

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING
Monday, October 12, 2009
7:00PM**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairperson Barbara A. Salvadore at 7:00PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also present were: John B. McIlhinney, Vice-Chair
Christopher S. Christman, Township Manager
William E. Wert, Asst.Mgr./Dir.of Parks, Recreation & Open Space
Christopher E. Engelhart, Chief of Police

A. ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None.

C. CONSENT CALENDAR:

- Minute of the September 28, 2009 Supervisor's Meeting.
- Bills List dated October 13, 2009.
- Financial Report for September 2009.
- MetroPCS Conditional Use Hearing Decision for Signature.

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

D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Bid Awards – (Bid #2009-5A) – 1994 GMC Topkick (3116 CAT Engine) and Bids #2009-6A, B, C, and D - Four Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptors – years 2003 through 2005 – Proposals for the aforementioned bids were opened on October 7, 2009, and a copy of the bid results for each bid are attached to these minutes.

Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney, and seconded by Chairperson Salvadore to award the bids in the amounts so noted below:

- Bid #2009-5A - 1994 GMC Topkick Truck - (Vin #1GDP7H1J3RJ513410) to Nice Contractors, Inc.. of Telford, PA in the amount of \$3,333.00.
- Bid #2009-6A - 2003 Ford Crown Victoria – (Vin #2FAFP71V03X211115) to Ronald Winkelvoss of Wallingford, PA in the amount of \$2,126.00.
- Bid #2009-6B – 2003 Ford Crown Victoria (Vin #2FAFP71W73X211113) to Ronald Winkelvoss of Wallingford, PA in the amount of \$2,126.00.

- Bid #2009-6C – 2004 Ford Crown Victoria (Vin #2FAFP71W14X134675) to Ronald Winkelvoss of Wallingford, PA in the amount of \$2,727.00
- Bid #2009- 6D – 2005 Ford Crown Victoria (Vin #2FAFP71WX5X1761709) to Grace Quality Used Cars of Morrisville, PA in the amount of \$2,948.00.

Motion carried unanimously. There was no public comment.

2. Review of Open Space Plan – Supervisor McIlhinney requested that this agenda item be deferred to the October 26, 2009 meeting, and Chairperson Salvadore concurred.

E. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Appointment of Alternate Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor – Mr. John Snyder, Chairman of the Zoning Hearing Board explained that Univest National Bank has applied for a variance to request a sign that is larger than what is permitted per the Sign Ordinance. Since the current Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor, Mr. Jeff Trauger, Esq. has a conflict with this particular applicant as his firm represents Univest National Bank, Mr. Snyder recommended that Mr. Francis X. Buschman of Buschman, Johnson and Conway of Souderton be appointed as an Alternate Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor for the Univest National Bank (Appeal #2009-7) Zoning Hearing at a rate of \$150.00 per hour.

Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Chairperson Salvadore, and carried unanimously to appoint Mr. Francis X. Buschman, Esq. of Buschman, Johnson and Conway of Souderton, PA as the Alternate Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor for the Univest National Bank (Appeal #2009-7) Zoning Hearing at a rate of \$150.00 per hour. There was no public comment.

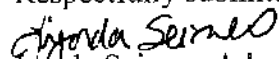
F. BOARD MEMBER COMMENT: None.

G. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

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

I. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Chairperson Salvadore, and carried unanimously, the October 12, 2009 meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was adjourned at 7:09PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda Seimes, Administrative Asst. to Township Manager/Assistant Secretary

(*These minutes were transcribed from recordings and are not considered official until approved by the Board of Supervisors at a public meeting).

