

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULARLY SCHEDULED WORKSESSION MEETING
Monday, July 10, 2000
7:30PM**

The regularly scheduled worksession meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairperson Kenneth B. Bennington at 7:35PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also present were: John S. Bender, Vice-Chairperson
E. Diane Parks, Supervisor
Gregory J. Lippincott, Township Manager/Zoning Officer
Francis X. Grabowski, Township Solicitor
Thomas A. Buzby, Director of Public Works
Kerry L. Trauger, Chief of Police
David W. Taylor, Building Inspector
Lorraine E. Leslie, Township Treasurer

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

- A. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None.
- B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Action on the minutes of the June 15, 2000 Joint Hilltown Township/New Britain Township Supervisor's Meeting – Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2000 Joint Hilltown Township/New Britain Township Supervisor's Meeting, as written. There was no public comment.
- C. APPROVAL OF CURRENT BILLING – Chairperson Bennington presented the Bills List dated July 11, 2000, with General Fund payments in the amount of \$28,555.48, State Highway Aid Fund payments in the amount of \$1,536.80, and Escrow Fund payments in the amount of \$975.30; for a grand total of all payments in the amount of \$31,067.58.

Supervisor Parks asked how much the Comprehensive Plan Task Force Questionnaire would cost. Mr. Lippincott advised that postage would cost approximately \$.59 per each questionnaire that is returned.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to approve the Bills List dated July 11, 2000. There was no public comment.

D. TREASURER'S REPORT – Chairperson Bennington presented the Treasurer's Report with the following balances as of June 30, 2000:

General Fund Checking Account	\$ 253,321.37
Payroll Fund Checking Account	\$ 1,116.24
General Reserve Fund	\$ 548,620.13
Fire Fund Checking Account	\$ 41,460.92
Debt Service Fund Checking	\$ 156,451.64
State Highway Aid Checking	\$ 210,722.16
Escrow Fund Checking Account	\$ 254,590.98
Capital Projects Fund	\$ 136,307.13

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report dated June 30, 2000, subject to audit. There was no public comment.

E. WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY REPORT – Mr. Jim Groff, Operations Manager – Mr. Groff read the Authority Report for the month of June, 2000; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Renovations to the new H.T.W.S.A. office building are beginning to take shape. Plans have been submitted to L and I for approval with an expected report from L and I in approximately 2 weeks.

A meeting has been scheduled at the Quiet Acres Clubhouse at 7:30PM on July 26, 2000 with residents from Highland Park Road, Pheasant Hill Road, and Quiet Acres to discuss the current status of the wastewater treatment plant project. Chairperson Bennington mentioned that a petition against the proposed wastewater treatment plant project has been received from residents of Quiet Acres. Mr. Groff is aware of the petition, and stated that the Authority will be addressing the issues mentioned in that petition at the July 26th meeting. Supervisor Parks received a phone call from a resident expressing concern that the wastewater treatment plant will impact property values in that area. She suggested that the Authority provide statistics concerning impact on property values from wastewater treatment plants that have been constructed in other communities.

Chairperson Bennington suggested that a sign be erected at the entrance to the water tank advising that parking for the tennis courts is permitted in that area. Mr. Groff was in agreement.

F. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Mr. Thomas A. Buzby, Director of Public Works – Mr. Buzby read the Public Works Report for the period of June 4 through July 1, 2000; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Buzby commented that there has been a graffiti problem in the Township, and he has replaced several signs in the past three to four weeks.

The Public Works Department is in the process of beginning the stormsewer replacement project on Welcome House Road. There are approximately 14 trees that must be removed.

Supervisor Parks asked the status of the DEP Grant for the community mulch recycling project. Mr. Buzby advised that a meeting has been scheduled for July 19th, however he will be on vacation that week. Mr. Lippincott will be attending in his absence.

