



Lashway, Lisa

From: NJLM - Municipal Clerks [njlm-clerks@cityconnections.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 09, 2008 3:08 PM
To: Lashway, Lisa
Subject: Municipal Clerks from NJLM



LEAGUE ALERT

Municipal Clerk: Please forward to Mayor and Governing Body.

September 9, 2008

Re: 1. Legislative Development
I. Permit Extension Act
II. Financial Disclosure for Local Officers

Re: 2. Important Conference Sessions - LAND USE

Re: 3. Michael A. Pane Memorial Award

Re: 1. Legislative Development
I. Permit Extension Act
II. Financial Disclosure for Local Officers

Dear Mayor:

Governor Corzine signed the following bills into law yesterday.

I. Permit Extension Act – A-2867/S-1919

This new law, which was pushed by developers and opposed by environmentalists, extends the life of most building permits and approvals that otherwise have expired or would expire between January 1, 2007 and July 1, 2010 with an additional 6-months phase-in period to December 31, 2010.

The following permits and approvals are not extended, including:

- State Planning Area 4B (Rural/Environmentally Sensitive);
- State Planning Area 5 (Environmentally Sensitive);
- Highlands areas not designated for growth by the Highlands Regional Master Plan;
- Pineland areas not designated for growth in the Comprehensive Management Plan;
- Right-of-Way permits, permits and approvals issues by the Department of Transportation;
- Permits and approvals issued under the Flood Hazard Area Control Act, except “where work has commenced, in any phase or section of the development, on any site improvement as defined in the Municipal Land use Law (MLUL), or on any buildings or structures.”;
- Coastal Center designations where an application for Plan Endorsement was not submitted to the State Planning Commission as of March 15, 2007 and the designations were not in compliance with the Coastal Zone management rules. (Under the new law, all CAFRA permits will be extended.)

For additional information or questions, please contact Mike Cerra at mcerra@njslom.com or at (609) 695-3481 x120.

II. Financial Disclosure Statement

Under this new law, local government officers are required to file financial disclosure statements within 30 days of taking office.

Currently, local government officers are required to annually file a financial disclosure statement by April 30. However, this means those officials elected in non-partisan elections are not required to file for 10 months. While we agree that 10 months is far too long for the public to wait for this information, we believe the 30 day requirement imposes a burden on newly elected local officials, likely unaware of all that the office demands.

While League supported this legislation as an area of improvement to the Local Government Ethics Law, we requested amendments to require the municipal clerk notify officials of their responsibility to file the report soon after reorganization and that newly elected officers be given 90 days to submit. A 90 day requirement with advance notice would have allowed sufficient time to gather the requisite information. Unfortunately, there was no response to this request and the bill was adopted as originally drafted and became effective immediately.

The chapter law for S-103 (Weinberg) is not yet available.

Questions can be directed to Helen Yeldell at hyeldell@njslom.com or (609) 695-3481 ext. 112.

Very truly yours,

William G. Dressel, Jr.
Executive Director

Re: 2. Important Conference Sessions - LAND USE

Dear Mayor:

In preparation for our 93rd Annual Conference, we would like to inform you of some of the sessions we've scheduled on crucial land use matters.

On the afternoon of **Tuesday, November 18**, at 3:45, in Room 408 of the Atlantic City Convention Center, begin your Conference week with our League Workshop: "Sign Regulation and the Law," to learn about your rights and the potential wrongs, including the 'sign code shakedown' strategy, sometimes used by those in the business.

On **Wednesday, November 19**, start your Conference Day in Room 404 at 9:00 A.M. at the first part of our Tandem Session with the New Jersey Planning Officials and "Is the State in the State Plan?" After a short break, stick around, then, at 10:45 for Part Two, "Case Studies for Plan Endorsement." After lunch, come to Room 320, for "The Federal Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIP) – Challenges Faced by Local Government."

Finally, at 9:00 a.m. on **Thursday, November 20**, in Room 404, join us and the Planning Officials for our joint session, "Affordable Housing: Turning Point or Turning Back." Then, at 10:45, we and the Planners will join the Finance Officers, Municipal Assessors and Tax Collectors and Treasurers Associations for "Techniques to Comply with the New COAH Regulations Including Interdependency Within Municipal Departments," in Room 303.

It has been a landmark year for land use developments in New Jersey government. Let's face it. So far, it has been quite a millennium. We hope these sessions will help you to help your constituents in this dynamic environment.

Very truly yours,

William G. Dressel, Jr.
Executive Director

Re: 3. MICHAEL A. PANE MEMORIAL AWARD

Nominations Requested by September 30, 2008

For the 6th Annual Award to be presented at the
***93rd Annual Conference of the New Jersey State League of
Municipalities***

November 18-21, 2008

Honorarium \$500.00

The award is to honor a local government professional (attorney, engineer, planner) who personifies outstanding ability, integrity, and ethics in his or her dealings with local governments.

NOMINATIONS SHOULD INCLUDE A SHORT BIOGRAPHY AND A LETTER EXPLAINING YOUR REASONS FOR NOMINATING THE INDIVIDUAL. YOU CAN FAX OR MAIL YOUR NOMINATION TO:

**Gayle A. Krygier
N.J. State League of Municipalities
222 West State Street
Trenton , New Jersey 08608
Fax: (609) 695-5156**

After receiving the award, the honoree will provide an essay of 500 words or less on the subject of ethics in government. This essay will be published. Upon receipt of the essay the honorarium will be issued.

The Michael A. Pane Memorial Fund was established to promote ethical behavior in local government.

For additional information call Frances Pane at (609) 977-8405

NJLM
222 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08608