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August 31, 2021

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## Township Video News



**TVN's Question of the Week | Can We Talk? Be careful what you say to another supervisor outside a public meeting.**

Learn what you can and cannot discuss and debate outside a public meeting. Also, [click here](#) to catch up on previous Questions of the Week. (1:41)

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## Latest News

### **Bylaws Change Would Allow Remote Conduct of Business**

PSATS needs your help to vote on important bylaws changes at the October Annual Business Meeting that would allow Association business to be conducted remotely if in-person meetings are not feasible. Under the current bylaws, an in-person vote is needed to amend the bylaws to authorize the Association and its standing committees to use more flexible options in situations where warranted.

This is one of several important bylaws changes unanimously approved by the PSATS Rules Committee in November 2020 that will be discussed and voted on at PSATS' Annual Business meeting on October 15. Other changes would create consistency within the bylaws, revise the terms for standing committee members and the process for appointing them, and authorize township treasurers to serve on the PSATS Executive Committee. A meeting packet will be mailed to each member township and county association this week.

Join us for the Annual Business Meeting in Hershey on October 15 and help debate and vote on important bylaws changes, as well as set PSATS' policy positions by voting on resolutions, and approving PSATS leadership. Each member township is entitled to one voting delegate who is authorized to vote on your township's behalf at the Business Meeting. Be sure to register at [voting2021.psats.org](https://voting2021.psats.org). County Associations are also eligible to designate voting delegates.

And don't miss PSATS' Centennial Celebration Dinner on October 14, also scheduled for the Hershey Lodge. Learn more about the Centennial Celebration and register at [PSATS100.mypli.org](https://PSATS100.mypli.org). See you in Hershey!

### **DEP Approves Fee Increase for NPDES Permits**

On August 28, the state Department of Environmental Protection published final changes to the state's application and annual fee schedules for Water Quality Management (WQM) and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits. Permits covered by the new fees include MS4 permits, single residence sewage treatment plants, small flow sewage treatment facilities, and central sewage collection systems. These new fees are based on an analysis of the typical complexity and time necessary to review various permit applications and account for the need for DEP to conduct inspections during or following construction of any permitted facilities. [Click here](#) to read the regulation.

The regulations also address the process for municipalities to request a waiver from NPDES permit requirements. To request a waiver for small MS4 operators, municipalities must submit a permit application, fee, and waiver request on DEP-approved forms at least once every five years.

For individual NPDES permits, the annual fee is now due on the effective date of the last permit issuance or reissuance for permits issued before August 28, 2021

and is the effective date of the initial permit for permits issued after August 28, 2021. For example, if an individual NPDES permit was last reissued with an effective date of June 1, 2017, the annual fee for the permit would be due each year on June 1, regardless of the effective date of future reissued permits. If an individual NPDES permit is issued on September 1, 2021, the annual fee for the permit would be due each year on September 1.

In 2019, PSATS submitted comments on the initial fees opposing the fee increases and urging DEP to seek additional state funding instead of asking townships to pay for these costs. The final fees are substantially lower than the initial request. In May 2021, PSATS again urged DEP to seek additional state funds rather than pass on DEP's operational costs to local governments in the form of an additional state mandate. [Click here](#) for a copy of the May 2021 letter.

#### **Today in History.....**

On August 31, 1955, General Motors Corp debuts the first solar-powered automobile when Willaim G. Cobb demonstrates the Sunmobile.

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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.

#### **[Developing Your Township Budget - 9/21/21 - Virtual Training](#)**

This virtual class will provide proven and effective methods and techniques to help new and veteran township supervisors, secretaries, treasurers, managers, road masters and public works officials develop budgets that work.



**[Breaking Down Generational Differences in Order to Build Up Your Team - Virtual Class - 10/12/21](#)**

This discussion will examine generational differences, as well as the unique value that each group brings to the table. It will identify some key similarities and shared beliefs that can sometimes go overlooked.



**Budgets with QuickBooks**

Learn how to pull years of financial data from QuickBooks and send to Excel to more easily create your proposed township budget.

**[9/9/21 - Centre Co.](#)**

**[9/16/21 - Montgomery Co.](#)**

**[9/20/21 - Lackawanna Co.](#)**

**[9/28/21 - Cumberland Co.](#)**



**QuickBooks Year-End Reports**

Learn how to print W-2s and 1099s and file all year-end taxes and reports with the Internal Revenue Service and state agencies.

**[9/9/21 - Centre Co.](#)**

**[9/16/21 - Montgomery Co.](#)**

**[9/20/21 - Lackawanna Co.](#)**

**[9/28/21 - Cumberland Co.](#)**



**QuickBooks for Beginners**

This class is designed to provide each student with a fundamental understanding and working knowledge of QuickBooks Accounting Software, and is intended to demonstrate the application of QuickBooks and QuickBooks Pro to assist in municipal accounting.

**[10/7/21 - Union Co.](#)**

**[10/12/21 - Cumberland Co.](#)**

**[10/19/21 - Lehigh Co.](#)**



### **Intermediate QuickBooks**

Come learn with us as we discover the benefits of using the Account Payable-A/P and Accounts Receivable-A/R System in QuickBooks.

[10/21/21 - Montgomery Co.](#)

[10/28/21 - Centre Co.](#)

[11/12/21 - Cumberland Co.](#)



### **2021 PSATS HR & Labor Management Institute -**

**9/23-24/21**

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



### **2021 Solicitors Fall Seminar**

In the Solicitors Fall Seminar learn from experts on a wide variety of topics critical to the practice of a municipal solicitor.

[9/28/21 - West](#)

[10/7/21 - Central](#)

[11/4/21 - East](#)



### **PSATS Regional Forums**

"PSATS Live" is back, and we're going on the road again with our ever-popular Regional Forums at a location near you starting in July in Erie and running through November in Wilkes-Barre. We have all-new content and a one-day-only format now. Be sure to sign up for the one closest to you!



**PSATS Southeast 2021 Regional Forum - 10/27/21 - Exton**

**PSATS Northeast 2021 Regional Forum - 11/10/21 - Wilkes-Barre**

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Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors

David M. Sanko, Executive Director

4855 Woodland Drive

Enola, PA 17025