At 2:00PM, eight bids for the Proposal #2000-6 – ID-2 Wearing Course. Bid results are as follows:

Blooming Glen Contractors, Inc.
ID-2 Leveling Course \$30.80/Ton
ID-2 Wearing Course \$30.15/Ton
Total: \$227,748.50

Bracalente Construction, Inc.
ID-2 Leveling Course \$33.30/Ton
ID-2 Wearing Course \$33.30/Ton
Total: \$250,416.00

M & M Stone Company
ID-2 Leveling Course \$33.84/Ton
ID-2 Wearing Course \$35.82/Ton
Total: \$266,257.80

Macanga, Inc.
ID-2 Leveling Course \$36.75/Ton
ID-2 Wearing Course \$36.75/Ton
Total: \$276,418.50

P.K. Moyer and Sons, Inc.
ID-2 Leveling Course \$40.75/Ton
ID-2 Wearing Course \$36.75/Ton
Total: \$282,640.00

Reid Paving
ID-2 Leveling Course \$38.85/Ton
ID-2 Wearing Course \$38.85/Ton
Total: \$292,152.00

Trinity Paving Company
ID-2 Leveling Course \$38.50/Ton
ID-2 Wearing Course \$38.00/Ton
Total: \$292,254.00

Intercounty Paving Associates
ID-2 Leveling Course \$38.48/Ton
ID-2 Wearing Course \$38.48/Ton
Milling \$ 5.99/Ton
Total: \$295,359.60

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to award Bid #2000-6 for ID-2 Wearing Course to Blooming Glen Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$227,748.50. There was no public comment.

G. POLICE REPORT – Chief Kerry L. Trauger – Chief Trauger read the Police Report for the month of June, 2000; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Chief Trauger advised two speed surveys were conducted on Upper Stump Road and Skunk Hollow Road. He would like to request the adoption of an Ordinance to reduce the speed limit on Skunk Hollow Road to 35 M.P.H., and to reduce the speed limit on Upper Stump Road, from Callowhill Road to Rt. 152 to 30 M.P.H., in conjunction with the existing speed limit in New Britain Township.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to authorize the advertisement of an Ordinance to reduce the speed limit on both Upper Stump Road (to 30 m.p.h.) and Skunk Hollow Road (to 35 m.p.h.), as noted above. There was no public comment.

Ms. Cindy Dilworth-Kimmel of Edgewood Drive was in attendance to request a waiver of signage cost to post a "Watch Children" sign on that street and to request that the speed limit be reduced to 25 M.P.H. Chief Trauger explained that Edgewood Drive is considered an urban area, and the speed limit as posted is 35 m.p.h. To reduce the speed limit on that street, a speed study would have to be conducted, which would show the average speeds of vehicles traveling that roadway. Therefore, if the speed study would show an average speed of 32 M.P.H., the speed limit would remain at 35 m.p.h. Discussion took place. Chairperson Bennington explained that a "Watch Children" sign is

normally paid for by a resident making the request, and installed by the Township Public Works Department. The Township has not granted a waiver of signage cost in the past. Chief Trauger will make arrangements to conduct a speed survey on Edgewood Drive.

H. BUILDING REPORT – Mr. David W. Taylor, Building Inspector – Mr. Taylor read the Building Report for the month of June, 2000; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Taylor hopes to have a representative of the Bucks County Planning Commission provide a G.I.S. (Geographical Information System) demonstration for the Board of Supervisors at their next worksession meeting. A lengthy discussion took place.

Mr. Taylor received the new 2000 I.C.C. Code Books today, which is what the State will be adopting.

***8:02PM – Chairperson Bennington adjourned the regularly scheduled worksession meeting to enter into the advertised Public Hearing to consider the adoption of an Ordinance determining the advisability of imposing an additional Earned Income Tax at the rate of .25% with the assent of the electors, calling for an election for the purpose of obtaining that assent, and approving the content and form of notice of elections specifically for the purpose of Land Preservation pursuant to Act 153 of 1996, the Open Space Lands Act.**

