

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULARLY SCHEDULED WORKSESSION MEETING
Monday, September 13, 2004
7:30PM**

The regularly scheduled worksession meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairperson Kenneth B. Bennington at 7:32PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also present were: George C. Egly, Jr., Vice-Chairperson
Richard J. Manfredi, Supervisor
Gregory J. Lippincott, Township Manager
Thomas A. Buzby, Director of Public Works
Christopher Engelhart, Chief of Police
David W. Taylor, Code Enforcement Officer
Lynda S. Seimes, Township Secretary

Chairperson Bennington announced the Board met in Executive Session prior to this meeting in order to discuss personnel and real estate issues.

A. PROCLAMATION/COMMENDATION PRESENTATIONS: Chairperson Bennington welcomed members of the Deep Run Valley Sports Association Little League team, the Thunderhawks, who were recently named Little League Section 5 State Champions. On behalf of the Board of Supervisors, Chairperson Bennington presented with the following Proclamation, which stated:

WHEREAS, the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors, and the entire community, recognize the outstanding accomplishments of this group of fine young athletes from the Deep Run Valley Sports Association Little League Thunderhawks Baseball Team; and

WHEREAS, the Thunderhawks, comprised of Christopher Brown, Sean Coyle, Timothy Eversole, Rocky Ferrier, Bryce Frankenfield, Peter Leatherman, Ryan Metzler, Ryan Seiz, Ryan Simpson, Dylan Tice, and Daniel Wolfe, under the guidance of coaches D. Scott Seiz, Thomas Coyle, Jr., and Barry Tice, captured the title of 2004 Little League Section 5 State Champions, advancing within one game of the Little League World Series in Williamsport; and

WHEREAS, these remarkable athletes have persevered with one of the smallest teams in the Commonwealth, with the emphasis on the philosophy of "one game at a time" effectively eliminating the competition in order to advance to the Section 5 Tournament; and

WHEREAS, the Thunderhawks spirit of perseverance and good sportsmanship prevailed throughout their many victories, the accomplishments of these fine young men

has not gone unrecognized by the residents of Hilltown Township, the Commonwealth, and the entire country.

NOW, THEREFORE, on this 13th day of September, 2004, the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors, with great pride, do hereby recognize and applaud the Deep Run Valley Sports Association 2004 Little League Section 5 State Champions -- the Thunderhawks -- for their outstanding team spirit, performance, dedication, and sportsmanship, both on and off the ball field.

Supervisor Manfredi suggested that when "Welcome to Hilltown Township" signs are purchased, the Board consider wording that also states "Home of Deep Run Valley Sports Association Little League" on several of those signs.

State Representative Katharine Watson also presented a Citation from the House of Representatives, noting that Pennsylvania is always proud to recognize outstanding achievements realized by young athletes of this nation, in the spirit of personal sacrifice, teamwork, and commitment to a common goal. Representative Watson thanked the members of the Thunderhawks for their dedication, their skills, and for the sheer fun of watching them play.

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors, Chairperson Bennington presented a Proclamation to Kenneth and Janet Beer, and their grandson Andrew Beer, on being named the Bucks County Conservation Farm Family of the Year for 2004, which states:

WHEREAS, Kenneth and Janet Beer, along with their grandson, Andrew Beer, have been named Bucks County Conservation Farm Family of the Year for 2004 for the sound conservation practices on their 200-acre farm located on East Creamery Road in Hilltown Township; and

WHEREAS, the Beer Family was selected by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Farm Service Committee, the Penn State Cooperative Extension, and the Bucks County Conservation District for this award, an honor that has been bestowed upon the Beer family for the third time in fifty years of farming; and

WHEREAS, the Beer Family has not only implemented soil preservation on their own farm, but have installed similar erosion and sedimentation control projects on the 800 rented acres they also farm, showing a serious commitment to the conservation ethic; and

WHEREAS, the Beer Family is responsible for farming 1,200 acres of corn, grain, soybeans, and wheat, and has consistently constructed diversions, waterways, and storage structures to alleviate soil erosion in order to protect and conserve the land in this

and neighboring municipalities;

NOW, THEREFORE, on this 13th day of September, 2004, the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors, with great pride, do hereby recognize and commend the sound farming and soil conservation practices of Kenneth, Janet and Andrew Beer – Hilltown's own "Stewards of the Soil" and wish them continued success in future endeavors.

As a farmer, Mr. Beer was always taught to pass on the farm from this generation to the next, as good as if not better, than the way it was received, which is what he and his wife intend to do. Mr. Beer noted that his family is fortunate enough to farm three other properties besides their own, comprised of approximately 100 acres each, which have also sold development rights to the County.

Supervisor Manfredi passed along congratulations from Bucks County Commissioner Mike Fitzpatrick, who could not be present this evening.

State Representative Katharine Watson presented a citation from the State House of Representatives, commenting that in her experience, farming is the toughest business there is. She thanked Kenneth, Janet, and Andrew Beer for their good planning and land management practices, expressing her appreciation for a job well done.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None.

C. ZONING HEARING BOARD REPORT – Mr. John Snyder, Chairperson – Mr. Snyder read the Zoning Hearing Board Report for the month of August 2004; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Action on the minutes of the July 30, 2004 Land Use Summit Meeting – Motion was made by Supervisor Egly, and seconded by Supervisor Manfredi to approve the minutes of the July 30, 2004 Land Use Summit as written. Chairperson Bennington abstained from the vote since he was not present at that meeting. There was no public comment.

Action on the minutes of the August 9, 2004 Supervisor's Worksession Meeting – Mrs. Marilyn Teed of Mill Road believes that she made statements following the Public Works Report regarding the drainage on Mill Road, followed by Mr. Buzby's explanation of the work that was planned in that area this fall. Mr. Lippincott noted that he was switching the cassette tape in the recorder at that time, which is why that portion of the meeting was not recorded and subsequently, transcribed.

Page 2 of the August 9, 2004 Supervisor's Worksession Meeting, Item D – Public Works Report, was revised to state the following: **“Mrs. Marilyn Teed of Mill Road questioned the status of the drainage problem on Mill Road near her home. Mr. Buzby provided a report, explaining the proposed drainage work to be accomplished this fall on the lower portion of Mill Road.”**

Motion was made by Supervisor Egly, seconded by Supervisor Manfredi, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 9, 2004 Supervisor's Worksession Meeting, as corrected. There was no further public comment.

