

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULARLY SCHEDULED WORKSESSION MEETING
Monday, June 12, 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 7:31PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

A. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

1. Mr. John Gerner thanked the Public Works Department for their assistance when his vehicle became stuck while he was taking photographs for the Township newsletter of the newly purchased open space on Forest Road.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Action on the minutes of the May 10, 2000 Supervisors/Fire Prevention Bureau Meeting – Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2000 Supervisors/Fire Prevention Bureau Meeting, as written. There was no public comment.

C. APPROVAL OF CURRENT BILLING – Chairperson Bennington presented the Bills List dated June 13, 2000, with General Fund payments in the amount of \$90,548.64, Fire Fund payments in the amount of \$42,600.00, State Highway Aid Fund payments in the amount of \$4,225.91, and Escrow Fund payments in the amount of \$610.00; for a grand total of all payments in the amount of \$137,984.55.

Supervisor Bender questioned the bills for pagers that are noted in three or four areas on the Bills List. Mr. Lippincott explained that the bills are broken up into different departments. For instance, the Police Department's pagers are charged to the Police Budget, and the Public Works pagers are charged to the Public Works Budget.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to approve the Bills List dated June 13, 2000. There was no public comment.

D. TREASURER'S REPORT – Chairperson Bennington presented the Treasurer's Report with the following balances as of May 31, 2000:

General Fund Checking	\$ 207,953.86
Payroll Fund Checking	\$ 1,331.42
General Reserve Fund	\$ 548,620.13
Fire Fund Checking	\$ 81,489.84
Debt Service Checking	\$ 151,309.61
State Highway Aid Checking	\$ 229,325.36
Escrow Fund Checking	\$ 214,846.66
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 May 31, 2000, subject to audit. There was no public comment.

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

Mr. Groff requested permission for the Authority offices to remain here at the Municipal Building until the Spring of 2001. At present, it is very difficult to schedule a contractor to renovate the interior of their new office building, located at 216 Highland Park Road. He will forward a timeline to Mr. Lippincott as soon as it becomes available. The Board was in agreement to allow the Authority offices to remain at the Municipal Building until the Spring of 2001.

The water storage tank driveway and parking area will be paved by Monday, June 19, 2000, at the latest.

With regard to the recent P.W.T.A. correspondence, Mr. Groff noted the Authority members will be discussing this issue at their meeting on Wednesday, June 14, 2000 and will deal with it accordingly.

A resident recently expressed concerns with water quality. In the future, Mr. Groff asked the public to phone him or e-mail him directly and he will respond immediately. With this particular incident, the Authority water operator was at the site within 20 minutes of the call and the line was flushed immediately. Mr. Groff intends to meet with the resident on Wednesday, June 14, 2000 to discuss the issue further. In Chairperson Bennington's opinion, the response from the water operator to the resident that the dwelling was 300 ft. down grade was not an acceptable answer. Mr. Groff was not present when this conversation took place and he does not know what transpired between the water

operator and the resident. The resident is located approximately 300 ft. from the water main and the Authority did flush the line expeditiously, with clear results. The Authority will increase flushing in that area to see if it will rectify the problem.

F. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Mr. Thomas A. Buzby, Director of Public Works – Mr. Buzby read the Public Works Report for the period of April 23 – June 3, 2000; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Supervisor Parks asked the status of the Federal grant application for yard waste recycling. Mr. Buzby finally received the packet of information from DEP and he will be meeting with representatives of DEP prior to making application, as per the grant requirements. If Hilltown Township is determined to be eligible for the grant, it would provide funds to purchase a chipper, leaf machine for leaf pick-up, and possibly a tub grinder to run the operation, with up to 90% of Federal funding. This yard waste-recycling program would provide residents with an additional long overdue public service.

The Supervisors had requested that the signage at the former Municipal Building be repainted. Mr. Buzby investigated having a sign stating "Former Hilltown High School and Hilltown Township Municipal Building" made, which should be complete within a week to ten days. Letterco, a business located in Hilltown Township, is donating this sign. Mr. Buzby asked if the sign should be mounted on the building or on a separate post in front of the building. Chairperson Bennington advised the residents present at the Memorial Day ceremony indicated they would like the sign on a post in front of the building.

