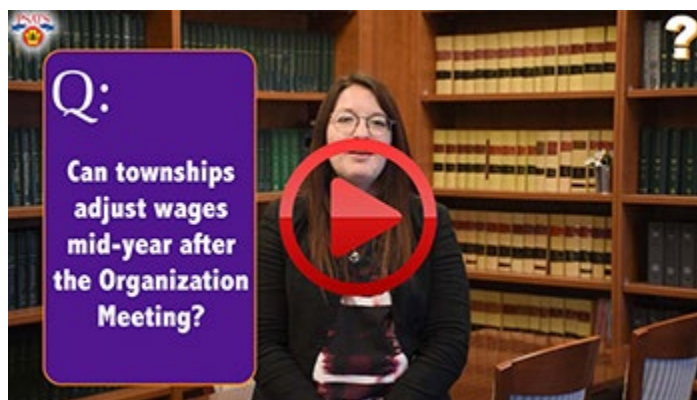


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December 15, 2022

Township Video News



TVN's Question of the Week | Can townships adjust wages mid-year after the Organization Meeting?

Learn more about Section 607 of the Township Code regarding setting and adjusting wages for township employees. 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

Fed Hike Interest Rates To Highest Level in 15 Years

The U.S. Federal Reserve once again increased its short-term interest rate, this time by half a percentage point to a targeted range between 4.25% and 4.5%. This is the highest rate in 15 years. Officials indicated that they expect to keep rates higher throughout 2023, with the first decrease not expected until 2024. Chair Jerome Powell noted that it is important to keep fighting inflation. While this interest rate hike raises the cost of borrowing, it also raises the interest earned on banking deposits.

Reminder: Deadline 12/21 for Water, Sewer, and Stormwater Grant Funding

Act 54 of 2022 appropriated \$205.4 million of commonwealth American Rescue Plan Act funds to the [H2O PA – Water Supply, Sanitary Sewer and Storm Water Projects Program](#) and \$105.6 million to the [Pa. Small Water and Sewer Program](#). Applications are being accepted until **December 21**. Eligible projects include the acquisition, construction, improvement, expansion, or rehabilitation of a water supply, sewage disposal, or stormwater system. H2O PA is for projects with a total cost between \$500,000 and \$20 million and requires a 50% match. PA Small Water and Sewer program is for projects with a total cost between \$30,000 and \$500,000 and requires a 15% match.

Grants Available for Culvert Replacement That Allow Fish Passage

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law appropriated funds to the U.S. Department of Transportation for the [Aquatic Organism Passage Program](#) under the National Culvert Removal, Replacement, and Restoration Grant Program. Up to \$196 million is available in this round of funding. Townships are eligible to apply, and all applications must be submitted through grants.gov by February 6, 2023.

Eligible projects include replacement, removal, and repair of culverts or weirs that meaningfully improve or restore fish passage for anadromous fish. Anadromous fish species are those born in freshwater, such as streams and rivers, spend their lives in saltwater environments, and migrate back to freshwater to spawn, including salmon and some species of sturgeon. Townships with anadromous fish are generally in Districts 3, 6, and 8, but PennDOT recommends coordinating with your regional office. For more information, including the notice of funding and webinars, please visit USDOT's [program website](#).

Today in History...

On December 15, 1791, Virginia became the 10th of 14 states to approve 10 of the 12 amendments, thus making the Bill of Rights legal. Of the two amendments not ratified, the first concerned the population system of representation, while the second prohibited laws varying the payment of congressional members from taking effect until an election intervened. The first was never ratified, while the second was finally ratified more than 200 years later, in 1992.

On December 15, 1941, 150 years later, President Franklin D. Roosevelt declared Bill of Rights Day and called upon the officials of the Government and the people of the United States to observe the day by displaying the flag on public buildings and by meeting together for such prayers and ceremonies as may seem to them appropriate.

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.

[1/17/23 - Montgomery County](#)

[1/30/23 - Cumberland County](#)

[3/1/23 - York County](#)

[3/7/23 - Lehigh County](#)



[2023 Engineers Spring Seminar - 4/24 & 4/25, 2023](#)

The 2023 “Spring Township Engineers Seminar” is a series of two half-day events on Monday and Tuesday mornings during the PSATS Annual Conference in Hershey. Each morning's agenda will include important issues of interest to municipal engineers and their local government clients taught by knowledgeable and respected subject matter experts. We encourage your attendance at both of these interactive and informative sessions, each of which provides 3 PDHs per day.



Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors

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