Action on the minutes of the August 23, 2004 Supervisor's Meeting – Motion was made by Supervisor Egly, and seconded by Chairperson Bennington to approve the minutes of the August 23, 2004 Supervisor's Meeting, as written. Supervisor Manfredi abstained from the vote since he was not present at that meeting. There was no public comment.

E. 8:00PM – PUBLIC HEARING to obtain resident's views and proposals for Community Development Block Grant funding for the Year 2005 application cycle – Mr. Lippincott explained that every three years, the Bucks County Department of Community Development administers funding provided under the Federal Community Development Block Grant program and the Emergency Shelter Grant. Eligible applicants include non-entitlement municipalities, public agencies, and non-profit organizations providing services to lower income groups. Funding available for Hilltown Township in the last three-year time period totaled \$117,500.00. Last year, funds were awarded to the Township for the repair of the roof of the former Hilltown High School in Blooming Glen, to the Hilltown Historical Society for repairs at the Hartzel-Strassberger House, and to Pearl Buck for a proposed Historic Structures Report. However, due to a clerical error, the Pearl Buck request was denied by CDBG.

Mr. Anthony Luna, Director of Development of Pearl S. Buck International, explained that last year, the Pearl S. Buck Foundation requested and was awarded by the Township, a \$30,000.00 Community Development Block Grant, for planning funds to prepare a Historic Structures Report for the Pearl S. Buck house itself. At that time, Mr. Luna discovered that planning funds were very much needed by the municipalities, and that non-profit organizations do not normally receive that funding. Therefore, the application was rejected, with an invitation to reapply this year for something very specific – such as repair of windows, roofs, etc. The project the applicant is requesting this evening is essentially a repair of the 35,000 sq. ft. long driveway. Mr. Luna stated that the Pearl S. Buck Historic Site is the 60-acre property where prize-winning author and humanitarian, Pearl S. Buck, resided from 1934 until her passing in 1973. She and her husband, Richard Welsh, raised a large international family of seven adopted children here in Hilltown Township. Today, over 15,000 annual visitors, including families, students, and senior citizens visit to the site to learn about Pearl Buck's life, accomplishments and

continuing legacy of helping children and promoting cross-cultural understanding. While living in her Hilltown Township home, Pearl Buck wrote the majority of over 300 published works, winning the Nobel and Pulitzer Prizes, and founded the first American adoption agency for mixed race children in 1949.

In April 2003, Hilltown Township and Pearl S. Buck International formed a community partnership by hosting the Township's annual Easter Egg Hunt and an inaugural Halloween Festival on the grounds of this historic site. The events provided community members with two enjoyable family activities and provided Pearl S. Buck International with a valuable opportunity to revive the historical tradition of using this property as a place of community enjoyment, especially for children.

If awarded, Mr. Luna advised that a Community Development Block Grant would enable PSBI to repair the significantly deteriorated main driveway onto the property, which has suffered significant deterioration over time due to high traffic volume and the harsh elements. The deterioration currently threatens public safety, and if left unaddressed, will soon prohibit public access.

Supervisor's Discussion:

Supervisor Manfredi questioned the proposal this year, as opposed to the proposal that Pearl Buck International had submitted last year. Mr. Luna explained that the reason PSBI is applying for something entirely different this year is due to two different reasons. Last year, PSBI was preliminarily approved by the County, before it was even presented to the Board of Supervisors, was for a planning document, which would provide for a historical structures report. However, once the proposal was reviewed by HUD, they were advised that HUD does not fund planning documents for non-profit organizations, which is largely restricted to municipal use. In conversations with the grant program director at Bucks County, who took quite a bit of responsibility for the mishap, advised Pearl S. Buck International to apply again this year. The other reason is that earlier this year, PSBI secured a \$250,000.00 grant from the William Penn Foundation of Philadelphia, which essentially paid for the document PSBI had requested funds for last year through the Community Development Block Grant funding process.

Supervisor Manfredi asked if there were any other applicants for this funding. Mr. Lippincott replied that there was not, other than a request from Mr. Fox of the Hilltown Historical Society, who reminded him of the motion the Board made last year when they approved funding for Pearl Buck International, which was that any additional funds would be awarded to the Hilltown Historical Society for repair of the Hartzel-Strassberger historical site. Therefore, Mr. Lippincott is once again asking the Supervisors to duplicate that same motion if they so choose.

Supervisor Manfredi noted that the Hilltown Historical Society has not met the obligation, under the law, to apply for this funding. He wondered if the action taken by the previous Board last year with respect to additional funding for the Hilltown Historical Society should now be considered null and void because that original application from Pearl S. Buck International was denied. Chairperson Bennington explained that last year's allotment totaled \$117,000.00, which was broken down into pieces, with the Hilltown Historical Society receiving a portion of the funding, and the Pearl S. Buck International organization receiving a portion as well. Supervisor Manfredi asked if the Hilltown Historical Society would then be eligible for any funding this evening, since they did not reapply. Chairperson Bennington commented that the Historical Society would be eligible for whatever this Board sees fit. Supervisor Manfredi would prefer that the available funding be split more evenly between the two. Chairperson Bennington disagreed, noting that the Township previously applied the \$30,000.00 of funding to Pearl Buck last year. It is the \$2,600.00 remaining that is in question, in Chairperson Bennington's opinion. Supervisor Egly suggested that the same split of funding that was approved last year should be honored this year as well.

Motion was made by Supervisor Egly, and seconded by Chairperson Bennington to award \$30,000.00 of Community Development Block Grant funding to the Pearl S. Buck International for repair of the driveway, as noted above, and to award the additional \$2,600.00 to the Hilltown Historical Society for repair of the Hartzel-Strassberger historical site. No vote was taken.

Supervisor Manfredi commented that he did not have sufficient information before him this evening to make a determination about whether or not the Hilltown Historical Society should receive a portion or any of the available funding. A very lengthy discussion took place.

Public Comment:

1. Mr. Jack McIlhinney of Broad Street recalls that the Historical Society had been requesting funding for the past several years to repair the roof at their site. He does not recall exact figures, however he believes the amount of the funding they have received from this grant funding over the years is approaching \$50,000.00 by this time. Mr. McIlhinney commented that \$50,000.00 is an outrageous amount of money, considering the size of the roof of the building in question. He believes that the Hilltown Historical Society has received all of the funding that they should through the Community Development Block Grant, and that the Supervisors should award the entire amount to Pearl S. Buck International.

