ANOTHER YEAR OF SUCCESS AT PSAB
Message from the Executive Director

While 2021 presented difficulties for many borough communities, the board of directors and staff of the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSAB) continued to be your partner for research, advocacy, education, and group programs.

I’m proud of the leadership in our communities and their resilient attitude during the pandemic. Additionally, our frontline workers – including police, fire, and hospital personnel – continued to perform admirably during difficult circumstances.

With the backing of PSAB, we can help support and sustain community resilience during this time.

As we began to return to a sense of normalcy, many boroughs continued to find ways to increase business development and growth in their communities.

Other boroughs supported businesses by launching a small business grant and loan programs in an effort to assist businesses.

I am proud to continue our commitment to our members and want to reinforce our platform that can aid them and provide support. This platform includes:

- Local self-governance is the cornerstone of American democracy;
- Local decisions are best made at the local level;
- Pennsylvania boroughs play a vital role in shaping the future of this Commonwealth;
- The spirit of public service is what builds and maintains our communities;
- Well-informed local officials are essential for effective and efficient borough operations; and
- PSAB’s strength lies in the unity of our diverse communities.

PSAB has remained steadfast in support of our members and adapted to their changing needs.

Thank you for looking to PSAB to be your primary source of education and information. As we reflect over the past year and the challenges we faced, we look forward to what is to come in the new year.

Sincerely,

Chris Cap
PSAB Executive Director
For over 110 Years, We’re Still Here for You.

Thomas F. Chrostwaite was the driving force behind PSAB for almost half a century. PSAB continues to offer legislative representation, advocacy, information, and education – all of which remain the core pillars of our foundation.

Although the scope of services provided to our membership has evolved over time from those first offered in 1911, the focus of the Association has been – and continues to be – advancing the interests of boroughs while providing tools to help officials effectively govern.

Research and Technical Assistance

Each year, thousands of officials contact the Association to ask questions about the Borough Code, Sunshine Act, employment issues, Open Records, meeting management, and so much more. In 2021, the Research Department was proud to help you navigate remote meeting governance and transparency, emergency declarations, and much more. In all, the Research Department fielded more than 4,000 inquiries over the past year.

Many frequently asked questions from the membership also appear in the Question & Answer column of the Borough News each month to help other officials too.

PSAB also produces the online Budget Bulletin, a resource that can help you navigate the borough’s fiscal process, and includes a budget calendar, tax structure, and key state reporting deadlines. This information can also be found in the Borough Planner & Calendar and on boroughs.org.

Visit boroughs.org/research to find governing resources, sample resolutions and policies, sample ordinances, and information on recent court decisions.
Education and Professional Development

Despite continued challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021, PSAB had another very productive year of education and training.

PSAB partners with federal and state government agencies, as well as private sector subject matter experts, to offer affordable, in-demand educational opportunities to municipal officials across the state.

In 2021, PSAB hosted over 65 webinars and 53 online learning classes. PSAB was proud to be able to provide training to over 6,000 individuals through webinar or online course registrations throughout the year.

Courses and training topics covered in 2021 included:
- Managing remote meetings
- Understanding the American Rescue Plan
- Municipal regulation of small wireless facilities
- Zoning and land-use regulation updates
- Grant writing best practices
- Labor and employment issues
- Municipal administrators training
- Public works management
- Municipal budgeting and finance
- Police management
- The Ethics Act and Right to Know Law
- Much more.

Borough officials can also continue to earn the Certified Borough Officials (CBO) designation, which is a voluntary educational achievement program for both elected and appointed borough officials. It is designed to promote continuing education for borough officials and excellence in local government service. The CBO designation signifies a commitment to education, leadership, and staying informed on the important issues that affect borough communities. Interest in and inquiries about the CBO program continue to increase each year.

PSAB was also proud to continue the PSAB Plus Membership Training Subscription Program in 2021.

PSAB members that elect to enroll in PSAB Plus get free access to all PSAB webinars and a 50 percent discount on all traditional classroom and online course training. This program continues to grow in popularity for boroughs looking to invest in training and education.

For more information on PSAB training and education, including training schedules and to register for training, visit training.boroughs.org or check out the training tab on boroughs.org.

Conference Online Learning Experience Continues

PSAB’s Annual Conference was a virtual learning experience in 2021 due to the pandemic. In lieu of an in-person conference, PSAB was able to offer the Annual Conference in a virtual Online Learning Experience.

