

League Link

A Newsletter of [The Pennsylvania Municipal League](#)



League Link

February 2021



In Memoriam

Bill McLaughlin

May 1, 1949 – January 23, 2021

The Pennsylvania Municipal League loses a historic leader with the passing of former long-time Chambersburg Council President



Bill McLaughlin. Bill was our President in 2000-2001. He was the first non-city municipal official to serve in that capacity. Due to Bill's tireless efforts and leadership, League membership grew to a historic level and has continued to the present. Bill was a tremendous advocate for The League but also municipal government throughout the Commonwealth. His legacy is intact. Our heartfelt condolences to Sue and the McLaughlin family.

[View Obituary.](#)

Advocacy Action

The League's New Legislative Sub-Committees

To implement the advocacy goals of the newly adopted strategic plan, The League restructured the Legislative Committee for 2021/2022 by creating three new sub-committees covering three general topics: Public Safety; Municipal Finance; and Community Development and Infrastructure. Members of the sub-committees will make up the greater Legislative Committee.

The purpose of this restructure is to increase member engagement in our advocacy process and efforts, ultimately leading to more legislative successes. In addition to advocacy, League staff will work with the sub-committee members to facilitate ideas, provide grassroots information on issues impacting municipalities, comment on legislation and propose new or updated policies.

The first sub-committee meetings will occur virtually on March 24-25 to organize and create a work plan for the 2021/2022 legislative session.

If you're interested in becoming a stronger and more engaged advocate for your community, join The League's Legislative Committee. Please [fill out this survey](#) to register as a member of the Legislative Committee and to rank the sub-committees in order of preference.

Please reach out to Amy Sturges, Director of Governmental Affairs, at asturges@pml.org, if you have any questions.

Executive Director's Report



Check out the section on our website dedicated to member [Community Response During Coronavirus](#).

QUARANTINE

A person has been **exposed** to someone who has COVID-19 and is **at home** to limit community exposure and to see if the person **becomes sick**.



League's Latest

Showcase your municipality in the upcoming *Municipal Reporter* Spring issue that focuses on sustainability/resiliency. Send us photos related to our sustainability/resiliency theme and your community can grace the cover in our upcoming 2021 Spring edition of the *Municipal Reporter* magazine. Please **email any questions and your high resolution photos by March 1** to Debbie Bitting at dbitting@pml.org.

[Constellation Interview with League Executive Director Designate John Brenner](#) – Tune in to see the conversation between Constellation and our own John Brenner discussing topics important to local government and our partnership.

2021 PELRAS Virtual Conference will be held March 17–19, 2021 – [Click here to Register](#) and [Click here to view the Program Agenda](#).

[Free Sustainability Webinar Series from GreenGov Council and Penn State's Sustainability Institute](#) – The series is intended to give participants opportunities to hear from subject matter experts and receive updates on each topic to enrich their knowledge while engaging in group conversations. [The next webinar in the series is scheduled for March 12, 2021 – 1:00 PM to 1:45 PM.](#)

GrantFinder - Public Safety Grants – Are you looking for grants to support a system for Citation Management, Crime Analysis and Investigative Software, Drones or In-car Video for your police department? How about grants to support your fire company's purchase of Turn-out Gear, Extrication Equipment, Radios or Thermal Imaging Cameras? Did you know that GrantFinder has dedicated staff and resources for grant eligible products and grant assistant opportunities in the categories of Police and Fire? Be sure to check out the resources available to you at these links: for public safety law enforcement grant assistance, visit [PoliceGrantsHelp.com](#); for public safety fire service grant assistance, visit [FireGrantsHelp.com](#).

Message from PennPRIME Insurance Trusts – Pennsylvania winters challenge us to be continually aware of the hazards the white stuff brings. A lesser recognized peril, snow piles, pose their own risks. Children can be hidden while playing around snow “mountains” and could also fall into the soft spots within them. The placement of snow piles that are generated without planning have the potential to block traffic signs and fire hydrants, and limit visibility at street corners and driveways. The white mounds can also produce a cycle of melt and freeze on pedestrian paths, parking lots and roads which could generate unexpected slippery surfaces. For additional considerations check out this [Landscaping and Snow Removal Blog](#).

For more information, see our [News & Announcements and newsfeed](#) on our homepage as well as our League COVID-19 Weekly Update email blasts every Friday.

Also be sure to check out our [COVID-19 Resources for Local Leaders](#) webpage.



COVID-19 RESOURCES FOR LOCAL LEADERS

Resource Roundup

[Department Of Health Issues COVID-19 Vaccine Order To Help Expedite Vaccine Administration, Improve Accessibility For Seniors](#) – Acting Secretary of Health Alison Beam issued an [order](#) directing vaccine providers' administration of COVID-19 vaccines to ensure that Pennsylvanians are vaccinated as quickly and efficiently as possible.

[City of Allentown - Vaccine Call Center for Seniors](#) – The City of Allentown is launching a call center 610.890.7069 to assist city and Lehigh County seniors in registering for COVID-19 vaccinations.

[FEMA Advisory: FEMA's Role in COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution](#) – NLC's lobbyist on public safety issues shares helpful information on FEMA efforts to accelerate vaccine distribution.

[PA Department of Agriculture Update](#) – Shares an update of information related to coronavirus, and the Wolf Administration's efforts to mitigate its effects in the commonwealth.

[Saul Ewing Amstein & Lehr Webinar](#) – LIBOR is Ending: What do You Need to Know? Webinar will take place on February 25 from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. [Register Here](#).

[2021 PRPS Virtual Conference](#) – March 9, 11 16 and 18. This year's Conference theme is The New Roaring 20's. With everything going on in our world today, we all need to take time to take it all in and make the best plan for moving forward in our communities.

[League Business Leader Comcast Announces Some Important Digital Equity Measures](#) – Comcast provides update on decade-long commitment to digital equity; announces plan to accelerate efforts in 2021.

[USDA: Applications for FY21 – Due by end of February 2021 – Construction and Equipment projects](#) – This program provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas.

Remember, you can access all archived editions of The League Link as well as other member publications, forms and resources in your [Member Dashboard](#).

Pennsylvania Municipal League

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