

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULARLY SCHEDULED WORKSESSION MEETING
Monday, March 13, 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 7:33PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also present were: John S. Bender, Vice-Chairperson
E. Diane Parks, Supervisors
Gregory J. Lippincott, Assistant Manager/Zoning Officer
Thomas A. Buzby, Director of Public Works
Kerry L. Trauger, Chief of Police
David W. Taylor, Building Inspector

A. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None.

Chairperson Bennington read the following prepared statement "The Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors is announcing that Bruce Horrocks was terminated effective today as Hilltown Township Manager."

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to terminate employment of the incumbent Township Manager, Bruce Horrocks, effective immediately. There was no public comment.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to appoint Greg Lippincott as Township Manager, effective immediately. There was no public comment.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to appoint Greg Lippincott as Assistant Treasurer and Assistant Building Inspector. There was no public comment.

Chairperson Bennington read the additional prepared statement, which follows "At the same time, we are appointing Gregory Lippincott as Hilltown Township's Manager, effective immediately. Greg has professionally and responsibly served Hilltown Township since March 17, 1997. He earned a Political Science degree from Temple University. His focus on proactive service and responsiveness has earned him respect from all of us who work with him. His energy and enthusiasm have greatly contributed to the Township's progress on the Year 2000 Census, the Open Space acquisition program, the Walking Trial Program, and many other projects. Please join us in welcoming Greg as he accepts this expanded responsibility in Hilltown. Please join us as we continue to give Greg and the rest of our superb Township Staff our full support in continually

improving our service to the entire Hilltown community. We thank each of them for their dedication and focus on the best interests of the Township.”

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to appoint Lorraine Leslie as Township Treasurer. There was no public comment.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to appoint David Taylor as Assistant Zoning Officer. There was no public comment.

Chairperson Bennington announced the Board met in Executive Session on the following dates: Saturday, March 4, 2000, when Supervisors Parks and Bender walked the proposed trail in the Pleasant Meadows development, on Sunday, March 12, 2000 to discuss personnel matters, and on Monday, March 13, 2000 to discuss personnel matters and to interview applicants for the Comprehensive Plan Task Force.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Action on the minutes of the February 28, 2000 Board of Supervisor's meeting – Chairperson Bennington pointed out that on page 8, third paragraph, the minutes refer to two Mr. Benders – Mr. Robert Bender of the Heritage Building Group, and Supervisor John Bender. Chairperson Bennington would like to make it clear that the first time Mr. Robert Bender and Supervisor John Bender are referred to in that section of the minutes, their full name should be used so that there is no confusion between Mr. Robert Bender of Heritage Building Group and Supervisor John Bender, from that point on.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2000 Supervisor's meeting, as corrected. There was no public comment.

C. APPROVAL OF CURRENT BILLING – Chairperson Bennington presented the Bills List dated March 14, 2000, with General Fund payments in the amount of \$42,919.43 and State Highway Aid Fund payments in the amount of \$12,855.78; for a grand total of all funds in the amount of \$55,775.21.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to approve the Bills List dated March 14, 2000. There was no public comment.

D. TREASURER'S REPORT – Chairperson Bennington presented the Treasurer's Report with the following balances as of February 29, 2000:

General Fund Checking	\$ 52,449.42
Payroll Fund Checking	\$ 1,316.89
General Reserve Fund	\$ 418,338.82
Fire Fund Checking	\$ 3,480.00
Debt Service Checking	\$ 11,566.89
State Highway Aid Checking	\$ 3,351.06
Escrow Fund Checking	\$ 200,675.76

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report dated February 29, 2000, subject to audit. There was no public comment.

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

Mr. Groff noted the Authority Board met with residents of Quiet Acres Mobile Home Park, who will be neighbors of the proposed treatment facility, which went very well. The Authority Board will be meeting with neighboring residents from Pheasant Hill Road and Highland Park Road on March 28, 2000. Mr. Groff invited the Board of Supervisors and Mr. Lippincott to attend that informational meeting.

F. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT - Mr. Thomas A. Buzby, Director of Public Works – Mr. Buzby read the Public Works Report for the period of January 30 through February 26, 2000; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Chairperson Bennington asked the status of the water problem on Hilltown Pike near the Miketta property. Mr. Buzby has not received any follow-up from PennDot since the day he and Mr. Wynn met with Carl Tosi. Chairperson Bennington directed Mr. Lippincott to contact Mr. Tosi in the morning to learn the status of this matter.

Chairperson Bennington is very upset about the poor condition of the Walnut Street bridge and the fact that the flashing warning lights were removed. It is his understanding that PennDot does not intend to replace the red flashing warning lights and they also intend to allow the one-lane "cattle shoot" to remain indefinitely, since the bridge is not on the three year repair schedule. Chairperson Bennington directed Mr. Buzby to contact Mr. Andy Warren of PennDot to advise of the Supervisor's dissatisfaction with the bridge and its anticipated repair date.

Correspondence was received from Mr. John Brennan of South Perkasio Road, complaining of the stormwater run-off from his neighbor's driveway. Mr. Buzby advised the run-off is causing an icing problem on a Township roadway, which was why the Public Works Department has been clearing the ditch in that area. He noted that the Public Works Department did not dig up Mr. Brennan's property, the work area was actually the Township's right-of-way. Mr. Buzby explained the center of Mr. Brennan's neighbor's driveway has washed out and that homeowner has done nothing to correct the situation. The Public Works Department conducted a temporary repair for the winter months by digging out the ditch so that the sheet flow would not cause an icing problem on South Perkasio Road. Mr. Buzby and Mr. Wynn intend to meet at the site in the near future to discuss the possibility of additional drainpipes.

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

Sgt. Miller conducted a speed study on Schoolhouse Road and recommends that the speed limit be reduced to 35 m.p.h.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to authorize advertisement of an Ordinance to reduce the speed limit of Schoolhouse Road. There was no public comment.

Correspondence from Ms. Gwendelyn Fisher, police secretary, has been received advising of her resignation effective April 7, 2000. Chief Trauger requested Board authorization to advertise for the position of secretary in the Police Department.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to authorize advertisement for a replacement secretary for the Police Department. There was no public comment.

Chief Trauger presented information that Supervisor Parks had previously requested concerning the driver's education course that the Pennridge School District has dropped from the curriculum.

A resident contacted Chairperson Bennington to request that a speed study be conducted on Diamond Street. Since Diamond Street is a State road, Chief Trauger advised PennDot must actually conduct the study. He believes the current speed limit of Diamond Street is 45 m.p.h. Discussion took place.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to apply to PennDot for an accelerated priority for a speed study on

Diamond Street, based upon the impact of the bypass construction traffic. There was no public comment.

Chief Trauger noted a young motorist was cited today on Green Street traveling at 81 m.p.h.

Chairperson Bennington also mentioned the possibility of erecting a four-way stop sign at Diamond Street and Rickert Road, due to the safety hazard because of the proximity of the school and the increased traffic from the bypass construction. Chief Trauger advised a request for a four-way stop sign must also be made to PennDot, however he advised that a four-way stop sign is not permissible on State highways and is not permissible to be used to control speed. Discussion took place. This matter will be brought to the attention of the Township Engineer.

On March 31, 2000 at 9:15AM, Chairperson Bennington noted Judge Gaffney will hear the appeal for the first violation written to the Cell Phone Ordinance. Chairperson Bennington asked if Judge Gaffney would allow public comment at that hearing. Chief Trauger advised that it is uncommon for public comment at a traffic hearing. Discussion took place as to whether Solicitor Grabowski could appear at the traffic hearing to defend the requirements of the Cell Phone Ordinance. Chairperson Bennington stated that recently there was a very serious accident in West Rockhill Township involving cell phone use while operating a motor vehicle.

Supervisor Parks requested that a comparative graph be provided each month for the top ten police service calls for the Board's review.

***8:00PM – PUBLIC HEARING – Chairman Bennington recessed the March 13, 2000 Worksession meeting in order to enter into an advertised Public Hearing to consider the adoption of an Ordinance reducing the speed limit on Upper Church Road to 35 m.p.h.**

Public Comment –

1. Mr. Mike Lapetina of 507 Schoolhouse Road is concerned with the speed limit on Schoolhouse Road. Chairperson Bennington explained that the Board of Supervisors authorized the advertisement of a Public Hearing to consider an Ordinance to reduce the speed limit on Schoolhouse Road just this evening.

