



ILCMA Leadership Institute

David Brummel, Mayor

John Coakley, City Administrator

# DAVE & JOHN'S EXCELLENT ADVENTURE

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KEYS TO A SUCCESSFUL  
MAYOR/ADMINISTRATOR RELATIONSHIP



# Build Trust and Mutual Respect

- ❖ Honesty and Transparency
- ❖ New Mayor
- ❖ Communications with Elected Officials
- ❖ Expectations with Staff



# Navigating Conflict

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- ❖ Avoid “taking sides”
- ❖ Stay as neutral as possible
- ❖ Focus on the policy or program
- ❖ Do not make it personal
- ❖ Don’t take it personally



# Change is the Only Constant

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- ❖ New Aldermen
- ❖ Social Media
- ❖ Growing Community
- ❖ New Residents / Expectations
- ❖ Demographic Changes

# Ethics

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- ❖ ICMA Code of Ethics and Resources
- ❖ Professional and Personal Values
- ❖ Trust is Essential

# No “one size fits all”

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- ❖ Know the community: history / culture
- ❖ Local political environment
- ❖ Community engagement and support
- ❖ Know your position and authority  
(Use it Judiciously)

# Resources: Advice and Guidance

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**You are not alone!**

- ❖ ILCMA
- ❖ Metro Managers, Downstate
- ❖ ICMA and ICMA Senior Advisors
- ❖ Other Personal and Professional Confidants



# QUESTIONS?