

March 10, 2006

TO: The Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: John M. Lamerato, Acting City Manager
Mary Redden, Administrative Assistant to City Manager

SUBJECT: Standard Purchasing Resolution 9: Approval to Expend Funds
for Membership Dues and Renewals Over \$10,000 -
Renewal of Michigan Municipal League Membership

Payment is recommended on the attached invoice for dues to the Michigan Municipal League in the amount of \$11,438. These dues cover the time period of May 1, 2006 through April 30, 2007.

Funds are available in the City Manager's Office membership and dues account, 102.7958.



MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL INVOICE
2005 - 2006

CITY OF TROY

Id: 492

Date: March 3, 2006

Membership Period: May 1, 2006 - April 30, 2007

	2004-2005 Dues	10% Rebate	2005-2006 Dues
* Michigan Municipal League Dues	\$10,417	\$1,042	\$9,375
** Environment Affairs Assessment	1,250	125	1,125
*** Legal Defense Fund	1,042	104	938
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	\$12,709	\$1,271	\$11,438

Total due by May 1, 2006

\$11,438

Please sign, date and return one invoice copy with your payment.

Make checks payable to the Michigan Municipal League and mail to the address below. Thank you.

(Signature)

(Date)



- * For a detailed analysis of your MML dues, go to www.mml.org/pdf/dues05.pdf or call 734-669-6350. MML dues include annual subscriptions to the Michigan Municipal Review for your officials at \$12.00 per subscription, which is 50% of the regular subscription rate.
- ** The purpose of the EAA is to fund the Environmental Affairs Service (EAS) and its advocacy for the municipal point of view on environmental, public works and infrastructure issues at the state and federal level. The EAS Limited one-on-one assistance to MML members concerning environmental protection mandates, transportation and public works activities is also available.
- *** The Legal Defense Fund is an optional charge. The purpose of the Fund is to provide specialized legal assistance to member municipalities in cases that have significant statewide impact. There is a \$50 minimum assessment for all communities who join.

Michigan Municipal League
P.O. Box 7409
Ann Arbor, MI 48106-7409
800.653.2483

Make the most of your MML membership

Michigan Municipal League
serving municipalities since 1899



www.mml.org

Why belong to the Michigan Municipal League?

“In union there is strength.”

Aesop’s simple words remind us why, in 1899 a handful of mayors gathered in Grand Rapids to form an association that would take them forward together. This group would be a collective voice for the interests of cities and villages against a powerful legislature and would come to provide information and services for staff and officials in communities throughout the state. That core mission still guides the Michigan Municipal League today.

In its nearly 107 years, the Michigan Municipal League has become one of the most important and strongest of its kind in the country. As the state association of cities and villages, it is a nonpartisan, nonprofit association working cooperatively to strengthen the quality of municipal government and administration.

The League is YOUR professional service association, and the staff strives to be responsive to the needs of each member. To get the most out of your municipality’s membership, your officials and staff must become involved, use the available benefits and attend League events to network with and learn from other officials.

Many services are included with your full MML membership

Your community’s membership in the Michigan Municipal League includes access to a vast array of helpful programs and information. Any elected official, staff member or appointed official from a member community may call the Michigan Municipal League for assistance. They may also receive their own password for the member section at www.mml.org. For details about League services, please visit us online at www.mml.org, send an email to info@mml.org or call 800-653-2483.

Advocacy of Municipal Issues

The State and Federal Affairs staff represents the interests of city and village governments before the federal government, state legislature and regulatory agencies. MML members receive legislative information through a number of important and timely methods:

Legislative Link – Nearly 1000 email subscribers receive this communication every Monday morning. This e-newsletter is packed with critical legislative updates and other urgent information to assist municipalities. Every municipal official should subscribe!

Action Alert Faxes and Emails – When municipal voices are needed to tip the balance on a key vote, MML staff provides cities and villages with critical information to include in their messages to legislators.

MML Capitol Report – This new feature at www.mml.org, updated daily, provides members with in-depth legislative information they can’t get anywhere else. The MML is the only statewide local government association with this service.

Recent Legislative Successes

- **Revenue sharing preserved:** After four years of cuts to revenue sharing, the League was able to make the case that enough is enough. By surveying members and showing legislators the impact the cuts have continued to have on the ability of local units to provide services, we were able to stop some of the bleeding.
- **Public safety funding:** The League also succeeded in scuttling plans to eliminate the Dam Safety Program and continues work on increasing funding for public safety programs.
Most recently, the League worked to pass a supplemental spending bill to double funds for fire protection grants. Also included was funding to fully restore the fire investigation unit and training for law enforcement officers.
- **Transportation funding increased; CDBG funds protected:** By building coalitions with Michigan groups and the National League of Cities, we saw an increase in transportation funding and defeated proposals to make dramatic changes and funding cuts to the Community Development Block Grant program.
- **Tax restructuring, debate continues:** The debate over what form business tax restructuring will take has now gone on for over six months. From the beginning, the League has been able to protect personal property tax revenues by getting policy makers both in the Legislature and administration to understand the importance of such revenue to funding local services. As a result, not one propos-

MML membership by population

Almost all (517) of Michigan’s 533 cities and villages are voluntary members of the Michigan Municipal League. Based on the 2000 Census, most (73%) Michigan cities and villages have fewer than 5,000 residents and 58% are under 2,500.

Population	Number of Municipalities	Percent
Over 1 million	0	0%
Over 100,000	8	1.5%
50,000-100,000	15	2.8%
20,000-49,999	30	5.6%
10,000-19,999	40	7.5%
5,000-9,999	53	9.9%
2,500-4,999	79	14.8%
1,000-2,499	136	25.5%
Under 1,000	172	32.3%



Whatever the season, we are here to serve you!

al that's on the table includes cutting the personal property tax.