However, we were able to resume in-person attendance at our Fall Leadership Conference which was held in October in Erie, PA.

Learn more about PSAB’s conferences at boroughs.org/conferences.
Communication is key.

The Borough News magazine continues to provide articles on labor and employment issues, transportation, community development, finance, environment, technology, and national trends.

Now in the seventh year, PSAB continues to host Inside Pennsylvania Boroughs television program, which examines issues facing local governments such as the opioid epidemic, blight remediation, police management, municipal budgeting, the future of fire service, and much more. Exploring Pennsylvania Boroughs focuses on boroughs that are making impacts in their communities. Both shows air on PCN and can be viewed on boroughs.org.

PSAB also publishes the monthly PSAB Update and the annual Planner & Calendar and distributes eblasts to stay in constant communication with members.

Summary of PSAB Membership Benefits

- Online Membership Directory which includes a listing of PSAB members, business partners, municipal associates, and County Borough Associations
- Online Budget Bulletin
- Sample Ordinances, Policies, and RFPs
- Research and Technical Assistance
- Borough Planner & Calendar
- Borough News Magazine
- Training & Professional Development Opportunities and Conferences
- Access to Cost-Effective Group Programs
- Monthly PSAB Membership Update
- PSAB Website which includes Important News; legislative resources such as the Legislative Agenda and Sample Resolutions; Secure Online Registration for Training and Conferences; Member Spotlights; Municipal Classifieds; and much more.
Your Voice Can Affect Change

Advocacy is critical to the mission of the Association. It helps borough officials and employees gain access to programs, funding, and educational resources that support efficient and economic borough operations. PSAB relies on advocates like you to carry the message closer to home.

Over the past year, PSAB has represented your interests in Harrisburg as it helped to:

- **Advocate for more local control in the regulation of fireworks.**
- **Advance SB 252 and HB 955** allowing local governments more options to fulfill public notice requirements, including online publication. *This is supported by Resolution 2014-11.*
- **Advance SB 283 and HB 489** which sought to amend the state Highway Law and require the PA Department of Transportation to maintain drainage facilities on state highways in communities. *This is supported by PSAB Resolutions 2019-4 and 2016-5.*
- **Support SB 312** which would allow boroughs to charge commercial request fees under the Right-to-Know Law. *This is supported by Resolution 2014-9.*
- **Support SB 552** that would help stop vexatious or burdensome requests under the Right-to-Know Law. *This is supported by Resolution 2019-15.*
- **Advocate for Act 33 of 2021** which will enable code officials to more easily and quickly locate blighted property owners by requiring pre-registration to bid at tax sales.

Over the past year, PSAB has represented your interests in Washington D.C. as it helped to:

- Support initiatives to expand broadband internet services, particularly in rural portions of the state.
- Encourage federal funding to meet the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic in the American Rescue Plan Act.
- Advocate for direct federal revenue assistance for local governments.
- Oppose legislation that would allow heavier trucks on roadways that would endanger motorists, weaken roads and bridges, and cost taxpayers billions of dollars in highway subsidies.

During 2022, PSAB will be advocating for more tools to assist boroughs with meeting the challenges of the post COVID-19 environment. We support legislation that enables local governments more flexibility in meeting the needs of each individual community. Additionally, we will continue our efforts to modernize the laws of local governments to allow our members to provide municipal services more efficiently.

Among these reforms include:

- Increasing the Prevailing Wage threshold.
- Authorizing local police officers to use radar and lidar to enforce the speed limit.
- Addressing reforms to Motor License funding recognizing unique municipal needs.
- Reforming the Policemen and Firemen Collective Bargaining Law (Act 111) to ensure communities can afford public safety services.

Visit boroughs.org/legislative to learn more about the resolutions process, bills of interest, and legislative priorities.
Programs & Membership Resources

PSAB offers cost-effective group programs that deliver significant savings and improve the bottom line for borough communities.

Visit boroughs.org/programs to learn about the programs that can help your community.

Borough Elected Officials Program (BEOP)

Provides up to $10,000 in term life and accidental death and dismemberment insurance for borough elected officials; up to $2,000 spouse coverage; and up to $1,000 for each dependent. The program is provided through Keystone, PSAB’s endorsed insurance provider, and underwritten by Guardian Life.