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

Chairperson Bennington received a phone call from a resident wondering why there is a dog leash Ordinance, but not a cat leash Ordinance. Chief Trauger explained that the dog law is a State law, not a Township law. The State law with regard to dogs states that a dog must remain on its own property or must be on a leash. Cats are a free roaming, predatory animal, which is not covered under the State law. Chief Trauger feels it would be fruitless for the Supervisors to even address an Ordinance to control cats.

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

I. HILLTOWN FIRE COMPANY REPORT – No one was present at this time.

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

K. PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT – Mrs. Betty Snyder – Mrs. Snyder read the Planning Commission Report for the month of May, 2000; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Discussion took place regarding the proposal by the Planning Commission to revise the Bed and Breakfast provisions of the Zoning Ordinance. Supervisor Parks is concerned that the corrections the Planning Commission are recommending clearly eliminate the possibility of any bed and breakfast establishment in Hilltown Township, unless it is contained within the owner's primary dwelling, which she, personally, would not be in favor of. Supervisor Parks preference would be to see that the owner's primary dwelling and associated outbuildings be included in the Bed and Breakfast section of the Ordinance. It is common practice in many areas that Supervisor Parks has stayed, that the associated outbuildings, such as barns, carriage houses, etc., are used for bed and breakfast establishments. Supervisor Parks would definitely be opposed to limiting bed and breakfast uses only to an owner's dwelling, which would cause an undue hardship to the residents of Hilltown Township who may want to enhance the value of their property or amortize the expense of maintaining outbuildings, yet remain in keeping with the historical character of the community.

Mr. Jack Fox, a member of the Hilltown Planning Commission, commented that the original bed and breakfast provisions of the Zoning Ordinance were written in 1993 and was to be included in the 1994 Zoning Ordinance, however, it was left out of that Ordinance, along with many other standalone Ordinances. The current Zoning Ordinance adopted in 1995, brought together all the other Ordinances over the past 13 years. Mr. Fox commented Hilltown Township has had, since 1959, an Ordinance that states that accessory buildings should not contain living quarters. It is Mr. Fox's fear that if dwellings are permitted in accessory buildings, it will not be long until things such as chicken coops and even outhouses will be renovated as dwelling units. Mr. Fox firmly believes that bed and breakfasts should only be permitted in an owner's primary residence, due to the issues of parking, water and sewer. Mr. Fox reminded the Supervisors that the Zoning Ordinance does not permit people to reside in accessory building. In Mr. Fox's opinion, the whole idea of a bed and breakfast is to have them in old houses filled with antiques. Supervisor Parks noted that the revisions to the Ordinance recommended by the Planning Commission states "use and occupancy of an owner's primary dwelling for accommodating transient guests for rent." Further, the definition of "transient guests" is very clearly articulated to mean guests who stay less than seven days. Therefore, an apartment would be for longer-term use, and could not be confused with bed and breakfast units. Supervisor Parks believes transient use and the rural nature

of this Township could be very compatible with allowing suitable renovation of outbuildings for bed and breakfast use. Speaking as a representative of a number of barn owners in Hilltown Township, Supervisor Parks would far rather see a barn tastefully renovated in accordance with safety and health standards that are cleared for transient use, rather than see that barn fall into neglect and disrepair. Chairperson Bennington agreed, citing the Joseph Ambler Inn in Montgomeryville, which recently moved another historic building onto their property for bed and breakfast use. Supervisor Bender does not support the Planning Commission's proposed revision to restrict bed and breakfast use to the owner's primary dwelling. He believes that the Planning Commission and Supervisors need to start from scratch and draft an Ordinance that specifically focuses only on bed and breakfast units. A lengthy discussion took place.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to revisit and redraft an Ordinance specifically focusing on bed and breakfast establishments, as review time permits. There was no public comment.

The Agricultural Zoning District Plan has been forwarded to the Solicitor and Engineer for review.

L. PARK AND RECREATION REPORT – Mr. Nick Lupinacci, Chairperson – Mr. Lupinacci read the Park and Recreation Report for the month of May, 2000.

Mr. Lupinacci advised that the Park and Recreation meeting scheduled for June 8, 2000 was cancelled due to lack of quorum. Last week's agenda included discussion with the Heritage Building Group regarding the proposed park and recreation facilities for the Orchard Hill Subdivision. Although they were not able to meet, the Park and Recreation Board had made a recommendation in May, which was presented to the Planning Commission at that time. This recommendation was the same as that made by the Park and Recreation Board after discussions with the developer in November of 1999, which included three full size playing fields (soccer/football/lacrosse and/or others), and a paved parking lot at the location on Telegraph Road.