Supervisor Manfredi stated that he is simply attempting to ascertain if the Hilltown Historical Society has received their fair share, and if Mr. Lippincott could tell him that,

he would feel much better. Mr. Lippincott stated that in the three year funding period prior to this, the Hilltown Historical Society was awarded \$30,000.00, and in this three-year funding period they received \$17,000.00.

2. Mr. Hans Sumpf of 9 Beverly Road felt that the Historical Society should have submitted an application for a specific purpose this evening for any funding requested.

3. Mr. Harry Mason of Morgan Lane recalls that there was a sequence of events regarding the roof situation at the Hartzel-Strassberger site involving replacing gutters on the roof, which changed the entire plan, thereby increasing the expense for the roof repairs.

4. Mrs. Jean Bolger of Rt. 152 questioned accountability and asked if there are any guidelines as to how this Community Development Block Grant funding is to be allocated. Mr. Lippincott explained that there are guidelines, and the plan must be pre-approved by the Board of Supervisors, by the County, and then by HUD, at which time inspections are involved and appropriation of funding is reviewed by HUD and the County. To be fair, Mrs. Bolger feels that anyone requesting this funding should make a formal presentation at the designated public hearing. Discussion took place.

Supervisor Egly withdrew his original motion.

Motion was made by Supervisor Egly, seconded by Supervisor Manfredi, and carried unanimously to award \$32,600.00 of Community Development Block Grant funding to the Pearl S. Buck International for repair of the main driveway to the property. There was no further public comment.

***8:32PM – The Public Hearing to obtain resident's views and proposals for Community Development Block Grant Funding was adjourned, and the regularly scheduled meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors of September 13, 2004 was reconvened at 8:32PM.**

F. APPROVAL OF CURRENT BILLING – Chairperson Beirmington presented the Bills List dated September 14, 2004, with General Fund payments in the amount of \$143,402.42, and State Highway Aid Fund payments in the amount of \$101,506.22; for a grand total of all payments in the amount of \$244,908.64.

Motion was made by Supervisor Egly, seconded by Supervisor Manfredi, and carried unanimously to approve the Bills List dated September 14, 2004. There was no public comment.

G. TREASURER'S REPORT – Chairperson Bennington presented the Treasurer's Report with the following balances as of August 31, 2004:

– Chairperson Bennington presented the Treasurer's Report with the following balances as of August 31, 2004:

General Fund Checking	\$ 259,458.76
Payroll Fund Checking	\$ 395.84
General Reserve Fund	\$ 314,640.70
Open Space Fund	\$ 411,063.83
Fire Fund Checking	\$ 79,371.71
Debt Service Checking	\$ 261,785.99
State Highway Aid Checking	\$ 211,026.04
Escrow Fund Checking	\$1,389,900.70
Capital Projects Fund	\$ 62,171.34

Motion was made by Supervisor Egly, seconded by Supervisor Manfredi, and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report dated August 31, 2004 subject to audit. There was no public comment.

H. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Mr. Thomas A. Buzby, Director of Public Works – Mr. Buzby presented the Public Works Report for the month of August 2004; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Discussion took place concerning the condition of the athletic fields at the Hilltown Civic Park. Mr. Hans Sumpf of 9 Beverly Road, representing the Deep Run Valley Sports Association, commented about the grading and the condition of the fields that Deep Run leases from the Township located at the corner of Fairhill Road and Rt. 152.

Supervisor Manfredi reminded Mr. Buzby to prepare a list of equipment he feels is necessary for the Public Works Department for preparation of the 2005 Budget.

I. POLICE REPORT – Chief Christopher Engelhart – Chief Engelhart presented the Police Report for the month of August 2004; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Chief Engelhart advised that Officer James Kane's medical condition is gradually improving. He was recently transferred to the Bryn Mawr Rehabilitation Hospital in Malvern, where he continues to make some significant progress, though he still has a long recovery ahead of him.

The Hilltown Police participated in a joint DUI checkpoint with Hatfield Township and other municipalities that are part of the North Penn DUI Task Force on Friday, September 10, 2004 along Rt. 309. The checkpoint was successful, with several arrests made. There have also been a number of roving DUI patrols conducted in recent months.

Chief Engelhart has completed a review of the proposed ATV Ordinance, and will be providing his comments to the Board in the near future.

J. BUILDING REPORT – Mr. David W. Taylor, Code Enforcement Officer – Mr. Taylor presented the Building Report for the month of August 2004; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Supervisor Manfredi requested that Mr. Taylor provide a report of the number and types of inspections and reviews that he accomplishes, so that the monthly report reflects that information.

Mr. Taylor advised that inquiries have been made regarding the possible opening of a family recreation center, including such activities as indoor soccer, laser tag, rock climbing wall, etc. at the former Ames Store.

Public Comment:

1. Mrs. Marilyn Teed of Mill Road questioned the standing water at what was once the loading dock area at the former Sernoff Seafood building, which was recently demolished prior to construction of the First Service Bank. Discussion took place.

The Supervisors directed Mr. Taylor to inspect the standing water that remains on that site.

K. HILLTOWN AUTHORITY REPORT – Mr. James C. Groff, Authority Manager – Mr. Groff presented the Hilltown Authority Report for the month of August 2004.

Mr. Groff advised that the new Hilltown Township Water and Sewer Highland Park Wastewater Treatment Plant won the National Arbor Day award, which will be presented in October. The Pennridge Chamber of Commerce has also awarded HTWSA with the "Pride of Pennridge Award." In addition, the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society has awarded HTWSA with the "Suburban Greening Award" for the plantings and delineation of landscaping beds surrounding the Highland Park Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The HTWSA Board invited the Board of Supervisors and Mr. Lippincott, as well as their spouses, to be their guests at the Chamber of Commerce's Autumn Gala to be held on September 25, 2004.

Mr. Groff advised that the Authority discussed the Smith Tract Subdivision, which is presently proposed to be served by a package treatment plant. The Authority is concerned about the possible failure of the proposed treatment plant, which could compromise the health, safety and welfare of the entire Township. He commented that low flow plants are very difficult to operate and maintain. Mr. Groff would not be able to make the guarantees that he does at the Highland Park Wastewater Treatment Plant. Further, a neighboring municipality is experiencing difficulties with some of their small wastewater treatment plants, which has caused DEP to mandate that they connect those plants to the public sewer system. Mr. Groff reminded the Board that DEP could, if the Smith Tract sewage treatment plant failed, force the Township to connect the development to public sewer, at which time the developer is gone and the financial onus would then fall upon the Township. Chairperson Bennington questioned the minimum number of dwellings required for a sewer plant to operate satisfactorily. Mr. Groff replied that it would depend on a variety of issues, including the amount of "food" coming into the plant, whether or not there are garbage disposals, etc. These smaller size plants are very difficult to operate because they do not have the quantity of food coming in. Sometimes an operator will bring in dog food to "seed" the plant, which makes the operating costs very expensive and requires additional labor for the plant to function properly. Many sewage treatment plant operators, to satisfy the food need, will bring in truckloads of sewage in an attempt to make the plant run properly. Supervisor Manfredi asked how the Authority can make residents aware of all the different alternatives to wastewater treatment that are available. Mr. Groff offered to prepare an information packet for the Board of Supervisors outlining the pros and cons of the various alternatives to sewage treatment. A lengthy discussion took place.