Solicitor Grabowski explained that at a previous Supervisor's meeting, the Open Space Committee made a recommendation that the Supervisors consider the possibility of holding a Public Hearing to review an Ordinance that would provide for an additional Earned Income Tax of .25% for the Township to utilize the additional revenue to acquire open space. Based on that recommendation, the Supervisors authorized the preparation of an Ordinance, which was appropriately advertised in the Doylestown Intelligencer on Tuesday, June 27, 2000. A copy of the proposed Ordinance was made available at the Township office, the Intelligencer and also at the Bucks County Law Library. Solicitor Grabowski read the proposed Ordinance. If adopted this evening, a certified copy of the Ordinance and the proposed election question would be forwarded to the Bucks County Board of Elections for submission to the electors of Hilltown Township at the next general election occurring not less than the 13th Tuesday following the filing of the Ordinance at the Bucks County Board of Elections. The proposed question is as follows: "Do you favor the imposition of an additional Earned Income Tax at the rate of .25% by Hilltown Township to be used for financing the acquisition of open space; for the purpose of acquiring agricultural, conservation easements; for the purpose of acquiring property development rights; and for the purpose of acquiring recreation or historical lands?" Solicitor Grabowski explained the Township would use the additional funds to do one or more of the following:

- Finance the acquisition of open space: The Township would purchase undeveloped land or farmland from land owners in the Township and would restrict the land from development.
- Acquire agricultural or natural resource conservation easements: The Township would purchase agricultural or natural resource conservation easements or participate in state or county land preservation programs which acquire agricultural or natural resource easements. A conservation easement prevents a land owner from developing his/her land but allows the land owner to retain his/her land for farming or conservation purposes.
- Acquire property development rights: Under this option, a land owner would sell some or all of the development rights in a property to the Township, thereby reducing density for future development. The land owner would retain the property, but once the development rights are sold, the development of the property would be limited.
- Acquire recreation or historic lands: The Township would purchase land or interests in land for recreational activities or historical preservation purposes.

A vote of "YES" to the ballot question approves the imposition of an additional Earned Income Tax at the rate of .25% upon Township residents for the foregoing purposes.

Supervisor Parks recalls that the last time this type of referendum question was placed on the ballot, there was a concerted effort by some individuals to defeat the proposal due to a perception that there was no concrete plan in place to utilize these excess funds. Therefore, she suggested that language be added to the proposed Ordinance which states "WHEREAS, Hilltown Township has developed and maintained an Open Space Plan." Further, Supervisor Parks suggested that within the election question itself, a line should be added stating "...in concert with the Hilltown Township Open Space and Comprehensive Plan." She believes this additional language would very clearly articulate that the Township is making this proposition within the context of the Open Space Plan. Supervisor Bender asked if additions or revisions to the proposed Ordinance would substantially delay its filing with the Board of Elections. Solicitor Grabowski does not believe that Supervisor Parks' suggestions are considered a material change in the proposed question or in the Ordinance itself, rather it merely states the fact that an Open Space Plan exists. In the unlikely event that federal funds would become available, Supervisor Bender suggested that the word "federal" be inserted after the words "state or county" in Section 3.B.2. of the proposed Ordinance, which states "Acquire agricultural or natural resource conservation easements: The Township would purchase agricultural

or natural resource conservation easements or participate in state or county land preservation programs that acquire agricultural or natural resource easements. A conservation easement prevents a land owner from developing his/her land but allows the land owner to retain his/her land for farming or conservation purposes.”

Chairperson Bennington wished to emphasize that this is an Earned Income Tax, and will not affect retired or elderly residents on fixed incomes. He encouraged everyone to get the word out and man the polls from the time they open to the time they close, to make sure that the anti-votes are quieted this time. Supervisor Parks agreed, and noted that the facts must be explained, rather than the perception which is what seemed to defeat this referendum the last time around.

Public Comment:

1. Mrs. Jean Bolger of Rt. 152 suggested that volunteers from the Open Space Committee make themselves available at the polling places on Election Day so that they could provide first hand information to voters.

2. Mr. Chuck Kulesza, Diamond Street, is the Chairperson of the Open Space Committee and he intends to make himself available on Election Day. He is certain that the other six members of that committee will make themselves available as much as possible. Mr. Kulesza emphasized that the acquisition of open space is an investment in quality of life and in tax savings for the future. There are many studies to substantiate the fact that the cost of residential development is approximately \$1.16 for every dollar of taxes collected. Therefore, the Township ends up losing money on residential development. However, on open space and farmland, it cost approximately \$.06 for every dollar of taxes collected.