Borough Management Caucus (BMC) Program

Provides up to $5,000 in term life and accidental death and dismemberment insurance for the borough manager/appointed administrator and/or secretary. The program is provided through Keystone, PSAB’s endorsed insurance provider, and underwritten by Guardian Life.

Employee Drug and Alcohol Testing Program (DOT/CDL & Non-DOT/Non-CDL)

Provides all the DOT/CDL drug and alcohol testing required by federal and state law, including random, pre-employment, post-accident, reasonable suspicion/cause, return-to-duty, and follow-up testing. This program is administered through FSSolutions, PSAB’s endorsed testing provider.

Energy Procurement Program

Provide data-driven procurement solutions that reduce and manage electricity and natural gas supply costs for members on an ongoing basis. It includes free analysis of energy costs; evaluation of current supply contracts; and proprietary price analytics. This program meets the exemption from typical bidding requirements found in the Borough Code. This program is offered through APPI Energy, PSAB’s endorsed energy provider.

Learn from our partners.

Get connected to companies who choose to be business partners of our Association.

If your borough is looking to improve efficiency, obtain legal advice, or modernize your business operations, our business partners can help.

Be sure to connect with them at the PSAB Annual and Fall conferences where you can talk to these professionals and learn about existing and new products and services.

Visit boroughs.org/business to connect with a business partner online.
Junior Council Person Program (JCP)
Engages youth in borough government and provides mentoring opportunities through public engagement, meeting management, team building, and collaboration. PSAB also recognizes Junior Council Person(s) by presenting them with a Distinguished Junior Council Person Award.

Keystone Municipal Insurance Program
Offers workers’ compensation and property and casualty insurance. The program is provided through Keystone, PSAB’s endorsed insurance provider.

Keystone Municipal Insurance Trust (KMIT)
Provides a competitive self-insured workers’ compensation alternative for municipalities and authorities. It offers access to professional risk improvement services to increase workplace safety. The program is administered by the Kilmer Group, and provided through Keystone, PSAB’s endorsed insurance provider.

Municipal Retirement Trust (MRT)
Specializes in full-service municipal pension planning. This program offers superior customer service, affordable fee structures, and impressive rates of return.

Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust (PLGIT)
Owned and operated by participants, PLGIT is a short-term investment option with a number of convenient cash management services that exclusively serves more than 3,000 local governments and other types of governmental agencies in PA. PLGIT is the endorsed investment provider for PSAB members.

Procurement Card Program (P-Card)
Allows boroughs to maintain control of spending to manage municipal finances more effectively. There are no annual fees or revolving lines of credit. The program is offered through PLGIT, PSAB’s endorsed investment provider.

Special Event Liability Insurance
Provides special event coverage for parades, festivals, & other events and includes optional weather insurance, event cancellation, and prize indemnity insurance. The program is provided through Keystone, PSAB’s endorsed insurance provider, with Tokio Marine HCC as the underwriter.

The Employment Alliance of Municipalities (TEAM)
Provides legal advice on labor and employment issues including eight free non-complex telephone or email sessions each year. Offers one free registration to the PA Municipal Legal Update. Services are provided by Eckert Seamans, PSAB’s endorsed provider.

Unemployment Compensation (UC) Plan
Offers full-service administration and claims management of UC activity, lower contribution rates, and hearing representation and/or consultation, and secure online reporting.

Website Program
Provides a low-cost program to help your municipality develop and gain a basic online presence.

Learn more about PSAB’s Programs at boroughs.org/programs.
Serving communities with distinction.

Many borough officials have served their communities for many years, often dedicating 10, 20, 30 or more years to public service.

The PSAB Awards Program honors the achievements of elected and appointed borough officials during the PSAB Annual Conference each year.

Borough officials are honored for years of service; distinguished service to the community or to PSAB, as well as outstanding contributions to legislative advocacy awards.

The Association also recognizes how you communicate with your residents through your borough newsletters, websites, and other marketing pieces.

Those who have achieved their Certified Borough Officials designation are also honored.

The following are a list of award recipients:

Cecil K. Leberknight Awards

This award is named for Cecil K. Leberknight, a former PSAB President, in honor of his faithful service to PSAB for more than four decades. This award is given annually to promote interest in borough government and to recognize faithful and effective service by borough officials. This award is given to mayors, council members, secretaries, managers, and treasurers who have completed 10 or more years of borough service.

