### Pg. 5328 HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULARLY SCHEDULED WORKSESSION MEETING Monday, October 8, 2001 7:30PM

The regularly scheduled worksession meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairperson Kenneth B. Bennington at 7:30PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also present were:	John S. Bender, Vice-Chairperson
	Betty P. Snyder, Supervisor
	Gregory J. Lippincott, Township Manager
	Thomas A. Buzby, Director of Public Works
	Kerry L. Trauger, Chief of Police
	David W. Taylor, Code Enforcement Officer
	Lorraine E. Leslie, Township Treasurer

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

#### A. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None.

B. <u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Action on the minutes of the September 24, 2001</u> <u>Supervisor's Meeting</u> – Motion was made by Supervisor Snyder, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2001 Board of Supervisors meeting, as written. There was no public comment.

Action on the minutes of the October 3, 2001 Joint Meeting of the Board of Supervisors and Comprehensive Plan Task Force – Motion was made hy Supervisor Snyder, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2001 Joint Meeting of the Board of Supervisors and the Comprehensive Plan Task Force, as written. There was no public comment.

C. <u>APPROVAL OF CURRENT BILLING</u> – Chairperson Bennington presented the Bills List dated October 9, 2001, with General Fund payments in the amount of \$296,498.45, State Highway Aid Fund payments in the amount of \$4,807.35, and Escrow Fund payments in the amount of \$6,104.37; for a grand total of all payments in the amount of \$307,410.17.

Motion was made by Supervisor Snyder, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to approve the Bills List dated October 9, 2001. There was no public comment.

D. <u>TREASURER'S REPORT</u> – Chairperson Beimington presented the Treasurer's Report with the following balances as of September 30, 2001:

Page 2 Supervisor's Worksession October 8, 2001

General Fund Checking Account	\$	69,832.82
Payroll Fund Checking Account	\$	98.46
General Reserve Fund	\$	514,077.43
Open Space Fund Checking Account	\$	85,984.55
Fire Fund Checking Account	\$	47,986.68
Debt Service Fund Checking Account	\$	173,530.81
State Highway Aid Fund Checking Account	\$	182,553.03
Escrow Fund Checking Account	S	302,483.42
Capital Projects Fund	S	146,544.68

Motion was made by Supervisor Snyder, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report dated September 30, 2001, subject to audit. There was no public comment.

E. <u>PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Mr. Thomas A. Buzby, Director of Public Works –</u> Mr. Buzby read the Public Works Report for the period of August 14, 2001 through October 5, 2001; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Additionally, the paving portion of Maron Road through Community Development Block Grant funding has been completed. Approximately 2/3rds of the shoulders have been installed.

Salt bids were accepted through the Bucks County Consortium, with a slight increase in cost from last year.

The paving project is tentatively scheduled to begin the week of October 15<sup>th</sup>, which should take approximately seven or eight days.

Mr. Buzby, Mr. Bollman, and Mr. Britsch will be meeting with Lisa Ishamuro from the Bucks County Soil Conservation District to discuss the pipe installation project on South Perkasie Road. If all goes well, that project should begin mid-week.

Supervisor Bender received a call from a very satisfied resident of County Roads development, praising the outstanding job done by the Public Works Department while trimming the trees in that development. Supervisor Snyder has also received many calls from residents in developments, who are pleased with the tree trimming job, as well as general roadway maintenance. Mr. Buzby explained that one of the new public works employees, Gyer Davis, has a 20-year employment background with a professional tree-trimming firm, which is his area of expertise. Further, Supervisor Bender has received many compliments on the reflectors that have been installed on the stop sign masts.

Page 3 Supervisor's Worksession October 8, 2001

F. <u>POLICE REPORT - Chief Kerry L. Trauger</u> - Chief Trauger read the Police Report for the month of September, 2001; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Chief Trauger presented a status report for anti-terrorism in Hilltown Township. The Police Department is fully prepared to respond and react to anything that could happen, but hopefully will not. Chief Trauger commented that the people of the United States cannot allow the terrorists to frighten and paralyze us, which is what they are looking to do.

