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June 14, 2022

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## Township Video News



**TVN's DaveTalk | Start planning your township summer celebrations!**  
PSATS Executive Director Dave Sanko has some great ideas for your upcoming summer celebrations!

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## Latest News



### **Reminder: PennDOT Accepting Applications for ARLE Grants**

The state Department of Transportation is accepting applications for the 2022 Automated Red Light Enforcement Funding Program (ARLE) **until June 30, 2022**. Grants through this program may be used for a range of safety and mobility projects. The program will prioritize safety enhancements considering PennDOT's safety network screening methods for the project location and crash modification factors associated with proposed improvements. To learn more about this grant opportunity, [click here](#). To read the Pennsylvania Bulletin notice, [click here](#).

### **IFO Research Brief on PA's Gas Tax**

The newest research brief from the Independent Fiscal Office provides a detailed overview of Pennsylvania's gas tax. The report examines historical growth, adjustments, and future expectations for the source of Liquid Fuels funds. [Click here](#) for more.

### **Today In History....**

In addition to Flag Day, June 14 is also the birthday of the US Army. In 1775, Formed from amateur troops of volunteer soldiers defending colonies against British tyranny, the oldest military force in the United States began before the U.S. formally existed. Their forces consisted of mostly inexperienced militiamen commanded by independent colonial armies. According to battlefields.org, there were never more than 48,000 Continental soldiers at one time. Today, the United States Army consists of over one million active-duty service members and an additional 800,000 National Guard and Reserves members.

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## Legislative & Policy



The House and Senate will be in session today, June 14. Watch the session live [here](#).

### **Senate Expected to Vote on New Unfunded Mandate Today**

SB 669, the police pension credit bill, is positioned for a final vote in the Senate today. [SB 669](#) would require municipalities to permit full-time police officers who have satisfied vesting requirements to purchase pension credit for prior police service in a different police department.

PSATS opposes SB 669 as an unfunded mandate and has asked the senators to vote no unless they will provide funding to cover the cost of this new benefit. While PSATS members strongly support law enforcement personnel and the difficult jobs they perform, the negative financial impact of this bill would be significant on many townships. As such, ***township officials are encouraged to reach out to their senator today and ask them to vote no on SB 669.***

The current municipal employer would bear the brunt of future pension costs accrued with a different community in prior service. PSATS pension fund actuaries ran several scenarios which reflect the greatest impact is felt by smaller municipalities, already struggling to maintain a police force.

### **PSATS Testifies on MS4**

Yesterday, Ben Webber, Township Engineer for Lancaster Township, Lancaster County testified before the House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee on MS4s compliance on behalf of PSATS. Webber discussed Lancaster Township's experiences in attempting to comply with this mandate and the recent EPA audit of the township's MS4 program. He stated that PSATS would like to see additional guidance from DEP on how to demonstrate compliance with the minimum control measures. He emphasized the funding challenges posed by the MS4 mandate and asked for that the legislature consider additional funding to help townships meet these goals. [Click here](#) to read the testimony.

### **The House passed the following bills yesterday:**

[HB 2404](#) would allow municipalities to apply for **continuous maintenance permits for streams** within their jurisdiction for at least 10 years. This bill would address a PSATS resolution.

[HB 2407](#) would **clarify that the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission has no authority for permitting or enforcement** related to stream clearing or maintenance activities. This bill would address a PSATS resolution.

[HB 1952](#) would identify and fund legacy infrastructure projects in each county to celebrate the **United States Semiquincentennial, America250PA**.

The Senate passed [SB 1027](#) yesterday, which **would allow a 17-year-old to train for an interior firefighting module with live burns** if they have permission to engage from a fire chief and a parent or guardian. The minor would be required to

be under the supervision of a credentialed Pennsylvania State Fire Academy Instructor. This bill would address a PSATS resolution.

[HB 2579](#) was reported from the House Health Committee. This bill would require the state Department of Health to **create a state written or computer examination for individuals wishing to be licensed as an EMT or paramedic.** This would be an alternative to the current national exam.

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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.

### **Payroll With QuickBooks**

You will learn the proper way to have your Chart of Accounts set up along with Setting up Payroll items and mapping them correctly. We will learn about Employee Preferences to make setting up new employees easier. Most importantly, we will learn how to set up Payroll Liability schedules, epay and efile forms to make it seamless when doing your payroll using QuickBooks.



[6/21/22 - Lehigh County](#)  
[6/23/22 - Northumberland County](#)

### **[2022 PSATS Summer Solicitors Seminar - 6/23/22 - Butler County](#)**

This seminar will cover a wide variety of emerging and important trends and issues vital to the practice of every municipal solicitor. Don't miss this opportunity to hear from experts and network with your peers from around the state.



[Engaging The Public - Agendas, Minutes, Public Comment & RTKL Requests - Virtual Class - 6/28/22](#)

In this virtual class, we will cover a series of common, but challenging, issues that township administrators face when working with and responding to members of the public and media and highlight ways to effectively address them.



[PSATS 2022 Regional Forums](#)

This series of full-day educational sessions is scheduled for multiple locations statewide. Learn more about issues that matter to your community, discuss common interests with other local leaders, earn PMGA and other professional credits, and attend specialized workshops designed for township officials. This educational event will be the perfect opportunity to hear from experts on the **local issues** that matter to you and your municipality.



PSATS Northwest 2022 Regional Forum - 8/4/22 - Erie  
PSATS Southcentral I 2022 Regional Forum - 8/31/22 - Lancaster  
PSATS Northeast 2022 Regional Forum - 9/22/22 - Tannersville  
PSATS Southwest 2022 Regional Forum - 9/29/22 - Cranberry Township  
PSATS Southeast 2022 Regional Forum - 10/6/22 - Plymouth Meeting  
PSATS Southcentral II 2022 Regional Forum - 10/11/22 - Gettysburg  
PSATS Centre Regional 2022 Regional Forum - 10/25/22 - State College  
PSATS Lehigh Valley 2022 Regional Forum - 11/1/22 - Allentown

[Click here for more information and to register](#)

[Basic Training For Secretaries And Administrators - 8/23/22 - Lackawanna Co.](#)

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



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