

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AND FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU
Wednesday, May 10, 2000
7:30PM**

The advertised meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors and Fire Prevention Bureau of Wednesday, May 10, 2000 was held at the Dublin Fire Company and was called to order at 7:31PM.

Those present: Kenneth B. Bennington, Chairperson, Board of Supervisors
John S. Bender, Vice-Chairperson, Board of Supervisors
E. Diane Parks, Member, Board of Supervisors
Gregory J. Lippincott, Township Manager
David W. Taylor, Code Enforcement Officer
Timothy Metzler, Perkasio Fire Company
Larry Woodward, Hilltown Fire Company
David Worthington, Perkasio Fire Company
Gary Stump, Perkasio Fire Company
Jeff Gahman, Perkasio Fire Company
Bob Grunmeier, II, Hilltown Fire Company
John Perritt, Silverdale Fire Company
Keith Seifert, Silverdale Fire Company
Steven Coll, Souderton Fire Company
Jim Gallagher, Souderton Fire Company
Joseph Rausch, Telford Fire Company
John Hufnagle, Sellersville Fire Company
Scott Wambold, Sellersville Fire Company
Paul Meyers, Dublin Fire Company
Elmer Kriebel, Dublin Fire Company
Ronald Chernuka, Telford Fire Company

A. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None.

B. SUPERVISOR'S CONCERNS: A lengthy discussion took place concerning the following issues:

- Foreign Fire Tax
- Daytime fire coverage
- False Alarm calls
- Outreach Programs

C. FIRE CONTRACTS: The Supervisors and Fire Prevention Bureau agreed to the execution of two year Fire Protection Agreements. Agreements will be forwarded to the seven servicing fire departments within the next week for execution. Agreements should be returned to Hilltown Township for Supervisor's signatures, and should be finalized and in place by June of 2000.

D. STATE BUILDING CODE: Discussion took place concerning the Statewide Building Code and its ramifications on the Township and the fire companies.

E. FIRE DEPARTMENT'S CONCERNS: The following issues were presented by the Fire Department representatives and discussed at great length with the Board of Supervisors:

- Field fires
- Closest fire company dispatch
- NFPA color-coding for fire hydrants
- Establishing standards
- Joint training sessions
- Fire Company review of development plans in service districts
- Road widths/cul-de-sacs
- Preemption devices on traffic signals
- Funding
- Membership
- Long range plans for public safety
- Position of Fire Marshall for Hilltown Township
- Bylaws and Ordinances
- Knox Box
- Radios
- Door Hangers
- Township newsletter

F. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

G. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Supervisor Parks stressed the importance of communication between the seven fire companies who service Hilltown Township and promoted awareness of the critical issues as discussed this evening.

2. Supervisor Bender felt this evening's meeting was very educational, and encouraged fire companies to communicate among themselves and with Township officials. Supervisor Bender directed Mr. Lippincott to contact New Britain Township to obtain a copy of their Ordinance creating the position of Fire Marshall for review by the Board of Supervisors.

3. Chairperson Bennington discussed the Walnut Street bridge repairs that are taking place now, and its effect on the fire companies who travel that street for emergency purposes. Chairperson Bennington apologized for lack of Township response in the past concerning various issues of importance to the fire companies. Chairperson Bennington also encouraged open dialoguc between all departments. Chairperson Bennington directed Mr. Lippincott to add each of the seven fire companies to the newsletter distribution list for future mailings.

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

I. ADJOURNMENT: The next meeting of the Hilltown Township Fire Prevention Bureau will be held on Wednesday, June 14, 2000 at 7:30PM at the Perkasic Fire Company. The May 10, 2000 meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors and the Hilltown Township Fire Prevention Bureau was adjourned at 9:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda Seimes

Township Secretary

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