G. <u>BUILDING REPORT – Mr. David W. Taylor, Building Inspector</u> – Mr. Taylor was not present. A copy of the Building Report for the month of September, 2001 is on file at the Township office.

H. <u>HILLTOWN AUTHORITY REPORT – Mr. James C. Groff, Operations Manager</u> – Mr. Groff read the Hilltown Authority Report for the month of September, 2001; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Groff, Mr. Stockert and Mr. Erwin met following the tragedy on September 11<sup>th</sup>, to discuss issues pertaining to the safety of the public water system. The Hilltown Authority has a great deal of security measures in place to insure public water safety, which are checked twice a day. Further, all well houses are gated and locked. Mr. Groff assured the residents that their public water supply is safe. Discussion took place.

I. <u>HILLTOWN FIRE COMPANY REPORT – Mr. Robert Grunmeier, Chief</u> – Mr. Grunmeier read the Hilltown Fire Company Report for the month of September, 2001; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Grunmeier mentioned the recent hazmat incident that took place on Township Line Road, when a truck overturned. Mr. Grunmeier feels that there are some areas of concern that should be addressed by the Township with regard to these types of incidents, including communication. He suggested that a letter of thanks be forwarded to New Britain Township Public Works Department for their expedient response. The Supervisors agreed.

J. <u>SILVERDALE FIRE COMPANY REPORT – Mr. John Gillespic</u> – Mr. Gillespie read the Silverdale Fire Company Report for the month of September, 2001; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Silverdale Fire Company recently attended a block party sponsored by the Longleaf Subdivision, and spent the afternoon providing new residents with information concerning their fire company and fire prevention in general.

Page 4 Supervisor's Worksession October 8, 2001

On October 4, 2001, the Silverdale Fire Company conducted fire prevention education at Seylar Elementary School for grades kindergarten through second, and also hosted 185 homeschoolers at the fire station for fire prevention education. That same day, the fire company provided fire prevention education at Central Middle School. The fire company will also be attending Souderton Fire Company's fire prevention program on October 11<sup>th</sup> and on October 14<sup>th</sup>, will participate in a presentation at the Montgomery Mall.

Mr. John Perritt, president, stated that Silverdale Fire Company was never notified of the most recent Fire Prevention Bureau meeting. Mr. Lippincott explained that notice of that meeting was sent to all fire chiefs months ago when the next meeting date was scheduled.

K. <u>PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT – Mr. John Kachline, Chairperson</u> – Mr. Kachline read the Planning Commission Report for the month of September, 2001.

Discussion took place concerning the receipt of the Township Traffic Engineer's review of the traffic impact study submitted by Home Depot, which was four days following the Planning Commission's meeting.

L. PARK AND RECREATION BOARD REPORT- Mr. Nick Lupinacci, Chairperson - Mr. Lupinacci and Mr. Jon Apple presented the Park and Recreation Report for the month of September, 2001. Mr. Lupinacci explained that the Forest Road Park property was purchased in November, 1999 with funds through the Bucks County Land Acquisition Program, of which Hilltown Township participated in. The Park and Recreation Board had considered two preliminary plan proposals provided by Spotts, Stevens, and McCoy, considering residents responses to a past park and recreation survey, and also considering what recreational options are in high demand at Hilltown's two existing parks. Mr. Apple noted that the Park and Recreation Board also investigated the existing recreational facilities offered by surrounding communities. The Park and Recreation Board then decided on the proposal that is being presented this evening, by Ms. Lori Folio and Mr. Scott Unger, of Spotts, Stevens and McCoy, which includes walking paths and meadows, a football field, baseball field, softball field, basketball courts, volleyball courts, picnic area, playground for 5-12 year olds and playground for 2-5 year olds, amphitheater, pond, and a disc golf course. The parking proposed would provide for 306 parking spaces, with overflow parking permitted on the soccer field for large events that might be held at the park. The park has been designed in such a way that it can be graded so that when you enter the property, there will be a view out over the baseball field, with a central focal point that could either contain a gazebo or a pagoda. The site has also been designed to permit an access road that would meander through the park, which would only be used during high traffic times, such as when a large community event is planned. The Park and Recreation Board went to great lengths with the placement of active recreation facilities to insure that the existing neighboring