The May Park and Recreation Board meeting was held at the former Municipal Building in Blooming Glen, including representatives of the various groups and organizations who use that building. They requested that cleaning equipment be available for those groups to maintain the building on a regular basis.

Hilltown Township will be co-sponsoring the Washington Memorial Pipe Band, along with East Rockhill Township, at Pennridge Community Day to be held on July 9, 2000. Theater Camp will be held the week of July 10th through 14th at the Scout Cabin at the Blooming Glen Playground.

A joint meeting will be held with the Park and Recreation Board and the Open Space Committee tomorrow evening at 7:30PM.

Mr. Lupinacci advised that the open space field at the corner of Rt. 152 and Fairhill Road is now being used for active recreation as practice soccer fields. Chairperson Bennington asked if that particular field would be scheduled for use as the recreational fields as the Civic Park are. Mr. Lupinacci replied it is the Park and Recreation Board's intention that the open space will be incorporated into the Fee Schedule as it is for all other athletic fields in the Township.

Mr. Lupinacci advised that Mr. Apple, a Park and Recreation Board member, provided an overhead projection of the Forest Road property, including the soils of that site. Consideration is being given to the items most reflected in the responses from the 1996 Park and Recreation questionnaire for recreational development of the Forest Road property.

M. OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REPORT –Mr. Chuck Kulesza, Chairperson – Mr. Kulesza advised that the Open Space Committee developed an Open Space Plan, with the purpose of integrating the plan into the Township's Comprehensive Plan. As the Township is now proceeding with updating the Comprehensive Plan, the Open Space component has been added to the draft. The Open Space Committee would like to recognize this Board of Supervisors for their support and their appreciation of the importance of open space preservation as a crucial element of growth management and planning. The implementation of the Township's open space plan has already begun. Some farms in the Township have become part of the Bucks County Agricultural Land Preservation Program. The Township has participated in the County's Open Space Program and has utilized the Keystone Grant Funds from the State, with expected continued use of State and County funding as they become available. The Open Space Committee feels the time is right for the Township to establish a reliable and reasonable source of revenue. At a recent Civic Association meeting, Ms. Lynn Bush, director of the Bucks County Planning Commission, acknowledged the urgency in our Open Space Plan, by stating that Hilltown is currently in a critical position. Further, Ms. Bush stated that the Township's ability to preserve open space should not be underestimated. Her endorsement, in Mr. Kulesza's opinion, highlights the Township's need for proactive movement. The Open Space Committee, by unanimous consent, is recommending that the Board of Supervisors place an Open Space Referendum on this November's ballot, as provided by Act 153 of 1996. The Committee recommends an increase of one quarter of one percent of Earned Income Tax to be used to purchase open space and conservation easements and to retire development rights. The Open Space Committee feels this is a very important issue and would like to invite questions and/or comments from the public at this time.

Public Comment:

1. Mr. Jeff Marshall, an employee of Heritage Conservancy, was present to speak in favor of such a referendum on behalf of the Conservancy and the Rt. 113 Heritage Corridor Partnership. The Heritage Corridor Partnership has been established for approximately a year, and the Heritage Conservancy joined in December of last year. The Partnership was formed in order to help preserve some of the aspects of this region that we all feel are important, including farmland preservation, sustainable agriculture, natural resource conservation, preservation of historic places, recreation and tourism promotion, traditional neighborhood development, transit oriented development, town and village revitalization, and regional transportation and land use planning. Mr. Marshall comes from a background in historic preservation and recently taught a course at the community college on historic barns in Bucks County. He is currently working with the Bucks County Planning Commission to see if something can be done on a countywide basis to help preserve our most endangered historic resources. Mr. Marshall is mostly interested in preserving the sense of place where he grew up. He is a native of Bucks County and wants to live in a place where there are historic towns, successful and thriving farms, as well as protected natural heritage and beauty. This can only be accomplished through combining public, private, and non-profit interests into a common goal. Mr. Marshall feels the time is right to try to preserve communities. There are a number of studies that show the economic benefits of land conservation. Mr. Marshall presented documentation concerning the economic impacts of different land uses by Dr. Kelsey of Penn State, showing different formulas on how to determine the cost of infrastructure for every type of land use. Heritage Conservancy has also printed a booklet called "Opportunity Knocks -- Open Space as a Community Investment," which focuses on Bucks County.