USED VEHICLE BIDS - Opened October 7, 2009 at 2:00PM

Bid #2009-5A – Public Works Vehicle (1994 GMC Topkick Truck):

1)	Nice Contractors, Inc., Telford, PA	\$3333.00
2)	Terry Township, Wyalusing, PA	\$2775.00
3)	Peter Cecero, Sellersville, PA	\$2671.00
4)	Mike Veneziano, Bellefonte, PA	\$1200.00
5)	Jersey One Auto Sales, Inc., Jersey City, NJ	\$1050.00
6)	Devino Used Truck Parts, Newark, NJ	\$ 777.00
7)	Bob's Auto Body and Sales, Souderton, PA	\$ 506.00
8)	Sulli Motors, Ambridge, PA	NO BID

Bid #2009-6A – 2003 Ford Crown Victoria (104,188 miles):

1)	Ronald Winkelvoss, Wallingford, PA	\$2126.00
2)	Grace Quality Used Cars, Morrisville, PA	\$2048.00
3)	Police Car Store, LLC, Bala Cynwyd, PA	\$1879.00
4)	Bay Ridge Motors Inc., Staten Island, NY	\$1559.00
5)	Jersey One Auto Sales, Jersey City, NJ	\$1515.00
6)	Sulli Motors, Ambridge, PA	\$ 888.00
7)	Bob's Auto Body and Sales, Souderton, PA	\$ 656.00

Bid #2009-6B – 2003 Ford Crown Victoria (102,858 miles):

1)	Ronald Winkelvoss, Wallingford, PA	\$2126.00
2)	Grace Quality Used Cars, Morrisville, PA	\$2048.00
3)	Police Car Store, LLC, Bala Cynwyd, PA	\$1879.00
4)	Bay Ridge Motors, Inc., Staten Island, NY	\$1569.00
5)	Jersey One Auto Sales, Inc., Jersey City, NJ	\$1520.00
6)	Sulli Motors, Ambridge, PA	\$1268.00
7)	Bob's Auto Body and Sales, Souderton, PA	\$ 656.00

Bid #2009-6C – 2004 Ford Crown Victoria (109,822 miles):

1)	Ronald Winkelvoss, Wallingford, PA 19086	\$2727.00
2)	Grace Quality Used Cars, Morrisville, PA	\$2648.00
3)	Police Car Store, LLC, Bala Cynwyd, PA	\$2379.00
4)	Bay Ridge Motors, Inc., Staten Island, NY	\$2189.00
5)	Jersey One Auto Sales, Jersey City, NJ	\$1617.00
6)	Sulli Motors, Ambridge, PA	\$1555.00
7)	Bob's Auto Body and Sales, Souderton, PA	\$ 756.00

Bid #2009-6D – 2005 Ford Crown Victoria (106,178):

1)	Grace Quality Used Cars, Morrisville, PA	\$2948.00
2)	Police Car Store, LLC, Bala Cynwyd, PA	\$2879.00
3)	Bay Ridge Motors, Inc., Staten Island, NY	\$2589.00
4)	Sulli Motors, Ambridge, PA	\$2085.00
5)	Jersey One Auto Sales, Inc., Jersey City, NJ	\$2021.00
6)	Bob's Auto Body and Sales, Souderton, PA	\$ 806.00

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING
Monday, October 26, 2009
7:00PM**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Vice-Chairman John B. McIlhinney at 7:00PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairperson Salvadore was not in attendance this evening.

Also present were: Richard J. Manfredi, Senior Member
 Christopher S. Christman, Township Manager
 William E. Wert, Asst.Mgr./Dir.of Parks, Recreation&Opcn Space
 Christopher E. Engelhart, Chief of Police
 Francis X. Grabowski, Township Solicitor
 C. Robert Wynn, Township Engineer
 Judy Stern-Goldstein, Township Planner
 Lynda S. Seimes, Admin.Asst.to Twp. Manager/Asst. Secretary

A. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The Supervisors met in Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss personnel issues.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None.

C. CONSENT CALENDAR:

- Minutes of the October 12, 2009 Supervisor's Meeting.
- Bills List dated October 27, 2009.
- Manager's Report.
- Solicitor's Report.