John Angstadt, Biglerville Borough
Ronald L. Baird, Littlestown Borough
David W. Bolton, Abbottstown Borough
Joseph Colosimo, Bridgeville Borough
Joseph R. Dodson, Hollidaysburg Borough
Roberta Doerrler, Charleroi Borough
Anthony Fuga, Jermyn Borough
Bruce Ghelarducci, Bridgeville Borough
Ralph Geis, Zelienople Borough
Randolph M. Gursky, Palmerton Borough
Christine A. Hart, North Wales Borough
William Henderson, Bridgeville Borough
Mary Hess, Zelienople Borough
Kris W. Hoffner, Palmerton Borough
Ivan T. Hofmann, Edgeworth Borough
Brian M. Kamauf, West Mifflin Borough
Pamela Leiby, Bowmanstown Borough
Thomas R. Lloyd, Avalon Borough
Gregory J. Marlovits, Edgeworth Borough
Carrie A. Morris, Edgeworth Borough
Sally Neiderhisser, North Wales Borough
Richard L. Nothstein, Palmerton Borough
Scott Palmquist, Youngwood Borough
Robert Pantaleo, Biglerville Borough
William P. Pelkey, Centerville Borough
David J. Rivet, Sellersville Borough
Marie Serota, Penndel Borough
Joseph M. Sporer, Sugarcreek Borough

Diane Schaefer, PSAB Board of Directors, presents Scott Palmquist of Youngwood Borough the Cecil K. Leberknight Award for 10 or more years of service.
Thomas F. Chrostwaite Award
Initiated in 1956, the Thomas F. Chrostwaite Award is given annually to promote interest in borough government and to recognize faithful and effective service by borough officials. Named in honor of the founder and first president of the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs, this award is given to mayors, council members, secretaries, managers, and treasurers who have completed 20 or more years of borough service.

Allen E. Bayer, Zelienople Borough
Thomas J. Brown, Bentleyville Borough
Janice R. Cmar, Jefferson Hills Borough
Terry L. Costenbader, Palmerton Borough
Lloyd H. Crago, Youngwood Borough
Barbara Heffelfinger, Penndel Borough
Kenneth J. Hresko, Port Vue Borough
Jerry Jericho, Charleroi Borough
Robert L. Kaler, Hatfield Borough
Kris Long, Youngwood Borough
Andrew J. Mathew, Zelienople Borough
William Bruce Michael, Briar Creek Borough
Paul A. Nye, Nescopeck Borough
Elaine Klavin Rakovan, Baden Borough
Vicki Setzer, Austin Borough
Ralph W. Stewart, Bellefonte Borough

Carol Sambol Award
This award is named in honor of Carol Sambol, who admirably served Baden Borough as a council member and represented PSAB for 25 years as a distinguished leader. This award is given to mayors, council members, secretaries, managers, and treasurers who have completed 25 or more years of borough service.

David T. Aloe, Edgeworth Borough
Dawn Bell, Nicholson Borough
Shannon Berkey, Danville Borough
Michael J. DeFinis, Hatfield Borough
Jacqueline C. Hardy, Petersburgh Borough
Andrew Lenig, Thompsontown Borough
Timothy Mouri, Bethel Park Borough
Lisa A. Peel, Roaring Spring Borough
Thomas Plummer, Rose Valley Borough
Gary L. Smith, Edgeworth Borough
William D. Trimbath, Pleasant Hills Borough
Martin L. Wilson, Thompsontown Borough

Board of Directors Award
The Board of Directors Award is given to promote interest in borough government and to recognize faithful and effective service by mayors, council members, secretaries, treasurers, and managers who have completed 30 or more years of borough service.

Clair L. Black, Silverdale Borough
Joseph T. Hoepp, Edgeworth Borough
Lori Nelson, Westfield Borough
Mark J. O’Brien, Bethel Park Borough
Nino Petrocelli, Bridgeville Borough
William Ravert, Bowmanstown Borough
Richard Starliper, Waynesboro Borough
Victoria S. Trost, Bryn Athyn Borough
M. Benois Walton, Darlington Borough
Robert Winkler, Penndel Borough

Donald E. Carman Award
The award is named in honor of Donald E. Carman, who served Elkland Borough as a council member and represented PSAB as President. This award is given to mayors, council members, secretaries, managers, and treasurers who have completed 35 or more years of borough service.