2. On behalf of his neighbors on Upper Church Road, Mr. Nick Lupinacci thanked the Supervisors for considering this speed limit reduction.

3. Mrs. Jackie Walker of Bypass Road commented that if speed limit signs are erected, the speed limit must be enforced.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to **adopt Ordinance #2000-2, to reduce the speed limit on Upper Church Road at 35 m.p.h.** There was no public comment.

***Chairperson Bennington adjourned the Public Hearing and reconvened the March 13, 2000 Supervisor's Worksession meeting at 8:05PM.**

H. ZONING REPORT – Mr. Gregory J. Lippincott, Zoning Officer – Mr. Lippincott read the Zoning Report for the month of February, 2000; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Lippincott will present booklets containing information that has been compiled concerning open space and the proposed referendum at tomorrow evening's Open Space Committee meeting.

Chairperson Bennington asked the status of previous correspondence concerning possible site contamination at Aztec Industries. Mr. Lippincott spoke with Mr. Wynn, who advised that DEP is handling the matter. Mr. Lippincott will contact DEP to ascertain the status of the site.

Chairperson Bennington has received phone calls from residents questioning notification from Deep Run Valley Sports Association regarding erecting lights at their sports fields on Callowhill Road. Mr. John Kutzner of 53 Narothyn Road was in attendance representing Deep Run Valley Sports Association. The possibility of Deep Run obtaining funding for the installation of lights on the sports fields has been discussed for many years. An informational meeting will be held Tuesday, March 14, 2000 at Deep Run Valley Sports Association at 7:30PM for affected neighboring property owners. Chairperson Bennington advised that to erect lights on Deep Run's field, a Conditional Use hearing must be held, even though it is an allowable use. The Board of Supervisors would still have authority to impose specific restrictions on the actual use of the lights.

Mr. Larry Derby of 2524 Hilltown Pike stated that of approximately 14 neighbors, only two received copies of the notification from Deep Run. Mr. Derby is concerned about the possibility of lights on the sports fields, which could become a nuisance to the neighboring property owners.

Supervisor Parks encouraged residents to attend the Walkable Community Seminar at the Upper Bucks campus of Bucks County Community College in Perkasio on Saturday, March 18, 2000 at 8:30AM.

I. BUILDING REPORT – Mr. David W. Taylor, Building Inspector – Mr. Taylor read the Building Report for the month of February, 2000; a copy of which is on file at the Township office. Mr. Taylor noted that the building permit for the John M. Grasse Elementary School was issued today.

Chairperson Bennington thanked Mr. Taylor and Mr. Seifert of the Silverdale Fire Company for inspecting the Seylar School following a complaint at a previous Supervisor's meeting.

J. HILLTOWN FIRE COMPANY REPORT – Mr. Grunmeier was not present at this time.

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

Mr. Seifert referred to the earlier discussion concerning the Walnut Street bridge, and asked if the fire companies should be concerned about taking their apparatus over that bridge. Mr. Seifert noted that bridge is a main artery for assisting fire companies, such as Perkasio, Silverdale, and Sellersville Fire Companies. Chairperson Bennington urged the fire companies to contact PennDot with their concerns about the bridge as well.

L. PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT – Mr. John Kachline – Mr. Kachline read the Planning Commission Report for the month of February, 2000; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Discussion took place regarding correspondence received from residents of Tice Lane voicing their concerns about the proposed neighboring Orchard Hill Subdivision.

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

With regard to the proposed Orchard Hill Subdivision, Mr. Lupinacci advised that two members of the Park and Recreation Board would attend the next Planning Commission Worksession meeting for further discussion about the proposed recreational areas for that development.

Supervisor Bender suggested that a one-page summary sheet showing the specifications of the proposed Pleasant Meadows walking trail be prepared and available for public review.