Motion was made by Supervisor Manfredi, seconded by Supervisor McIlhinney, and carried unanimously to accept and approve the following items from the Consent Calendar: Bills List, Manager's Report and Solicitors Report. There was no public comment.

Supervisor Manfredi abstained from a vote on approval of minutes of the October 12, 2009 meeting since he was not present. Action on the minutes of the October 12, 2009 meeting was tabled for consideration at the November 9, 2009 meeting.

D. LEGAL – Mr. Francis X. Grabowski, Township Solicitor-

1. Rockel Estate Sewage Operation and Maintenance Agreement (Replacement of On-Lot Septic System) – Motion was made by Supervisor Manfredi, seconded by Supervisor McIlhinney, and carried unanimously to accept and approve the Rockel Estate Sewage Operation and Maintenance Agreement, and to **adopt Resolution #2009-32, Planning Modules for the**

replacement of an on-site septic system for the Rockel Estate. There was no public comment.

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Bid Award – Bid #2009-8 – Diesel Fuel and Bid #2009-9 – Heating Oil – Motion was made by Supervisor Manfredi, seconded by Supervisor McIlhinney, and carried unanimously to award Bid #2009-8 for Diesel Fuel to Farm and Home Oil Company for 8,000 gallons (picked-up) Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel at a price of \$2.5700/gallon, and 3,000 gallons (delivered) Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel at a price of \$2.7990/gallon; and to award Bid #2009-9 for Heating Oil to Farm and Home Oil Company for 14,000 gallons of Heating Oil at a price of \$2.7990/gallon. There was no public comment.

2. Review of draft Open Space Plan – Mr. Wert presented the draft of the Hilltown Township Open Space Plan for the Board’s review and consideration. The draft represents revisions recommended by Supervisor McIlhinney within the past two weeks, and suggestions for changes by Supervisor Manfredi as well. Should the Supervisors approve the draft, Mr. Wert provided a memo dated October 23, 2009 defining the requirements and the next step in the process through the Bucks County Open Space Program.

Motion was made by Supervisor Manfredi and seconded by Supervisor McIlhinney to authorize the draft Open Space Plan as presented this evening to be submitted to the Bucks County Open Space Coordinator for review. Prior to a vote, public comment was heard.

Public Comment:

1. Mr. Joe Marino of 519 Redwing Road wondered why the draft plan has been authorized to be sent to the County without the benefit of review and comment by the general public. Supervisor McIlhinney advised that the public and the Planning Commission would have the opportunity to review the document once it has been returned from the Bucks County Open Space Coordinator. Supervisor Manfredi commented that the draft Open Space Plan is a public document and will be available for public review tomorrow.

Original motion carried unanimously. There was no further public comment.

3. EMS Contracts/Map Status Report – At the September 28th meeting, the Board requested that Mr. Christman develop a reasonable solution for a draft EMS Coverage Area Map until Bucks County’s GIS system was completely operational. As such, the current box card system was utilized by the Bucks County Planning Commission to create a layered service area map, which includes draft coverage areas for four EMS squads using current box card allocations, Tax Map Parcel numbers, and street names.

Lengthy discussion took place regarding the three elements of this issue – coverage area, authorized solicitation area, and distribution of Township funding. Supervisor Manfredi commented that he would be opposed to the three non-profit squads having to compete for donations and/or funding with the fourth for-profit ambulance service (Grand View).

Originally, Supervisor McIlhinney noted that only three EMS squads were considered, including Chalfont-New Britain, Pt. Pleasant-Plumstead, and Souderton. The Board had initially proposed a three-way split of the Township, which the squads indicated they were agreeable to and satisfied with. Those three non-profit squads would then be authorized to solicit funding from Township residents located in their coverage area in order to raise funding to remain in business. Subsequent to that, Grand View entered the picture receiving a very large coverage area of the Township. Supervisor McIlhinney had objected to the addition of Grand View, which is a larger, for-profit entity versus the three non-profit, basically volunteer squads who desperately need those solicitation areas to remain in business. While not prohibiting Grand View from responding to EMS calls in the three designated coverage areas, Supervisor McIlhinney would be opposed to granting Grand View a specific donation solicitation area. He believes it would behoove the Township to insure that those three volunteer squads remain active with sufficient call volume and with Hilltown assisting accordingly.

