



Bucks County Association of Township Officials

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BCATO Broadcast December 2023

2024 BCATO 116th Annual Convention

We are excited to share that the plans for the 116th Annual BCATO Convention are well underway. Please **Save the Date** for the morning of **Saturday, February 24, 2024**, and plan to join us at the **Northampton Valley Country Club, Richboro, PA**. This year's panel discussion will spotlight the "Leadership - Lessons Learned from Local Government." It will feature Gov. **Mark Schweiker**, State Senator **Steve Santarsiero (PA-10)**, and State Senator **Frank Farry (PA-6)**. Also joining us is Fire Chief **Tim Brewer**, Upper Makefield

Fire Company to present a summary of the emergency operations review of the extreme weather crisis that occurred in Upper Makefield Township during July 2023 that resulted in the tragic loss of life for Bucks County. Chief Brewer's presentation is *valuable* material for everyone involved in local government needing to be prepared for emergencies.



Speaking of Resolutions...

January 7, 2024, is the deadline for member townships to submit resolutions to the BCATO Resolutions Committee for the 2024 Annual Convention. Per the BCATO Bylaws and Constitution, the membership must be presented with the proposed resolutions no less than four weeks prior to the Annual Convention. Member townships may forward resolutions to the [Executive Director](#). Upon receipt, the Executive Director will present the resolutions to the Resolutions Committee members for review. The Resolutions Committee will create a report for the Executive Committee and membership to review in accordance with the bylaws at the Annual Convention.

Calling All Volunteers

The [Executive Director](#) is accepting Letters of Interest on behalf of the Nominating Committee from current serving supervisors, tax collectors, auditors, and non-elected, secretaries, treasurers, and managers interested in serving on the BCATO Executive Board. There are four seats up and each term is three years. The Nominating Committee will include their recommendations as part of the official slate of Executive Board candidates to be voted on during the Annual Convention. The deadline to submit Letters of Interest is January 7, 2024.



Legislative Update

Harrisburg: December 14, 2023-The PA House Consumer Protection, Technologies, and Utilities committee heard testimony on a package of bills aimed at leveling the playing field in the acquisition of municipal water and wastewater treatment plants. Since Act 12 became law in 2016, investor-owned utilities have closed deals leaving ratepayers with unprecedented rate increases. The legislation and testimony are available on the [BCATO Website](#).

Several representatives of the Bucks County delegation sit on the PA House Consumer Protection, Technologies, and Utilities Committee including Rep. Brian Munroe (PA-144), Rep. KC Tomlinson (PA-18), and Rep. Joe Hogan (PA-142).

Although not a member of the committee, Representative Tina Davis (PA-141) has cosigned onto this package of bills.

If your representative has not cosigned on this package of bills, they should be informed of the protective measures that this legislation can provide to municipal authority ratepayers.

Bucks County News

The Bucks County Planning Commission has introduced the [Draft 2040 Vision Plan](#), the initial document of Bucks 2040, Building Our Future Together, comprehensive plan. The Comprehensive Plan highlights key issues and priorities for the future. At its November 1, 2023, meeting, the BCPC board motioned to officially begin the 45-day review process.

Our Executive Board

Maggie Rash, President
Supervisor, Buckingham Township
Dave Nyman, 1st Vice President
Supervisor, East Rockhill Township
Vince Deon, 2nd Vice President
Tax Collector, Northampton Twp.
Dick Weaver, Treasurer
Auditor, Newtown Township



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