

December 2017

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

Please consult the League [Web Calendar](#)

Dec 5-
[Conditional Uses under the MLUL: What Are They and How Do They Get Approved Webinar-Your Computer](#)

Jan 6-
[Orientation for Municipal Officials Who Are Newly Elected, Re Elected and Experienced-Hilton Hotel, East Rutherford](#)

Jan 20-
[Orientation for Municipal Officials Who Are Newly Elected, Re Elected and Experienced-Hotel ML, Mount Laurel](#)

Feb 24-
[Budgeting for Elected Officials-Conference Center at Mercer, West Windsor](#)

Mar 2-
[A Quick Review of Budget and Audit Updates Webinar-Your Computer](#)

Mar 14-
[26th Annual Mayors Legislative Day-Statehouse Annex, Trenton](#)

- ✓ Thank You Conference Volunteers
- ✓ Retain Conference Information Digitally
- ✓ Seminar for Newly Elected Officials
- ✓ Attend the 26th Annual Mayors Legislative Day
- ✓ Budgeting for Elected Officials
- ✓ Mayors Wellness Campaign

FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Mayor James L. Cassella, President

Thank you all very much for giving me the opportunity to preside, for the next twelve months, over your league of Municipalities. It is an honor for me and for my hometown, East Rutherford.

First and foremost, I'd like to thank my wife Janice, who held the Bible today. Good job!

I also have to acknowledge and thank, and unfortunately he can't be here today, past president and former Mayor of Moonachie Fred Dressel. He's a good friend and he's the one that gave me a call eight, nine years ago and said, "Would you serve on the Executive Board?" I said, "I don't know if I have the time." He said "Eh, it doesn't take any time. A couple of meetings a year, one in June, one in December. That's it." I said, "Ok." Well here I am today. I've seen more of Trenton in the last two years than I ever saw of Trenton in my life, so we'll see. But also, very importantly I wanted to thank my friend Paul Sarlo. He's usually out of here by now, but he stayed on my behalf to swear me in and I really do appreciate it. All the kidding aside, thank you for taking time out. I know you're busy. He's coaching his kids, he has a job, he's mayor, he's senator, he's head of the budget committee, and he has two boys that are quite busy with their athletic endeavors, so this is really special that he took the time. Thank you, Senator.

I also must thank the family of people who work together in Borough Hall, and all around our community, to serve the people of East Rutherford. The members of our Council.

Continued Under Presidents Message

OFFICERS:

JAMES L. CASSELLA

President
Mayor, East Rutherford

COLLEEN MAHR

1st Vice President
Mayor, Fanwood Borough

JAMES PERRY

2nd Vice President
Mayor, Township of Hardwick

JANICE KOVACH

3rd Vice President
Mayor, Clinton

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:

RAS J. BARAKA

Mayor, Newark City

GAYLE BRILL MITTLER

Mayor, Highland Park Borough

RANDY BROWN

Mayor, Evesham Township

WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN

Mayor, Wharton Borough

FRANK J. DRUETZLER

Mayor, Morris Plains Borough

JONATHAN DUNLEAVY

Mayor, Bloomingdale Borough

SEAN ELWELL

Mayor, Elsinboro

DANIEL FLYNN

Councilman, Newton

STEVE FULOP

Mayor, Jersey City

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SUSAN HOWARD

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THOMAS KELAHER

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ALBERT B. KELLY

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GARY PASSANANTE

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WILLIAM PIKOLYCKY

Mayor, Woodbine

PAUL TOMASKO

Mayor, Alpine Borough

JANET W. TUCCI

Mayor, West Long Branch Borough

JESSE TWEEDLE, SR.

Mayor, Pleasantville City

MICHAEL VENEZIA

Mayor, Bloomfield

Executive Staff

MICHAEL J. DARCY, CAE. Executive Director

MICHAEL CERRA, Asst. Executive Director

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE CONTINUED

I do have Councilman Lahullier here, so thank you, Jeff, for being here. Danielle Lorenc, our clerk and Tony Bianchi, our CFO, I'd like to thank them for coming down and without them I don't think we could operate quite well, thank you. And Police Chief, DPW, Fire Department, EMS, and most of all our volunteers throughout our community. It is because of their dedication East Rutherford has become what it is today.

East Rutherford is known to many people only because of the number of professional sports teams that have called East Rutherford home for the last 41 years, including currently the Jets and the football Giants. And of course for the hosting of the Super Bowl a few years back. But there is so much more to our community. The signs that greet visitors coming into the borough bear the three words that serve as our motto. Family. Progress. Commerce. That is what our town is about for those who live and work there. And I am proud to say that I'm the Mayor of East Rutherford, New Jersey, in Bergen County.

In accepting election as League president, I want to recognize another family. The family of public servants, who serve the people of New Jersey in local government and who join together in our League of Municipalities.

I especially want to recognize my friend and my immediate predecessor in this office, Mayor Albert Kelly of Bridgeton. Above everything else, he really is a good man and has been a great leader for this organization. He also is on the transition team of Governor-Elect Murphy for agriculture.

He's Mayor of Bridgeton. I'm Mayor of East Rutherford. You could not find two more different communities in New Jersey, but this is what makes the League of Municipalities unique. He's a democrat, I'm a republican. Bridgeton is almost as far southwestern New Jersey you can go, and East Rutherford is almost as far northeast as you can go in New Jersey. Bridgeton is surrounded by farms; East Rutherford is surrounded by New York City, Newark, Patterson, and Passaic. But there are many common issues that are confronted in our communities, and every community in New Jersey.

Property taxes, 2% arbitration cap, state mandates, affordable housing, pensions, and so much more. We stand together fighting for what is right for our municipalities.