A possible three-tier overlay map was considered for solicitation purposes only, which would eliminate the for-profit squad (Grand View) from soliciting donations. Supervisor McIlhinney recalled a previous discussion where the original three volunteer squads had basically agreed that they would honor each other's subscribers should they be required to respond to an address in another squad's coverage area. Discussion took place.

It was agreed that Supervisor McIlhinney, along with Mr. Christman and Solicitor Grabowski would meet with the three volunteer squads to ascertain their opinions on the suggestions made this evening with respect to a territory coverage map along with an overlay designating three versus four solicitation districts. The matter was tabled until this above noted meeting occurred.

Public Comment:

1. Mr. Hans Sumpf of 9 Beverly Road wondered if the Township had the authority to stop solicitation by any organization. In this particular case, Solicitor Grabowski explained that the Township would be entering into agreements with the EMS squads, where solicitation regulations would be addressed and most likely limited to specific areas of the Township.

There was no further public comment.

4. Discussion of Development Identification Signs – At previous meetings, the Board discussed the issue of permanent development identification signs, which under the current Zoning Ordinance, Article VII-Signs are not permitted; only temporary development

signs are permitted but shall be removed within 20 days after the last dwelling unit has been initially occupied.

Supervisor Manfredi felt that a compromise could be reached by amending the Ordinance to permit permanent signs if very specific architectural and aesthetic standards are established. He also suggested that any approved permanent sign should contain a reference to the fact that the development remains a part of and is located within Hilltown Township.

Since the Ordinance prohibits permanent development signs, Supervisor McIlhinney stated that it should not come as a surprise to the developer or to future homeowners that development signs are only temporary. While he realizes that some residents consider a development sign a status symbol, Supervisor McIlhinney does not feel they necessarily serve to beautify the Township. He is opposed to a proliferation of development identification signs, which in his opinion tends to segment and divide a community.

Public Comment:

1. Mr. Mark Paulits of 3204 Berry Brow Drive who has been working with Supervisor Manfredi on this issue, presented a petition signed by 25 residents of the Hilltown Ridge subdivision requesting that the Board allow their development identification sign to remain. He noted that the development agreement between Cutler and the owner of the lot on which the sign is located, actually states that the lot owners are responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the sign, which in Mr. Paulits' opinion clearly means that the development identification sign was to be permanent. Supervisor McIlhinney explained that the agreement Mr. Paulits referred to is between the developer and the lot owner, and has nothing to do with the Township. He reiterated that the Hilltown Ridge development identification sign is not a legal permanent sign, rather it is a temporary sign permitted only during construction and must be removed within 20 days of completion of the last dwelling.

After making arrangements for a large number of his neighbors to attend the last meeting to speak in support of having the development sign remain, Mr. Paulits stated that he was notified at the last minute that this issue was not on the agenda. He and a majority of residents in the development are in full support of allowing the identification sign to remain. Mr. Paulits asked that this matter be tabled for further discussion at a future meeting, at which time he and a larger number of his neighbors could be present and more prepared to plead their case. Supervisor McIlhinney reminded Mr. Paulits that the number of individuals in support of the sign remaining has no bearing on the fact that a permanent development sign is illegal under current Ordinance requirements. Supervisor Manfredi explained that the Ordinance itself would have to be amended to permit the sign to remain. Lengthy discussion took place.

2. Mr. D. Brooke Rush of 732 E. Creamery Road, former Planning Commission member, has a real concern about amending the Ordinance to permit permanent development signs,

particularly with the parameters Supervisor Manfredi has suggested, noting that legislating and interpreting architectural elements is very subjective. Mr. Rush firmly believes that Hilltown Township should not be segregated or divided into various developments.