Page 5 Supervisor's Worksession October 8, 2001

properties would be least impacted. Mr. Apple advised that the Police Department also provided input with regard to safety and policing of the site. Discussion took place.

Mr. Apple explained that disc golf is a very low impact, low cost activity that is becoming more and more popular in other local communities. It is simply a golf game utilizing a disc Frisbee, which is shot into a basket that hangs along a "golf course."

Chairperson Bennington noted that the proposal for recreational facilities at this site is a long-term project that could be years in the making. Mr. Lupinacci advised that the Park and Recreation Board had suggested that possibly three phases be considered for the completion of the park, over a period of approximately ten years. The first phase would include the total re-vanping of the site by changing the topography as such to accommodate the playfields. This process would take place systematically over a number of years. Chairperson Bennington asked if the site could continue to be farmed over that ten-year period of time. If the entire site was to be re-vamped, Mr. Lupinacci believes that the farming would discontinue from that point on. What it would provide, however, would be an area where informal recreation could take place, such as a Community Day event. The Park and Recreation Board took into consideration the recreational needs at present, as well as the needs of the future. During this process, stages of the park could be completed according to budgetary constraints and monetary grant awards. For the record, Mr. Lupinacci stated that representatives of Haines and Kibblehouse had participated in a Park and Recreation Board meeting several months ago to discuss the ultimate reclamation of the Blooming Glen Quarry, which adjoins this property.

Supervisor Snyder approved of the plan as submitted, and feels that the Park and Recreation Board did a fine job of combining the two prior proposals that had been reviewed by the Board. She is also pleased that the Township has been very inclusive by considering the neighboring property owners, safety issues, and the involvement of the Police Department with regard to traffic flow. Supervisor Snyder hopes that the Township can, over the course of the next ten years, find the available funding to complete the project. Chairperson Bennington agreed, and re-emphasized that the creation of this park will be a long-term project. Further, this park will be an ideal location to expand on the idea of summer camp, which was undertaken several years ago with the creation of summer Theater Camp. Supervisor Bender initiated a discussion regarding the traffic volume impact on some of the smaller Township roads surrounding the park area.

#### Public Comment:

1. Mrs. Marilyn Teed of Mill Road stated the major complaint about soccer fields, such as at Deep Run Valley Sports Association or even at the high school, is that the elderly encounter difficulties reaching those fields. She feels that the location of the

Page 6 Supervisor's Worksession October 8, 2001

first parking area and the first soccer field should be switched so that the parking are is an equal distance to all the playfields, would be more accommodating to the elderly.

2. Mrs. Jean Bolger of Rt. 152 agreed with comments made by both Supervisor Snyder and Mrs. Teed. She personally walks along the trails provided by Perkasie Borough, East Rockhill Township, and Hilltown Township, and feels that perhaps consideration should he given to providing for two trails, with one strictly for walkers or runners, and another strictly for skaters and bicyclists. Mrs. Bolger congratulated the Park and Recreation Board for all their hard work.

3. Mr. John Gerner, a member of the Perkasie Borough Park and Recreation Board, visited Bensalem Township's two 33-acre parks several years ago, and commented that their amphitheater/band shell is beautiful and is positioned as such that the acoustics are wonderful.

Mr. Gerner commented that a skateboard park had been requested of the Township by one of its young residents about a year ago. He understands that security issues for such a park can be a nightmare, and recommended that Hilltown Township not consider a skateboard park

4. Mr. Joe Marino of Redwing Road suggested that a park for horseback riding be established. Supervisor Bender asked if a horse trail could possibly be incorporated within the natural area of the walking trail that is being proposed. Discussion took place.

