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November 24, 2020

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## Township Video News



### TVN's PSATS Roulette | Mean Comments, Meaningful Changes (2:18)

The truth hurts, and boy, our members were brutally honest about their dislike of the Association's website. But we listened, made changes, and recently unveiled a new and improved psats.org that we think you're going to love. (2:18)

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## Latest News

### Commonwealth Issues New Mitigation Orders

Gov. Tom Wolf and state Secretary of Health Dr. Rachel Levine have issued new mitigation orders for Pennsylvania, including new gathering limits, Thanksgiving eve alcohol bar sales ban and business orders, while giving local governments the option to

enact more stringent regulations if warranted. They cited new west coast modeling that projects new cases of COVID-19 in the commonwealth could triple in December and that Pennsylvania could run out of ICU beds within a week if nothing is done. [Read full story.](#)

### **DEP Announces New Round of Section 902 Grants for Recycling**

The state Department of Environmental Protection has announced that a new grant round is open to municipalities for recycling programs under Section 902 of the Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling, and Waste Reduction Act. The application deadline is **January 29, 2021**. Applicants must complete a sustainability plan for their application to be considered. Municipalities that received a section 902 grant award in 2020 are not eligible to apply for this opportunity. [Read full story.](#)

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## Legislation & Policy



### **Governor Signs Final 2020-21 State Budget**

Yesterday, Governor Wolf signed the final \$35.5 billion 2020-2021 state budget package, which includes appropriations for the commonwealth's remaining \$1.3 billion in federal CARES funding and is a 2 percent reduction in spending from the previous fiscal year. The final budget does not include any State Police fees.

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## Learn

### **[Flagger Training - 12/8/20- Luzerne County](#)**

This instructor-led Flagger Training will be conducted for individuals who have flagging responsibilities on ANY ROAD OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. Others who would benefit from this course include: utility companies working on low volume roads, law enforcement personnel, municipal managers and elected officials (to understand the importance, and for budgeting purposes). [Click here](#) to register.



### **[Right-To-Know Law, Sunshine And Ethics, Oh My! - Virtual Class - 12/8/20](#)**

Has your township received bad publicity because of a misstep involving the Right-to-Know Law, Sunshine Act or Ethics Act? Not sure whether you or your township officials/employees are complying with your obligations under any of these laws? Or are you an experienced township official/employee just looking for a refresher? If you answered yes to any of these, you should take this class, which will provide best practices on how to more efficiently handle tricky (and common) RTKL requests, ensure smooth, and legal, public meetings (including remote meetings), avoid tripping yourself up with conflicts of interest and other Ethics Act problems, and much more. This course is eligible for 3 PMGA Administration points and 3 CLE credits (separate fee required for CLEs). [Click here](#) to register.

### **[The ABCs For Elected Auditors - Virtual Class - 12/15/20](#)**

In this virtual class, you will learn about the responsibilities of elected auditors under the Second Class Township Code, the nuts and bolts of conducting a thorough audit of the township's finances, how to best navigate DCED's online financial reporting requirements, and ways to ensure a healthy working relationship between the elected auditors and the township. This class will benefit not only elected auditors, but also those township employees who are responsible for coordinating the audit from the township's side. The presenters will be Lisa Myers, a CPA from Boyer & Ritter with substantial experience with municipal finance, Scott Coburn, PSATS' Counsel and Education Director, and Michael Williams with DCED's Municipal Statistics Office. Eligible for 1.5 PMGA Administration Point. [Click here](#) to register.



For full list of webinars and classes please visit <https://learn.psats.org>.

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Missed yesterday's PSATS Morning News? No problem! A [PSATS Morning News Library](#) is available online for your viewing pleasure!

We're excited about this new concept and want to hear what you think. Email comments and suggestions to [morningnews@psats.org](mailto:morningnews@psats.org).

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