There was no further public comment. This issue will be discussed further at the November 23, 2009 Board of Supervisors meeting.

5. Review of Proposed A-2 Nursery Ordinance Amendment – At the Board’s direction, the professional staff has prepared a Zoning Ordinance amendment to Section 160-23.A (2), which addresses the Nursery Use. Ms. Judy Stern-Goldstein, Township Planner, presented the draft amendment for the Board’s consideration. The proposed amendment to Article I - Section 160-23.A, Agricultural and Horticultural Uses, paragraph A(2) Nursery is revised to read as follows:

“Nursery uses shall be the growing of plants, shrubs, or trees, either from seed or from immature plants that area raised to marketable size.”

The proposed amendment would add the following provisions to Article II – Section 160-22.A (2), Nursery:

- (a) Nursery products grown on the property may be sold at a roadside stand on the property.
 - i. A roadside stand is a building or structure for the display and sale of agricultural products. A roadside stand shall not contain a basement or cellar and shall not be provided with either water or sanitary sewer service.
 - ii. Each roadside stand shall sell only products grown on the property on which the stand is located.
 - iii. Each roadside stand shall not exceed a maximum size of two hundred and fifty (250) square feet and shall also provide, to the Township’s satisfaction, a safe means of ingress and egress from a public street as well as sufficient off-street parking to accommodate customers.
- (b) The sale of nursery products not grown on site or nursery products sold from a stand or structure greater than two hundred and fifty (250) square feet shall not be permitted as a part of an A2 Nursery Use. They shall be considered an E1 Retail Store Use and shall be subject to the requirements and standards of that use.
- (c) A lot area of not less than three (3) acres shall be required.
- (d) Maximum impervious surface ratio: 15%.
- (e) All structures and buildings shall meet the yard and setback requirements for all other uses for the district in which the nursery is located.

- (f) All applicants are required to submit a water impact study performed by a hydrologist or professional engineer if any new well is required and/or proposed as a part of an A2 Nursery use. The study shall include a discussion of existing water availability and potential water usage, and shall be submitted with the zoning application.
- i. The water impact study shall be performed in accordance with the requirements of Section 140-22 of the Hilltown Township Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance.
 - ii. The applicant seeking approval of a permit for a new well to serve an A2 Nursery use shall be responsible for any adverse effect caused by the applicant's well(s) to any residential domestic water supply well existing prior to the issuance of a well drilling permit.
 - iii. Any permitted new wells shall contain a meter to monitor the ongoing record of water usage. Any increase in usage beyond the baseline level proposed and submitted as a part of the application permit for that well shall require review by the Zoning Officer.

Finally, the Table of Use Regulations was revised to permit A2 Nursery in the RR Zoning District by right; to prohibit A2 Nursery in the VC, MHP, and AQRC Zoning Districts; and to require a Special Exception for use in the CR-1, CR-2, HI, PC-1, PC-2, and Q Zoning Districts.

Motion was made by Supervisor Manfredi, seconded by Supervisor McIlhinney, and carried unanimously to authorize the Township Solicitor to prepare the proposed A-2 Nursery Ordinance amendment in its proper form and to submit to the Hilltown Township Planning Commission and the Bucks County Planning Commission for review as per Sections 607 and 608 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code. There was no public comment.

6. Review of Hilltown Village Visioning Study Plan – The Hilltown Village Visioning Study was adopted by the Board on November 24, 2008. On January 26, 2009, the Board directed the Hilltown Planning Commission to review and make recommendations of the “High Priority” ranked items in the report on how best to implement the goals. After all the hard work put forth by the Committee, Supervisor Manfredi hopes that the Plan has not been “shelved” so he asked for this item to be on the agenda for the Board to once again consider moving forward with accomplishing some recommendations found in this report. Supervisor McIlhinney does not believe that the Plan has been “shelved” in any way, and referred to the delay in the State budget process, which is where the grants would have come from to help implement the study, and which has vastly impacted the number of grants currently available. It was never Supervisor McIlhinney's intent to put the financial burden on the Township's taxpayers to move forward with the village projects, but rather he has always felt that grant funding should be sought. Discussion took place.

