

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
REGULARLY SCHEDULED WORKSESSION MEETING  
Monday, November 14, 2005  
7:30PM**

The regularly scheduled Worksession meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman George C. Egly, Jr. at 7:30PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also present were:   Barbara A. Salvadore, Supervisor  
                          Kenneth B. Bennington, Township Manager  
                          Christopher Engelhart, Police Chief  
                          Thomas A. Buzby, Director of Public Works  
                          Nick Lupinacci, Zoning Officer  
                          Lorraine E. Leslie, Township Treasurer

Chairman Egly announced the Board met in Executive Session prior to this meeting in order to discuss legal matters with respect to real estate, and the legal challenge by W. B. Homes.

A.     PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None.

B.     APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Action on the minutes of the September 26, 2005 Supervisor’s Meeting – Due to Supervisor Manfredi’s absence this evening, and because Supervisor Salvadore was not a member of the Board at the time of this meeting, action on the minutes of the September 26, 2005 Supervisor’s Meeting was tabled for consideration at the November 28, 2005 Meeting.

C.     APPROVAL OF CURRENT BILLING –Chairman Egly presented the Bills List dated November 15, 2005, with General Fund payments in the amount of \$94,496.98, Fire Fund payments in the amount of \$2,833.19, Park and Recreation Fund payments in the amount of \$1,963.70, Debt Service Fund payments in the amount of \$81.60, State Highway Aid Fund payments in the amount of \$11,725.13, and Escrow Fund payments in the amount of \$27,478.42; for a grand total of all payments in the amount of \$138,579.02.

Motion was made by Supervisor Salvadore, seconded by Chairman Egly, and carried unanimously to approve the Bills List dated November 15, 2005, as written. There was no public comment.

D.     TREASURER’S REPORT – Chairman Egly presented the Treasurer’s Report with the following balances as of October 31, 2005:

General Fund Checking	\$ 348,509.90
Payroll Checking	\$ 1,499.14
General Reserve Fund	\$ 259,316.37

Open Space Fund	\$1,320,818.18
Park and Recreation Fund	\$ 115,708.09
Road Equipment Fund	\$ 153,210.46
Fire Fund Checking	\$ 82,028.34
Debt Service Checking	\$ 239,101.14
State Highway Aid Checking	\$ 191,238.72
Escrow Fund Checking	\$1,900,316.31
Capital Projects Fund	\$ 44,141.84

Motion was made by Supervisor Salvadore, seconded by Chairman Egly, and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report dated October 31, 2005, subject to audit.

E. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS: None.

F. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Mr. Thomas A. Buzby, Director of Public Works – Mr. Buzby presented the Public Works Report for the month of October 2005; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Buzby obtained three telephone quotes for the line striping project, and hopes to begin the project within the next few weeks. He has expanded the program to include additional roads, including Schwenkmill, Moyer, Seven Corner, and Bypass Roads.

Mr. Buzby asked the Board to consider demolishing the Scout Cabin at the Blooming Glen Playground. The maintenance and repair of the building is costing a great deal more than what is brought in with rental fees. Mr. Buzby noted that the building was only rented four times this year for a total of \$300.00, which is much less than the cost of maintenance and repair on a yearly basis. He suggested that perhaps a picnic pavilion could be constructed on the site, which might see more use.

Supervisor Salvadore recently spent four hours with Mr. Buzby and Mr. Bennington reviewing and becoming familiar with the roadways, which she found very interesting. She complimented Mr. Buzby on the fine job he and the Public Works Department do maintaining the Township's roads.

At the last meeting, residents expressed concern with the overgrowth on the Township-owned open space at the former Berry Brow property. Mr. Buzby noted that the Public Works Department began brush hogging the property last week and will continue until it is complete. Discussion took place.

G. POLICE REPORT – Mr. Christopher Engelhart, Chief of Police- Chief Engelhart presented the Police Report for the month of October 2005; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

A speed detail was conducted on October 27<sup>th</sup> on Hilltown Pike at Linke's Nursery, with the highest speed clocked at 69 m.p.h. and thirteen citations issued. On October 10, 2005, a speed detail was conducted on Rt. 309 with the highest speed clocked at 92 m.p.h. with eighteen citation issued.

Chief Engelhart advised that Hilltown Township's DUI statistics were published in the November 2, 2005 edition of the Intelligencer, with a total of 204 for the year 2004.

Mr. Bennington and Chief Engelhart recently viewed a speed board demonstration by All-Traffic Inc. The speed board actually hangs from a speed limit sign to display the speed of motor vehicles as they pass. Chief Engelhart felt it was an effective piece of equipment that is a bit more portable than the speed board trailer, and can actually provide traffic surveys. Each unit cost \$3,695.00 with an extra battery and charger. Mr. Bennington suggested that the purchase of one speed board be put into the 2006 Budget. Discussion took place.

