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March 10, 2022

Township Video News



TVN's Question of the Week | How do we certify our voting delegate for the 2022 conference?

Each township's voting delegate (a supervisor, secretary, manager, or treasurer) needs to be certified by the township secretary during the registration process prior to the annual conference. County associations can also appoint voting delegates. Also, click [here](#) to catch up on previous Questions of the Week. Also, [click here](#) to catch up on previous Questions of the Week.

Latest News

New Record Inflation to Impact Township Budgets

This morning, the federal government released new inflation numbers breaking last month's record and setting a new 40-year record. The Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 7.9% in February compared to last year, marking the fastest annual jump since 1982. This took out [January's previous 40-year high rate of 7.5%](#), according to Bloomberg data.

U.S. consumers paid more for a variety of goods and services in February compared to the prior month and year, with prices climbing across the economy amid lingering supply and demand imbalances. This trend, which includes fuel costs will most certainly impact township budgets and spending decisions.

Gas Tax Holiday?

There are both federal and state proposals on temporarily cutting the gas taxes to ease burdens on consumers. The big challenge is that there is no guarantee consumers will see a reduction at the pumps given the limited supply chain. Basic economics tells us that the only way to lower prices at the pump is to increase the supply.

Nobody likes the higher prices but eliminating gas taxes will only serve to penalize the travelling public by cutting road and bridge repair funding sources at a time when it is more necessary than ever. Liquid fuels funding would be affected unless there is replacement revenue, and that hits townships hard.

Office of Open Records Offers Daily Webinars Next Week

March 13-19 is Sunshine Week in Pennsylvania. It is a week dedicated to promoting government transparency and accountability.

In recognition of Sunshine Week, the Office of Open Records is hosting free daily webinars at 2 p.m. on various topics with limited time for questions and answers. [Click here](#) for more detailed information about the classes.

- Monday: Sunshine Act
- Tuesday: Submitting Evidence
- Wednesday: Mediations
- Thursday: Trending Topics in the Right-to-Know Law
- Friday: Aggregated Data

These webinars are conducted via Microsoft Teams and you will be asked to download a small application. Please test the link prior to the webinar and speak with your IT department if you encounter issues. Watch the webinars by [clicking here to join the Microsoft Teams meeting](#).

You may also listen to webinar audio by joining via telephone at (267) 332-8737. The Conference ID is 646 597 282#.

PennDOT Selects Team for Major Bridge P3 Initiative

The state Department of Transportation has chosen Bridging Pennsylvania Partners (BPP) as the “apparent best value proposer” to administer the department’s Major Bridge Public-Private Partnership (P3) Initiative to repair or replace and then toll [up to nine bridges](#) across the state. The parties will now enter into a pre-development agreement to finalize the design and packaging of the bridges to be built, financed, and maintained. The first package of bridges is scheduled to be under contract by December 2022, with construction to begin in late 2023 or early 2024. [Click here](#) for more information.

Today in History.....

On March 10, 18876, The first discernible speech was transmitted over a telephone system when inventor Alexander Graham Bell summoned his assistant in another room by saying, “Mr. Watson, come here; I want you.” Bell had received a comprehensive telephone patent just three days before.

Learn

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

Flagger Training

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).



- [4/11/22 - Greene County](#)
- [4/12/21 - Bedford County](#)
- [4/27/22 - Pike County](#)
- [5/3/22 - Chester County](#)
- [5/4/22 - Fayette County](#)
- [5/17/22 - Northumberland County](#)
- [5/18/22 - Chester County](#)
- [5/20/22 - Washington County](#)
- [6/2/22 - Northampton County](#)

[2022 Engineers Spring Seminar - 4/25 & 4/26, 2022](#)

The 2022 Spring Township Engineers Seminar is a 2 half-day event. Each morning's agenda includes important issues of interest to municipal engineers and their local government clients taught by knowledgeable and respected subject matter experts.



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