As long as the support is there to eventually move forward with both the Hilltown Village and Blooming Glen Village plans, Supervisor Manfredi was content to consider both Visioning study recommendations in the future.

**It was noted that the Blooming Glen Village Visioning Study Plan listed under "New Business" would be tabled as well.

7. Consideration of Pennridge School District Memorandum of Understanding – Upon direction from the Board of Supervisors at a previous meeting, Mr. Christman and Solicitor Grabowski met with Dr. Robert Kish, Superintendent of the Pennridge School District and Mrs. Joan Kulesza, K-8 Grade Science Supervisor, on September 24, 2009 to discuss the Township's concerns with the structuring of the Memorandum of Understanding (MUA) as presented by the School District in April 2008. At that meeting, the School District acknowledged that it would accept changes to the Memorandum of Understanding suggested by the Township Solicitor.

Motion was made by Supervisor Manfredi, seconded by Supervisor McIlhinney, and carried unanimously to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Pennridge School District and Hilltown Township. There was no public comment.

F. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion of Thomas Musselman Barn/Hilltown Historical Society – Bucks County Technical Rescue Task Force Shoring Drill –Mr. Lawrence Owen of the Hilltown Historical Society, and Mr. Kurt Braunie, one of the Task Force Leaders of the Bucks County Technical Rescue Task Force, were in attendance to explain the request. The Historical Society, with the assistance of the Hilltown Volunteer Fire Company, was able to coordinate a Shoring Drill/Exercise with the Bucks County Technical Rescue Task Force (BCTRTF) tentatively scheduled for Saturday, November 21, 2009. The BCTRTF is always looking for drill opportunities throughout the County to ensure the volunteer unit is trained for a myriad of emergency operations. All materials for this drill are being donated by Home Depot.

With respect to liability and worker's compensation insurance, the Township's insurance carrier, DVIT, confirmed that the signed Mutual Aid Agreement with Bucks County will satisfy the insurance coverage issues with respect to the BCTRTF. It was noted that Board authorization to proceed with this drill is necessary since the barn is located on Township property, and since access to the site is provided through the driveway utilized by HTWSA to maintain their water tower located adjacent to the barn. That being the case, Solicitor Grabowski suggested that both the Township and the HTWSA be "Named Insured" for the day of the drill under the Hilltown Fire Company's liability insurance policy. As of October 21, 2009, Mr. Christman had yet to receive a reply from Hilltown Fire Company Chief Jim Walter as to whether or not that would be

an option. Mr. Braunie will contact Chief Walters to insure that the insurance concerns are addressed to the satisfaction of the Township.

Motion was made by Supervisor Manfredi, seconded by Supervisor McIlhinney, and carried unanimously to authorize the Bucks County Technical Rescue Task Force to undertake a stabilization project of the Thomas Musselman Barn located at the Hilltown Civic Park, with a tentative date of Saturday, November 21, 2009, and pending satisfactory resolution of the insurance issues as noted above. There was no public comment.

2. Review of Blooming Glen Village Visioning Study Plan – The Board had tabled this issue earlier in the meeting.

Ms. Stern-Goldstein reminded the Board that the Blooming Glen Village Visioning Study Plan has yet to be officially adopted. It was determined that the Blooming Glen Village Study Plan would be placed on the December 14, 2009 meeting agenda for possible adoption.