H. FIRE MARSHAL REPORT – No one was present.

I. ZONING OFFICER REPORT – Mr. Nick Lupinacci, Zoning Officer – Mr. Lupinacci provided an oral Zoning Report for the month of October 2005. The clean up of the Coluccio property on Rt. 313 took place on October 31, 2005 by the property owner. The tenant, Mr. William Birk, was present at the time. After two days of clean up, all trash was removed from the exterior of the property. The Bucks County Department of Health is also monitoring the site.

An Enforcement Notice was issued against the Bennett property on November 4, 2005 pertaining to the on-going problem of accumulated junk on one section of the property. The property owner has until December 4, 2005 to comply. Mr. Lupinacci obtained bids for the cost of removal of the items, in the event that the property is not in compliance by the deadline, at which time he would recommend that the Township move forward with the removal by possibly placing a lien on the property to recoup the removal fees.

With respect to the Betancourt property on Middle Road, Mr. Lupinacci noted that an Enforcement Notice was sent to the property owner in May of 2005, though very little action took place. The property owner was cleaning up the site this past weekend and hopes to have a good deal of trash removed by Wednesday of this week.

Public Comment:

1. Mrs. Jean Bolger of Rt. 152 asked who would pay for the clean up of the properties such as that on Rt. 313 and the Bennett property. Mr. Lupinacci explained that Mr.

Coluccio, as the owner and landlord of the Rt. 313 property, incurred all of the cost pertaining to that clean up. With respect to the Bennett property, the Township would incur the initial clean up cost, which then would be passed on, possibly via a lien against the property owner, to reimburse that cost. Mrs. Bolger wondered what the cost on the Bennett property clean up might be. Chairman Egly advised that the cost would vary, depending on the type and amount of debris present.

J. WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY REPORT – Mr. James C. Groff, Authority Manager – Mr. Groff presented the Authority Report for the month of October 2005; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

K. HILLTOWN FIRE COMPANY REPORT – No one was present.

L. SILVERDALE FIRE COMPANY REPORT – Mr. John Gillespie, Fire Chief – Mr. Gillespie presented the Silverdale Fire Company Report for the month of October 2005; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

M. ZONING HEARING BOARD REPORT – Mr. John Snyder, Chairperson – Mr. Snyder presented the Zoning Hearing Board Report for the month of October 2005; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

N. PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT – Mr. D. Brooke Rush, Chairperson – Mr. Rush presented the minutes of the November 7, 2005 Planning Commission Worksession meeting; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

O. PARK AND RECREATION REPORT – Mr. Jon Apple, Chairperson – Mr. Apple presented the Park and Recreation Board Report for the month of October 2005. The annual Halloween Fest was cancelled due to inclement weather and there was no rain date determined for this year. The Park and Recreation Board reviewed the proposed Guttman Subdivision, and suggested that the recreational land be proposed as multi-purpose fields. With respect to Forest Road Park, Mr. Apple advised that all approvals from the County and the State are in order, and construction of Phase I of the park could begin in the summer of 2006. The Robert Minninger Memorial Tree Planting took place this past Saturday at the Hilltown Civic Park with approximately 100 people in attendance. Supervisor Salvadore complimented Mr. Apple on the way he handled the memorial to Corporal Minninger.

P. OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REPORT – No one was present.

Q. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion was made by Supervisor Salvadore, seconded by Chairperson Egly, and carried unanimously to authorize the advertisement of the second 2006 Budget Worksession meeting to be held on Thursday, November 17, 2005 at 3:00PM. There was no public comment.

2. Fuel Bids were opened on Wednesday, November 9, 2005 with the results as follows:

Bid #2005-11 – Diesel Fuel

Farm and Home Oil Company

2,500 gallons of delivered low sulfur diesel - \$2.3300

3,500 gallons of picked up low sulfur diesel - \$2.1600

Note: Can only supply low sulfur diesel at the above noted prices until May 31, 2006 or until the above gallons are completed. This is due to the introduction of ultra low sulfur diesel fuel beginning June 1, 2006. The cost for this new product is not available at this time.

Motion was made by Supervisor Salvadore, seconded by Chairman Egly, and carried unanimously to award Bid #2005-11 for Diesel Fuel to Farm and Home Oil Company at the bid amounts as specified above. There was no public comment.

Bid #2005-12 Regular Unleaded Gasoline

Farm and Home Oil Company

No firm price will be offered. Will offer their pump price on the day of pick-up at Telford location, less taxes. Current price is \$1.7540/gallon.

Motion was made by Supervisor Salvadore, seconded by Chairman Egly, and carried unanimously to award Bid #2005-12 for Regular Unleaded Gasoline at the bid amount as specified above. There was no public comment.

Bid #2005-13 – Heating Oil

Firm price of \$2.1800 for a total of 14,000 gallons only, exclusive of all taxes.