In 1998, Mr. Marshall noted that voters approved 124 of 148 open space referendums, 84% across the United States. In 1999, 92 of 102 open space referendums were approved by voters. In Bucks County alone, between 1997 and 2000, 4 municipalities approved real estate or income taxes for open space; and between 1995 and 2000, 14 municipalities approved 18 open space Bond Issues, representing over \$74 million dollars. The fiscal analysis on a per land use type has been done in 1997 for Buckingham and Bedminster. For example, a residential development in Bedminster, for every dollar brought in, it cost the municipality \$1.12. In Buckingham, for every dollar that came in, it cost the municipality \$1.04. Comparing that to farmland and open space, in Bedminster for every dollar brought in it cost the municipality \$.04, and in Buckingham, for every dollar of taxes of brought in, it cost the municipality \$.06. Therefore, Mr. Marshall feels there is a valid economic reason for doing it and encouraged the Board to continue their efforts because the time to act is now.

Mr. Marshall quoted Margaret Mead "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." Mr. Marshall commented that leaders lead, and he believes that it is time for the Supervisors, as leaders of this Community, to take this important step.

2. Ms. Sandy Seifert of 15 Beverly Road agreed with Mr. Marshall's sentiments and supports the open space referendum.

3. Ms. Janice Stornler of 19 Beverly Road, representing the Friends of Hilltown, wholeheartedly endorsed this proposed open space referendum. The Friends of Hilltown have been working with some of the documents Mr. Marshall referred to in order to create an informational pamphlet to be sent to voters prior to the election.

4. Mrs. Jean Bolger of Rt. 152 recalled that the last open space referendum was defeated, probably because there was no plan in place at the time, and there was a concerted effort against it. Mrs. Bolger feels that there must be a major push to get the word out to "sell" the idea to registered voters of Hilltown Township.

5. Mr. Kulesza noted that there is a plan in place this time, and feels very hopeful that this referendum can pass.

Chairperson Bennington asked when the referendum question must be forwarded to Bucks County in order to place it on the ballot on November 4, 2000. Solicitor Grabowski replied that the deadline for submission of the referendum question to the Board of Elections is August 8, 2000. However, under Act 53, the procedure is a bit different from that followed under the other referendum option of four years ago. Solicitor Grabowski explained that Act 53 requires that an Ordinance be enacted, which must be done no later than the July 24, 2000 Supervisors meeting, in order to comply with the August 8th deadline. Conceivably, an Ordinance could be advertised for consideration at the July 10th worksession meeting. The Ordinance would effectively state the rate of tax necessary for consideration of the referendum vote.

Supervisor Parks wholeheartedly supports the open space referendum. She feels this is a good approach and believes that the open space plan is sound. Supervisor Parks knows that there have been many, many residents participating in the open space program and feels the support is there to pass the referendum at this time.

Supervisor Bender supports this proposal 100%. The Township has acquired a small amount of open space this year, however it is not nearly enough.

Chairperson Bennington commented that the last time the open space referendum was defeated, it was for two reasons -- because we did not have a plan in place, and because

we were raising taxes through real estate taxes that would affect everyone across the board, including the elderly. Unfortunately, the elderly are on fixed incomes and were already being bombarded with school taxes. In this instance, the Earned Income Tax, which affects the working people and not the elderly, will take the burden off the elderly. Chairperson Bennington feels it is very important to encourage residents to vote to support the Open Space Referendum.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to authorize the advertisement of an Ordinance leading to the Open Space Referendum question, calling for an Earned Income Tax position of .25%, which will in turn support the exact question on the ballot to propose an Open Space Referendum for Hilltown Township for the November election. There was no public comment.

The Board agreed that the Ordinance Public Hearing should be held at the July 10, 2000 Supervisor's Worksession meeting.

Chairperson Bennington encouraged every individual and group in the Township to support this referendum. Mr. Kulcsza suggested that a public meeting be held between now and the November election, dedicated to providing information concerning the proposed referendum.

N. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS –

1. Mr. Bob Lacovara – Philadelphia Gliderport – Mr. Lacovara, president of the Philadelphia Glider Council, advised that the Gliderport represents over 120 acres of open space in Hilltown Township and also provides for a historical presence being the oldest, continuously operating glider operation in the United States. With regard to recent public concern over flight activities in the area, Mr. Lacovara read a short statement, which follows: "The Philadelphia Glider Council regards safety issues with the utmost concern. We have examined the recent incident very closely. The Philadelphia Glider Council operates in strict accordance with standard aviation procedures. We have recently met with the Township Supervisors, the Township Manager, and the leadership of the Deep Run Recreation Center, to discuss our operating procedures and safety standards. In regard to our flight patterns, departure and arrival paths are determined by specific weather conditions, and established safety practices."

Supervisor Bender was the individual who contacted the F.A.A. following a recent incident to report his concerns. He recently read an article stating that there is concern because a glider symbol that had historically been indicated on flight maps has been omitted on the most recent printing of the map. Mr. Lacovara explained that there is a specific symbol on aeronautical charts denoting a glider operation. On the latest addition of the aeronautical charts, which are published by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration every six months, the glider symbol was deleted. Representatives of the Glider Council have contacted the F.A.A. to request that the symbol be returned to the charts. The presence of that symbol on the charts would be an alert for any power pilot who may not be familiar with this area. Supervisor Bender asked if the Willow Grove Naval Air Station is familiar with the Gliderport's activities. Mr. Lacovara advised that Willow Grove Naval Air Station is very familiar with the Gliderport, which is operated in very close mutual communication. The Gliderport's tow aircraft contain transponders so that they appear on Willow Grove's radar. The Gliderport is aware when Willow Grove is conducting flight operations.

Supervisor Bender suggested that the Township forward correspondence to Federal officials to encourage the return of the glider symbol to the aeronautical charts. Mr. Lacovara would appreciate any and all support the Township could provide.

Chairperson Bennington asked if the Gliderport's flight path is directly over the Deep Run Valley Sports Association. Mr. Lacovara replied that flight paths are determined by wind direction. The prevailing wind in this area is from the west, which means the gliders depart in the opposite direction from Deep Run. On occasion, the wind is out of the east, in which case the gliders do depart in that direction, though they do their best to avoid it. Flight patterns are predicated on specific environmental conditions.

Supervisor Bender has heard comments from residents that many of the Gliderport members do not reside in this area. Mr. Lacovara stated that some members do live out of the area, however there are many members who reside in Hilltown Township or surrounding communities. Mr. John Shade of Rickert Road, a neighboring property owner, asked what percentage of Gliderport members are Hilltown residents. Mr. Lacovara is not certain, however he will provide that information to Mr. Shade in the near future. Lately, Mr. Shade has observed more activity of tow planes flying without a glider. Mr. Lacovara replied that this activity is more prevalent in the spring, because the tow pilots need to maintain their certification through the winter, and therefore, there will be more flights without a glider earlier in the season. Mr. Shade asked what type of insurance the Gliderport has in place for property damage. Mr. Lacovara assured Mr. Shade that the Gliderport is rather heavily insured.

Mr. John Snyder of Mill Road, advised that a former Hilltown Township Police Officer was the director of the National Safety and Transportation Board, and suggested that it may be appropriate to contact this gentleman. Mr. Snyder will be happy to provide the name, address and phone number of this individual to Mr. Lippincott.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to authorize Mr. Lippincott to draft correspondence to the F.A.A. and other appropriate agencies and individuals, to assist in the priority of returning the glider

symbol to the aeronautical map, with a copy being forwarded to the Gliderport. There was no public comment.

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

1. Mr. Lippincott presented correspondence from Heritage Building Group, advising of the estimated dates of completion for outstanding items for Longleaf I Subdivision. Mr. David Watt of Heritage Building Group hopes that the applicant has successfully addressed all of the Supervisor's concerns with regard to completion of improvements for Longleaf I and II. Mr. Watt provided a current status report of the outstanding items for completion:

- Improvements along Diamond Street underway at present.
- Pedestrian bridge has been ordered. Specifications will be forthcoming. Installation scheduled for late August. Related sidewalk/grading work should be complete two weeks after bridge installation.
- Clearing work on Diamond Street associated with widening is complete.
- Excavation of storm pipe installation is underway.
- Relocation of fire hydrants should be complete prior to Independence Day weekend.
- Street and buffer trees have been ordered and scheduled for installation by November 15, 2000.
- Two acres of the playfield have been seeded and graded. The remainder of the fill should be moved as early as next week, after which time completion of grading/seeding of that area should facilitate installation of the tot lot.

The Supervisors agreed to sign the mylars for Longleaf Estates I Subdivision following this meeting.