3. Mr. John Kachline of Mill Road supports this proposal, but asked how high the Earned Income Tax can go and who can tax under those requirements. For example, the Earned Income Tax at present is 1%, with half going to the Township and half going to the School District. Solicitor Grabowski commented there is a ceiling on the amount Earned Income Tax can go. He will review his copy of that Act to provide a definitive answer.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to **adopt Ordinance #2000-7, determining the advisability of imposing an additional Earned Income Tax at the rate of .25% within the Township with the assent of the electors, calling for an election for the purpose of obtaining that assent, and approving the content and form of notice of elections specifically for the purpose of land preservation, pursuant to Act 153 of 1996, the Open Space Lands Act; with the addition of a “Whereas” phrase that indicates that Hilltown Township**

has adopted an Open Space Plan, and to leave the language of the ballot question as originally proposed. There was no public comment.

***8:19PM – The Public Hearing was adjourned, and the regularly scheduled worksession meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors of July 10, 2000 was reconvened at 8:18PM.**

I. HILLTOWN FIRE COMPANY REPORT – Mr. Robert Grunmeier, Fire Chief – Mr. Grunmeier read the Hilltown Fire Company Report for the month of June, 2000; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

The Hilltown Fire Company will be submitting a grant application this week for the Volunteer Assistance Grant Program sponsored by the Fire Commissioner's office. Approximately \$15,000.00 is available for grant funding. Funding can be used for apparatus, equipment, mortgages, etc. Mr. Grunmeier noted that the Lt. Governor recently appointed Mr. Ed Mann to the position of Bucks County Fire Commissioner.

J. SILVERDALE FIRE COMPANY REPORT – Mr. Keith Seifert, Fire Chief – Mr. Seifert read the Silverdale Fire Company Report for the month of June, 2000; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

K. PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT – Mr. John Kachline, Chairperson – Mr. Kachline read the Planning Commission Report for the month of June, 2000. Four candidates for the vacancy on the Planning Commission were interviewed at their July worksession meeting. One additional candidate will be interviewed prior to the July 17, 2000 Planning Commission meeting.

At their last worksession meeting, the Planning Commission discussed possible Ordinance revisions, specifically to the Performance Subdivision section. They will be reviewing the Ordinance during the next several months and will make their recommendations to the Board of Supervisors at that time.

The Planning Commission supports consideration of the Township obtaining a G.I.S. program, which would be beneficial to the Planning Commission during their reviews.

Supervisor Bender suggested that the Planning Commission review the East Rockhill Township Agricultural Zoning District, in conjunction with drafting a similar Ordinance for Hilltown Township. Supervisor Bender noted the final result of East Rockhill Township's Ordinance was much more comprehensive than what has been reviewed by the Hilltown Planning Commission at present. Discussion took place about combining the East Rockhill Ordinance, Bedminster Ordinance, and Hilltown's proposed Agricultural Zoning Ordinance for possible adoption by Hilltown Township, since those other two

municipalities share borders with Hilltown.

L. PARK AND RECREATION REPORT – Mr. Nick Lupinacci, Chairperson – Mr. Lupinacci read the Park and Recreation Board Report for the month of June, 2000; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Lupinacci provided a status report of Pennridge Community Day held this past weekend, and Hilltown Township's participation by co-sponsoring a performance by the Washington Memorial Pipe Band, along with East Rockhill Township. Further, Theater Camp, managed by Encore Entertainment Group, is being held this week at the Blooming Glen Playground. Thirty-five campers are registered for participation. The children's performance will be held on Friday, July 14, 2000 at 6:00PM at the Scout Cabin, with refreshments immediately following.

The Heritage Building Group will be meeting with the Park and Recreation Board on Thursday, July 13, 2000 to discuss the proposed recreational facilities for the Orchard Hill Subdivision. The issues for discussion will include the three playfields and the paved parking area for the recreational facilities. To date, the developer has offered to provide a 66-space parking area, however the Park and Recreation Board does not feel that is sufficient. The Supervisors had suggested that 33 additional parking spaces be provided on the development side of Telegraph Road, and Mr. Lupinacci agreed with that suggestion.