3. Discussion of Auditing Services – The Township's annual Auditing Services Contract with Dunlap and Associates concluded with the audit of December 31, 2008. Quotes were received from Dunlap and Associates to renew the auditing services as follows:

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| - One-year only engagement for the year ending December 31, 2009: | \$16,250.00 |
| - Three-year engagement for years ending | |
| December 31, 2009 | \$14,750.00 |
| December 31, 2010 | \$15,500.00 |
| December 31, 2011 | \$16,250.00 |

Discussion took place. Supervisor McIlhinney commented that since the last time contracted auditing services were considered, State and Federal requirements have drastically complicated and increased the volume of work required. As a result, the audit which previously consisted of an 8-10 page document now consists of 60-70 pages to satisfy all Federal and State requirements. Therefore, Supervisor McIlhinney believes the Township should continue to take advantage of the experienced services provided by Dunlap and Associates, who have done an excellent job to date.

Motion was made by Supervisor Manfredi, seconded by Supervisor McIlhinney, and carried unanimously to approve the three-year Auditing Services Contract with Dunlap and Associates, for year ending December 31, 2009 at a cost of \$14,750.00, for year ending December 31, 2010 at a cost of \$15,500.00, and for year ending December 31, 2011 at a cost of \$16,250.00, due to the financial cost savings realized over the three-year contract period. There was no public comment.

G. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Supervisor Manfredi received the proposed 2010 Budget, which proposes no tax increase for 2010, complimenting Mr. Christman on a job well done. His only comment to Mr. Christman had been a suggestion that the Board consider a financial contribution to the Pennridge Senior Center. Supervisor Manfredi asked when the proposed budget would be available for public inspection. Mr. Christman replied that it could be available tomorrow morning. It was noted that a full presentation of the draft budget will be made at the November 26, 2009 meeting.

2. With respect to the proposed budget, Supervisor McIlhinney suggested that a transfer be made from the Capital Fund to the General Fund to make an adjustment to insure it is fully funded accordingly. Mr. Christman will make that correction to the draft budget.

3. Supervisor Manfredi referred to the funds appropriated for EMS services, and had suggested to Mr. Christman that a separate fund or line item be established, which would not increase the tax millage rate.

Mr. Christman thanked the Board of Supervisors for their guidance during the budget process.

H. PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mr. Wally Rosenthal of Rosie Lane appreciated the efforts of the Board of Supervisors to hold the line on taxes, and to not propose a tax increase in these financially difficult times.

2. Mr. Jon Apple of Church Road expressed concern with variety, species, and arrangement of street trees required in developments within the Township. It is his opinion that the major intent of the Ordinance is to create unity and cohesiveness within a development. Mr. Apple is opposed to allowing a developer to install multiple varieties of trees in a random pattern on the same street, because once those trees mature, it will provide for an unattractive, disjointed neighborhood appearance.

Further, Mr. Apple would encourage an immediate amendment and update to the list of permissible tree varieties and species permitted in the Ordinance. He firmly believes that no fruit trees, ornamental or otherwise, should be permitted for use as street trees, due to their relatively short life span of twenty to twenty-five years. Lengthy discussion took place. Mr. Wynn agreed that the Ordinance requirements are sorely lacking and should be revised

The Board directed Mr. Wynn to begin preparing an amendment to the street tree requirements in the Zoning Ordinance for the Board's consideration at a future meeting.

3. Mr. Brooke Rush of E. Creamery Road also referred to the problems that arise with the types and species of trees permitted to be planted under utility lines. Mr. Rush would suggest moving street trees out of the Township right-of-way to avoid being planted under power lines. Discussion occurred.

4. Mr. Lawrence Owen of Rt. 313 of the Hilltown Historical Society noted that the date for the shoring drill at the Thomas Musselman Barn is tentatively scheduled for November 21, 2009 however that date could be changed due to the weather or an emergency.

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

J. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Supervisor Manfredi, seconded by Supervisor McIlbinney, and carried unanimously, the October 26, 2009 Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors meeting was adjourned at 8:20PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Lynda Seimes

Admin. Asst. to Township Manager/Assistant Secretary

(*Note: These minutes are transcribed from recordings and are not considered official until approved by the Board of Supervisors at a public meeting).