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June 10, 2021

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## Township Video News



### TVN's Question of the Week | ARP Funding: Walk Before You Run

Getting ARP funding and anxious to spend it on a project? Not so fast. We'll tell you why townships need to be careful, deliberate, patient, and thoughtful. Also, [click here](#) to catch up on previous Questions of the Week. (1:59)

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## Latest News

### **2020 Impact Fee Collections Released in IFO Report**

A report released yesterday by the Independent Fiscal Office contains the [actual impact fee collections for 2020](#), a significant portion of which will be released to impacted townships by July 2021. Public Utility Commission reported revenues are \$146.3 million for 2020, Collections were down \$54.1 million, or 27%, compared to 2019. Actual distributions are not yet available, but are expected to be posted to the [PUC's interactive website](#) in the near future. This funding reduction is eligible for inclusion in your calculation for ARP replacement revenue.

### **Reminder: DEP Accepting Applications for Grant Programs Until June 25**

The state Department of Environmental Protection is accepting applications for several grant programs **until June 25**:

**Growing Greener Plus Grants Program:** Townships are eligible to apply. Priority areas include those that reduce nonpoint source pollution, especially nitrogen, phosphorous, and sediment pollution from agricultural and stormwater runoff. The department is particularly interested in design and construction projects that implement effective best management practices that reduce or eliminate pollutant loadings and lead to local water quality improvements. [Click here](#) to learn more.

**Surface Mining Conservation and Reclamation Act:** Townships can apply for funding to address legacy mining impacts. [Click here](#) to learn more.

**Watershed Planning and Restoration Grants (Section 319):** Townships may apply for watershed planning and restoration grants. The department is looking for projects that reduce nonpoint source pollution in targeted watersheds with watershed implementation plans, particularly projects that reduce nitrogen, phosphorous, and sediment pollution from agricultural and stormwater runoff. [Click here](#) to learn more.

### **This Day in History....**

On June 10, 1752, in a field just outside the border of Bensalem Township, Bucks County, Benjamin Franklin flies a kite during a thunderstorm and collects ambient electrical charge in a Leyden jar, enabling him to demonstrate the connection between lightning and electricity. Franklin became interested in electricity in the mid-1740s, a time when much was still unknown on the topic and spent almost a decade conducting electrical experiments.

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## Legislation & Policy



The House and Senate will be in session today, June 10. Watch session live [here](#).

### **Lawmakers Sworn into Office**

Yesterday, Senator Mary Flynn (D- 22) and Senator Chris Gebhard (R-48) were sworn into office. Flynn and Gebhard were elected during a special election which was held in conjunction with the recent municipal primary election. The Association looks forward to continuing to work with Senator Flynn who previously served as a member of the House and looks forward to working with newly elected Senator Gebhard. Township officials from the 22nd and 48th districts are encouraged to reach out to their new Senators.

### **Speaker Announces Special Election**

Speaker of the House Bryan Cutler (R-Lancaster) announced a special election to coincide with Pennsylvania's municipal general election on Nov. 2, 2021, to fill the vacant seat in the 113th Legislative District. The seat was vacated when Representative Marty Flynn (D-Lackawanna) was elected to the Pennsylvania Senate.

### **Senate Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee Approves Disaster Declaration Termination Resolution**

Yesterday, the Senate Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee approved HR 106 which would terminate Governor Wolf's March 6, 2020 COVID-19 emergency disaster declaration.

The Senate is expected to consider HR 106 today, June 10. Negotiations are underway to extend some provisions and waivers tied to the declaration.

### **Senate Approves Agenda Bill**

Yesterday, the Senate unanimously passed SB 554 which would amend the Sunshine Act to require agencies, including townships, to post a meeting agenda containing all items that will be voted on at least 24 hours before a meeting. It would require the agenda to be posted on an agency's website, if it has one, or at its building and meeting place. SB 554 would allow an agency to vote to add unadvertised items to the agenda if agreed to by a majority of the governing board. SB 554 is now awaiting committee assignment in the House.

### **Senate Approves Bill Banning Vaccination Passports**

Yesterday, the Senate passed SB 618 which would prohibit the state, counties, municipalities, school districts and colleges that are subsidized by state taxpayers from requiring proof of vaccination against COVID-19. SB 618 is now awaiting committee assignment in the House.

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## Learn

PSATS educational events will be listed as follows: Mondays – All webinars; Tuesdays – Administrative; Wednesdays – Planning/Zoning; Thursdays – Public Works; Fridays – Public Safety. Click on the title of the class for more information and to register.

### [Everything you NEED to Know about Pavement Preservation! - 7/13/21 - Fayette Co.](#)

This session will explore all of the essentials to ensure that your township's pavement preservation projects are a success. You will learn about proper site selection, site prep, lab testing and choosing the correct aggregate and emulsion.



### **CDL - Probable Cause Training for CDL Supervisory Personnel**

This workshop addresses these federal requirements by providing supervisory personnel with a working understanding of the federal CDL regulations, including on-the-job probable cause procedures.

### [CDL - Probable Cause Training for CDL Supervisory Personnel - 8/11/21 - Crawford County](#)

### [CDL - Probable Cause Training for CDL Supervisory Personnel - 8/18/21 - Beaver County](#)

### [CDL - Probable Cause Training for CDL Supervisory Personnel - 8/19/21 - Fayette County](#)



### **CMV/CDL Records Management**

This workshop will review CMV/CDL employee and vehicle paperwork, including pre-employment inquiries regarding a CDL applicant's past drug and alcohol test results and driving safety reports; requests for CMV driver's license information; annually reviewing each CMV driver's qualification to continue driving; CMV daily vehicle inspection, maintenance, and repair reports; the employer's required policy on CDL drug and alcohol testing; and a general overview of all the CDL regulations.



[CMV/CDL Records Management - 8/11/21 - Crawford County](#)

[CMV/CDL Records Management - 8/18/21 - Beaver County](#)

[CMV/CDL Records Management - 8/19/21 - Fayette County](#)

### **2021 Engineers Fall Seminar**

This full-day seminar is designed to meet the educational interests and busy schedules of consulting engineers by providing a focused overview of important issues of interest to municipal engineers and their local government clients.



[2021 Engineers Fall Seminar - 9/28/21 - East](#)

[2021 Engineers Fall Seminar - 10/14/21 - Central](#)

[2021 Engineers Fall Seminar - 10/21/21 - Southeast](#)

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Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors

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