Supervisor Bender asked if developers of large communities provide funds to purchase equipment for playfields, such as goals, benches, etc. Mr. Lupinacci supposes that the Township could make that request. Discussion took place.

M. OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REPORT – Mr. Chuck Kulesza, Chairperson – Mr. Kulesza read the Open Space Committee Report for the month of June, 2000. The Open Space Committee has scheduled a joint meeting with the New Britain Township Land Preservation Advisory Committee for Tuesday, December 12, 2000. The Open Space Committee feels it is very important to discuss connections with New Britain Township and the possibility of linkage of open space and trails. Mr. Kulesza spoke to Mr. Jim Jenkins, a member of the New Britain Township Planning Commission and Land Preservation Advisory Committee, concerning transfer development rights (TDR). New Britain Township has a pending Ordinance that permits transfer development rights. Rather than doing a residential-to-residential transfer, which is the traditional use of a transfer right, New Britain Township has decided to do a residential-to-industrial/commercial transfer.

At the joint Park and Recreation Board/Open Space Committee meeting, discussion took place concerning possible plans for the Forest Road open space area. Consideration is

being given to assigning this task to a local college as a possible internship program. Other discussion at that joint meeting included the Pleasant Meadows trail, the Public Works Facility on Rt. 113 near Diamond Street, and the Township's possible use of Green Meadows open space.

The Open Space Committee has been preparing data and information for the election to provide to the public. Mr. Kulesza thanked Mr. Lippincott and the Township staff for their assistance in gathering this information in such a timely manner.

Chairperson Bennington attended the last Comprehensive Plan Task Force meeting, and was concerned when he heard the representative from the Rt. 113 Corridor Group state that they work closely with the Mennonite Foundation and THP properties. That statement did not surprise Mr. Kulesza, however he believes that everyone has different interests - some are interested in investing in development while others are interested in preserving the heritage of the community.

N. ZONING REPORT – Mr. Greg Lippincott, Zoning Officer – Mr. Lippincott read the Zoning Report for the month of June, 2000; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

O. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS:

1. Mr. John Perritt – Silverdale Fire Company Equipment Request – Mr. Perritt explained that the Silverdale Fire Company has been conducting a plans and needs analysis for the last two years by their long-range truck and finance committees. Mr. Perritt presented an outline of the needs and benefits of purchasing a new truck, and is seeking the Township's consideration and assistance for financing of this truck. Mr. Perritt provided a brief history, stating that the Fire Company owned a 1965 Ford Special Service truck, which they experienced a great deal of difficulties with, because the body was rusting, it had insufficient generator capabilities, there was no on-board water, and had open man seating in the rear of the truck. An analysis was done on the type and percentage of calls responded to in the coverage area, and Mr. Perritt feels the addition of a rescue pumper designed for fire fighting and basic vehicle extrications would meet the long-term and immediate needs of the Hilltown community. Another item that really necessitates the purchase of a new truck, is the replacement of the 1980 Pierce. The life expectancy of this truck is 25 years, and it will be the fire company's last certification for that vehicle. Therefore, in the year 2005, which will be less than 4 years from the time they obtain the new truck, the fire company would not be able to use the 1980 Pierce as a certified engine anyway. Another vehicle currently owned by the Silverdale Fire Company is the 1992 KME Pumper, which is an engine pumper that has been performing double duty as both a light rescue vehicle and a pumper as well. This vehicle is fairly new and should provide approximately 17 more years of service. The fire company

