

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULARLY SCHEDULED WORKSESSION MEETING
Monday, September 10, 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 7:33PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also present were: John S. Bender, Vice-Chairperson
Betty P. Snyder, Supervisor
Gregory J. Lippincott, Township Manager
David W. Taylor, Code Enforcement Officer
Kerry L. Trauger, Chief of Police
Lynda S. Seimes, Township Secretary

Chairperson Bennington requested a moment of silence in remembrance of Hilltown Police Officer John Thomas who died from an accidental fall in his mountain cabin five years ago on September 8, 1996.

Chairperson Bennington announced the Board met in Executive Session following their August 27, 2001 meeting to discuss legal and real estate matters; and also met in Executive Session prior to this meeting in order to discuss personnel and legal matters.

A. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None.

B. TREASURER'S REPORT – Chairperson Bennington presented the Treasurer's Report with the following balances as of August 31, 2001:

General Fund Checking	\$ 11,716.42
Payroll Fund Checking	\$ 98.33
General Reserve Fund	\$ 525,860.66
Open Space Fund	\$ 48,090.13
Fire Fund Checking	\$ 46,823.85
Debt Service Checking	\$ 170,819.63
State Highway Aid Fund Checking	\$ 185,350.40
Escrow Fund Checking	\$ 309,339.00
Capital Projects Fund	\$ 145,648.21

Motion was made by Supervisor Snyder, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report dated August 31, 2001, subject to audit. There was no public comment.

C. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: No report was provided due to Mr. Buzby's injury.

D. POLICE REPORT – Chief Kerry L. Trauger – Chief Trauger presented the Police Report for the month of August, 2001; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

There have been a number of traffic and criminal arrests that Chief Trauger advised of, which will reflect in the total court assignments that are higher than usual this month.

Discussion took place concerning the status of consideration of local police being permitted to use radar.

Chief Trauger read a letter of commendation of Officer John Gildea, congratulating him in his successful handling of a dangerous and stressful situation on August 23rd, when an armed suicidal subject threatened to harm himself and police while barricaded in the sleeper cab of a tractor-trailer in the Hilltown Crossings Shopping Center. The Supervisors thanked Officer Gildea for his performance on August 23, 2001.

The speed sign is now in operation, most recently on Callowhill Road at the entrance to Deep Run Valley Sports Association for their opening day this past Saturday, and in the opposite direction on Callowhill Road this past Sunday. The sign will be rotated at various locations throughout the Township beginning tomorrow.

E. BUILDING REPORT – Mr. David W. Taylor, Building Inspector – Mr. Taylor presented the Building Report for the month of August, 2001; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Taylor advised that the CVS Pharmacy located at Rt. 113 and County Line Road is scheduled to open on October 1, 2001. Also, the former Oak Works building located on Rt. 309 was recently occupied by a karate school.

F. HILLTOWN AUTHORITY REPORT – Mr. James C. Groff, Operations Manager – Mr. Groff presented the Hilltown Authority Report for the month of August, 2001; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Chairperson Bennington thanked Mr. Groff and the Authority for keeping the public and the neighboring property owners well informed as to the progress with regard to the proposed treatment plant.

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

H. SILVERDALE FIRE COMPANY REPORT – Mr. John Gillespie, Deputy Chief – Mr. Gillespie presented the Silverdale Fire Company Report for the month of August, 2001; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Gillespie advised that the new rescue truck was placed into service two weeks ago, and invited the Supervisors to stop in to inspect it.

Chief Seifert, on behalf of the Silverdale Fire Company, has provided a review of the Seylar Elementary School Land Development plan, which will be forwarded to the Township. Discussion took place as to the procedure involved with servicing fire companies being notified to provide their review of new subdivisions or land developments.

The Silverdale Fire Company intends to present a proposal to the Planning Commission at their next meeting concerning driveway widths for new developments.

I. PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT – Mr. John Kachline, Chairperson – Mr. Kachline read the Planning Commission Report for the month of August, 2001.

J. PARK AND RECREATION BOARD REPORT – No one was present.

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

L. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS: None.

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

1. Upon completion of a speed survey of the entire length of Keystone Drive and upon recommendation by Sgt. Miller, Mr. Lippincott requested authorization to advertise an Ordinance to reduce the speed of motor vehicles on Keystone Drive to 35 m.p.h.

Motion was made by Supervisor Snyder, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously, to authorize the advertisement of an Ordinance to reduce the speed of motor vehicles on Keystone Drive to 35 m.p.h. There was no public comment.