Public Comment:

1. Mrs. Jean Bolger of Rt. 152 feels that the extension of public sewer promotes growth. While she agrees that everyone has the right to develop his or her property, Mrs. Bolger commented that it is how the property is developed that concerns her. In her opinion, if there is a potential problem with the operation of a package treatment plant to serve the subdivision because of the number of lots involved, then the property owner should consider reducing the number of lots. Mrs. Bolger reminded the Board that they are elected to protect the health, safety and welfare of the residents of this community, and stated that the health, safety and welfare is not served by permitting sewage treatment plants or extending public sewer to all areas of the Township, which she feels generates and promotes more growth.

Supervisor Manfredi asked Mr. Groff how many of the lots in the Smith Tract Subdivision are proposed with on-lot sewage systems, whether it be A/B systems or individual sandmounds. Mr. Groff was not aware that any of the 24 lots on the site were ever proposed to be served by anything other than a package treatment plant.

Supervisor Manfredi stated that there are a number of plans before the Board at present where there have been requests for public sewer, where the number of lots would not increase whether or not the site was served by public sewer or by some other type of sewage treatment. Under the current Zoning Ordinance regulations, Supervisor Manfredi asked if the Smith Tract Subdivision would be entitled to additional lots with the proposed package treatment plant than if it were to be served by individual on-lot systems. Mr. D. Brooke Rush, chairperson of the Planning Commission, replied that no additional lots would be permitted. He explained that the number of lots permitted on that site is dictated by the Zoning Ordinance requirements, relating to how the site would be served for water, not sewer. Discussion took place.

2. From what he has heard this evening, Mr. Hans Sumpf of 9 Beverly Road believes it would be better to connect the Smith Tract to public sewer at the expense of the developer, rather than have the proposed package treatment plant fail in the future, when a connection to public sewer would be at the expense of the Township. A lengthy discussion took place.

3. Mrs. Nancy Boice of Mill Road asked the current capacity at the Highland Park Sewage Treatment Facility. Mr. Groff replied that it is at approximately 60%. She asked how many additional dwellings could be connected to that plant without requiring expansion of the plant. Mr. Groff believes that approximately 250 single-family dwellings could be connected. Mrs. Boice asked if the plant is capable of expansion. Mr. Groff replied that any sewage treatment facility is capable of expansion, though it is not planned for the Highland Park Sewage Treatment Facility at this time. Mrs. Boice asked if there are currently any satellite package treatment plants in operation in the Township. Mr. Groff stated that there are not, other than single-family on-lot small flow treatment facilities that are operated by the homeowners themselves. However, he noted that the Reserve at Hilltown/Hilltown Ridge Subdivision is proposed to be served by a package treatment plant.

4. Mrs. Alice Kachline of Mill Road asked the size of the Smith Tract parcel. Chairperson Bennington believes that it is approximately 50 acres. If a package treatment plant is not the best way to serve the Smith Tract with the proposed amount of dwellings, Mrs. Kachline asked why the subdivision was not designed on large enough lots to be served by sandmounds. Mr. Lippincott explained that the developer must go through the Act 537 process to prove whether or not a sandmound, an A/B system, a stream discharge system, or a package treatment plant could serve the lots. In the case of the Smith Tract Subdivision, it was proven that sandmounds would not function on any of the proposed lots. Mrs. Kachline commented that the developer should not propose as many houses if the lots cannot accommodate a sandmound system. Mr. Lippincott noted that under DEP requirements, development is governed by zoning, not by sewage treatment. Mrs. Kachline feels as though the Township is being forced into extending

public sewers into the RR, and believes that if someone wants to develop their property, it should be done following requirements that are in place at the present time. Discussion took place.

5. Mr. Harry Mason of Morgan Lane asked if the Authority would be forbidden from seeding a plant or if they would be restricted to the type of seeding they are permitted to do. Mr. Groff replied that it would be the operator's decision, it would not be dictated by DEP, and he noted that seeding a plant is actually the best and most effective method. However, Mr. Groff advised that the seeding of smaller plants is actually nothing more than a band-aid for a major problem.

6. Ms. Sandy Williamson of Mill Road is looking forward to the continuation of the Land Use Summit that the Board previously discussed with respect to sewage, which is a complex and controversial issue. There appears to be more and more varied types of sewage systems available for use, unlike many years ago when a property did not perk, thoughts of development were abandoned. With these newer, varied systems available, Ms. Williamson noted that the water and sewer issue could now be separated, where previously it was sewage that she felt dictated how many lots could be proposed. She wondered if the seeding Mr. Groff spoke of would be considered normal, routine maintenance as part of someone's responsibilities as a property owner. With respect to the Smith Tract package treatment plant, Mr. Groff replied that he would consider these responsibilities unusual, yet something that would be required in order for the plant to meet permit requirements. He noted, however, that there is no guarantee that the package treatment plant would fail or succeed. It appears to Ms. Williamson that these newer types of waste treatment options are forcing the Township into a situation that, a few years ago, would not have to be faced. She commented that just because someone can build on land with questionable soils does not necessarily mean that they ought to. Discussion took place.

7. Mr. Hans Sumpf of Beverly Road suggested that once Mr. Groff prepares the analysis he spoke of earlier, it should be posted on the Township's website.

8. Mrs. Marilyn Teed of Mill Road hopes that those in attendance remain for the Planning Commission Report, since there were some issues presented at their last worksession meeting that she believes would be very helpful to this topic.

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

M. SILVERDALE FIRE COMPANY REPORT – Mr. John Gillespie, Fire Chief – Mr. Gillespie read the Silverdale Fire Company Report for the month of August 2004; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Gillespie noted that the Fire Company received new pagers and is in the process of replacing 2,200 ft. of hose, all of which was funded through grant monies.

N. PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT – In the absence of the Planning Commission chairperson, Mr. Jon Apple, the Park and Recreation Board chairperson presented the Planning Commission Report for their worksession meeting of September 9, 2004; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

The Planning Commission completed a Historic Evaluation System Report Form for evaluating the potential use of a barn or outbuilding on a property, which was provided to the Board for their review.

Public Comment:

1. Mrs. Marilyn Teed of Mill Road was impressed with the discussion of a planning process that Plumstead Township implemented two years ago, called concept design planning. She feels there are many similarities between this process and what was discussed at the Land Use Summit, which would respect resident's rights and work with developers, while abiding by the law. Mrs. Teed encouraged this type of design planning to be put into effect in Hilltown Township immediately.

2. Mr. Jack McIlhinney, representing the Hilltown Landowners' Association, stated that while the planning process in effect in Plumstead made for a very interesting discussion, he commented that no subdivisions have yet been constructed under this process in Plumstead, and that only two large projects were even discussed to date. He believes that Hilltown should wait until at least one of these subdivisions is complete to determine whether or not this system really does work and whether their Supervisors are happy with the results.

3. Mr. Mark Funk of Broad Street referred to the August 9, 2004 meeting minutes, where Supervisor Manfredi requested additional information from the Planning Commission regarding the proposed Trade Ordinance. Supervisor Manfredi advised that the Board has not yet received that additional information from the Planning Commission. Discussion took place.

O. PARK AND RECREATION BOARD REPORT – Mr. Jon Apple, Chairperson – Mr. Apple presented the Park and Recreation Board Report for the month of August 2004; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Apple announced that the Hilltown Halloween Fest would be held on October 23, 2004 at Pearl S. Buck International on Dublin Road from 2PM until dark. The cost is

\$5.00 per vehicle. Activities will include readings, hayrides, pumpkin painting, and a bonfire, with great food and beverages.

The Township has received the project manual, plans, Phase I cost opinion, and bidding options for the proposed Forest Road Park (Phase I) from Spotts, Stevens and McCoy. The Park and Recreation Board reviewed the documents and made a few suggestions for changes at their last meeting, however they wish to continue to review it for additional recommendations. Phase I would include grading, installation of retention basins, stabilization and seeding, and installation of parking area for softball field and the baseball field.

Supervisor Manfredi suggested that the Park and Recreation Board consider sponsoring some cultural community activities, such as a jazz festival. Mr. Apple felt it was a wonderful idea, and noted that the Forest Road Park would be a great venue for such an activity. Unfortunately, there is not sufficient parking available at the Hilltown Civic Park, which was evidenced during the last Community Day.

P. OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REPORT – Ms. Sandy Williamson, Member – Ms. Williamson presented the Open Space Committee Report for the month of August 2004.

Ms. Williamson stated that if Plumstead's planning process were to be put into effect in Hilltown, the Open Space Committee would be willing to assist with assessing future developments in the planning stages, and to consider how the Township structures open space concept and how the Township could make the purchasing of open space more attractive to residents.

Q. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS: None.

R. MANAGER'S REPORT – Mr. Gregory J. Lippincott, Township Manager -

1. The Township's Traffic Engineer, Andy Heinrich, has provided a review of the Intersection Improvement Feasibility Study for the County Line Road/Rt. 309 intersection, as conducted by the County Line Road Task Force, a copy of which is on file at the Township office. The Scope of Services identifies the nature and extent of the work to be performed.

2. A Zoning Hearing Board application was received from Todd Seidel for a property located at 3425 Bethlehem Pike, seeking variances from Sections 201.245, 503 and 509 for a G7 Warehouse use. A second Zoning Hearing Board application was received from Mary Pierce for a property located on the south side of Schoolhouse Road, east of Keystone Drive. The site currently contains a 10'-12' wide driveway servicing an adjacent property. The applicant is proposing to connect to this driveway to provide

access to a proposed residence covering approximately 4,150 sq. ft. The combination of this driveway and the proposed dwelling exceed the 9% impervious surface ratio allowable.

3. The Township received a copy of a Resolution that must be adopted to include those two parcels from New Britain Township in the Hilltown Agricultural Security Area. At the last meeting, that authorization was received from the New Britain Township Board of Supervisors.

Motion was made by Supervisor Manfredi, seconded by Supervisor Egly, and carried unanimously to **adopt Resolution #2004-23 to include two parcels from New Britain Township in the Hilltown Township Agricultural Security Area, as noted above.** There was no public comment.

4. Mr. Lippincott requested that the Board provide him with available dates to hold a 2005 Budget Worksession meeting.

5. Mr. Andy Warren of PennDot is requesting that the Board provide him with available dates and times to meet with him, as previously requested by the Board of Supervisors.

6. The annual MMO worksheets for both the Police and Non-Uniform pension plans for 2005 were provided in the Board's packets for review. It is important to note that the State provides a majority of the payment through foreign insurance distribution.

Supervisor Manfredi requested that Mr. Lippincott inquire as to when the last time actuarials were done.

7. The Township received notification from Bob Wendig, one of the original members of the Park and Recreation Board, resigning his position due to family and job-related obligations. Mr. Wendig's term expires on December 31, 2008.

Motion was made by Supervisor Egly, seconded by Supervisor Manfredi, and carried unanimously to authorize the advertisement of the vacancy on the Park and Recreation Board. There was no public comment.

8. The Supervisors directed Mr. Lippincott to forward the proposed Barn Use Ordinance to the Bucks County Planning Commission for review as part of the Zoning Ordinance update.

S. CORRESPONDENCE – Mr. Gregory J. Lippincott, Township Manager –

1. Correspondence was received from Mr. Steve Noll, the Deputy Director of the Bucks County Transportation Services, advising that the Bucks County Transportation Management Association is spearheading two major projects in Upper Bucks Co. The first aims to establish a local residential transit bus system that, when complete, will enable those without vehicles to travel between Perkasio, Sellersville, Quakertown, and portions of other nearby municipalities. The second project involves the restoration of commuter rail service along the Quakertown/Stony Creek Rail line. The TMA feels this commuter rail service would be of benefit to many residents in Hilltown, particularly those in close proximity to proposed stops in Telford, Souderton, Sellersville, and Perkasio. BCTMA is asking the Supervisors to consider membership to their organization. The Public Sector Membership for municipalities is \$.10 per resident per year.

The Supervisors directed Mr. Lippincott to meet with Mr. Noll to obtain additional information.

3. Notification was received from Castle Valley Consultants, Inc. on behalf of the Hilltown Authority, advising that an application will be made to DEP for the addition of an arsenic removal system to Well #2, which will also remove iron and manganese.