compared the cost of a new truck versus the cost of purchasing a used pumper from another fire company. Some of the primary reasons the fire company could not get the trucks listed is due to pumping capacity, insufficient generator, storage capacity, and low bearing being the major concerns. Also, any of the used trucks the fire company would have considered purchasing either had very high mileage or did not have the appropriate life expectancy. The new vehicle would be custom made to satisfy many new safety requirements. The Silverdale Fire Company sought bids from three different manufacturers and selected the least expensive manufacturer, KME, based on specific standards. Mr. Perritt noted that all of the current rescue equipment on the KME would easily transfer to the new rescue pumper, without costly modifications. The fire company itself would make some additional equipment purchases from relief money in the next two years. Mr. Perritt advised the greatest benefit of purchasing this new pumper would obviously be designed to meet the community's needs at present. Hilltown Township is a growing community, with a majority of that growth taking place in the Silverdale Fire Company district, specifically along Rt. 113, Walnut Street, and Telegraph Road. The new truck will provide fire fighting and vehicle extrication capabilities, and will be personal computer-ready. As technology changes, this apparatus is prepared to utilize any personal computer technologies that develop. It would also support the thermal imaging camera that is currently used and a television screen hook-up with a remote transmitter can be installed for the fire chiefs use. Mr. Perritt commented the rescue pumper is designed relatively new to the fire service and is especially suited for suburban, rural fire departments that find it more cost effective and efficient to have fire apparatus performing multiple duties. Heavy truck rescue is really not needed in this particular area because they are very expensive and very specific as to the type of duties they can perform; and used only in special circumstances. Should a rescue truck with additional capabilities be required, Mr. Perritt advised the Silverdale Fire Company does have the Jaws of Life and other tools. Further, surrounding fire departments including Hilltown Fire Company and Perkasio Fire Company each own a heavy rescue truck. Purchasing simply a pumper itself would illustrate a lack of vision by the Silverdale Fire Company because of the type and number of vehicle rescues they respond to.

The cost of the proposed vehicle is \$276,205.00. Mr. Perritt commented it has been approximately 10 years since the Silverdale Fire Company received funding from Hilltown Township or Silverdale Borough to assist in purchasing fire apparatus. In fact, the fire company is still currently paying off a State loan from the 1992 KME, with approximately 7 years remaining on the loan. While the Silverdale Fire Company can afford to do a great deal of financing for the size company that they are, Mr. Perritt stated they can not afford to purchase this truck on their own. Mr. Perritt, on behalf of the Silverdale Fire Company, is requesting that the Supervisors consider contributing \$50,000.00 or whatever might be financially available, either in a lump sum amount in the spring of 2001, or that requested amount spread over a number of years if that is more feasible. The fire company intends to fund the balance with cash on hand, savings, loans,

contributions, and grants. The fire company expects delivery of this vehicle in March of 2001.

While Supervisor Parks appreciates the fire company's position, she wondered where that money would come from and how the Township can justify that donation to one fire company when the other six fire companies have the same obligations and concerns. Chairperson Bennington has had more than a few people over the years comment that they did not understand why they received a solicitation from the Silverdale Fire Company when the Township already has a three mill Fire Tax. Chairperson Bennington also understands that there are two large developments proposed within the Silverdale Fire Company coverage area. The Township can ask developers to make contributions to the fire companies, however there is no requirement for the developer to do so. Chairperson Bennington disagreed with a statement Mr. Perritt made earlier that Hilltown Township has not funded fire apparatus for Silverdale Fire Company in recent years, noting that the Township made a \$5,000.00 stipend, over and above the Fire Tax, for radios at the end of 1999 for both Silverdale and Hilltown Fire Companies. Mr. Perritt explained that he was speaking about trucks when he made that comment. Mr. Perritt also noted that at present, greater than 75% of Silverdale Fire Company's calls are in Hilltown Township, not Silverdale Borough. He did research the contributions by Silverdale Borough and determined that their Per Capita contributions have been approximately \$8.00 per capita, which is two to three times the amount that Hilltown Township has contributed. Given the amount of calls, the size of the coverage area, and the fact that Silverdale Fire Company has not asked the Township for a truck contribution in over eight years, Mr. Perritt personally feels that Hilltown Township residents deserve the best equipment, and the burden should not be placed entirely on the fire companies or the volunteers. The Supervisors agreed to review and consider Mr. Perritt's request during the budget process for 2001.

