For the International Municipal Lawyer’s Association - IMLA’s 5 things to know for November 24th

1. From the Dallas News, Texas is inundated with feral hogs. Like Texas, other states are dealing with the issue and the problem can include suburban settings as well as more rural areas. According to the article, because the hog population naturally expands at a rapid rate, to maintain the feral hog population about 2/3rds must be eliminated each year just to keep the population static. In Texas, they are eliminating about a third of the population, so it keeps growing. Solutions include traps, poison and shooting, but in the more urban areas, the solutions may also be a problem. https://www.dallasnews.com/news/animals/2017/11/21/hog-apocalypse-hold-pesky-wild-pigs-taking-texas/ref=yfp

2. In IMLA Programming:


3. In Portland, the question is whether a councilmember’s facebook page and posts are a public record. Tracy Reeve, the City Attorney, has been asked to look into the issue cogently, Tracy wrote: “The mere fact that a public employee posts information on a private social media page which refers to the public body does not transform that private social media page into a public record." Before Facebook, councilmembers talked to constituents in stores, at coffee shops and on the phone – those conversations weren’t public – let’s put some common sense into our public records laws. http://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2017/11/portland_commissioner_chloe_eu.html

4. Pete Haskel leads our ediscovery workgroup and noted the United States District Court for the Southern District Court of Florida is now revising it’s Local Rule 16.1 on Pretrial Procedure in Civil Actions. These amendments include an excellent new 33-point e-discovery checklist. . . .” https://ediscoveryteam.com/2017/10/01/good-new-33-point-e-discovery-checklist-from-miami/ Join Pete for a regular monthly call on ediscovery and join our workgroup.

5. Adding international flavor but sticking to the social media theme, in Hamilton, New Zealand sparks are flying over a tweet by once councilmember to a journalist and there have been a series of problems with councilmembers exercising poor taste either via the social media or at meetings. Apparently, there was a corrupted sign along the road that was very lewd and a councilmember took a picture and tweeted it to a woman who had appeared before the council. The sign made vulgar and sexually explicit fun of her name. She was not amused. https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/politics/99132694/councils-cringe-crew--lewd-message-the-latest-in-string-of-embarrassing-hamilton-city-council-moments

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