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February 1, 2022

Township Video News



TVN's Training Tuesday | February is filled with learning opportunities!

Just because February is a short month doesn't mean there are any fewer educational opportunities! PSATS has a full calendar of in-person and virtual classes, as well as multiple webinars throughout the month. Make sure to check out the February issue of Township News for more learning opportunities and visit learn.psats.org for more information.

Latest News

Digital Version Now Available!

Township News Looks at ARPA Final Rule

Ever since the American Rescue Plan Act passed last year, municipalities across the state have been waiting on the U.S. Treasury's final rule clarifying how they can spend the funds allocated by Congress to help alleviate some of the financial sting caused by the pandemic. In the February cover story, we delve into how the final rule offers expanded flexibility in how townships can use the money. This month's issue also includes articles that explore the value of county associations, highlight PSATS' Boot Camp training, report on PSATS' testimony on the state fireworks law, and offer suggestions for celebrating Local Government Week in April.



Subscribers to the News can access a digital copy by signing in to www.psats.org and clicking on "Digital Publications" under "My PSATS Profile." Not yet a subscriber? You can check out the free cover article [here](#) and learn how to subscribe to the News [here](#).

White House Releases Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Guidebook

The White House released the first edition of its Bipartisan Infrastructure Law guidebook to help state and local governments learn more about the programs available under the new law. The guidebook contains information on more than 375 infrastructure programs. [Click here](#) to view the guidebook.

Pennsylvania Receives Federal Funds to Plug Orphaned and Abandoned Wells

Pennsylvania has received \$25 million of its \$104 million allocation from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to plug orphaned and abandoned wells in the state. Pennsylvania is set to receive the second largest allocation of funding, after Texas. It costs about \$1 million dollars per well so PA should be able to fix about 100 of the over 2,000 abandoned wells. [Click here](#) for more.

Municipal Bridge Collapse

The 50 yr. old bridge that collapsed in Pittsburgh last Friday had been recently inspected in September of 2021 and the steel infrastructure scored a “4” rating on the 0-9 scale. A 26-ton weight restriction had been in place since 2014. Its evaluation was not serious enough for closure. There are only 6 similarly designed bridges in PA. PennDot will not be releasing anymore information citing the ongoing federal investigation.

FDA Fully Approves Moderna Vaccine

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine under its normal process. Moderna was approved through an emergency use authorization in 2020. The vaccine will now be known as Spikevax and is fully approved for use in individuals 18 and older. [Click here](#) for more.

PennDOT Connects Long Range Transportation Plan/Freight Plan Drop-In Session

Local officials will learn about PennDOT’s new long range transportation plan and freight movement plan and the importance of each for communities. This session will cover topics such as:

- Freight growth and its implications for land use planning;
- Joint state-local initiatives identified with local government associations;
- New sources of planning data for municipalities; and
- The role of PennDOT Connects in implementing plans.

The session also will briefly cover the plan’s goals for including mobility, equity and safety. Additionally, the implementation approach for the plans will be highlighted.

[Click here](#) to register.

Today in History....

On February 1, 1972, Hewlett-Packard introduced the first scientific hand-held calculator. It sold for \$395 and was named the HP-35 – a nod to its 35 keys.

Learn

PSATS educational events will be listed as follows: Mondays – All webinars; Tuesdays – Administrative; Wednesdays – Planning/Zoning; Thursdays – Public Works; Fridays – Public Safety.

PSATS Boot Camp for Township Officials

This three-day event was created just for you — *newly elected (or veteran) supervisors, other newly elected officials, and new secretaries/managers*. Learn the everyday tasks to running a municipality, explore the tools and resources available to help you do your job successfully, and experience real-life scenarios through discussion with experienced PSATS members. [Click here](#) for dates/locations and to register.



Basic Training for Secretaries and Administrators

Topics covered will range from budgeting, purchasing, advertising and meeting management all the way to human resource issues and public engagement.

[3/22/22 - Cumberland Co.](#)

[3/24/22 - Chester Co.](#)

[4/7/22 - Centre Co.](#)



QuickBooks Tips and Tricks - Dauphin County - 4/24/22

Join your colleagues from around the state for this newly REVISED class where Diana Patton, who has spent 30 years as a township secretary/treasurer and the last 19 years as a Certified QuickBooks Instructor and Trainer, will show you all the ways you can use QuickBooks to better serve the financial needs of your municipality.



Basic "Virtual" Training for Secretaries and Administrators - Jan. 27 & Feb. 3, 2022

This virtual training class will be offered in two half-day sessions. This is your opportunity to learn from acknowledged experts about all the most important issues township secretaries and managers need to know, right from the comfort of your desk. Topics covered will range from budgeting, purchasing, advertising and meeting management all the way to human resource issues and public engagement.



[Demystifying Grant Seeking: Tools & Tips for Success - Virtual Class - 3/10/22](#)

Join fundraising master trainer, Chad Barger, CFRE, for a session focused on seeking grant support for township projects and programs. The session begins with an overview of the role of grant funding in an organization and the prerequisites for seeking grant support.



[QuickBooks for Beginners - Virtual Class - 3/10 & 17/22](#)

This virtual class is broken out into two half-day sessions. It 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.



[Newsletter Best Practices: Keeping Residents Updated Via Email & Postal Mail- Virtual Class - 4/7/22](#)

We'll examine how print/mailed communications work in tandem with email to ensure our donors are informed and engaged.



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