



Gouveia, Susan

From: Masser, Michelle
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 11:18 AM
To: Harris, Laura
Cc: Gouveia, Susan
Subject: FW: GovConnect Update: February 16, 2016

CORRESPONDENCE

Michelle Masser
Township Clerk
PO Box 450
204 Flanders Drakestown Road
Budd Lake, NJ 07828
clerk@mtolivetwp.org
973-691-0900 X7291

-----Original Message-----

From: egg@dca.state.nj.us [mailto:egg@dca.state.nj.us]
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 11:15 AM
To: Masser, Michelle <clerkmichelle@mtolivetwp.org>
Subject: GovConnect Update: February 16, 2016

Dear Municipal Clerk:

Stay "connected" to recent developments in New Jersey state government and login to GovConnect at <http://Portal.NJ.Gov> where you can also check our Continuing Education Course Calendar online at:

www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/programs/certification.html. The following news items are a summary of recent EGG notices issued by the Division of Local Government Services and a schedule of upcoming professional conferences.

1. CY 2016 Municipal Levy Cap Referendum Procedures

Local Finance Notice 2016-01 (www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/lfns/16/2016-01.pdf) provides specific instruction and direction to municipalities operating on a calendar fiscal year considering holding a public referendum to exceed either

the Two (2) percent municipal property tax levy cap pursuant to N.J.S.A.40A:4-45.45 or Zero (0) percent appropriation cap pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.3. If municipal officials are considering a levy cap referendum, this Notice should

be reviewed immediately by those involved in budget preparation and elections.

2. LFN 2016-02: State of Emergency Relating to Snow Storm

Commencing on Friday, January 22nd, a severe winter storm moved through New Jersey for which Governor Christie declared a state of emergency via Executive Order 202, which may be found at <http://nj.gov/infobank/circular/eocc202.pdf>. The

storm brought heavy snow, mixed precipitation, strong winds, freezing temperatures and flooding conditions to various portions of the State. Local Finance Notice 2016-02 (www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/lfns/16/2016-02.pdf) has been

issued to inform impacted local units of relevant post-storm financing, procurement and property tax related matters.

3. LFN 2016-03: Guidance on LOSAPs

The "Emergency Services Volunteer Length of Service Award Program" (www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/programs/losap_docs/losaplaw07-2002.pdf) (P.L. 1997, c.388) ("LOSAP") was signed into law in 1998 to support the recruitment and retention

of fire and first aid volunteers by rewarding their service. The Division of Local Government Services adopted LOSAP Rules (www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/programs/losap_docs/adopted_rules.pdf) on January 16, 2001 and amended on November

26, 2003. In response to concerns with the oversight of certain LOSAPs, the State of New Jersey Office of the State Comptroller ("OSC") conducted a review of several LOSAPs across the State. On June 30, 2015, then Acting State

Comptroller Marc Larkins, issued an "Investigative Report: Emergency Services Volunteer Length of Service Award Program" (the "OSC Report" at www.nj.gov/comptroller/news/docs/losap_final_report.pdf). Local Finance Notice 2016-03

(www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/lfns/16/2016-03.pdf) provides Guidance on Administration of Length of Service Award Programs (LOSAPs).

4. LFN 2016-04: 2016 CY Transitional Aid Application

The Division has posted Local Finance Notice 2016-04 concerning the 2016 Transitional Aid Application Process for CALENDAR YEAR municipalities. This aid is only available to address financially distressed communities that have reached a

point that without aid they will be unable to pay debt service or the costs of essential services. Aid comes with significant conditions including, but not limited to: the requirement to adopt a strict pay-to-play ordinance; the

elimination of health care for all officers and employees other than those with full time status; a ban on certain travel and other discretionary costs; requirements to obtain State approvals for hires as well as for certain contracts

and initiatives; and the imposition of a State Fiscal Monitor. Calendar Year municipalities intending to apply for Transitional Aid should carefully review LFN 2016-04 (<http://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/lfns/16/2016-04.pdf>) and the

CY 2016 Application (http://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/resources/muni_st_docs/cy2016_transitional_aid_application.doc) as soon as possible due to pertinent deadlines and be prepared to accept conditions immediately upon application

due date. Please note that this application is for CALENDAR YEAR municipalities only. The application for fiscal year municipalities will be available later in the year.

