

City – Annette Sturdy – City of St. Clair

Annette Sturdy has dedicated nearly 13 years to municipal service in the City of St. Clair, serving as City Clerk since May 2014. Her tenure is marked by exceptional ownership and an "above-and-beyond" approach to her responsibilities. Notably, she has twice stepped into the role of interim City Superintendent during administrative transitions, successfully managing the city's operations while simultaneously fulfilling her duties as Clerk. During these periods, she demonstrated high-level leadership by negotiating union contracts, creating a Local Development Finance Authority, and submitting multi-million dollar grant applications. Her commitment to stability and professionalism has made her a "steadfast and welcoming presence" within the city administration. St. Clair Superintendent Steve Duchane shared, "It's hard to summarize the amount of passion, creativity and integrity she's brought to this profession. So often Annette puts the needs and interests of others before herself."

Annette is a highly active leader within county and state associations, fostering a culture of collaboration and education. She served as President of the St. Clair County Municipal Clerk Association for seven years (2019–2026), where she was instrumental in building membership to include all 33 municipalities in the county. Professionally, she serves as the City Liaison for the St. Clair Chamber of Commerce and maintains active memberships in the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks (MAMC) and the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC). Her peers and supervisors recognize her as an accomplished trainer and mentor who is always eager to share her knowledge to support the next generation of clerks.

Continuously striving to advance the profession, Annette has achieved the highest levels of professional certification. In 2024, she earned the prestigious Master Municipal Clerk (MMC) designation, making her one of only 60 clerks in Michigan to hold the title. She also holds the Michigan Professional Municipal Clerk (MiPMC) certification. To modernize city operations, she facilitated the redesign of three municipal websites—including the city's main site and a tourism-focused site—to improve transparency and accessibility for residents. Additionally, she implemented a new text alert system to ensure timely and effective communication with the public.

Annette's contributions to the St. Clair community are vast, ranging from social programs to local traditions. In 2020, she spearheaded "Community Cares," a program that connected local volunteers with residents in need during the pandemic. She is the driving force behind the city's annual July 4th fireworks display and serves as the local coordinator for "Wreaths Across America," personally ensuring veteran graves are honored each Christmas regardless of the weather. Whether serving as the President of local PTOs or participating in the Citizens Police Academy, Annette models a deep devotion to civic duty that has earned her an excellent reputation for integrity and problem-solving.

Annette was nominated by City of St. Clair Superintendent Steve Duchane.