4. Correspondence was received from the Indian Valley Chamber of Commerce inviting a Township representative to serve on the Chamber's Economic Development Committee and to participate in a meeting on Thursday, September 16, 2004 at 8:00AM at their office located at 100 Penn Avenue in Telford. The Board directed Mr. Lippincott to represent the Township.

T. MYLARS FOR SIGNATURE:

1. Scholl Minor Subdivision
2. Hilltown Ridge/Reserve at Hilltown Township

U. PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mrs. Judy Greenhalgh of Blooming Glen Road was in attendance representing her neighbors, Carol and Jim Morrell, who could not be present this evening. Following is a word-for-word transcription of Mrs. Greenhalgh's comments with regard to the water problem experienced by Mr. and Mrs. Morrell:

In 1992, Mr. and Mrs. Morrell's well went dry. They had it deepened at their own expense by Wonsidler to a level of 240 ft., with a 37 per gallon/minute yield. Fast

forward to June of 2004, when troubles began again for the Morrells. At that time, the Blooming Glen Quarry was down to 250 ft. or perhaps slightly more, with its mining operations. The H & K response to the Morrell water situation, led by John Ross, Engineer, and Alan Hirschfeld, Hydrogeologist, became a series of "band-aids" and finger pointing at the Morrells. Only a phone call to John Haines, President of H & K, late afternoon on Friday, September 10, 2004 brought appropriate action for the Morrell home. Following are the abbreviated series of events:

- At the end of June 2004, Mr. Morrell noticed a large increase in his electric bill. He concluded, and discussed it with the electric company, that his well pump was overworking and running almost constantly due to his water level going down. There was some cloudiness in the water also.
- On June 14, 2004, Mrs. Morrell called the corporate office of H & K and spoke with Jimmy Greb. Garber the well driller was sent. He measured the well and was on the phone with Mr. Hirschfeld and Mr. Ross, and it was decided by them that a new pump was required, which was installed. However, Mr. Ross told the Morrells that H & K was "not responsible for mechanical problems" and the Morrells would thus have to pay. No one knew for sure a definite cost at that time, but they were told that perhaps it could be as much as \$2,500.00. H & K would pay for the initial service call, but not for the pump.
- Let's remember that the Morrells are located in a zone of influence. The Morrells well is 240 ft. deep, and the quarry, at that time, 250 ft. deep. The pump was overworked because of the draw down of water level and could not recover. The Morrells must first call H & K and rely on their choice of well driller, or the quarry will assume no responsibility.
- In July, Mr. Morrell asked that they fix the problem by deepening his well, but Garber was told by H & K to install a new pump with a pump tech. About 8 weeks later, on Labor Day, Monday, September 6, 2004, the Morrells had no water. They turned off the circuit breaker so the pump would not burn out. However, this became a bone of contention with Mr. Ross, and the Morrell's feared they would face another pump bill.
- They did as they were told by Mr. Hirschfeld, which was "Any water problems, call us." Mr. and Mrs. Morrell realized it was a holiday and that of course, no immediate response would be made, but she did place two calls to Mr. Hirschfeld's cell phone and also to his office leaving messages.
- On Tuesday, September 7, 2004 at 6:15AM, a call came to the Morrells that someone would be contacting them. Garber came and checked the water level. Mrs. Morrell was told to turn on the circuit breaker and use the water that was building up in the monitoring well.

- From 10:30AM to 2:30PM, Mrs. Morrell accomplished a half load of wash. Mr. Hirschfeld picked up the transducer on Tuesday night so that he and Mr. Ross could download and study the data.
- Wednesday, September 8, 2004, Carol decided to call the DEP, and Cynthia Kukalis told her she was in contact with Ross and Hirschfeld, who stated that they were "handling it." Mrs. Morrell was told to file a formal complaint with Judy Ragazinsky, which she did. Following are two questions that were put to Mrs. Morrell – "Are you in a zone of influence?" and "Did you recently fill a swimming pool?" The Morrells have no swimming pool.
- It is interesting to note that the DEP did not even know that the Morrells were part of the monitoring system put in place by H & K. DEP, at that time, also reminded the Morrells that they had a shallow well (at 240 ft. deep).
- At 11:00AM, Mr. Ross called and said "Apparently, your water usage is too high and we have not yet proven that the quarry is responsible." (Note: The Morrells are very conservative water users. These two adults, who at the time had a daughter and son-in-law visiting, are very careful with their water usage).
- 5:15PM to 6:15PM that day, Mr. Hirschfeld reviewed scientific data with Mrs. Morrell and stated that he needs proof that quarry is at fault. He put the transducer back and told the Morrells to use water. At 7:00PM, the visiting son-in-law showered, and Mrs. Morrell did one load of laundry. The water was slightly cloudy and then went dry.
- Thursday, September 9, 2004 at noon, Garber came and lowered the pump 8 ft. On Friday, September 10, 2004, the water ran out twice by 9:00AM. Mr. Hirschfeld's response was "Might be malfunction of the pump tech. Let it recover. Leave things on."
- The air pockets in the pumps were now concerning Mr. Morrell, who feared that damage could occur and was also concerned with some new appliances. 12:45PM, Mrs. Morrell called Mr. Hirschfeld to tell him "This is not working." About 4PM, Mr. Hirschfeld arrived and stated that data was not showing that the quarry was at fault. I reminded him that he was forgetting two very important pieces of data – the zone of influence, and the eyewitness accounts of the Morrells living with no water, or at times, very little. When they were able to get water, the yield was 1.5 gallons per minute.
- On Friday September 10, 2004 at 4:30PM, Scott Seiz called to tell Mr. Hirschfeld that Mr. Haines wanted the Morrells taken care of. Over the next hour, we still had to remind Mr. Hirschfeld of the zone of influence, Mr. Haines' order, and the fact that hydrogeology is not an exact science. Mr. Hirschfeld also commented that there were two farms in the area being looked at for water usage. I questioned what farms he was

speaking of and was told it was the Rosenberger and Beer farms. I informed him that the Rosenberger cows drink out of the creek 90% of the time, and that the Beer farm no longer had cows and had no irrigation system.