Mr. Marino suggested that a group of individuals attempt to creatively raise funds for the park, independently of the Supervisors and the Township. Mr. Apple appreciates Mr. Marino's public input and enthusiasm, and invited him to attend a future Park and Recreation Board meeting to discuss his suggestion further.

Mr. Lupinacci invited the Supervisors to attend a future Park and Recreation Board meeting so that consideration could he given to earmarking some funding in the 2002 budget to start work on the Forest Road Park.

Mr. Lupinacci thanked Mr. Lippincott for his efforts to acquire the property on Frontier Road through a joint effort with Dublin Borough and the County, and hopes that can become a reality.

- M. OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REPORT No one was present.
- N. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS: None.

Page 7 Supervisor's Worksession October 8, 2001

# 0. MANAGER'S REPORT - Mr. Gregory J. Lippincott, Township Manager -

1. Mr. Lippincott presented a draft copy of the fee schedule Matrix for the Board's review. The information has been compiled from several municipalities. Mr. Lippincott asked the Board to review this information over the next two weeks and to provide their thoughts at a future meeting.

2. Due to a number of complaints received from residents regarding truck traffic on Township roads, the staff prepared a proposed draft Ordinance concerning truck traffic through Hilltown Township. In 1995, Hilltown Township adopted Ordinance #95-3, which limits truck traffic on certain Township roadways. The staff feels that truck traffic should be controlled on all Township roads in order to better maintain them. With the Board's authorization, this draft Ordinance will be forwarded to the Township Solicitor for his review. This Ordinance would not limit local truck deliveries throughout the Township, however it would curtail truck traffic using Township roads as a thoroughfare. Discussion took place.

#### Public Comment:

a. Mr. Jack McIlhinny of Broad Street wondered how a local delivery truck could be differentiated from a quarry truck, for instance, making its way to a State road by traveling a Township Road.

b. Mrs. Marilyn Teed felt that weight limits posted on bridges would curtail a great deal of truck traffic on Township roads. Perhaps the Township should consider issuing an annual permit to quarry trucks, which would allow them to travel Township roadways in order to reach a State highway.

Supervisor Bender asked Chief Trauger how many times requirements of Ordinance #95-3 were enforced for those specific roads. Chief Trauger does not know, however he explained Ordinance #95-3 was specifically adopted to address those trucks that were not following the posted detour on Rt. 313 through Dublin Borough. The proposed Ordinance presented this evening was not designed to hamper quarry truck travel, it was merely designed for the trucks that travel Township roadways to specifically circumvent traffic.

c. Mr. Harry Mason of Morgan Lane wondered what regulation is in place to require truckers to lower the extra set of wheels in order to help distribute their load.

d. Mr. Feryl Spanninger of Twinbrook Road advised that the street he lives on is referred to in Ordinance #95-3 which has worked beautifully to curtail excessive truck traffic since it was adopted.

Page 8 Supervisor's Worksession October 8, 2001

Motion was made by Supervisor Snyder to authorize review by the Township Solicitor of the proposed Ordinance restricting truck traffic on Township roads for consideration by the Supervisors at a future meeting. There was no second to the motion.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bender, seconded by Supervisor Snyder, and carried unanimously to entertain further discussion of the proposed draft Ordinance prior to review by the Township Solicitor. There was no public comment.

3. The Township staff would like to schedule the first 2002 Budget Worksession Meeting for Monday October 29, 2001 at 6:30PM. The Board was agreeable. This meeting will be advertised as required and open to the public.