Motion was made by Supervisor Salvadore, seconded by Chairman Egly, and carried unanimously to award Bid #2005-13 for Heating Oil at the bid amount as specified above. There was no public comment.

3. A required escrow has been received for a sketch plan review and staff meeting for the C. D. Baker property located on Rt. 313 just north of Broad Street. The property is located partially in the RR and the PC-2 Zoning Districts. The applicant

is considering proposing two lots with office/commercial uses, and three lots for the construction of single-family dwellings.

4. A required escrow has been received for a sketch plan staff meeting for the McDonald's Corporation for their store located on Rt. 113 in the Souderton area to discuss a possible play place relocation and building addition.

5. Chairman Egly advised that the Supervisors have come to an agreement with the Hilltown Police Department for a three-year contract (years 2006, 2007, and 2008), with 3% salary increases for each year. There were also several changes to the wording of the contract that both parties have agreed to.

Motion was made by Supervisor Salvadore, seconded by Chairman Egly, and carried unanimously to approve the 3 year Hilltown Police Contract as stated. There was no public comment.

6. Correspondence was received from Mr. and Mrs. David Burger of 915 Broad Street on October 12, 2005, though no action was taken at the time. Mr. Bennington requested authorization to respond to the correspondence with respect to a speed check on Church Road/Broad Street, the issue of engine brakes, and the status of the Rt. 113 at Minsi Trail Bridge, based upon his conversations with PennDot.

Motion was made by Supervisor Salvadore, seconded by Chairman Egly, and carried unanimously to authorize Mr. Bennington respond to Mr. and Mrs. Burger's correspondence of October 12, 2005, as noted above. There was no public comment.

7. At the last Budget Worksession meeting, the Supervisors discussed the possibility of implementing the Emergency and Municipal Services Tax, which many other area municipalities are also considering. This tax is charged to individuals who work within the Township. Mr. Bennington is seeking authorization to advertise said Ordinance for possible adoption at the December 12, 2005 Supervisor's Worksession meeting.

Motion was made by Supervisor Salvadore, seconded by Chairman Egly, and carried unanimously to authorize the advertisement of an Ordinance to consider the implementation of the Emergency and Municipal Services Tax for possible adoption at the December 12, 2005 Worksession meeting. There was no public comment.

8. Mr. Bennington advised that the Township's agreement with Comcast for cable television service expires in June of 2006. He was authorized by the Board to provide the draft agreement to a telecommunications law firm for review, which has been

accomplished. Mr. Bennington is seeking Board authorization to provide these requested changes to Comcast and to begin negotiations for a final settlement.

Motion was made by Supervisor Salvadore, seconded by Chairman Egly, and carried unanimously to authorize Mr. Bennington to provide the requested changes to the agreement with Comcast and to begin negotiations for a final settlement, as noted above. There was no public comment.

Further, Mr. Bennington is seeking Board authorization to provide a draft agreement with Verizon for review by this same telecommunications law firm for review and consideration.

Motion was made by Supervisor Salvadore, seconded by Chairman Egly, and carried unanimously to authorize Mr. Bennington to provide the proposed draft agreement with Verizon to the telecommunications law firm for review and consideration, as noted above. There was no public comment.

R. MYLARS FOR SIGNATURE: CVS Land Development

S. PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mrs. Judy Greenhalgh of 874 Blooming Glen Road noted that the residents of the vicinity of the Blooming Glen Quarry have finally received correspondence from Haines and Kibblehouse advising of the zone of influence and the procedures involved with notifying the quarry in the event their well goes dry. She is assuming that the neighboring residents of the Skunkhollow Quarry have received the same notification. Mr. Bennington believes this was a result of his unannounced inspection of both the Blooming Glen and Skunkhollow quarries, when he discovered that the list was not available.

Mrs. Greenhalgh is aware that several wells on Twinbrook Road were recently deepened, and asked if H & K notified the Township of this action. Mr. Bennington replied that he was contacted about the deepening of three wells, though he is not certain of the location of the wells. He intends to continue unannounced inspections of both quarry sites on a monthly basis.

T. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Supervisor Salvadore advised that the deadline for submission of letters of interest for the 2006 board and commission vacancies was inadvertently left open until the end of the year, which would not allow the Board sufficient time to interview for those positions.

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Motion was made by Supervisor Salvadore, seconded by Chairman Egly, and carried unanimously to change the deadline for submission of applications for 2006 board and commission vacancies until Friday, November 18, 2005. There was no public comment.

U. PRESS CONFERENCE: A conference was held to answer questions of those reporters present.

V. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Supervisor Salvadore, seconded by Chairman Egly, and carried unanimously, the November 14, 2005 Worksession meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was adjourned at 8:17PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynda Seimes  
Township Secretary  
(\*These minutes were transcribed from tape recordings taken by Mrs. Lorraine E. Leslie,  
Township Treasurer).