In conclusion, never in any of the 15 quarry meetings that Mrs. Greenhalgh attended, did she believe a neighbor of the Blooming Glen Quarry would be treated this way. It was as if Mr. Ross and Mr. Hirschfeld were trying to make the data say what they wanted. Mrs. Greenhalgh wondered if the monitoring system is just for the quarry's benefit, and if the sensors are located at the right depth. Mrs. Greenhalgh also wondered why H & K never informed the DEP about the quarry's well going dry in July, or about the Morrell situation. She also expressed concern that H & K never applied for a well permit, and asked if "mechanical problems" will hold the homeowner hostage. She noted that H & K seemed willing to place the blame on local farms. On a positive note, thanks to Mr. Haines, on Wednesday, September 15, 2004, the Morrells will have their well deepened to 397 ft. with a larger pump installed, at no charge. The expense of the pump problem the Morrells experienced in July will also now be paid by H & K. Mrs. Greenhalgh reminded the Board that this was 10 days after the well first went dry, sending the Morrell's visiting daughter and son-in-law out to other places for showers, with this two person home struggling to do laundry and dishes, and to flush their toilet. Mrs. Greenhalgh encouraged the Board of Supervisors to look long and hard to what is happening to the water supply in the Township.

2. Mr. John Ross of Haines and Kibblehouse presented documentation showing the static water levels according to the transducer readings taken every three hours in the Morrell residence from the period of August 28, 2004 through September 7, 2004, and documentations showing the static water levels according to the transducer readings taken every five minutes in the Morrell residence from the period of September 9, 2004 through September 10, 2004.

Mr. Ross wished to clarify several issues brought to the Board's attention by Mrs. Greenhalgh. He noted that the Morrell residence did experience a water problem earlier this summer, at which time H & K replaced their pump, due to a burned out pump, which was the root of the problem when it was originally investigated. Mr. Ross explained that a pump tech was placed on the pump, which is a system designed to protect the pump from burning itself out in the event the well runs dry and the pump continues to run without adequate water to cool it. In this particular instance, Mr. Ross advised that a transducer was installed in the Morrell well in the water column specifically to monitor the static water level with respect to the nearby Blooming Glen Quarry site.

Last Monday, Mr. Hirschfeld received a call from the Morrells indicating they had lost water. Apparently, Mr. Morrell did not fully understand the rationale behind the pump tech, and therefore shut the circuit breaker off. Mr. Ross explained that the pump tech

protects the well pump from burning itself out by allowing the water to recharge, thereby automatically triggering power to come back on again so that the system in the house remains charged with water and adequate water exists in the house. Since Mr. Morrell cut the power to the system, the pump tech was then unable to do its job. In response to phone calls from the Morrells, Mr. Hirschfeld contacted C.S. Garber and Sons that Tuesday to visit the Morrell residence for a service call, though Garber was unable to find any specific problem associated with the well.

With regard to the graphs for the period of August 28th through September 7th, the top line shows the static water level reading, which is based on foot of head above the actual transducer, and the second line shows the level of the submersible pump. This information was downloaded from the Morrells' transducer on Tuesday, to determine what was specifically happening with their water supply. On the right hand side of the graph, approximately one inch in from the graph's edge, there was a low point reflecting an elevation of roughly 267 or 268, which is approximately 15 to 16 ft. above the actual pump. The intake on the pump is another 7 ft. lower. Under normal circumstances, that well would be sufficient to provide water for residential usage. Mr. Ross then decided to recalibrate the transducer to secure more frequent readings, thinking that possibly the interval of three hours was where water levels were being drawn down and the pump tech was shutting off. If the pump tech was causing the difficulty with the pre-mature shut off in the pump itself, Mr. Ross and representatives of Garber discussed the possibility of lowering the pump, in hopes of eliminating the problem. On Wednesday evening, the Morrells were notified that Garber would be at the site on Thursday, if there was not rain in the morning, between 8:30AM and 9:00AM. Garber was on the site by 8:40AM, however no one was at home. Garber returned to the site at approximately 11:00AM in order to lower the pump. That evening, Mr. Hirschfeld lowered the transducer into the well, with the pump having been set approximately 8 ft. lower than it had previously been set. He then calibrated the transducer to take readings on five minute intervals. The graph shows a great difference in that there is significant interruptions in terms of the pattern of the graph, indicating a draw down in water level due to pump usage. Beginning at the left side of the graph dated September 9th through 10th, shows that the water level is approximately 275 ft., then drops down to approximately 254 ft. There is a table attached to that graph which gives specific dates, times and actual readings from the transducer. It appeared that when water levels reached approximately 254 ft., which is the top of the pump elevation not the intake, it was actually shutting off the power from the pump tech at approximately 4 to 5 ft. above where the actual pump sits. Mr. Ross commented that there is a similar pattern noted on the right hand side of the graph, where water usage was causing a lowering of the water table to approximately 254 ft., each time the pump tech would shut off. Mr. Hirschfeld was also present at the Morrell residence on Friday afternoon, at which time he took physical measurements with a waterline probe, while having the homeowner turn the water on at. He physically evidenced that the water did in fact shut off.

Mr. Ross assured the Board that H & K takes these water issues very seriously. The Morrells were not, in fact left without any water. They turned the power off on Monday, which he believes was a misunderstanding on Mr. Morrell's part. Mr. Ross noted that H & K is not without concern for individuals who are left without water. The initial data downloaded from the Morrell well reflected a picture that really did not show that the pump tech was being tripped, hence the reason H & K sent Garber on Tuesday for a service call, at which time they felt that the system was functioning fine.

It appears to Mr. Ross that Mrs. Greenhalgh would lead the Board to believe that the Morrells were left totally without assistance from H & K, however Mr. Ross stated that was not the case. He is aware that Mrs. Greenhalgh means well and feels deep concern for herself and her neighbor's in the Blooming Glen community. However, Mr. Ross noted that many times she may be jumping the gun by making statements or phone calls to make things happen that she believes should be happening at a faster rate.. He commented that the groundwater system, and the operation of wells is not necessarily a "cookie-cutter" process, and stated that there are things that must be reviewed, investigated and considered in the process.

Mrs. Greenhalgh had made a reference to a prior deepening of the Morrell well of 44 ft. in 1992. Mr. Ross noted that there is also a gallon per minute stamped on the well pump casing underneath the cover of the Morrell well of 37 gallons per minute, however that is not necessarily accurate. He explained that typically, a well driller would conduct a pump test, which provides the total gallonage when pumping for a 15-minute time frame or a 30-minute time frame. The total gallonage is then divided by the total number of minutes of pumping, which determines the gallons per minute. Mr. Ross commented that this, however is not the way to do it. The data provided on that pump test should show that the static water level at the beginning of the test is exactly the same as the static water level at the end of the test. If there is a significant difference of 50 ft. to 100 ft., Mr. Ross commented that it is not showing the true yield of the well.