At the same time we defeated efforts to tax municipal golf courses. And, after many discussions with many legislators, an effort is being made to address the inequities that exist in taxing commercial and industrial property as a result of the "WPW" court case.

- **Other finance successes:** We continue to speak with legislators regularly regarding other issues affecting municipal finance, and we're working closely with the Governor's Task Force on Service Delivery and Fiscal Stability to develop recommendations that both the administration and legislature can work on this session.
- **Sewer grant secured:** MML has worked closely with legislators free up \$150 million in grants for pre-construction plans for local water and sewer projects.
- **Local bridge program improved:** MML's efforts secured an annual \$50 million for local government-owned bridges, and re-engineered a broken program so that it will be completely run by local governments.
- **Economic development:** MML's efforts shaped legislation that will allow the creation of "Corridor Improvement Authorities" so that incentives are focused on redevelopment rather than new projects. We also continue to push the idea of defining and creating "Commerce Centers" as a way to direct scarce state resources to those communities that have already invested in public infrastructure and development.

Information and Education

You ask, we answer . . . Any staff member or elected or appointed official in a member community may call the MML for information and may receive a password to access the member section at www.mml.org. The inquiry team in the Member Resources Services division has received more than 30,000 inquiries since 1993. In the past two years, about 1/3 of the inquiries have come through email.

The inquiry service is one of the League's original services, and has been used by 100 percent of our members during the decade we've been tracking and logging inquiries. The most frequently asked questions relate to parliamentary procedure; requests for sample policies and ordinances; charter information; Open Meetings Act and Freedom of Information Act.

Publications & Online Help – Many of the League's publications, including *Michigan Municipal Review* magazine and the *Municipal Yellow Pages*, are available to members for free online. Free e-books include the *Handbook for Municipal Officials*, *Meetings Agendas and Minutes* and upcoming *Handbook for General Law Village Officials*. Just added in July 2005 is the *Labor Negotiations Handbook for Municipal Officials*.

The member-only section of the League's web site provides a host of topical data, sample resolutions, ordinances and policies and links to dozens of related resources. More than 2,000 individual visitors tap into the resources at www.mml.org every week.

Fiscal Database – The League's fiscal database includes 20 years of data on local revenues and expenditures, millage rates, state-shared revenue, taxable values, state equalized values and Act 51/Transportation revenues and expenditures. As a member, you can request reports tailored to your needs free of charge.

Legal Assistance – Although they do not issue formal opinions, MML attorneys are available to consult with your municipal attorney on legal topics facing your municipality.

More than 80 percent of MML members voluntarily belong to the **MML Legal Defense Fund**. Assisted by the top municipal attorneys in Michigan, the LDF actively participates in more than 30 cases a year that will have a significant impact on local governance and operations.

Risk Management – A wealth of risk management information on all aspects of municipal operations is available through the websites of the MML Liability and Property Pool and MML Workers' Compensation Fund, which are accessible through www.mml.org. The *Risk Management Newsletter* is available online and is distributed to over 4,500 elected and appointed member officials. Additional services and information are available for members of the Pool and Fund.

Elected Officials Academy – The Elected Officials Academy is a voluntary program designed to encourage elected officials to pursue education in topics critical to governing their city or village, and to participate in a variety of leadership roles. Officials are recognized as they complete each of three levels in the Academy. Participation in these core activities provides officials with tools they need to make sound decisions affecting their community's future.

Northern Field Service

The League's field office in Gladstone extends access to all of the League's services to our most northern members. The field representative visits approximately 100 communities every year, providing a variety of customized assistance.

Additional services are fee-based

Many services are needed only occasionally by most members. Because the Michigan Municipal League specializes in local government, we are able to provide the highest quality service, tailored specifically for your municipality's needs, often at a cost far below that charged by private sector service providers.

- **Education:** The League is committed to providing the highest quality education for local officials and municipal staff. Opportunities include more than 50 one-day seminars each year, annual regional meetings in seven locations each spring; the Legislative Conference; the Annual Convention; onsite programs; online resources and a number of distance learning tools created by the MML Foundation.
- **Management Consulting:** The MML staff provides a wide range of services designed to assist your municipal management team in providing efficient and effective use of valuable resources.
 - Classification & compensation studies
 - Personnel policies and procedures
 - Job descriptions

- Benefits analysis
- HR systems audits
- Performance evaluation systems
- Executive searches

- **Insurance:** Award-winning worker's compensation and property and municipal liability insurance are available through League-sponsored programs administered by the Risk Management Services staff.
- **Other fee-based services:** The Michigan Municipal League contracts with a number of outside service providers to offer members competitive rates for:
 - Health insurance,
 - Life insurance,
 - Short and long-term disability income protection,
 - COBRA administration,
 - Unemployment compensation,
 - Retirement and defined contribution plans,
 - Flexible benefit administration
 - CDL drug and alcohol testing
 - and more.

How to get involved

The Michigan Municipal League was founded by municipal leaders intent upon preserving and improving local government. Their primary goals for the organization – to advocate for municipal interests, to educate local officials and to assist in preserving home rule – still guide MML today.

To get the most out of your community's membership, there are many ways for municipal officials and staff to become involved in the organization's leadership:

- Serve on one of the League's standing or ad hoc committees
- Serve as your municipality's legislative director
- Become a regional officer
- Serve as a board or committee member for one of the League's programs: Michigan Municipal Liability & Property Pool; Michigan Municipal Worker's Compensation Fund; Elected Officials Academy; MML Foundation.
- Represent your municipality as the official delegate at the annual business meeting
- Become a member of the Board of Trustees

Contact us

For information on any League service please visit us online at www.mml.org, send an email to info@mml.org or call 800-653-2483.