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June 23, 2022

Township Video News



TVN's Question of the Week | Do we have to advertise our equipment sales?
Find out what Section 1504 of the Second Class Township Code says about selling equipment, even through electronic auctions like MuniciBid. Also, [click here](#) to catch up on previous Questions of the Week.

Latest News

Sovereign and Governmental Immunity Report Released

The Joint Legislative Budget & Finance Committee released a report yesterday on *Limitations on Liability under Pennsylvania's Sovereign and Governmental Immunity Laws*. The report is due to recent court decisions that questioned the whether the current damage caps on the commonwealth's and local government liability are sufficient and urged the General Assembly to consider changes.

The report found that the current local government liability cap of \$500,000 is sufficient for over 99 percent of claims against local government entities reviewed by the committee. Only 1% of claims resulted in payouts from \$250,000 to \$500,000.

The report makes several recommendations, including that the caps remain as they are for non-catastrophic claims and that the caps be increased only for catastrophic claims and medical expenses for non-economic damages based on the consumer price index since 1978. In addition, the report recommends that local governments report their insurance carrier for property and liability coverage using DCED's municipal statistics database. To read a one-page summary of the report, [click here](#). For the full report, [click here](#).

Today in History....

On June 23, 1972, Title IX of the education amendments of 1972 is enacted into law. Title IX prohibits federally funded educational institutions from discriminating against students or employees based on sex. It begins: "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." As a result of Title IX, any school that receives any federal money from the elementary to university level—in short, nearly all schools—must provide fair and equal treatment of the sexes in all areas, including athletics.

Legislation & Policy



Session for the remainder of the week is cancelled as the final state budget deal remains elusive. Legislators will return to session Monday and attempt to finalize the 2022-2023 state budget by the June 30 deadline.

The following bills passed the House yesterday:

[SB 477](#) would more clearly define **which types of improvements to real property require notice to the assessment office** and increase the property valuation. The bill was amended to include provisions from another bill that would consolidate and standardize municipal code provisions that deal with **boundary change** but not mergers or consolidations. The bill would allow municipalities to adjust a municipal boundary or settle a dispute over an unclear boundary by agreement.

[SB 563](#) would amend the Fire and Panic Act to update the fire safety requirements for family child-care homes.

The following bills passed the Senate yesterday:

[SR 285](#) directs the Joint State Government Commission to **conduct an assessment and analysis of Pennsylvania's public and private recycling infrastructure and operations**, review recycling investment strategies adopted by other states, including public-private partnerships and industry-managed product collection strategies, and provide suggestions for legislative changes.

[SB 1093](#) would amend the Outdoor Advertising Control Act to allow energy efficient lighting to be installed on these facilities if no structural changes would be required.

Learn

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

Stormwater 101

This half-day, in-person, introductory class will educate you on the basics of municipal stormwater management, including the effects of stormwater runoff, the impacts of new development and redevelopment within your municipality, and best practices that your municipality can implement to efficiently manage stormwater without breaking your budget.

[7/21/22 - Cumberland County](#)

[7/29/22 - Crawford County](#)

[8/4/22 - Montgomery County](#)

[8/12/22 - Clearfield County](#)



[8/19/22 - Lackawanna County](#)

Flagger Training

This instructor-led Flagger Training will be conducted for individuals who have flagging responsibilities on ANY ROAD OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

[8/11/22 - Fayette County](#)
[10/25/22 - Schuylkill County](#)



CDL - Probable Cause Training For CDL Supervisory Personnel

Participants will learn what to do if they suspect or verify that a CDL employee is under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol while on duty.

[9/16/22 - Fayette County](#)
[9/27/22 - Cumberland County](#)
[10/12/22 - Bucks County](#)
[10/19/22 - Butler County](#)
[11/18/22 - Berks County](#)



CMV/CDL Records Management

This workshop will review CMV/CDL employee and vehicle paperwork

[9/16/22 - Fayette County](#)
[9/27/22 - Cumberland County](#)
[10/12/22 - Bucks County](#)
[10/19/22 - Butler County](#)
[11/18/22 - Berks County](#)



[2022 PSATS Fall Engineers Virtual Seminar - 10/27/22](#)

This full-day virtual seminar is designed to meet the educational interests and busy schedules of consulting engineers by providing a focused overview of important issues of interest to municipal engineers and their local government clients.



Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors

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