



From: Lashway, Lisa
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2010 9:41 AM
To: Sohl, Bill; Ryan, Jessica
Subject: FW: GovConnect Update: April 23, 2010

Lisa Lashway
Township Clerk
Township of Mount Olive
P.O. Box 450
Budd Lake, NJ 07828
973-691-0900 Ext. 7290

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

From: egg@dca.state.nj.us [mailto:egg@dca.state.nj.us]
Sent: Friday, April 23, 2010 6:06 PM
To: Lashway, Lisa
Subject: GovConnect Update: April 23, 2010

Dear GovConnect Colleague:

There's a lot going on so keep up-to-date with each issue of GovConnect News. For all the details login to GovConnect now at: <http://Portal.NJ.Gov>.

New Items:

1. The 2010 Annual Financial Disclosure Statements (FDS) have been mailed to all local government Clerks, County Colleges and Regional Authorities. Local Government Officers are reminded that they are required to file an FDS by April 30, 2010. Local Finance Notice 2010-11 (www.nj.gov/dca/lgs/lfns/10lfns/2010-11.doc) accompanied the forms. Please review the Notice carefully as it includes new clarifications regarding the filing requirements. The 2010 FDS forms and Roster documents (Word and Excel versions) are available online at www.state.nj.us/dca/lgs/ethics/ethcmenu.shtml.

2. The Health Benefits Bureau of the Division of Pensions and Benefits has released a Certifying Officer Letter (www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/coltr10.shtml#ch2faq) to employers who participate in the State Health Benefits Program (SHBP) to address questions regarding Chapter 2, P.L. 2010, changes under the law to public employee health benefits, and specifically changes to the SHBP. There are elements of the FAQ that are not applicable to non-SHBP members. The Division of Local Government Services is preparing a separate Local Finance Notice that will cover the law as it applies to both approaches.

3. The Division of Pensions and Benefits has released guidance on implementing recently enacted laws related to changes in pensions and benefits. The laws are Chapters 1, 2, and 3 of the Laws of 2010. Guidance was sent to Pension Certifying Officers in each local unit.

The specific pension guidance issues are found on the Certifying Letter web page: www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/coltr10.shtml.

The specific guidance is as follows:

Chapter 3, P.L. 2010 - Disability Benefit Changes to the PERS and TPAF:

www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/coltr10.shtml#ch3perstpaf

Chapter 2, P.L. 2010 - Changes to the SHBP and SEHBP:

www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/coltr10.shtml#ch2shbpbsehbp

Chapter 1, P.L. 2010 - Pension Changes to the PERS, TPAF, and DCRP:

www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/coltr10.shtml#ch1perstpaf

Chapter 1, P.L. 2010 - Pension Changes to the PFRS:

www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/coltr10.shtml#ch1pfrs

4. The Division of Taxation has released a letter advising Tax Collector's that they are required to provide the Division with a list of residential (class 2, 3a, and 4a) property

owners in their jurisdiction who are delinquent in paying their local property taxes for 2009. A copy of the letter has been posted to the Tax Collector Library and lists should be submitted to the Division by May 15, 2010. For questions, please contact Ms. Lara Schilter at 609-292-8590 or e-mail lara.schilter@treas.state.nj.us.

5. DCA Special Improvement District Inventory Survey: we would like to thank the Municipal Clerk's who have already submitted answers to our four-question survey regarding Special/Business/Downtown Improvement Districts within their municipality. If you have not already done so, please take a few minutes now to update the DCA by answering this vital survey which can be found at: <http://www.rsvme.com/wsb.dll/2363/20100307230037093.htm?id=mpfeiffer@dca.state.nj.us>. For questions or assistance with completing the survey, please contact Jef Buehler at jefb@dca.state.nj.us or 609-633-9769.

Conferences:

1. The NJ State Industrial Safety Committee and the UMDNJ will be hosting a warehouse safety course on May 26, 2010 at Anheuser-Busch, 200 US Highway 1, Newark, NJ. Course objectives will include identifying the hazards of operating a powered industrial truck in warehouse and storage facilities, illustrate the hazards associated with materials handling in warehouse operations and discussions regarding exit routes, emergency action and fire prevention plans. You must register by May 7, 2010 (seating is limited). To register, please contact Ms. Dhruvi Thaker at 908-659-2466.

Reminders:

The Division recently released two new Local Finance Notices with applicability to all local units:

1. 2010-9 provides guidance specific to agencies operating under the Local Public Contracts Law and Public School Contracts Law. It covers the application of the State Comptroller's Best Practices recommendation for competitive contracting and other non-lowest responsible bid procurement practices. Online at: www.nj.gov/dca/lgs/lfns/10lfns/2010-09.doc.
2. 2010-10 provides important guidance that affects all new contracts for collection and transportation of most solid waste and recyclables. P.L. 2009, c. 88, effective July 15, 2009, requires that these contracts include requirements for contractors to provide periodic wage reports to the contracting agency. The law affects all government agencies. Online at: www.nj.gov/dca/lgs/lfns/10lfns/2010-10.doc.
3. Local Finance Notice 2010-7 (www.nj.gov/dca/lgs/lfns/10lfns/2010-07.doc) "2009 Tax Lien Law Revision - P.L. 2009, c. 320" reviews the entire law and summarizes each change to the Law. Tax Collectors and other interested parties may want to attend one of the seminars on the law that will be announced in the coming months.
4. The Division of Taxation recently mailed applications for the 2009 property tax reimbursement (PTR) program to senior citizens and disabled residents who may be eligible. The deadline for filing the applications is June 1, 2010. PUBLIC INQUIRIES should be referred to 800-882-6597 or e-mail nj.taxation@treas.state.nj.us.
5. The New Jersey State Library has created a web site that assists New Jersey residents and businesses to help them through tough economic times. The site has a wide range of useful links that may be of assistance to local officials that are trying to assist their residents address their concerns. Local officials should keep the site handy and if appropriate, promote its use in their publications. The site: <http://gethelp.njlibraries.org/> has links and references in the following areas:
 - New Jersey Work Tools
 - New Jersey Financial Tools
 - New Jersey Housing Tools
 - New Jersey Health Tools
 - New Jersey Parental Tools
 - Tools for Seniors
6. The following information concerns actions local officials can take to help homeowners

that are facing foreclosure or other housing related problems facing residents:

- Foreclosure Fast Facts: A 2-page listing of assistance, numbers to call, and general assistance, including counseling agencies experienced in foreclosure:
http://www.nj.gov/dca/hmfa/foreclosureprevention_resources.pdf

- The Mayor's Combat Kit: Materials and sources of information on buying a home, mortgage assistance and foreclosure, designed especially for Mayors:
<http://www.state.nj.us/dobi/njhope/mayorkit.html>

- The NJ HOPE (Home Ownership Preservation Effort) website provides information about resources that are available for homeowners who are delinquent in their mortgage payments, need counseling or have questions: <http://www.state.nj.us/dobi/njhope/>

7. The DEP Bulletin contains a list of construction permit applications recently filed or acted upon by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. The latest issue was released April 21, 2010. This issue can be viewed online at:
www.nj.gov/dep/bulletin/bu2010_0421.pdf.

THIS E-MAIL 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.

PLEASE REMEMBER: If your e-mail address changes please make the change to your GovConnect User Profile. If you change employers please send us the details by replying to this e-mail. Helpdesk 609.943.4724