Mr. Ross noted that H & K intends to take every incident of well problems to heart and investigate each one, as was done in the case of Mr. and Mrs. Morrell. As to Mrs. Greenhalgh's claim that DEP was not aware of the water situation of the Morrell well and others, Mr. Ross believes that they would just as soon not hear about it. He commented that if H & K deals with a well issue, it is strictly between them and the homeowner. In this particular case, Mr. Ross advised that H & K would cover the cost of the pump that was previously installed and will cover the cost and expense to the Morrells for the 44 ft. deepening that Wonsidler did. Further, if there is an additional pump required, over and above what is presently in the well, H & K will assume that cost as well.

Chairperson Bennington was under the impression that if a well went dry due to the quarry, H & K was obligated to inform DEP. Mr. Ross disagreed, and explained that the

only situations where DEP cares to be notified of are complaints that residents have lost water, at which time they are obligated to investigate. Mr. Ross believes that the Morrells called DEP at Mrs. Greenhalgh's urging. He stated that DEP contacted H & K several times on Thursday and Friday, when they were informed of what steps would be taken. Chairperson Bennington believes that during presentations, H & K indicated that their model had to be submitted to DEP for review. If DEP does not intend to do anything about the wells or know when wells run dry, Chairperson Bennington wondered why the model should be supplied to DEP. Mr. Ross replied that the model was submitted to DEP, and quarterly reports are filed with DEP.

3. Mrs. Judy Greenhalgh of Blooming Glen Road spoke with Cynthia Kuklas of DEP this morning, who was surprised that she had not been informed about the well going dry in the quarry or about the Morrell well.

With respect to the phone calls she made, Mrs. Greenhalgh advised that she felt it was necessary to contact State Representative Kathy Watson, the Township, the DEP, and the newspapers, due to what the Morrells had previously experienced in mid-July. She intends to make those phone calls in the event these types of problems continue in the future. A lengthy discussion took place.

When she deepened her well in 1997, Mrs. Greenhalgh obtained a permit from the Township. Personally, she believes whether a resident deepens a well or requires a new well due to water issues, a permit should be obtained from the Township in order to track incidences of wells going dry.

4. Mrs. Wanda Ross, administrative assistant in engineering at Haines and Kibblehouse, commented that the Board has no concept of the number of hours and days that are spent on just one incident such as this. Mrs. Ross feels that Mrs. Greenhalgh has a tendency to lead the Board to believe that Haines and Kibblehouse employees are cold and possibly indifferent, which she advised is not the case. She stated that H and K takes the issue of water very seriously, and did everything in their power to assist the Morrells, which was an exhaustive effort. The decision to deepen the Morrell well, according to Mrs. Ross, was not made because of Mr. Haines, but rather because of all of the data that was obtained from the transducer. Chairperson Bennington does not believe that Mrs. Greenhalgh was accusing Haines and Kibblehouse staff of being cold and indifferent, rather he feels she was just very concerned about the Morrells' situation. Mrs. Ross asked that the residents of this Township give H & K the courtesy of working with them and perhaps a little bit of trust. Chairperson Bennington commented that he has not expressed any distrust or felt that H & K was cold or indifferent. Rather he is simply attempting to get to the root of the problem, and feels that Mrs. Ross may be missing the point.

5. Mr. Alan Hirschfeld, Hydrogeologist of Haines and Kibblehouse, commented that he personally takes these water issues very seriously. He explained that H & K did respond immediately to the Morrell's complaints, however he had to review the data from the transducer very closely before acting. The Morrells wanted their well deepened immediately, which Mr. Hirschfeld did not feel was necessarily the first step to be taken. He noted that the Morrell's first pump was replaced on August 2, 2004, not in July as Mrs. Greenhalgh stated. The data did not show that the water level had gotten down to the level of the pump, hence the conclusion Mr. Hirschfeld made that this was not a water loss issue, but rather a pump failure. This is why H & K originally advised the Morrells that they would not be responsible for a pump failure not related to water loss associated with the quarry. Also during this investigation, it was determined that the Morrell well did not yield 37 gallons per minute; rather it yielded approximately 3. It is Mr. Hirschfeld's understanding that the Morrell well never yielded 37 gallons per minute, because there is a community well located behind the Morrell property that is 1,000 ft. deep, which only yields 5 gallons per minute. Also, there is a transducer in the Roscnberger farm well that does not yield 37 gallons per minute and probably never did. As Mr. Ross previously explained, the information provided by well drillers is not always accurate.

When they are finished at the fifth level of the Blooming Glen Quarry, which is where it is now at 215 ft. deep, Mr. Hirschfeld must recalibrate the model with new water levels. A monitoring plan was put in place and is being implemented. The data from Mrs. Greenhalgh's well, as well as that from the Bishop and the Moyer well, along with a number of other wells, will go right to the system which will automatically recalibrate the model before going from level five to level six. Mr. Hirschfeld is not disputing that the Morrell family was out of water, however they were not willing to wait until the data could be studied sufficiently to determine the cause of the water problem. Mr. Hirschfeld provided a lengthy explanation of the investigative process and testing he conducted on the Morrell well before determining that well deepening was required.

Chairperson Bennington asked if Mr. Hirschfeld had provided a detailed explanation to Mr. and Mrs. Morrell, as he provided to the Board this evening. Mr. Hirschfeld replied that he did. He noted that it takes a great deal of time to assess a water problem to determine if the quarry is responsible. Chairperson Bennington commented that it would be unacceptable for residents to be without water for great lengths of time while H & K investigates the issue. Mr. Hirschfeld noted that H & K must investigate and study isolated incidences such as that of the Morrell property. If, however 25 wells were to go out in one area at one time, Mr. Hirschfeld would know that the quarry caused it, especially if the wells were located within the cone of influence.

Mr. Ross stated that H & K is doing a considerable amount of well monitoring around the Blooming Glen Quarry, and has noticed radical fluctuations in wells. He noted that the

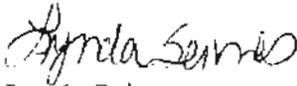
system is complex and time is required to review and study the data. Part of the investigative process when someone reports a dry well, is to review the surrounding area's data, using those monitoring points as references to assess what happened in that particular zone. Discussion took place.

V. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS: None.

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

X. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Supervisor Egly, seconded by Supervisor Manfredi, and carried unanimously, the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisor's Worksession meeting was adjourned at 11:10PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda Seimes
Township Secretary