Speaking about democrat and republican, though, one thing that impresses me most about the League of Municipalities is its bipartisanship or even nonpartisanship. When you become a member of the Executive Board and you attend meetings you realize you check your party affiliation at the door. We are there to support democrat and republican municipalities, whether they are urban, suburban, or rural municipalities. No matter what the makeup of a municipality's population or where it is located - whether it be along the Jersey Shore, the rolling hills of the northwest, in the shadows of New York City, along the banks of Delaware, and everywhere in between - we are one, fighting for those many issues that affect all of us.

I also want to honor those who have served and are serving on the League's Executive Board and I thank each and every one of you. I will depend on your enthusiasm, your insight, and your counsel in the coming year. Congratulations to my fellow officers, certainly Janice Kovach. Welcome, I think you're going to enjoy this. She's Mayor of Clinton and she's been active with the League and most deserving of this position. Certainly, Colleen Mahr, my first vice president and my old friend Jim Perry, who I should mention, his brother George is a Councilman in East Rutherford. Congratulations to all of you, I look forward to working with each and every one of you.

I want to honor all those who have served and all of those who continue to serve their fellow citizens on the local level in New Jersey. I'm proud to be one of you and I'm humbled by your examples of honorable service. I will depend on your support during my term as your president, but without your active participation in League affairs my efforts will fall flat and we won't get anywhere. So I really do look to you to help me to be successful.

It will be an exciting year with a new administration coming in, and on behalf of the League of Municipalities, I wish the Governor-Elect Phil Murphy and Lt. Governor Elect Sheila Oliver the best and of course the same goes to the Legislative leadership, our good friend Paul Sarlo who was just reelected, and we look forward to working with all of them. I think we're going to have a lot of dialog. I see a good year coming up.

The League is celebrating its 102nd year and I'm not here to reinvent the wheel, because it is the staff through the year, people like former director Bill Dressel and the current staff, starting with Mike Darcy, Mike Cerra, and the entire staff. This is what makes this organization. We are there to support them and their efforts. You go to the Conference and everything is set up, everything is great. Well it's all because what these people do, our staff, our leadership, it's amazing each year and it gets better and better.

You have given me an important mission. But it is not only mine. Please remain active in our efforts to create a better tomorrow for all the people of our Garden State. If we all work together, I know we will be successful.

THANK YOU CONFERENCE VOLUNTEERS

-Contact Michael Darcy ext. 116 or mdarcy@njslom.org

Many conference delegates wonder how the League is able to conduct the country's largest municipal conference with a full time staff of just 18. The answer is you! In the back of the conference program, you will see a listing of mayors who served on various committees. Although the list is extensive, it cannot possibly include all the mayors who work to make our conference successful every year. Mayors play an integral role by helping to produce sessions, moderating, working on committees, and auditing important sessions. Your dedicated service enables nearly 17,000 attendees to come together for one week of invaluable learning and networking each year. Thank you for making the 102nd Annual Conference a great success.

RETAIN CONFERENCE INFORMATION DIGITALLY

View the interactive online floor plan and a searchable exhibitor directory. Files of speakers' power point presentations can be downloaded after the conference from the League conference web page via the link: <http://www.njslom.org/2017conf/index.html>

SEMINAR FOR NEWLY ELECTED AND RE-ELECTED OFFICIALS

-Contact Danielle Holland-Htut ext.118 or dholland@njslom.org

Every year the League offers this important program in two locations throughout the state to help serve the needs of municipal officials who are new to their positions or want a timely update on issues. Each seminar includes a special luncheon, open forum discussion, designed to specifically update and answer questions from newly elected officials. Attend these programs and get the information and answers you need about your new responsibilities. See the calendar on the top of the newslines or click the following link: <http://www.njslom.org/seminar-documents/2018-newly-elected.html>

**ATTEND THE 26th ANNUAL
MAYORS LEGISLATIVE DAY**

-Contact Danielle Holland-Htut ext. 118 or dholland@njslom.org

Be sure to register for the 26th Annual Mayors Legislative Day to be held March 14, 2018 at the State House Annex in Trenton. This is a great way to kick off your administration by hearing about the State's legislative agenda from the Governor, Administration officials, and key members of the Senate and Assembly. For more information please click on the following link: <http://www.njslom.org/2018-mayors-legislative-day.html>

DON'T MISS OUT ON THE "BUDGETING FOR THE ELECTED OFFICIAL: EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO CREATE, BALANCE, AND APPROVE YOUR MUNICIPALITY'S BUDGET" SEMINAR

--Contact Danielle Holland-Htut ext. 118 or dholland@njslom.org

Creating and approving a feasible budget is one of the most important tasks of an Elected Official. It is also one of the most complex and time consuming tasks. To aid in this endeavor, the League has created a special half day program geared towards Elected Officials to help them in the Municipal Budgeting Process. The program will take place on Saturday, February 24, 2018, at the Conference Center at Mercer. Additional program details and registration fees are available at: <http://www.njslom.org/seminar-documents/2018-feb24-budgeting.html>

THE MAYORS WELLNESS CAMPAIGN IS ACCEPTING HEALTHY TOWN SUBMISSIONS!

-Contact Deborah Levine at NJHCQI, dlevine@njhcqi.org

The Mayors Wellness Campaign's annual Healthy Town competition is currently accepting applications. Awards recognize communities where mayors are engaging with their community to make their town a healthier place to live, work and play. Awardees receive a sign for their town hall or municipal complex, a monetary award to support their MWC, are featured in a press release and on the New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute website, and are featured in an NJ Municipalities' article (NJLM's official monthly publication).

Those interested in submitting an application can [find more information here](#). The early application deadline is December 20, 2017 (early applicants receive two additional points to their overall score), and the final deadline is January 20, 2018.