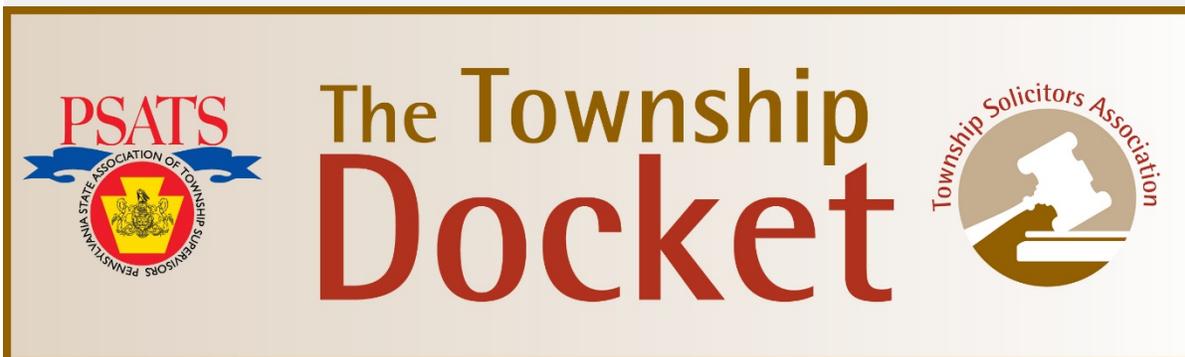


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## Newsletter of the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Solicitors

June 7, 2021

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### Headlines

#### **Townships Must Submit Applications to DCED for ARP Funds; PSATS Hosting Town Hall with DCED Today**

Last Wednesday, the state Department of Community and Economic Development began notifying municipalities that they need to apply through its Single Application website to receive their share of the American Rescue Plan Act recovery funds and strongly encouraged them to do so within five days. The information sought by DCED is required by the U.S. Department of Treasury and includes contact information, EIN, DUNS and SAMS numbers, 2020 operating budget numbers, as well as two federally mandated terms and conditions documents. For more information, click [here](#).

To assist members with the DCED Single Application process (and to answer other ARP recovery fund-related questions), PSATS will be hosting a Town Hall this afternoon at 1:30 with representatives of DCED. To register, click [here](#).

#### **Speakers Wanted for PSATS Regional Forums**

PSATS is looking for speakers for its Southcentral Regional Forum in Grantville, Dauphin County, on August 17; its Southwest Regional Forum in Canonsburg, Washington County, on August 24; its Southeast Regional Forum in Exton, Chester County, on October 27; and its Northeast Regional Forum in Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, on November 10. If interested, please contact Scott Coburn at [scoburn@psats.org](mailto:scoburn@psats.org).

#### **Penn State Hosting Online Solar Law Symposium in June**

The Penn State Solar Law Symposium, to be held on June 15 and June 17, is targeted at those with beginning or intermediate knowledge about utility-scale solar development. It will be eligible for 6 CLE credits. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

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### Recent Decisions

## **Commonwealth Court Issues Significant Decision on Municipal Regulation of Shooting Ranges**

In *Barris v. Stroud Twp.*, \_\_\_ A.3d \_\_\_, 2021 WL 2177376 (Pa.Cmwlth. May 28, 2021), the Commonwealth Court ruled that a township ordinance regulating shooting ranges violated the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution but provided valuable guidance regarding what steps a municipality might permissibly take without violating its residents' constitutional rights. To read more, click [here](#).

## **Sale of Entire Parcel Does Not Trigger 35-Year-Old Restrictive Covenants in Subdivision Plan**

In *Gosselin v. Supervisors of North Manheim Twp.*, No. 531 C.D. 2018, 2021 WL 2199120 (Pa.Cmwlth. May 28, 2021), the Commonwealth Court ruled against a township and found that a restrictive covenant in a 35-year-old subdivision plan did not require that roads and stormwater management improvements be made before the sale of the entire parcel because those required improvements were intended to address the impacts of the sale of subdivided lots, not the entire parcel. To read more, click [here](#).

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## **Legislative & Policy**

### **House Passes Open Space Legislation**

The House recently unanimously passed HB 221, which would amend the Local Tax Enabling Act (Act 511 of 1965) to authorize local governments to use up to 25% of revenue from the open space tax for maintenance and development regardless of the method of acquisition or purchase. HB 221 is now in the Senate.

### **House Approves Subdivision and Land Development Bill**

Last week, the House passed HB 141, which would mandate that all subdivision and land development ordinances contain a non-building waiver provision. This legislation would enable property owners to create nonbuilding lots, which would be exempt from the normal subdivision process until they are ready to develop the property. HB 141 is now in the Senate. PSATS is opposed to HB 141 as currently written and will continue to work with members of the General Assembly on this proposal.

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## **Upcoming Educational Offerings**

### **[Basic Parliamentary Procedure for Local Government \(Webinar\) – 7/15/21](#)**

**NOTE: This would be a great share with your township and ZHB clients!**

Parliamentary procedure may not seem to be the most exciting topic, but it is the absolute foundation for running an efficient township meeting and instilling confidence in your residents that the township is being effectively governed. In this virtual class, you will learn the basics of parliamentary procedure and ways to improve your public meetings. We will cover a variety of the most common procedural tasks, including developing agendas, making and amending motions, the order of voting, and much more.

**[In the Hot Seat – Handling Tough Situations as the Chair of the Board \(Webinar\) – 7/22/21](#)**

**NOTE: This would be a great share with your township and ZHB chairs!**

Whether you have been the chair of your township board for a long time or are new to the game, many situations occur during township meetings that require the chair to resolve them in an effective manner. This includes addressing challenging residents during public comment, disagreements between board members, and the complexities of working through parliamentary procedure issues during difficult votes. In this virtual class, you will learn best practices for tackling these situations and making yourself a better board chair.

**[2021 PSATS HR & Labor Management Institute – 9/23-9/24/21 \(8 CLE\)](#)**

This 1.5-day class is a must-attend for anyone who has responsibility for HR and personnel management in their township.

**2021 Solicitors Fall Seminar**

PSATS will be holding three in-person Solicitors Seminars this fall. Register at the links below:

**[West – Courtyard Marriott, Cranberry Township, Butler County - 9/28 \(5 CLE\)](#)**

**[Central - PSATS, Cumberland County - 10/7 \(5 CLE\)](#)**

**[East - Holiday Inn, Lansdale-Hatfield, Montgomery County - 11/4 \(5 CLE\)](#)**



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Comments and suggestions about this biweekly newsletter for members of the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Solicitors can be emailed to Scott Coburn at [scoburn@psats.org](mailto:scoburn@psats.org).



Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors

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