P. MANAGER'S REPORT – Mr. Greg Lippincott, Township Manager –

1. The Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy has recently received funding from the PA Department of Environmental Protection for its Creek Awareness Signs Program and its Municipal Resolution Program. The Conservancy will place an estimated 132 educational roadside creek identification signs in 33 municipalities of the Perkiomen, Swamp, and East Branch Perkiomen Creeks in collaboration with government officials. The Supervisors directed Mr. Lippincott to prepare a non-binding Resolution, however, this is still being reviewed by the staff for consideration at a future meeting.

2. On behalf of the Township, Mr. Lippincott thanked Supervisor Parks for her generous donation of a slide projector and screen for presentations and use at public meetings.

3. Dublin Borough contacted Hilltown Township about temporarily using our building inspection services. The Supervisors agreed to permit Dublin Borough to use our services for a short period of time, however if it continues, the Board needs to establish a fee for this service. Mr. Lippincott recommended a fee of \$50.00 per hour to cover the cost of salary, benefits, and expenses associated with this service.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to set the fee of \$50.00 per hour for subcontract use of Hilltown Township's building inspection services on a limited, time-available basis. There was no public comment.

4. A request has been received from the fifth grade class at Seylar Elementary School to waive rental fees of the Scout Cabin on Saturday, July 15, 2000 for a class picnic. The fifth grade coordinator, Mrs. Carole Miller, has agreed to provide a \$100.00 refundable security deposit.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to waive the rental fees of the Scout Cabin on Saturday, July 15, 2000 for the fifth grade class of Seylar Elementary School. There was no public comment.

5. The Perkasio Fire Company has returned their Fire Protection Agreement for execution by the Supervisors following this meeting.

6. Information has been received concerning classes to be held regarding the new land use reform legislation recently enacted by Governor Ridge. Mr. Lippincott will be attending one of the classes on August 31st. Copies have been forwarded to the Planning Commission. One of the classes is scheduled for the evening of September 26th at the Doylestown Township Building, in the event any of the Supervisors would like to attend.

7. The Comprehensive Plan Task Force will be sending the Comprehensive Survey on July 15, 2000. Responses are due back by August 1, 2000. Residents may also visit the Township website to complete the survey. Mr. Lippincott strongly encouraged residents to respond and state their opinions.

8. There are nine Escrow Releases for the Board's consideration, three of which are cash held by the Township:

Ahold(Giant Foods)	Voucher #10	\$	999.61
Bricks Villa Phase I & II	Voucher #10A	\$	356.07
Country Roads Phases II,III &IV	Voucher #8A	\$	635.64
Country Roads Phases II,III&IV	Voucher #9A	\$	177.02

Hilltown Hunt	Voucher #54	\$	197.50
Keystone Estates	Voucher #24	\$	157.76
Longleaf Estates Phase I	Voucher #43	\$	2,172.36
Orchard Glen	Voucher #60	\$	250.36
Quiet Acres	Voucher #34B	\$	110.88

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to approve the release of the nine Escrows as noted above. There was no public comment.

Q. CORRESPONDENCE – Mr. Greg Lippincott, Township Manager –

1. Correspondence has been received from Mrs. Nancy Harrington of 28 Ticc Lane expressing her displeasure with the appearance of the former C.D. Moyer site, now owned by Heritage Building Group. Mrs. Harrington has also copied the Board on correspondence sent to Heritage requesting that they clean up and maintain the C.D. Moyer property. Supervisor Bender agreed wholeheartedly with Mrs. Harrington's concerns and wondered what the Township can do about it. Chairperson Bennington suggested that the Building Inspector investigate the site for every violation and citation imaginable and contact the developer to rectify the situation. Mr. Lippincott will research the matter and inspect the site tomorrow.

2. Correspondence has been received from the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System, including a listing of surrounding Bucks County municipalities that have pension plans with PMRS and their specific benefit packages.

3. On behalf of the Hilltown Authority, Castle Valley Consultants has applied to Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection for a Part I Permit to discharge treated wastewater to an unnamed tributary of Mill Creek. A copy of this notification is enclosed in your packets for review.