4. A request has been received from the developer of Car Sense Land Development to schedule a meeting with the Township Solicitor, Engineer, and staff in order to clarify the status of the service road adjacent to the Car Sense parcel and the Peruzzi Toyota parcel. The applicant has provided a \$500.00 escrow for this meeting.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bender, seconded by Supervisor Snyder, and carried unanimously to authorize the scheduling of a meeting with the Township Solicitor, Engineer, and staff with representatives of Car Sense Land Development in order to clarify the status of the service road adjacent to the Car Sense parcel and the Peruzzi Toyota parcel. There was no public comment.

5. At their meeting of October 3, 2001, the Fire Prevention Bureau made the following recommendations:

- To require stiffer penalties and better enforcement of Ordinance #89-4, regulating the numbering of houses and buildings in Hilltown Township. The Fire Prevention Bureau also suggested that residents be made aware of this Ordinance requirement in the next newsletter mailing.

Discussion took place. The Supervisors directed Mr. Lippincott to place a specific notification in the next Township newsletter, urging residents to post regulation size house numbers on their dwellings, and if their dwelling is not visible from the road, to post a marker at their driveway with their house number clearly visible, for emergency purposes.

All newly constructed dwellings in all zoning districts within Hilltown Township be required to install sprinkler systems.

Discussion took place. Chairperson Bennington and Supervisor Snyder were agreeable. Supervisor Bender wished to learn more about the process involved. The Building Page 9 Supervisor's Worksession October 8, 2001

Pg. 5336

Inspector will be directed to provide additional information for the Board's review at their next meeting.

6. There are six escrows for the Board's consideration, one of which is cash held by the Township:

CVS Land Development	Voucher #05	\$ 6	97.99
Kunkin Truck Terminal	Voucher #10	\$ 1,7	786.83
Longleaf Estates Phase II Sub.	Voucher #22	\$ 8	391.70
Lynrose Estates	Voucher #16	\$ 3	346.42
Orchard Glen	Voucher #64	\$	460.01
Pleasant View Subdivision	Voucher #04	S 3,6	526.73

Motion was made by Supervisor Snyder, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to release the six escrows as noted above. There was no public comment.

7. Mr. Lippincott presented the Zoning Report for the month of September 2001; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

8. Mr. Lippincott presented correspondence from Quakertown National Bank dated October 3, 2001, regarding the original letter dated August 27, 2001, addressing the various bank rates that were previously discussed. The interest rate over a five-year period has been reduced to 3.9%, and the notification date of closing was changed to December 15, 2001. Solicitor Grabowski has re-examined the Quakertown National Bank proposal in light of the recent Federal Reserve actions to lower the Federal fund Quakertown National Bank is willing to lower its quoted rate from 3.95% to rates. 3.90%, and to keep the other financial terms of the loan the same. Based on a review and calculation of what the annual payments would be, Solicitor Grabowski believes the Township could borrow as much as \$3.8 million dollars without having to increase Debt Service Taxes by even one cent. The outstanding balance of the Township's existing loan is \$2 million dollars, and Solicitor Grabowski's memo notes that the Township could therefore borrow approximately \$800,000.00 for a new capital project, including the proposed road maintenance building behind the existing municipal building.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bender, seconded by Supervisor Snyder, and carried unanimously to authorize the Township Solicitor to begin preparation of the required Ordinance and loan documents, with the Ordinance advertised for Public Hearing at the November meeting, at which time the advertisement for the proposed Ordinance can be drafted with language stating the maximum amount of the loan. There was no public comment.

# P. CORRESPONDENCE - Mr. Gregory J. Lippincott, Township Manager -

1. Correspondence was received from Carroll Engineering, offering their services for complete golf course development services, including golf course architecture and planning, engineering, permitting, and construction administration/observation.

2. Mr. Lippincott will be attending the first Project Advisory Committee meeting for the new Sumneytown Pike/Rt. 309 Connector Project to be held at the Lower Salford Township Building on Tuesday, October 16, 2001 from 7PM to 9PM.

3. Hilltown Township's eligibility application for participation in the Pennsylvania Federal Surplus Property Program has been approved. The period of eligibility will expire on September 24, 2004, at which time the Township will have to submit a new eligibility report.

