

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

## Hope Inspires Action: Leading Positive Community Change

**Description:** Providing "hope" to a community is perhaps the greatest contribution elected officials can provide to their citizens. This presentation unpacks the notion of hope in the context of a creating a community wide vision for positive change. The presentation includes moving stories of community leaders that are creating hope in their communities by matching their citizen's dreams with an inspiring community vision and can-do attitude.

*Wednesday Sept, 15, 2021 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM*

**Location:** Salon C

**Speakers:**

Dave Ivan | State Specialist | Michigan State University Extension

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

## Political and Racial Speech—Impact on the Workplace

**Description:** The First Amendment, as well as other laws, protect certain speech in the workplace. Civil rights laws also protect employees from harassment that can be in the form of speech. How do you navigate on duty and off duty political and racial speech that is impacting your workforce? This presentation will address employee and employer rights regarding the voicing of opinions on mask wearing, political candidates and topics, and race/gender issues.

*Thursday Sept, 16, 2021 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM*

**Location:** Salon C

**Speakers:**

Ann Smisek | Attorney | Ahlers & Cooney, P. C.

Aaron Hilligas | Attorney | Ahlers & Cooney, P. C.

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

It's Time to Have a Talk

**Description:** In an era of diverging political opinions, particularly regarding the role of government oversight, how do municipalities communicate with their patrons regarding economic development incentives, effectively answer questions during TIF consultations meetings, and find common ground regarding council members concerns.

*Thursday Sept, 16, 2021 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM*

**Location:** Salon C

**Speakers:**

Travis Squires | | Piper Sandler & Co.

Tim Oswald | Managing Director | Piper Sandler & Co.

Matt Gillaspie | Vice President | Piper Sandler & Co.

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Iowa's Economic Development Laws for Cities

**Description:** Representatives from Dorsey and Whitney will discuss Iowa economic development laws such as TIF, tax abatement and other tools that are at the disposal of cities.

*Thursday Sept, 16, 2021 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM*

**Location:** Salon C

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Joining Forces: Positioning City Staff and Elected Officials for Community Engagement and Success

**Description:** Set your organization up for social media and broader community engagement success in this fun, informational workshop. You'll learn what platforms you should (and shouldn't) be using, how staff and elected officials can work together to help amplify content, using videography/photography, and the best practices from communications professionals. This workshop is geared towards the "one-man-band" operations, where social media is important, but it's only a small part of your daily duties and responsibilities.

*Thursday Sept, 16, 2021 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM*

**Location:** Salon C

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

## The Ten Habits of Highly Effective Councils

**Description:** If you have ever wondered why some cities and their city councils never seem to accomplish great things or just don't seem to "have their act together" while other cities and their leaders have done some amazing things for their communities, then this workshop will address that question. The success that occurs in many outstanding communities does not just happen without effective city leaders. This presentation will focus on the "ten habits of highly effective city council," and how your city might benefit from their approach. Attendees will also be invited to discuss their city's best practices such as teamwork, goal setting, decision making, council procedures, continuous learning and assessment of results.

*Friday Sept, 17, 2021 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM*

**Location:** Salon C

**Speakers:**

Patrick Callahan | Municipal Consultant | Callahan Municipal Consultants, LLC