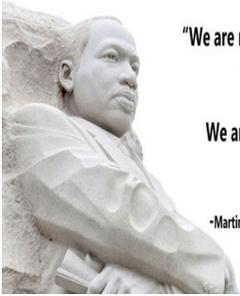




THE LEAGUE News

VOLUME 23 | NUMBER 2 | JANUARY 12, 2018

Follow us on:



"We are not makers of history.

We are made by history."

-Martin Luther King, Jr.

LEAGUE OFFICES CLOSED ON JAN. 15

League offices are closed on Monday, January 15 in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

We hope you get a chance to honor Dr. King and his legacy in your local communities.

Our offices will re-open at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, January 16 for legal calls and ongoing legislative activities.

[HOME](#) | [LEAGUE NEWS ARCHIVE](#) | [EMAIL US](#) | [MUNICIPAL BUSINESS ALLIANCE](#) | [ABOUT US](#)

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

The 2018 legislative session began on January 8. Our legislative staff is already engaged with lawmakers discussing municipal issues and items of priority to our cities. Each week, we will publish a *legislative calendar* in League News with hearings/meetings that may interest our members. We will provide updates on issues in League News as well. Please contact the League staff member listed if you have additional questions.

Elections:

On Wednesday, January 10, Secretary Kris Kobach gave an update to the House Elections Committee on the switch to Fall Elections for Cities and School Boards. Information provided by the Secretary indicates that turnout across the state was up in 2017 to 17.41% and increase of 4.2% from the 2013 comparable election cycle. In the committee meeting Secretary Kobach stated that his office had wanted to see higher results and opined that partisan elections might be the way to get higher turnout, and potentially moving elections to the fall of even years. We will continue to track this issue and will let our members know if any legislation gets introduced this session. Contact *Trey Cocking* with questions.

Key Contacts:

Do you have a good relationship with legislators in your area? Do you mind contacting them with critical issues related to your city? If the answer is yes, please contact *Trey Cocking* or call (785) 354-9565 to volunteer to serve as a key contact.



LEGISLATIVE WEBINAR

League staff will provide an overview of legislative priorities during a webinar on Wednesday, January 17 at 10:00 a.m. Review the *SMP online* and *register today for your spot in the webinar!* This webinar is free of charge and limited to 100 League members on a first-come basis.

Our Action Agenda for 2018 includes tax lid modifications, blighted and abandoned housing, protection of Home Rule, internet sales tax collection, alcoholic liquor taxes, streamlined sales tax, and utility service territory.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT DAY 2018

The League of Kansas Municipalities will once again co-host Local Government Day, an event for our members, with the Kansas Association of Counties on January 24, 2018. City officials from all across the state will gather for an exciting and informative day in Topeka with state legislators.

This event is free to attend. **Please register/RSVP by January 18** so we can get an accurate headcount for refreshments. Visit www.lkm.org/LocalGovernmentDay to register and to view the schedule of events for the day.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT DAY
 JANUARY 24, 2018
Register Today!
www.lkm.org/event/LocalGovDay
 PRESENTED BY
 Kansas Association of Counties
 &
 The League of Kansas Municipalities



THE
LEAGUE
OF KANSAS MUNICIPALITIES

Follow us on:



To receive League News directly, sign up online at www.lkm.org/page/leagueneews.

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Kansas Attorney General released an opinion Monday, January 8 regarding the Kansas Open Meetings Act. In synopsis: “A motion to recess into a closed or executive meeting may only utilize one justification as listed in K.S.A. 2017 Supp. 75-4319(b), but multiple subjects may be discussed if those subjects fall within the justification stated in the motion to recess into a closed or executive meeting. A motion to recess into a closed or executive meeting must be recorded in its entirety in the minutes of the public body or agency. The recording of the motion is not “complete” if it merely summarizes the actual motion in a manner that addresses only the three statutory elements but omits other content of the motion as it was in fact made.



The statement describing the subject(s) to be discussed must be more than a generic or vague summary, or a list of the subject(s) to be discussed. The determination of whether a motion to recess into a closed or executive meeting sufficiently describes the subject(s) to be discussed is a fact-sensitive question which must be determined on a case-by-case basis. Cited herein: K.S.A. 2017 Supp. 75-4317; 75-4319; K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 75-4319.” (See full *AG Opinion 2018-01*)

MUNICIPAL TRAINING INSTITUTE: MUNICIPAL FINANCE (CORE)

This course is designed to provide participants with an overview of municipal finance issues in Kansas. It will help city officials address the responsibility of fiscal operations at the local level to ensure effective service to your community. In today’s particularly challenging fiscal climate, local leaders must understand the parameters required to set local budgets. This course has been set for February to encourage municipalities to start their 2019 budgeting process earlier due to implications from the tax lid. The course will focus on:



- Cash basis law, cash forecasting and investments;
- Revenue sources, appraisals and assessments;
- Budgeting basics;
- Tax lid impacts on the budget process; and
- Budget monitoring, internal controls and public purpose doctrine.

We encourage the following city officials attend this course: city managers/administrators, elected officials, city budget/finance staff and/or city clerks. The course will be a coordinated effort taught by Eric Smith, Deputy General Counsel, League of Kansas Municipalities and finance professionals from Kansas cities. This course will be submitted for IIMC credit.

The course is offered in two locations:

February 2, Pittsburg (co-presenter is James Clarkson, City of Pittsburg)

February 23, Manhattan (co-presenter is Hillary Badger, City of Manhattan)

This MTI will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost to attend this course is \$75 for members, \$100 for nonmembers. Lunch and materials provided. Your city will be invoiced after the class is finished. [Register online](#).