Mr. Kutzner of Deep Run Valley Sports Association attended the last Park and Recreation Board meeting and presented a report concerning the Township-owned open space located at Fairhill Road and Rt. 152, following an inspection of the site with Mr. Horrocks and Mr. Wynn. It was determined that a practice area, possibly two fields, could be developed, without destroying the topography of the property. There would also be a stone driveway accessing the site from Fairhill Road and a parking area suitable for approximately 50 vehicles. Representatives of Deep Run and the Park and Recreation Board discussed the issue of user fees for the athletic fields as scheduled for the year 2000. The Park and Recreation Board felt that the current fee, which has been consistent since 1994, in the amount of \$30.00 to reserve a playing field, should continue. Apparently, approximately 60-70% of Deep Run's membership consists of Hilltown Township residents. When the park user fees were established in 1994, the Park and Recreation Board actually took surrounding areas into consideration. For instance, neighboring New Britain Township has a \$5.00 non-resident user fee (for ages 18 and under and ages 55 and over) that they assess to each non-resident to participate in activities on Township-owned athletic fields. Supervisor Bender feels it is imperative to prepare a comprehensive fee schedule to support any referendum that may be put forward for open space, though he understands that more time is required to prepare the fee schedule. Therefore, Supervisor Bender proposed that for the year 2000, all fees for Hilltown-based youth athletic field use be waived. The Township can then take advantage of the time to come up with a comprehensive fee schedule to address all aspects of park use, including maintenance and upkeep. Supervisors Bennington and Parks agreed. Mr. Lupinacci believes that all fees should be waived for all organizations in the year 2000, because it would be too difficult, administratively, to determine which organizations should have fees waived and which should not. Chairperson Bennington agreed and commented that once fees are set for the year 2001, each organization that uses Hilltown's athletic fields must be notified that those fees will be required when their park use application and schedule is submitted. Discussion took place. Mr. Buzby suggested that only the organizations that used the athletic fields in 1999 should have their user fees waived for the year 2000.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bender, seconded by Supervisor Parks, and carried unanimously to waive all fees for athletic field use for the year 2000 only for those organizations that used the athletic fields in 1999. There was no public comment.

Mr. Lupinacci is seeking direction from the Supervisors concerning a lighting policy for the proposed lights at the Hilltown Civic Park. Letters were sent to neighboring residents of the park, asking them to participate in last week's Park and Recreation Board meeting. Only two residents came and voiced their concerns. They were very pleased with the park as a whole, and their concerns were mainly about curfew and the direction the lights would be shining. The Park and Recreation Board explained that there would be a 9:30PM curfew, with the lights automatically shutting down at that time. Further, in

order to secure the lights for evening field use, the users would have to go through the application process, and the lights would be controlled through a token-based timer. Chairperson Bennington noted that the Park Use Ordinance would have to be revised to reflect a change of time, since the park is only open from dusk to dawn at present. Also, if a token were not purchased, the lights for the athletic fields would not go on. Chairperson Bennington clarified that purchase of the light tokens would not be waived for the year 2000, as the field use fees have.

With regard to the recently purchased open space property on Forrest Road, the Park and Recreation Board considered a joint venture with Temple/Ambler University and/or Del Val College for students to prepare park lay-out and landscaping design for the site as part of their semester projects.

The Hilltown Township Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 15, 2000 at 11:00AM at the Hilltown Civic Park. The Arbor Day Tree Planting will take place on April 29, 2000 at the Hilltown Civic Park. Four members of the Park and Recreation Board will participate in the Walkable Communities seminar scheduled for this Saturday.

N. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS:

1. Mrs. Jackie Walker – Bed and Breakfast Zoning – Mrs. Jackie Walker of Bypass Road presented information concerning barn preservation and the option of providing alternate uses for barns. Mrs. Walker would like to have an Ordinance passed proclaiming barns as historical structures. Mrs. Walker requested that the Supervisors appoint a Historical Commission for the purpose of protecting historical structures and educating Hilltown residents about these structures. Buckingham Township has such an Ordinance, and they have had all properties that are 50 years and older surveyed by the Conservancy in Doylestown. This survey was partially funded by the Pennsylvania Historical Commission. Such an Ordinance would help to stall demolition of historical barns and would give the municipality the opportunity to work with developers and homeowners to save or relocate these buildings. Mrs. Walker asked the Supervisors to consider appointing a Historical Commission, and requested that if they do, she would like to be appointed. Further, Mrs. Walker presented information concerning bed and breakfast establishments in Bucks County. Supervisor Bennington directed Mrs. Walker to appear before the Planning Commission to discuss the appointment of a Historical Commission and to discuss the Bed and Breakfast zoning.