No recipients for 2021.

President’s Award
The President’s Award is given to recognize exceptionally long and faithful service by borough officials. This award is given to mayors, council members, managers, secretaries, and treasurers who have completed 40 or more years of public service.

Robert N. Besong, Baden Borough
Thomas M. Oliverio, Zelienople Borough
Mark Tortorice, Port Vue Borough

Diane Schaefer, PSAB Board of Directors, presents the Thomas F. Chrostwaite Award for 20 or more years of service to Kris Long of Youngwood Borough (above) and Lloyd Crago of Youngwood Borough (below).
Trustees’ Award
This award is named in honor of the PSAB Trustees who have represented PSAB and provide distinguished leadership. This award is given to mayors, council members, secretaries, managers, and treasurers who have completed 45 or more years of borough service.

Bruce C. Drake, Centerville Borough
Robert Nocchi, South Waverly Borough
Richard L. Tranter, South Heights Borough

Charles F. LeeDecker Award
This award was given for the first time in 1980. Named in honor of the first Executive Vice President of the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs, this award is given to mayors, council members, secretaries, managers, and treasurers who have completed 50 or more years of borough service.

No recipients for 2021.

A.C. Scales Award
This award recognizes service to the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs. It is given to an individual who has performed exceptionally outstanding service to PSAB. Prior to 1995, the award was known as the Association Award.

No recipients for 2021.

Anthony J. Defilippi Government Affairs Service Award
Recipients of this award have displayed a high level of dedication to PSAB’s legislative mission through support of the PSAB Government Affairs Department and the PSAB Resolutions and Policy initiatives. Eligible recipients include individuals from all levels of government service. This award is named in honor of the late Anthony J. Defilippi, a councilman in Leechburg Borough, Armstrong County, whose tireless dedication and service helped to advance PSAB legislative initiatives.

No recipients for 2021.

Distinguished Service Award
This award recognizes borough officials who provide distinguished service to their community.

Carl Cox, Knoxville Borough
James Digwood, Taylor Borough
Vivian Amspacher, North York Borough
Jack Lawver, Brownsville Borough
Anthony Branco, Fountain Hill Borough
Kris Cardiff, Trafford Borough
Charles Gable, Gettysburg Borough
Judith Kelly, Montrose Borough

Certificate of Achievement – Certified Borough Officials Program
The certificate is given upon completion of the Certified Borough Officials (CBO) Program a voluntary professional development leadership course.

Glynnis Siskind, Ambler Borough
Bradford Flynn, Bath Borough
David Antonini, Carmichaels Borough
Dawn Tremmel, Chalfont Borough
Cody Rhoads, Cornwall Borough
Daniel Markey, Jermyn Borough
Rachel Kilhoffer, Johnsonburg Borough
Alfred Maletto, Johnsonburg Borough
David Reimer, Sr., Leesport Borough
David Holewinski, New Britain Borough
Ida Lively, Port Matilda Borough
Beverly Hilt, Spring Grove Borough
William Dennon, Upland Borough
Scot F. Boyce, Jr., Wellsboro Borough
Stephanie Bruce, Wellsville Borough
Joan Heebner, West Easton Borough
Jennifer Bressler, West Reading Borough
Samantha Kaag, West Reading Borough
Alan Vandersloot, West York Borough
Troy Clawson, Youngsville Borough

Borough News Communication Contest
Each year, the Borough News presents awards to boroughs who highlight effective communication in their communities. Members are recognized for websites, newsletters, special projects, and social media.

WEBSITE CATEGORY
Under 2,500 Population — Penndel Borough
2,501 to 5,000 Population — Chalfont Borough
5,001 to 7,500 Population — Red Lion Borough
7,501 Plus Population — Yeadon Borough

NEWSLETTER CATEGORY
Under 2,500 Population — Paxtang Borough
2,501 to 5,000 Population — Orwigsburg Borough
5,001 to 7,500 Population — Hollidaysburg Borough
7,501 Plus Population — Yeadon Borough

SPECIAL RECOGNITION – MARKETING CATEGORY
Under 2,500 Population — Abbottstown Borough
2,501 to 5,000 Population — Trafford Borough
5,001 to 7,500 Population — Media Borough
7,501 Plus Population — Carnegie Borough
PSAB will continue on our mission to advance the interests of boroughs.