2. Mr. Lippincott presented nine escrows for the Board's consideration, four of which are cash held by the Township:

Bricks Villa Phases I & II (Combined)	Voucher #20A	\$ 104.79
CVS Land Development	Voucher #04	\$ 1,828.78
Harleysville National Bank	Voucher #03	\$ 557.28
Kunkin Truck Terminal	Voucher #09	\$ 690.04
Kunkin Steel	Voucher #14	\$ 344.81
Longleaf Estates Phase I Subdivision	Voucher #62	\$ 1,023.36
Longleaf Estates Phase I Subdivision	Voucher #63	\$10,844.33

Longleaf Estates Phase II Subdivision	Voucher #21	\$ 840.64
Pleasant View Subdivision	Voucher #02	\$ 2,074.71

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

3. Mr. Wynn prepared correspondence for the Supervisors dated September 10, 2001 concerning the Hartzel Strassburger roof replacement project. The low bidder was Weaver and Sons Roofing and Siding in the amount of \$20,480.00. After discussion with Mr. Fox of the Historical Society, Mr. Wynn advised that a request was solicited from the low bidder for the installation of half round white aluminum gutters and round downspouts. The amount of the addendum for the contract is an additional \$3,580.00. Mr. Wynn recommends acceptance of the proposed addendum conditional upon approval by the Bucks County Office of Community Development. Mr. Lippincott noted that there is sufficient funding available in the Community Development Grant award to pay for the total amount of this project.

Motion was made by Supervisor Snyder, seconded by Supervisor Bender and carried unanimously to award the bid for the Hartzel Strassburger Roof Replacement Project in the amount of \$20,480.00, with the addendum in the amount of \$3,580.00 as noted above to Weaver and Sons Roofing and Siding, pending the approval of the Bucks County Office of Community Development. There was no public comment.

4. Proposals were sent to eight banks, with four proposals received for the refinancing of the current bond and to seek new financing. The low bidder was Quakertown National Bank at a rate of 3.95% for the loan. Mr. Lippincott is seeking a motion to borrow a sufficient amount of money to cover expenses for the proposed maintenance building, not to exceed any tax increase. Solicitor Grabowski will be preparing an amortization schedule for the Board's review.

Motion was made by Supervisor Snyder, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to award the refinancing of the bond and to seek new financing, as noted above to Quakertown National Bank, with no tax increase proposed. There was no public comment.

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

1. Correspondence has been received from the president of the Philadelphia Glider Council, apologizing for Mr. Schonour's representation of them at the last Supervisor's meeting, and advising that the views stated by Mr. Schonour were his own, and not those of the Glider Council.

2. Mr. Wynn has provided copies of fee schedules for East Rockhill Township and Plumstead Township, pursuant to discussion at the August 27th Supervisor's meeting regarding fees for land development, for the Board's perusal.

Supervisor Bender feels that the Supervisors should review fees for the coming year as to whether they are sensible and apply to the community, not necessarily if they are too high or too low in neighboring communities.

3. The Township received complaints from residents of Quiet Acres regarding exposed wiring in the older section of the community. Mr. Lippincott forwarded those complaints to the owner of the mobile home park, Mr. Williams, who has since responded via correspondence dated August 29, 2001. Mr. Williams explained that some unused telephonic and cable wires and reels were found and have been placed there by the utility companies in anticipation of providing new services to the homes in Quiet Acres. Discussion took place. The Supervisors directed Mr. Taylor to inspect the Quiet Acres site for any BOCA Code violations.

O. MYLARS FOR SIGNATURE: None.

P. PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mr. Jack McIlhinny feels that the prices quoted for the gutters and downspouts for the Hartzel Strassburger project were extremely high, and he would like to review that proposal.

2. Mr. John Gillespie of 310 Moyer Road has safety concerns with the intersection of Callowhill Road and South Perkasic Road, and the bridge on Callowhill Road near that intersection, which is even narrower now that PennDot has begun repairs.

The Supervisors directed Mr. Lippincott to call and send a letter to PennDot concerning the status of the bridge near the intersection of Callowhill Road and South Perkasic Road.

Mr. Gillespie commented that there is a beautiful 9-hole public golf course called Churchill Country Club near the city of Pittsburgh that has been constructed on terrain very similar to that of the Berry Brow property, which is divided by a main road with a bridge constructed above and across the road for golf cart traffic.

3. Mr. Bill Bennett of Fairhill School Road asked why the Township is still involved with a Hilltown Historical Society Hartzel Strassburger project. Chairperson Bennington advised that the Hilltown Historical Society applied for grant funding through the Bucks County Community Development Block Grant. Part of the funding was used for a Maron Road paving project and the Village of Blooming Glen Historical

Designation project, with the remainder being awarded to the Hilltown Historical Society for the Hartzel Strassburger project.

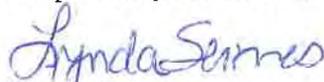
Q. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Supervisor Snyder recently testified at the House Select Committee Hearing on Public Education Reform, which was held at Delaware Valley College. Supervisor Snyder spoke to have property taxes reduced for senior citizens, farmers, and landowners. She noted that property taxes are a big bite for schools and if the State were willing to find alternative funding rather than real estate taxes, then Hilltown farmers, seniors, and landowners would be very grateful.

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

S. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Supervisor Snyder, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously, the September 10, 2001 Board of Supervisor's Worksession meeting was adjourned at 8:19PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda Seimes
Township Secretary