2. Mr. Brooke Moyer – World War II Honor Roll Restoration – Mr. Brooke Moyer of 812 Minsi Trail was in attendance to present this proposal. A committee of former Blooming Glen Playground Association members has undertaken a project to restore, replace, and re-dedicate the original World War II Honor Roll located at the intersection of Rt. 113 and Blooming Glen Road. It is their goal to have the project

completed in time for a Memorial Day ceremony. This committee seeks permission to place the Honor Roll in front of the former Municipal Building in Blooming Glen. The committee is assuming the cost, but would appreciate it if any special fees could be waived for this project.

Motion was made by Supervisor, seconded by Supervisor, and carried unanimously to support the request of the former Blooming Glen Playground Association members to restore, replace, and re-dedicate the original World War II Honor Roll at a site in front of the former Hilltown Township Municipal Building in Blooming Glen. There was no public comment.

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

1. Upon recommendation by the Planning Commission, the Supervisors interviewed three candidates for the vacancy on the Hilltown Township Planning Commission.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to appoint Mr. Bill Bradley to fill the vacancy on the Hilltown Township Planning Commission, with his term to expire on December 31, 2003. There was no public comment.

2. Mr. Lippincott requested that the Board appoint three individuals to the Comprehensive Plan Task Force. Eight residents applied for these three positions and were interviewed by the Supervisors.

Motion was made by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to appoint the following representatives of the community at large to the Comprehensive Plan Task Force – Mr. Mark Fazio, Mr. Keith Miller, and Mrs. Regina Bolger. There was no public comment.

Supervisor Parks encouraged those residents who were not selected for either of these boards to continue to participate in the Township. Supervisor Bender noted that there is still a vacancy on the Board of Auditors.

3. Mr. Lippincott presented four escrow releases for the Board's consideration:

Giant Foods	Voucher #07	\$ 694.02
Hipple Subdivision	Voucher #11	\$ 84.88
Hipple Subdivision	Voucher #12	\$1,785.13
Longleaf Estates	Voucher #37	\$ 656.35

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

P. CORRESPONDENCE –

1. Correspondence has been received from the Pennridge School District, seeking a waiver of building permit fees for the addition to Grasse Elementary School. Discussion took place. The matter was tabled for further consideration.

2. Correspondence has been received from Mr. Adolph Jager concerning his proposal for an agricultural use of open space at the Longleaf II development. The matter was tabled for further consideration.

3. Correspondence has been received from the Bucks Mont Exchange Club advising that the month of April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month and the week of April 2nd through 8th is National Blue Ribbon Week. The Bucks Mont Exchange Club is requesting Hilltown Township's cooperation by officially proclaiming governmental support of this effort by adopting a Resolution or Proclamation at their next meeting.

Q. MYLARS FOR SIGNATURE: None.

R. PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mrs. Jackie Walker of Bypass Road wished to address the limitations in the current Zoning Ordinance with regard to bed and breakfast zoning. At present, the requirements limit bed and breakfast establishments to six rooms within the Rural Residential Zoning District. Mrs. Walker commented that these restrictions limit her from using the full potential of her building, and also limit others who might have very historical properties in villages or other zoning districts to develop their site into a bed and breakfast. For instance, if someone wanted to purchase the Hilltown Inn and turn it into a restaurant with rooms upstairs, under the present Zoning Ordinance, it would not be permitted. Mrs. Walker urged the Board to take a closer look at the existing Ordinance requirements and its impact on the residents. Discussion took place.

Supervisor Parks encouraged the Planning Commission, as they review possible revisions to the Zoning Ordinance, to very carefully consider what other communities have done to see if accommodations can be made to fit within the Ordinances that will be adopted by this Township.