2. Mr. Lippincott is requesting authorization to advertise in "The Township News" and other publications for Requests for Proposal for the position of Township Solicitor and Township Engineer. Supervisor Parks explained that the Board, on a fairly regular basis, is attempting to review all operations of the Township in general. For example, there are now position descriptions for the Township staff. The Supervisors feel that it is reasonable to review professional services contracts and put them out for competitive bid. This is, by no means, any indication of problems or difficulties with any of the incumbents, rather it is a normal administrative review to insure that the Township is receiving the best service for the best price at the most professional level of coverage.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to authorize advertisement of Proposal Announcement for the Township

Engineer and Township Solicitor in local newspapers and in "The Township News."
There was no public comment.

3. The Hilltown Board of Supervisors will be meeting with the New Britain Township Board of Supervisors on June 15, 2000 at 7:30PM at the New Britain Township Building. Mr. Lippincott will provide copies of the agenda to the Supervisors prior to the meeting.

4. The streetlight has been installed at the intersection of Hilltown Pike and Highpoint Road. As of this date, the executed agreement from the residents has not yet been returned.

5. With regard to the well contamination problem, the next meeting will be held on June 22, 2000 at 6:00PM at the Bedminster Township Building.

6. Mr. Lippincott requested authorization for the Township Solicitor to review proposed Resolutions permitting volunteer fire companies to seek reimbursement for hazardous abatement material, environmental incidents, and safety and rescue responses.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to authorize the Township Solicitor to review the proposed Resolutions as noted above. There was no public comment.

7. On Saturday, June 3, 2000, the Building Inspector and Mr. Lippincott attended the Bucks County Commissioner's Summit at Bucks County Community College. One topic of discussion was the GIS system, which is a computer program with a graphical database showing every parcel in our municipality. This program is useful for many reasons, such as showing neighboring properties within 500 feet, providing an accurate sign inventory, and all municipal information on a map. Bucks County hopes to implement a countywide GIS system, with municipalities contributing to the process. A formula for user fees has not yet been established. As Supervisor Parks understand it, GIS systems are multi-layered. For example, you could review a particular parcel to determine drainage pattern, density of the neighborhood, analysis of impacts, etc. The cost would increase with each "layer" that is purchased. Hilltown Township currently has a database containing a multitude of information about all tax parcel numbers, such as property owners, physical street address, mailing address, building permits, well permits, sign permits, etc., however it does not link to a map. Chairperson Bennington asked the cost of the GIS program from the County. Mr. Lippincott replied that the system will cost approximately \$8,000.00, which is the starting range. The benefit to such a program is that it will provide a graphical resource to compliment the existing database.

Chairperson Bennington would like to see a demonstration of such a program before making a commitment.

Another interesting topic at the Commissioner's Summit was the Bucks County Redevelopment Authority. As part of the County's goal to preserve as much open space as possible, the Commissioners and the Redevelopment Authority look to assist municipalities with land that is currently abandoned. An example of this would be the site of the former Sernoff Seafood building or the Boston Market property.

8. Mr. Wynn recommends releasing the balance of escrow funds to Randy and Jill Phillips for their IRSIS System, less any outstanding Township administrative, legal, or engineering costs, per Mr. Wynn's correspondence dated June 6, 2000.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to authorize the release of the balance of escrow funds to Randy and Jill Phillips for their IRSIS System, less any outstanding Township administrative, legal, or engineering costs. There was no public comment.

9. The Comprehensive Plan Task Force is recommending that a survey be sent to all property owners, with return postage paid. The cost for this will be \$200.00 for a special permit, plus \$0.55 per returned response. If 10% of the households respond, the cost will be \$431.00 for return postage only. The mailing and printing of the surveys will cost an additional \$1,000.00. Supervisor Parks is agreeable, however she would like to track the tabulations of results to post on the web page.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to authorize expenditure of funds as specified above, for mailing of the Comprehensive Plan Task Force survey. There was no public comment.