4. Correspondence was received from a resident of Broad Street, complaining of the condition of the intersection of Broad Street and Upper Church Road due to quarry truck traffic, and requesting that corrective action be taken.

The Supervisors directed Mr. Lippincott to forward this correspondence to Mr. Buzby for investigation and further action.

5. Correspondence and a \$500.00 escrow check was received from Calvary Church, with a request for a sketch plan review meeting with the Township Engineer and Manager to discuss alternatives for future educational space and to explore possibilities for a second access to the property.

Motion was made by Supervisor Snyder, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to authorize a sketch plan review meeting with representatives of Calvary Church, the Township Engineer, and Township Manager, to discuss alternatives for future educational space and to explore possibilities for a second access to the site. There was no public comment.

6. Correspondence was received from the Hilltown Township Volunteer Fire Company requesting that the Township purchase a John Deere tractor at the State bid price, for which the fire company will reimburse the Township for the full amount. The fire company told Mr. Lippincott that they cannot purchase the tractor through the State bid since they are not a municipality, however he does not know that for a fact. Discussion took place. Page 11 Supervisor's Worksession October 8, 2001

Motion was made by Supervisor Snyder, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to direct the Hilltown Fire Company to attempt to purchase the abovementioned tractor through the State Bid, however if that is not possible, Hilltown Township would be willing to purchase the tractor through the State bid with future reimbursement by the Fire Company. There was no public comment.

## Q. <u>MYLARS FOR SIGNATURE</u>: None.

### R. <u>PUBLIC COMMENT:</u>

1. Mr. Nick Lupinacci of Upper Stump Road, representing the Hilltown Civic Association, announced that on Saturday, October 13, 2001 at 9:00AM at the Civic Park, the Adopt-A-Highway Program will begin on Rt. 152 up to Rickert Road.

Further, on October 23, 2001, Candidates Night will be held here at the Township building beginning at 7:30PM. Bucks County office candidates and local candidates will be present to express their views. Mr. Lupinacci will be moderating the event.

At the September Civic Association meeting, the agenda included the gathering of memorabilia of the 55-year history of the Civic Association. Mrs. Alice Kachline and other volunteers met over the last few months to gather a number of photographs and other information for this purpose. A recommendation had been made to have reproductions of these historic photographs framed and displayed in the meeting room of the Township building. The Supervisors were agreeable.

2. Mr. Jack McIlhinny suggested that while the Director of Public Works is investigating the road condition of the intersection at Broad Street and Upper Church Road, perhaps he could also inspect the roadway at the curve on Broad Street just past Fretz Road, which seems to disintegrate every six months or so. He believes this is also caused by heavy truck traffic. Mr. Lippincott will forward this suggestion to Mr. Buzby.

3. Mrs. Jean Bolger of Rt. 152 asked the Supervisor's thoughts on the correspondence from Carroll Engineering offering their services for developing municipal golf courses. Supervisor Bender explained that though the Township is not actively pursuing proposals at this time, it appears we are receiving unsolicited proposals from various golf course engineers since there have been numerous newspaper articles regarding the possibility of golf course open space at the proposal Berry Brow Subdivision. The Supervisors would certainly be amenable to seek proposals if and when the Township gets to that point.

4. Mr. John Perritt of Goldenrod Court, speaking both as a resident and as an official of the Silverdale Fire Company, requested that the Supervisors review the tape

Page 12 Supervisor's Worksession October 8, 2001

recording and the minutes of the last Fire Prevention Bureau meeting. Though he was not present at that meeting and therefore, cannot comment specifically, Mr. Perritt understands that some of the comments made were very disturbing in regard to both property and policy of Hilltown Township.