2. Mr. John Kutzner of 53 Narothyn Road thanked the Board of Supervisors for waiving athletic field user fees for the year 2000. Mr. Kutzner apologized to the

Supervisors and neighboring property owners of Deep Run for the miscommunication with regard to the possible lighting of the athletic fields.

3. Mr. Larry Derby of 2524 Hilltown Pike commented that he and his neighbors did not come here this evening to be confrontational about the proposed lighting at the Deep Run athletic fields. Mr. Derby has personally been involved with Deep Run for many years, serving for 13 seasons as a coach, assistant coach, or umpire. Mr. Derby and his neighbors intend to be present at the informational meeting of Deep Run tomorrow evening to voice their concerns.

4. Mr. John Perritt of Goldenrod Court was not notified of the walk-through of the proposed Pleasant Meadows walking trail which took place on a Saturday morning at 7:00AM. Mr. Perritt was disappointed that the walk-through was held so early on a weekend morning, when many people have other personal plans. Supervisor Bender apologized and explained that the only time he and Supervisor Parks were available to walk the proposed trail was that Saturday morning, and it was rather last minute scheduling. The Supervisors intend to walk this proposed trail at another time, and will be sure to notify the residents of Pleasant Meadows in sufficient time.

5. Mr. John Snyder of 2018 Mill Road was not present at the Park and Recreation Board meeting when the proposed lights at the Civic Park was discussed. Mr. Snyder hopes that the Supervisors will consider lighting for the entrance to the park as well as athletic field lighting. He feels it is a dangerous situation to enter and exit the park site after dark.

6. With regard to Mr. Jager's request to utilize Township open space as agricultural use, Mr. Harry Mason of 902 Morgan Lane noted that the Solicitor of Plumstead, while making a presentation at a Friends of Hilltown meeting, stressed that open space was not something the courts accepted very well. The courts were willing, however, to accept an argument based on agricultural use for open space. Further, at a previous meeting, Mr. Jager stated that he sold his land to a developer, and now he wants to lease that open space for grazing of his animals. By leasing that land from the Township, Mr. Jager would qualify for a tax deduction for a business, and therefore, Mr. Mason feels that Mr. Jager wants the best of both worlds.

Mr. Mason noted that Mrs. Walker was a Confirmed Appointment on the agenda, yet she was only afforded 2 ½ minutes to speak. Public Comment rules are listed on the reverse side of the agenda, however there is no time stipulation for Confirmed Appointments. Mr. Mason feels that restricting Mrs. Walker to 2 ½ minutes as a Confirmed Appointment was a bit out of line. The Supervisors agreed and apologized for the oversight.

S. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Supervisor Parks thanked all those individuals who volunteered and were interviewed for the various committee vacancies. Supervisor Parks also reminded those in attendance that the Betty Kelly Memorial Tree Planting will be held on April 22, 2000 and the Arbor Day Tree Planting will be held on April 29, 2000. Further, she implored residents to fully complete their Census 2000 forms to insure that Hilltown Township is counted properly.

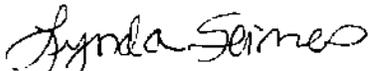
2. Supervisor Bender thanked all candidates for the Planning Commission and Comprehensive Plan Task Force vacancies, and encouraged Township residents to stay involved.

3. Supervisor Bennington noted that there was an article in the Philadelphia Inquirer on March 4, 2000 with a headline stating that there would be tougher rules on wetlands in the future. The Clinton administration, in conjunction with the Army Corp. of Engineers, is attempting to push through very, very quickly, more regulations that have been debated internally for four years to cut losses of sensitive lands. The proposal is to expand the wetlands, making each submission its own, without allowing them to be joined at the same time from the same developer. These regulations are to go into effect in June, and Supervisor Bennington hopes that this will allow the Township to expand wetlands preservation. If that is the case, when developers appear before the Township, there will be another weapon to save open space.

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

U. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Supervisor Parks, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously, the March 13, 2000 Hilltown Township Board of Supervisor's Worksession meeting was adjourned at 9:37PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda Seimes
Township Secretary

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