive Director's Report

- A. Mr. Kelly reported that a Training Academy Seminar was presented today on the topic of nuisances. It was presented by Ryan Moehlman, City Attorney for Jefferson City. There were over 40 registrants.
- B. He said that East-West Gateway has released a report on a Regional Violence Reduction Program. The second phase of this effort involves enacting the recommendations outlined in the report. The League, Greater St. Louis Inc. and the Regional Business Council have each contributed funds to help with the implementation.

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C. Mr. Kelly provided a legislative update on the following topics: local landbank, Sunshine Law, video service providers and, and food sales tax. He then answered questions from the membership.

VI. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to consider.

VII. New Business

Julie Stone of the Conservation Department said that the University of Missouri St. Louis would again be offering a Chancellor's Certificate Program in Economic Development. She encouraged interested officials to sign up.

VIII. Program – Vice President Lowery introduced John Worth and Kelly Moore of the International Institute.

They had been invited to provide an update on how their organization helps refugees to settle in the St. Louis area. Mr. Worth said that the Institute works to welcome refugees and get them settled and with housing, education, and life skills. He noted that they worked with over 700 new arrivals in 2023.

Ms. Moore said most of the refugees settle in St. Louis City because there is a greater level of transit services, as many refugees do not drive or cannot afford a car. The Institute also encourages new arrivals to open their own business with over 100 new one's last year. Most of the refugees are interested in US citizenship, which they can apply for after five years.

IX. Introduction of Guests – County Council Chairwoman Shalonda Webb stated that she had promoted passage by the Council of Legislation that would limit minors from open carrying of weapons as they are not eligible to acquire a concealed carry permit under State law. Her bill only applies in the unincorporated areas, so she encouraged League members to consider passing similar legislation.

X. Introduction of Host - Councilmember Missy Waldman welcomed the membership and introduced other Olivette officials in attendance.

XI. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Attendance Record – Representatives from the following members signed the register:

Bellefontaine Neighbors	Berkeley	Black Jack
Bridgeton	Calverton Park	Charlack
Creve Coeur	Edmundson	Ellisville
Ferguson	Florissant	Maryland Heights
Moline Acres	Northwoods	Olivette
Overland	St. Louis County	Velda City
Vinita Park		

Also in attendance were representatives from:

Ameren	Community American CU	CAASTLC
Curtis Heinz Garrett & O'Keefe	i5 Group	International Institute
Katy Computers	Missouri DOC	Republic Services
Veregy		