4. Correspondence was received today from Del Val Soil Environmental Consultants advising that a 48-hour pump test is scheduled for a recently constructed test well at the Campbell Estate Tract beginning at 9:00AM on Tuesday, July 18, 2000. The monitoring well network was approved at the June 19, 2000 meeting of the Planning Commission.

Supervisor Parks lives in the vicinity of the Campbell Estate and is interested in participating, but has never been contacted to have her well tested. Mr. Lippincott will contact Del Val Soil Environmental Consultants to advise them of Supervisor Parks' interest.

R. MYLARS FOR SIGNATURE: None.

S. PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mrs. Jean Bolger of Rt. 152 asked the reporters present to extensively publicize the fact that the Comprehensive Plan Task Force Survey is being mailed to Township residents and urge them to respond. Mrs. Bolger feels this questionnaire is an opportunity for residents to tell the Supervisors what they want to see the Township look like ten years from now. The information gathered from this survey is very important to the Township for the revision process of the Comprehensive Plan.

Mrs. Bolger questioned the status of the Longleaf I Subdivision. Chairperson Bennington advised the developer has addressed the engineer's punch list and provided dates for completion of public improvements as previously requested by the Supervisors.

2. Mr. John Gerner of 105 South Fifth Street in Perkasio is a retired newspaperman and multi-office holder in Perkasio Borough. Mr. Gerner commented about the rents disclosed by Heritage Building Group for the proposed apartments in the Orchard Hill Subdivision, noting that many recent college graduates are earning \$50,000.00 to \$80,000.00 per year, so he is not surprised that there is a market for \$1,500.00 per month apartments. Mr. Gerner stated that Heritage Building Group is also proposing hundreds of dwellings in developments in East Rockhill Township and other surrounding communities, all of which will carry Perkasio Post Office addresses. He is concerned about the amount of dwellings proposed and the burden this will place not only on the Silverdale Fire Company, but also on the Perkasio Fire Company, Hilltown Fire Company, and Dublin Fire Company as well, all of which are volunteer departments. Further, the influx of development will impact police enforcement and municipal services. Discussion took place concerning Senate Bill 14, which speaks of shared land usage where neighboring communities can coordinate their land usage. Mr. Gerner has been an advocate of cooperation between municipalities for a number of years, and feels it is especially important at this time because of the massive development that is taking place. Mr. Gerner encouraged continued municipal cooperation between Hilltown Township and neighboring municipalities and boroughs.

T. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Supervisor Parks echoed Mrs. Bolger's request to the press to provide a reasonable, and appropriate amount of news coverage for Hilltown Township's Comprehensive Plan Questionnaire. She commended the Open Space Committee for their hard work and vision for recommending the open space referendum question, which she believes is very important to the future of Hilltown Township.

2. Supervisor Bender reviewed the Planning Commission minutes of June 19, 2000, where Mr. Fox commented that the Board of Supervisors contracts with outside agencies to review Ordinances such as the situation that took place in October of 1999, where the Planning Commission's wishes were overruled. Supervisor Bender believes there was either a typographical error or an error in Mr. Fox's statement, since that situation Mr. Fox is referring to took place in October of 1998.

3. Chairperson Bennington advised that some time ago, Newtown Township and Hellum Townships passed long-term moratoriums of 18 months. At the time, several individuals attempted to convince the Board of Supervisors to consider a longer moratorium. Chairperson Bennington is thankful that Hilltown Township did not extend their moratorium and referred to a recent Philadelphia Inquirer article that indicated that President Judge Joseph Battle from Delaware County has ordered a three member panel to determine the amount of compensation that may be due a developer in Newtown Township, who said that damages could total two million dollars, which would come out of the Township's general fund. Chairperson Bennington commented that many times it behooves the Board of Supervisors to make intelligent decisions and not rush to judgment based upon what other municipalities might do. Supervisor Parks agreed and noted that this Board of Supervisors makes the best decisions that they can based on the information they have and advice they receive from the Township's outside experts.

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

V. ADJOURNMENT - Upon motion by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously, the July 10, 2000 worksession meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was adjourned at 9:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda Seimes
Township Secretary

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