

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING
Monday, October 28, 2013**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairperson Barbara A. Salvadore at 7:07PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also present: John B. McIlhinney, Vice-Chairman
James C. Groff, Supervisor
Richard C. Schnaedter, Township Manager
Christopher E. Engelhart, Chief of Police
Francis X. Grabowski, Township Solicitor
C. Robert Wynn, Township Engineer
Lynda S. Seimes, Township Secretary

A. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1) The Board met for a FY2014 Budget Worksession meeting on October 22, 2013, at which time they entered into Executive Session to discuss personnel.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None.

C. CONSENT AGENDA:

- Minutes of the SWS Re-Zoning Request Public Hearing of Sept. 25, 2013.
- Minutes of the October 14, 2013 Supervisor's Worksession Meeting.
- Bills List dated October 29, 2013.

Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda items as noted above. There was no public comment.

D. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS:

1) Mr. Chuck Stockert – Status of Conservation Easement Purchase of 301 Rt. 152 – Mr. Stockert and his wife were present to seek an update on their proposal to preserve 10 acres of their property located at 301 Rt. 152 in the Township's Open Space Program. Supervisor McIlhinney explained that the Open Space Plan requires a minimum of 35 acres of land in order to be accepted. Supervisor Groff asked if smaller parcels can be considered if it is contiguous with other open space properties or if there can be any concessions made at the Board's discretion. Chairperson Salvadore and Mr. Schnaedter are in the process of reviewing the Open Space Plan, expression of interest in participation from landowners during the last 10 years, as well as the specific criteria that may exist, including a parcel's proximity to other preserved lands, agricultural use, etc. Supervisor Groff suggested that perhaps the Board should consider minimum size criteria on a case-by-case basis; or in the alternative, consider amending the Open

Space Plan to reduce the 35 acre minimum. Discussion took place.

2) Mr. David Nyman – Pennridge Community Center – Annual Update-Mr. Nyman, President of the Advisory Board, was in attendance to present the Center's annual report, and to thank the Township for its past and continued support. A copy of the full report is available for public inspection in the Township office.

E. PLANNING – Mr. C. Robert Wynn, Township Engineer –

1) Kirk Tract Final Plan/Planning Modules – Mr. Ed Murphy, the applicant's legal counsel was in attendance to present the plan. Mr. Wynn's review dated October 14, 2013 was discussed.

Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously to grant conditional final plan approval to the Kirk Tract Subdivision, pending satisfactory completion of all outstanding items as noted in the October 14, 2013 engineering review. There was no public comment.

Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously to **adopt Resolution #2013-23 accepting the Planning Modules for the Kirk Tract Subdivision to be forwarded to DEP.** There was no public comment.

F. ENGINEERING – Mr. C. Robert Wynn, Township Engineer –

1) Neshaminy Creek Watershed Sediment Reduction Plan – The Bucks County Planning Commission requested that Hilltown Township provide a letter of support of their efforts to obtain grant funding to develop a multi-municipal subwatershed-wide sediment reduction plan to assess efforts that are necessary by each municipality to continue the implementation of the Neshaminy Creek Watershed Stormwater Management Plan. The Neshaminy Creek West Branch 3 is proposed for additional stream assessment and stormwater facility inventories and inspections for consideration of stormwater improvements to reduce sediment loads. A sediment (TMDL) reduction plan is required of Hilltown Township as part of the NPDES MS4 Permit and must be developed by the Township for consideration by PADEP in Year 1 of the 5-year permit. The information that would be prepared by the BCPC will assist the Township in developing the sediment reduction plan. The work being performed by the Bucks County Planning Commission is not a substitute for the TMDL plan that is required of each municipality in the Neshaminy Creek Watershed, but will assist the Township in the preparation of the municipal plan.

Supervisor McIlhinney objects to the northernmost municipalities being burdened with having to control not only sediment but stormwater runoff as well, when municipalities in the lower end of Bucks County don't appear to be held accountable. Lengthy discussion took place.

Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously to authorize a letter of support for the Bucks County Planning Commission's efforts to obtain grant funding to develop a multi-municipal subwatershed-wide sediment reduction plan to assess efforts necessary by each municipality to continue the implementation of the Neshaminy Creek Watershed Stormwater Management Plan. There was no public comment.

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1) Bid Awards: Bid results are as follows:

- a) Bid #2013-8 – Diesel Fuel
Suburban Heating and Oil Partners – Card System - \$3.75/Gallon
Delivered - \$3.75/Gallon

Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously to award Bid #2013-8 for Diesel Fuel to Suburban Heating and Oil Partners for the bid prices as noted above. There was no public comment.

