CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

Date: March 13, 2015

To: Brian Kischnick, City Manager

From: Thomas Darling, Director of Financial Services
Beth Tashnick, City Manager's Office Coordinator

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

History

The Michigan Municipal League (MML), a state association of cities and villages, is a nonpartisan, nonprofit association working cooperatively to strengthen the quality of municipal government and administration.

Benefits of membership include advocacy of municipal issues and low-cost educational opportunities for municipal officials and employees regarding a multitude of areas for effective and efficient governance.

Throughout the last 37 years of the City of Troy's membership with the MML, City Council members and staff members have taken advantage of many continuing education opportunities, legislative updates, workshops, conferences and resource materials made available by the League.

With our membership, we are also able to take advantage of the MML's Workers' Compensation Fund (MML WCF). The MML WCF provides Workers Compensation coverage to more than 880 public entities throughout Michigan and provides legal expertise and defense loss control services, as well as claims handling services which are included in their premium. The broker for the MML WCF takes competitive bids from re-insurers. As of June 30, 2013, the re-insurer and the rating is: Munich ReCAT.

According to the MML, "*The Michigan Municipal League Workers' Compensation Fund is the state's leading provider of municipal workers' compensation and risk management services. The Fund has the lowest rates, the best claims service and the highest historical return of dividends of any insurer in Michigan. The Fund has more than 880 members, $135 million in assets and more than $65 million in net member equity. Efficient administration, effective loss control programs and proactive claims services have resulted in rates that are on average 50 percent lower than those of our nearest competitor.*"

The invoice reflects $1,098 for participation in the Michigan Municipal League's Legal Defense Fund. The Legal Defense Fund authorizes amicus briefs in cases that have a statewide impact for Michigan municipalities. The Legal Defense Fund has recently weighed in on medical marijuana cases, billboard cases, tax cases, governmental immunity cases, right to farm act cases,

constitutional law cases, municipal employment law cases, telecommunications cases and zoning cases. In addition to advocating on behalf of municipal interests throughout the State of Michigan, the Legal Defense Fund has also specifically provided amicus briefs in cases filed against the City of Troy.

Financial

The City anticipates a renewal package from the MML WCF with a modification factor of .85. This is an increase of 0.76 from the prior year of 0.086. The anticipated premium is $330,477, which is net of a dividend credit of $156,292.

Funds are available in City Council's membership and dues account, 102.7958.

Recommendation

Continued membership with the MML via payment of the attached invoice is recommended for annual dues in the amount of $12,076. These dues cover the time period of May 1, 2015 through April 30, 2016.

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michigan municipal league

MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL INVOICE

2014 - 2015

Troy

ID: 492

Date: 03/01/2015

Membership Period: 05/01/2015 - 04/30/2016

REMITTANCE COPY

	Current Balance
* MML Dues	10,978.00
** Legal Defense Fund	1,098.00
	$12,076.00

Total Due by May 01, 2015: $12,076.00

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)

* MML dues include annual subscriptions to *The Review* for your officials at $12.00 per subscription, which is 50% of the regular subscription rate.

** 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.

See what the League can do for you by visiting www.mml.org

Michigan Municipal League
P.O. Box 7409
Ann Arbor, MI 48107-7409
800-653-2483

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Better Communities. Better Michigan.

March 02, 2015

Mrs. M. Aileen Bittner
City Clerk
Troy
500 W. Big Beaver Rd.
Troy, MI 48084-5254

Dear Mrs. Bittner,

Thank you for your continued participation and support of the Michigan Municipal League. The League is *your* advocate for all the important issues facing local government. With the continuing challenges we face in Lansing and Washington, our work for you is even more critical. The League is leveraging our access to key leadership to fight on key issues like transportation funding, and increased revenue sharing. This past year the League was able to achieve 100% replacement for lost PPT dollars, a goal once thought unattainable. We will continue to fight for you on the issues that matter most, and support every member by leading advocacy efforts in support of municipal issues. Our Legal Defense Fund is providing advocacy of a different type as they continue to work to protect your interests in the courts and regulatory arena.

The League will remain on the cutting edge, helping forge a new Michigan. The League's Center for 21st Century Communities (21c3) is working to assist local officials in identifying, developing, and implementing programs and strategies to enhance our member communities' ability to be vibrant places for the 21st century. We provide low-cost, high quality education programs ranging from place to effective and efficient governance.

The League's Board of Trustees recognizes the strained financial conditions present in many Michigan communities. We have worked very hard over the last several years to keep dues low, resulting in *savings of over 30%*. This year we are passing along a modest 1.6% inflationary adjustment to League dues.

The true power of the League comes from the combined voices of communities across Michigan. Together we can make a real difference. Your Michigan Municipal League membership is one of the best investments your community can make. Be sure to maximize your membership by contacting us with your questions, and by actively participating at League events. Thank you for your support. We look forward to our continued partnership with your community.

Sincerely,

Daniel P. Gilmartin
Executive Director & CEO

Richard W. Bolen
President, 2014-2015

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Member Benefits at a Glance

Advocacy of Municipal Issues

Legislative Advocacy – expert advocacy and dedicated representation at the state and federal levels on municipal issues
Legislative Committees – member advisory committees help shape League-wide positions on important matters
Legislative Link E-Newsletter – a weekly rundown of legislative activity
Inside 208 Blog – timely conversations on legislative and advocacy issues

Information

Inquiry Service – information and custom research on your municipal questions
Center for 21st Century Communities (21c3) – tools to better position your community for the 21st century
Directory of Michigan Municipal Officials – annual listing of elected and key appointed city and village officials
The Review – bimonthly magazine geared specifically to the municipal audience
Wage and Salary Database – searchable database of 143 titles, available to respondents of the annual online survey

Educational Opportunities *(member rates apply)*

Convention and Capital Conference – gain tools to improve your community and receive the latest Lansing updates
Seminars and workshops – on-site and online training opportunities
Elected Officials Academy – certification program designed to help elected officials lead in the 21st century

Documents on the League's Website

CrowdfundingMi.com – information and training on this important economic development tool
E-Books, including: *Handbook for Municipal Officials* and *Handbook for General Law Village Officials*
One-Pager *Plus* Fact Sheets – easy to read summaries of common municipal topics
Sample contracts, ordinances, policies, resolutions, and Request for Proposals (RFPs)

Insurance Programs *(premiums apply)*

League Workers' Compensation Fund
League Liability and Property Pool
League Sponsored BCBSM Program
Unemployment Compensation Fund

Savings and Vendor Services

Natural Gas Purchasing Program – a program designed to reduce your gas utility costs
Telecommunications – cut your telecom costs by partnering with Abilita, a telecommunications consulting leader
U.S. Communities Government Purchasing Alliance – favorable pricing to various products and services
Business Alliance Program – vendors who provide services to the municipal market

Additional League Services *(member rates apply)*

CDL Drug and Alcohol Testing Consortium – random testing program in accordance with DOT regulations
Classified Ads – municipal job openings, as well as items for sale, on the League's website
Consulting Services – draw on the League's expertise for your management consulting needs
Executive Search Service – recruit the League to facilitate your executive search process
Legal Defense Fund (LDF) – legal assistance to LDF member municipalities in cases that have statewide impact

Questions? Contact (800) M-LEAGUE;
Access the League's website by visiting www.mml.org.