## S. <u>SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:</u>

1. Supervisor Snyder commented that the possible golf course plan at the Berry Brow Subdivision is a down-the-road issue, not only due to lack of funding, but because there is still so much to be done with regard to the subdivision approval process itself. Also, Supervisor Snyder noted that there are other recreational issues to be considered, since the results of the questionnaire that was mailed out with regard to the Comprehensive Plan showed that a golf course was not a high priority recreation item for residents. Therefore, Supervisor Snyder feels there must be a shift in public opinion so that a golf course becomes a higher priority before it is proposed. Further, Supervisor Snyder is personally very concerned about water, since the Berry Brow Subdivision is located in a dry area of the Township, and because a golf course has very high water consumption.

2. Supervisor Snyder received a complaint from a Hilltown Pike resident in the village of Line Lexington regarding a "No Littering" sign, and asked Mr. Lippincott if PennDot has given any indication of when that sign might be installed. Mr. Lippincott has been speaking to PennDot representatives about that "No Littering" sign for quite some time, and will contact them once again.

In the past 4 to 6 weeks, Supervisor Bender received many phone calls and 3. e-mails from residents concerning Agricultural Prescrvation and the issue of three Supervisors versus five Supervisors. Supervisor Bender noted that a recent Bucks County Planning Commission newsletter contained an article concerning Agricultural zoning, specifically highlighting what Bedminster Township has accomplished. Supervisor Bender provided copies of that article to some residents and brought copies with him this evening for those who are interested. With regard to the number of Supervisors a municipality may have, Supervisor Bender explained that beyond the basic question of whether five is better than three, there appears to be confusion for Hilltown residents because at the upcoming election, there is someone running for a four year term and someone running for a six year term. He went through this same situation with Ms. Diane Parks several years ago, when both were running for the position of Supervisor, but with different term limits. Supervisor Bender believes this could be creating the impression that Hilltown Township may be adding additional Supervisors at this election, which is not the case. He explained that the process involved if a municipality decides to go with five Supervisors is by phasing the additional Supervisors in based on lengths of terms. Supervisor Bender noted that is not the situation Hilltown Township is facing at

Page 13 Supervisor's Worksession October 8, 2001 Pg. 5340

this time. The reason there are two positions available at the same time is due to Ms. Parks' resignation after serving one year of a six-year term. The Supervisors appointed Betty Snyder for the interim until there was a general election for the remaining four-year term. Chairperson Bennington's normal six-year term expires on December 31, 2001, which is why he is running for the position of Supervisor. Therefore, Supervisor Bender wished to make it clear that there is one six-year term and one four-year term for the position of Supervisor to be voted upon at the election in November.

Further, the most recent copy of the Pennsylvania Township News was dedicated to an article called "Five Member Board – Is Getting Bigger Always Better?" Supervisor Bender made copies of this article for anyone who is interested in reading about the pros and cons of a three versus four-member Board.

4. Chairperson Bennington thanked Supervisor Bender for making it clear that he is not running against Supervisor Snyder or against Mr. George Egly for the position of Supervisor. He is running unopposed for a six-year term as a member of the Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Snyder is running as the Republican endorsed candidate against Mr. Egly as the Democratic endorsed candidate for a four-year term as a member of the Board of Supervisors.

5. Several years ago, a group called the Pennridge Area Coordinating Committee was formed from eight municipalities, the Bucks County Community College, the Pennridge School District, and the Pennridge Chamber of Commerce. This past Saturday evening, the P.A.C.C. received the 2001 Samuel Pierce Memorial Pride of Pennridge Award based upon their Greenways Program and the initiation of the water study of the entire Pennridge area. Chairperson Bernington attended the award ceremony on behalf of Hilltown Township, and wanted to thank the groups involved in P.A.C.C. and the residents for supporting a regional municipal configuration that is working very well.

T. <u>PRESS CONFERENCE</u>: A conference was held to answer questions of those reporters present.

U. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>: Upon motion by Supervisor Snyder, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously, the October 8, 2001 Supervisor's Worksession Meeting was adjourned at 9:20PM.

Respectfully submitted, Lynda Scimes Standa 5. Service Township Secretary

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