- b) Bid #2013-9 – Heating Oil
Moyer Indoor/Outdoor \$3.329/Gallon (Fixed)
Suburban Heating and Oil Partners \$3.70/Gallon

Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously to award Bid #2013-9 for Heating Oil to Moyer Indoor/Outdoor in the amount of \$3.329/Gallon (Fixed). There was no public comment.

2) Authorize Advertisement of Continuation of SWS Re-Zoning Request Public Hearing in order to render a decision on the applicant's request for re-zoning – Solicitor Grabowski explained that Ordinance time constraints are such that advertisement must take place for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation, plus mailings must be sent to those property owners located within 500 ft. of the site, as well as those individuals who participated in public comment at the original Public Hearing.

Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney, and seconded by Supervisor Groff, to authorize the Township Solicitor to advertise the continuation of a Public Hearing to render a decision in the Sustainable Waste Solutions Re-zoning request to be held at 7:30PM on Monday, December 9, 2013. Prior to a vote, public comment was heard.

Public Comment:

1) Mr. Mark Geitz of Longleaf Drive asked if this is a firm date for the Public Hearing. Chairperson Salvadore replied that it is a firm date, barring any inclement weather.

There was no further public comment. Motion carried unanimously.

H. NEW BUSINESS:

1) Authorization to advertise 2014 Budget for adoption at November 25, 2013 Supervisor's Meeting – Mr. Schnaedter advised that there is no tax increase proposed for 2014 and the millage will remain at 8.75. There is a fiscally prudent fund balance of over \$800,000.00. Public safety has been addressed with replacing three Police Dept. cruisers which have in excess of 100,000 miles. Funds have also been budgeted to replace and upgrade software in both the Administrative and Police Departments, along with a proposed refurbishment of the interior of the Municipal Building with new carpeting and fresh paint. Road paving projects along with culvert and bridge repairs, will continue primarily utilizing State funding. Mr. Schnaedter thanked the Township staff, particularly Mrs. Leslie, Township Treasurer, for assistance in the 2014 budget preparation.

Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously to authorize advertisement of the 2014 Budget for adoption at the November 26, 2013 Supervisor's meeting. There was no public comment.

2) H&K Quarry – Request for Extension of Operating Hours – November 2013 – Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously to approve the request by H&K Quarry for the extension of operating hours for both the concrete batch plant and the asphalt batch plant between the hours of 6:30PM and 6:30AM, Monday through Saturday for the month of November, 2013. There was no public comment.

I. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS: None.

J. PUBLIC COMMENT:

1) Mrs. Charlotte Rosenberger of 1239 Rt. 113 presented a written statement, a copy of which is on file at the Township office. Mrs. Rosenberger asked for a status report of their April 4, 2013 request to preserve 44 acres of farmland (TMP #15-29-26) located at 785 Minsi Trail. This property is currently an operating farm with 30 cow/calf pairs, rotating on 8 fenced grazing paddocks.

Mr. Henry Rosenberger suggested that the Board of Supervisors consider preserving the property located at Rt. 113 and Telegraph Road (former Grasse property) that was previously proposed for a zoning change.

Chairperson Salvadore stated that she and Mr. Schnaedter are in the process of reviewing the current Open Space Plan, considering the letters of interest that have been received from

property owners within the last several years, and she personally plans to call those individuals to confirm their continued interest in open space preservation.

2) Mr. Chuck Stockert advised that his property on Rt. 152 is also actively being farmed by Mr. Hockman, and asked that his request for open space preservation be considered as well, despite the lack of minimum acreage.


3) Ms. Kathy Newman of 402 Brookside Drive asked if additional public comment would be heard at the continued Public Hearing on December 9th for the rezoning request by SWS. Chairperson Salvadore replied that no additional public comment will be considered, and that the Board would simply be voting on the re-zoning issue.

4) Mr. Robert Nelson of Cherry Drive implored the Board not to approve the SWS re-zoning request, citing traffic safety issues with the Bethlehem Pike corridor and increased truck traffic, which he believes will put the residents of that area at severe risk.

K. PRESS CONFERENCE: There were no questions from those reporters present.

L. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously, the October 28, 2013 Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors meeting was adjourned at 7:49PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Lynda Seimes
Township Secretary

(*NOTE: These minutes were transcribed from recordings and notes, and should not be considered official until approved by the Board of Supervisors at a Public Meeting).