10. There are 19 escrows for the Board's consideration, five of which are cash held by the Township:

Adolph Jager Subdivision	Voucher #05	\$	66.50
Bricks Villa I & II	Voucher #8A	\$	197.50
Bricks Villa I & II	Voucher #9A	\$	423.48
Country Roads(All Phases)	Voucher #5A	\$	1,493.00
Giant Foods	Voucher #09	\$	710.52
Grasse Elementary School	Voucher #02	\$	212.50
Grasse Elementary School	Voucher #03	\$	186.32
Hilltown Hunt	Voucher #52	\$	412.00
Hilltown Hunt	Voucher #53	\$	267.48
Hilltown Plaza Outparcels	Voucher #01	\$	254.50

Keystone Estates	Voucher #23	\$	298.50
Kunkin Truck Terminal	Voucher #01	\$	120.72
Leonard Kunkin Assoc.	Voucher #09	\$	921.50
Longleaf Estates Phase I	Voucher #40	\$	1,244.75
Longleaf Estates Phase I	Voucher #41	\$	1,646.33
Lynrose Estates	Voucher #09	\$	346.36
Orchard Glen Subdivision	Voucher #58	\$	693.50
Orchard Glen Subdivision	Voucher #59	\$	830.90
Quiet Acres	Voucher #33B	\$	778.00

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to approve the release of the 19 escrows as noted above. There was no public comment.

11. Mr. Lippincott presented the May, 2000 Zoning Report, a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

12. Mr. Lippincott presented Mr. Guttenplan's Work Status Report as of June 8, 2000, concerning the Comprehensive Plan Update.

13. A Resolution designating Stormwater Management Fees is proposed for the Board's consideration. These fees are in conjunction with the Stormwater Management Ordinance adopted on May 22, 2000.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to **adopt Resolution #2000-14, the Stormwater Management Fees, in conjunction with the Stormwater Management Ordinance adopted on May 22, 2000.** There was no public comment.

P. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Correspondence has been received from P.W.T.A. with regard to Hilltown Township's financial obligation for the wastewater treatment plant upgrading and expansion.

2. Correspondence has been received from Bill Devlin, Emergency Management, who would like to meet with the Board to discuss issues of Emergency Management in more detail. The Supervisors directed Mr. Lippincott to contact Mr. Devlin to meet with them in Executive Session prior to the July 10, 2000 worksession meeting.

Q. SOLICITOR'S REPORT – Mr. Francis X. Grabowski, Township Solicitor –

1. Solicitor Grabowski presented the Longleaf II Subdivision/Land Development Agreements for the Board's consideration. The developer has established an Escrow with PNC Bank of Philadelphia, in the amount of \$1,933,739.03. The Agreement guarantees the construction of all required improvements as shown on the plans. In addition to the Financial Security Agreement/Subdivision Agreement, there are a multitude of easement agreements for access to the Township to utilize open space land for stormwater utility use, and vehicular driveway use over the Jager property.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to accept the Agreements of Heritage Building Group in the matter of Longleaf Estates Phase II. There was no public comment.

In addition, Solicitor Grabowski presented proposed Resolution #2000-15, accepting the position of Heritage Building Group to establish a street light assessment upon the present and future property owner's within the Longleaf Phase II Subdivision.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to **adopt Resolution #2000-15, accepting the position of Heritage Building Group to establish a street light assessment upon the present and future property owner's within the Longleaf Phase II Subdivision.** There was no public comment.

R. MYLARS FOR SIGNATURE:

1. Longleaf Estates II
2. Reckner Subdivision
3. Sanders Subdivision

S. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

T. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Supervisor Parks thanked all members of the Open Space Committee and interested members of the community who worked so hard for so long to put all the details together for the proposed Open Space Referendum.

2. Supervisor Bender referred to the meeting that is scheduled with the New Britain Township Board of Supervisors on Thursday, June 15, 2000. Hilltown Township has continued to work with other Pennridge communities north and west of the Township, and through the Pennridge Area Coordinating Committee, however now the Supervisors will be extending their discussions with our neighbors to the south.

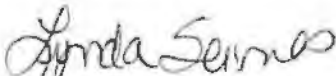
Hopefully, productive dialogue will take place to benefit both municipalities for the future.

3. Chairperson Bennington commented that PennDot finally responded to his request, via three conference calls, concerning the Walnut Street Bridge repair. He would have preferred that the bridge be replaced; however PennDot was not of that mind. Chairperson Bennington is thankful that the repair is finally complete, which now alleviates the additional detour traffic traveling through the Country Roads Subdivision.

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

V. ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to adjourn the June 12, 2000 Worksession meeting at 9:20PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda Seimes
Township Secretary

(*These minutes were transcribed from notes and tape recordings taken by Mr. Greg Lippincott, Township Manager).