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September 13, 2022

Township Video News



TVN's DaveTalk | How can you award the best of the best in local government?

In this month's DaveTalk, PSATS Executive Director Dave Sanko shares how you can recognize and thank your local leaders by nominating them for a PSATS Excellence Award.

Latest News

Act 57 Requires Townships to Adopt Tax Resolution

[Act 57 of 2022](#) requires all municipalities that levy real estate taxes to adopt a resolution or ordinance directing their tax collector to implement its provisions. Townships will have from October 10, 2022, the law's effective date, until January 9, 2023, to adopt the resolution or ordinance.

Act 57 allows taxpayers who fail to receive a tax notice during their first year of occupancy to apply for a waiver from penalties and additional costs from the tax collector. The state Department of Community and Economic Development is required to make a standard waiver form available.

As a member service, PSATS developed this [Act 57 of 2022 Model Resolution](#), which will also be available in PSATS' Resource Center and included in your September Bulletin mailing.

Reminder: Federal Broadband Money Available

The [Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program](#) provides \$1 billion in funding to expand middle-mile infrastructure, referring to the mid-section of internet infrastructure that carries large amounts of data at high speeds over long distances. This program will increase the resilience of internet infrastructure and reduce the cost of bringing high-speed internet to unserved and underserved communities.

Townships are eligible to apply for funding directly to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). Grants can be used for the following broadband infrastructure projects:

- Construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment;
- Engineering design, permitting and work related to project reviews;
- Personnel costs, including salaries and benefits for staff and consultants; and
- Other costs necessary to programmatic activities.

Applications are due by September 30. [Click here](#) for more information, including Application Guidance and Frequently Asked Questions. The NTIA is now offering office hour sessions for interested applicants to ask questions of NTIA staff and subject matter experts to help write high-quality applications. Click here for [dates and times of the office hour sessions](#).

PennDOT Phases in Newly-Designed Driver Licenses, ID Cards

The state Department of Transportation has announced that, as part of ongoing security enhancements, it is updating the design and security features of driver license and identification card products. The program is being piloted at the Summerdale Driver License Center in Enola and will be fully transitioned to the new products by mid-November. The new licenses will be phased in over the next four-year renewal cycle and replace existing designs, which means both versions will be in circulation during the transition period. Click here for [the press release](#).

Commonwealth to Distribute Iodide to Residents Near Nuclear Plants on 9/15

The state Department of Health will offer free potassium iodide, or KI, tablets on Thursday, September 15, to Pennsylvanians who are within 10 miles of the state's four active nuclear power plants as part of routine preventative efforts in case of future emergencies. The facilities include Beaver Valley power Station; Limerick Generating Station; Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station; and Susquehanna Steam Electric Station. Click here for [locations and hours](#). No appointment is necessary.



PennDOT LTAP Build a Better Mousetrap Award

South Manheim Township celebrated its road crew winning the PennDOT LTAP Build a Better Mousetrap Award and the national Innovative Project Award for its sidewinder during a public meeting in Schuylkill County. Each year, LTAP sponsors the awards which recognize innovative inventions, improvements, and projects

built and improvements, and projects built and designed by road crews or municipal employees to improve safety, reduce costs, or increase efficiency. The sidewinder incorporated a former ATV plow and scrap metal to allow for more efficient and consistent work on the township's berms. From left, PSATS Executive Director David Sanko presented the honors to Assistant Roadmaster Rick Alspach, Roadmaster Corby Lewis; and Road Crew Kirk Freed.

Today in History....

On September 13, 1990, the drama series Law & Order premiered on NBC; it went on to become one of the longest-running primetime dramas in TV history and spawn several popular spin-offs. According to the now-famous Law & Order formula, the first half of the hour-long program, which is set in New York City, focuses on the police as they investigate a crime—often inspired by real-life news stories—while the second part of the show centers on the prosecution of those accused of that crime. Each episode opens with a narrator stating: “In the criminal justice system, the people are represented by two separate yet equally important groups: the police, who investigate crime, and the district attorneys, who prosecute the offenders. These are their stories.”

Legislative & Policy



The House will be in session today, September 13. Watch the session live [here](#).

[HB 2331](#) passed the House yesterday. The bill would **require the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to conduct active water quality testing** of surface waters within a watershed stormwater plan. If DEP did not have the resources to conduct the testing, test results could be accepted from other sources, including the county conservation district and the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. If sufficient water quality testing is not available, a water quality testing model may be used.

[HB 2484](#) was reported out of the House State Government Committee yesterday. The bill would amend the State Ethics Law to **require write-in candidates to file a statement of financial interests within 30 days of having been nominated or elected** unless the person declines the nomination or office. For township office, the statement would be filed with the board of supervisors. The 30-day period begins on the date the board of elections certifies the candidates as the winner of a nomination or election. Failing to file a statement of financial interests would prohibit a write-in candidate from appearing on the November ballot.

Learn

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

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 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](#)

QUICKBOOKS

[QuickBooks For Beginners - Virtual Class - 9/19 & 9/20](#)
[Budgets With QuickBooks - Virtual Class - 10/4/22](#)
[Payroll With QuickBooks - Virtual Class - 10/20/22](#)
[Intermediate QuickBooks - Virtual Class - 11/9 & 11/10/22](#)
[QuickBooks Year-End Reports - Virtual Class - 12/15/22](#)



2022 PSATS Fall Solicitors Seminar

This seminar will cover a wide variety of emerging and important trends and issues vital to the practice of every municipal solicitor.

[9/20/22 - Cumberland County](#)
[11/10/22 - Montgomery County](#)



Basic Training For Secretaries And Administrators - 10/12/22 - Chester County

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



Human Resources And Labor Management Institute

This class is a must-attend for anyone who has responsibility for HR and personnel management in their township. In this seminar, the team from Eckert Seamans will detail what to expect in human resources and labor relations.



[10/27/22 - Allegheny County](#)

[11/15/22 - Montgomery County](#)

[12/5/22 - Lycoming County](#)

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