Holiday Greetings Colleagues and Friends,
To each person, Christmas has a different meaning. When I think of this time of year it means love, family, traditions and memories. It should be a time of joy, peace and gratitude. A time to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. For my family, it is a time for all family members to be together and soak in the laughter, the memories of those who have left us, and the appreciation for all that we have been blessed.
I have a plaque on my wall given to me by my grown children. It says “Grandma’s House, the Place Where Cousins Become Best Friends”. With having eleven grandchildren gathered together this statement warms my heart and fills me with gratitude. I am grateful for this league, my colleagues and friends. It is my honor to serve this organization with passionate and caring individuals. Our leadership from the past and present are truly committed to the ILMCT members. They continue to promote and provide education and networking opportunities. Together we can make our cities, our towns and our State truly a better place.
It is my prayer that each of you find joy, gratitude and peace during this holiday season and throughout the year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
Terri Buckmaster
ILMCT President 2017-2018

Can I refill your eggnog? Get you something to eat? Drive you out to the middle of nowhere and leave you for dead? – Clark W. Griswald
As the holidays approach, our calendars fill with gatherings of friends and family. The sights, the smells and the memories that flood our souls bring us joy. They also bring stress. Please remember to take the time you need to take care of yourself and your family during the holidays. Give yourself permission to enjoy the scheduled time out of the office. January, with all of its deadlines, will be here before we know it. So enjoy the Christmas season and remember no one looks good in prison stripes.
Carrie Mugford, ILMCT Vice-President

Merry Christmas to all of you, from all of us in Brazil, Indiana. Enjoy your friends and family this holiday season and cherish the memories you will make. May the Holidays be filled with joy for all of my fellow Clerk and Clerk-Treasurers.
Karen McQueen
ILMCT Secretary/Treasurer

Wishing everyone a holiday season filled with love, laughter, peace and joy. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year everyone!
Tamara Runyon, ILMCT Immediate Past President
Below you will find answers prepared by Susan Gorman and Todd Caldwell.

**Question:** Our Council is feeling generous as the holidays approach and want to give our employees a year-end bonus. We are fortunate enough to have monies and appropriations available. Is giving a holiday bonus something we can do?

**Answer:** If you have money and existing appropriations available, your Council can approve a year-end bonus. However, the bonus will need to be provided for in your 2017 salary ordinance. If your current salary ordinance does not already provide for a bonus, Council will need to amend it to include the bonus for employees (please keep in mind the compensation paid to elected officials can't be changed during the year).

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**Important Dates for 2018**

- **February 15th**—Last day to submit application for Officer of the League
- **March 11th through March 15th**—Institute and Academy at Ball State in Muncie, Indiana
- **May 20th through May 24th**—IIMC Annual Conference in Norfolk, Virginia
- **June 10th through June 14th**—ILMCT 82nd Annual Conference in South Bend, IN
- **July 22nd through July 25th**—APT Annual Conference in Memphis, Tennessee

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**Officer changes made at the Executive meeting in October at the AIM conference.**

With the resignation of Wes Bennet as the Vice President of the ILMCT, a vacancy was created. Carrie Mugford, North Manchester, agreed to move into the Vice-President position (she was serving in the capacity of Secretary-Treasurer) and Karen McQueen, Brazil was chosen for the Secretary-Treasurer. Both were approved at the ILMCT Executive meeting at the AIM conference in October. We are excited to have both in Leadership roles of our League. We would also like to wish Wes Bennett the best of luck in his new position with the Department of Local Government Finance.
Education News...

I can’t believe it is December already. The holidays and year end are upon us.

The ILMCT officers, AIM and myself are continuing to work with IIMC on educational credits. Our Ball State Institute and Academy was given full credit hours for our classes. Education Day at ILMCT Conference in Belterra and District meetings credit has yet to be determined by IIMC. This is holding up transcripts.

Anyone wanting to apply for your IAMC, CMC, or MMC can use your 2016 transcript and the document from this year’s Ball State classes.

Remember in all the holiday bustle to take time for yourself. Merry Christmas and may 2018 be healthy and prosperous to each and everyone of my colleagues and friends.

Vicki L. Kitchen, IAMC,MMC
Clerk-Treasurer, Town of North Liberty
ILMCT Past President
Chair of the Educational and Professional Committee

And

Joey Lynch, IAMC, CMC
Clerk-Treasurer, City of Greendale

Congratulations to Juanita Brahm from Jasper Indiana who was awarded the Financial Management Award at the AIM conference in October. Juanita has been in office since 1996. Again, congratulations on winning this prestigious award.
League members wishing to serve as an Officer may submit in writing to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Kathy Parsons, Fremont, their desire to serve, by February 15, 2018. Members of the Nominating Committee are Kathy Parsons, Fremont, Vicki Kitchen, North Liberty and Tami Runyon, Bluffton.