5. 2015 PTR (Senior Freeze) Application Mailing

The Division of Taxation has begun mailing applications for the 2015 property tax reimbursement (Senior Freeze) to senior citizens and disabled residents who may be eligible for the program. The deadline for filing the applications is

June 1, 2016. The Property Tax Reimbursement (Senior Freeze) Program, now in its 18th year, reimburses qualified applicants for the property tax increases they incur each year. Applicants must continue to meet all the income

eligibility and residency requirements and must file an application each year to receive the reimbursement.

Conferences

1. (2-20-16) Budgeting for the Elected Official

The New Jersey League of Municipalities is having a seminar titled "Budgeting for the Elected Official: Everything you Need to Know to Create, Balance, and Approve Your Municipalities' Budget". The program will be held on Saturday

February 20, 2016 from 8:30a.m. - 2:00p.m. at the Conference Center at Mercer on 1200 Old Trenton Rd in West Windsor, NJ 08550. Program topics will include: Budget Law Overview, What is Budgeting and Why is it Important, A History of

State Aid and Planning for the Future. Seminar details are available at www.njslom.org/seminar-documents/budgeting-022016.pdf and online registration is available at www.njslom.org/seminar-documents/registration-form-budgeting.pdf.

2. (2-26-16) Webinar: "A Quick Review of Budget and Audit Updates"

On February 26, 2016 the N J League of Municipalities will be hosting a webinar titled "A Quick Review of Budget and Audit Updates" from 11:00 a.m. to 11:50 a.m. At this webinar, attendees will: Review DLGS Local Finance Notices,

policies and regulations, get an update on CY 2016 budget issues and legislation, review levy cap requirements and current issues affecting finance officers. Presenter: Christine Zopicchi, Assistant Director, DLGS. CEUs have been

approved. Member Rate \$25.00 / Non-Member \$35.00 Program and Registration Link: <http://www.njslom.org/seminar-documents/2016-feb26-budget.html>

3. (3-5-16) Preservation in Practice: A Primer for Historic Preservation Commissions

Will be held on Saturday March 5, 2016 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Rutgers Camden - Campus Center. This one-day workshop is open to all preservationists, but specifically geared toward those serving on a local commission. This

program is designed to benefit both new and experienced commission members as well as being relevant for planning and zoning board members and elected officials. The course provides an in-depth examination of current topics and issues

relevant to integrating preservation into community planning and zoning. Focus will be on legal parameters for implementing a commission, conducting an effective public meeting, and understanding and implementing tools to combat

deteriorated, neglected, vacant and abandoned properties. Program and registration are available at <http://njht.org/dca/njht/events/index.html>. For more information contact njht@dca.nj.gov or 609 984-0473.

4. (3-16-16) NJLM Seminar: Budget, Ethics and Procurement Updates

The New Jersey League of Municipalities will be hosting a seminar on March 16, 2016 at the Conference Center at Mercer in West Windsor on the topic "Budget, Ethics, and Procurement Updates". Presenters include Christine Zopicchi,

Assistant Director, Division of Local Government Services, Susan Jacobucci, Esq., Township Manager, Galloway Township and Gordon Ball, Procurement Specialist, Division of Local Government Services, State Department of Community Affairs.

CEUs have been approved. Registration Fee is \$60.00 Member Rate and \$80.00 Non-Member. Program information and Registration Link: <http://www.njslom.org/seminar-documents/2016-mar16-budget-ethic.html>.

5. (4-6-16) GPANJ Educational Symposium

The Governmental Purchasing Association will be holding its Annual Spring Symposium April 6-8, 2016, at the Tropicana South Tower Conference Center & Hotel in Atlantic City, NJ. Topics to be covered include Ethics, State Contracts,

Green Purchasing, Using National Cooperatives, Cooperative Contracts, P-Cards, Prevailing Wage Compliance, Affirmative Action Compliance, and a Legislative Update. There is a special session for schools entitled the Fundamentals of

Public School Purchasing. Meals are included in the registration fee and one day registration is available for those who cannot attend the entire conference. CEU's and/or Credit Hours have been approved for QPA, RPPO/RPPS, RMC,

CMFO/CCFO, CWPM, and NJWEA certifications. Details are available at: <http://www.gpanj.com>. For assistance please email: conference-registration@gpani.com.

THIS NOTICE HAS BEEN SENT TO THE FOLLOWING OFFICIALS: Municipal Clerk, Chief Financial Officer, Tax Collector / County Freeholder Board Clerk, Chief Financial Officer / Authority Officials / Fire District Officials / Procurement

Officials

If your email address has changed:

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