

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULARLY SCHEDULED WORKSESSION MEETING
Monday, September 14, 1998
7:30PM**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman William H. Bennett, Jr. at 7:35PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also present were: Kenneth B. Bennington, Vice-Chairman
Charles D. Grasse, Supervisor
Bruce G. Horrocks, Township Manager
Gregory J. Lippincott, Assistant Manager/Zoning Officer
Thomas A. Buzby, Director of Public Works
George C. Egly, Jr., Chief of Police

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Action on the minutes of the August 24, 1998 Board of Supervisor's meeting – Motion was made by Supervisor Grasse, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 24, 1998, as written.

B. APPROVAL OF CURRENT BILLING – Chairman Bennett presented the Bills List dated September 15, 1998, with General Fund payments in the amount of \$38,376.89, State Highway Aid payments in the amount of \$6,033.90, and Escrow Fund payments in the amount of \$69.16; for a grand total of all funds in the amount of \$44,479.95.

Motion was made by Supervisor Grasse, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to approve the Bills List dated September 15, 1998.

C. TREASURER'S REPORT - Mr. Horrocks read the Treasurer's Report with the following balances as of August 31, 1998:

General Fund Cbecking	\$ 195,517.84
Payroll Fund Checking	\$ 139.34
General Reserve Fund	\$ 455,197.70
Fire Fund Checking	\$ 50,988.73
Debt Service Checking	\$ 205,005.41
State Highway Aid Checking	\$ 226,502.69
Escrow Fund Checking	\$ 307,047.65
Capital Projects – Series 1989	\$ 25,892.97
Capital Projects – Series 1994	\$ 99,012.77

Motion was made by Supervisor Grasse, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report dated August 31, 1998.

D. WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY REPORT – Mr. Jim Groff – Mr. Groff read the Hilltown Authority Report for the month of August, 1998. The Authority began filling the water tank at approximately 9:00PM last evening and the wells are running properly. Approximately 40,000 gallons were pumped in last night with 50 gallons of chlorine added this morning. The entire filling process should take ten days. Mr. Groff's only concern is the speed at which the pumps are installed at the booster station. If wiring stays on schedule, the tank should be filled one day after they are completed. At present, all wells are approximately 3 to 4 feet above normal. Supervisor Bennington asked if the Authority is monitoring any private individual wells. Mr. Groff replied some wells are being individually monitored once per month, however there is a good indication that when the Authority wells are 4 feet above normal, other wells are up by the same amount.

Supervisor Bennington asked the status of the treatment plant. Mr. Groff explained the Authority Board has discussed the sites listed in the feasibility study and a piece of property will be appraised. A meeting with DEP has been scheduled for September 17, 1998 at 1:00PM to discuss the feasibility study and the current situation with PWTA. Supervisor Bennington advised that public meetings would be held to discuss the proposed treatment plant prior to approval.

E. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Mr. Thomas Buzby – Mr. Buzby read the Public Works Report for the period of August 2, 1998 through August 19, 1998; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Supervisor Bennington felt the Public Works Department did fantastic work on the Rickert Road paving job.

F. POLICE REPORT – Chief George C. Egly, Jr. – Chief Egly read the Police Report for the month of August, 1998; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

G. ZONING REPORT- Mr. Gregory J. Lippincott, Zoning Officer – Mr. Lippincott read the Zoning Report for the month of August, 1998; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Lippincott noted the Census Bureau is seeking employees for part-time and full-time positions in the Upper Bucks County area. The Census Bureau can be contacted (toll free) at 1-888-325-7733.

H. HILLTOWN FIRE COMPANY REPORT: No one was present at this time.

I. SILVERDALE FIRE COMPANY REPORT – Mr. John Gillespie – Mr. Gillespie read the Silverdale Fire Company Report for the month of August, 1998; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Gillespie requested the use of the Township Building for a fire protection program coordinated with the Hilltown Fire Company in the near future. The Supervisors were agreeable.

Mr. Gillespie advised thermal imaging training with ISI will be available the beginning of October and members of the police department are encouraged to attend.

J. PARK AND RECREATION REPORT – Mr. Nick Lupinacci - Mr. Lupinacci read the Park and Recreation Report for the month of August, 1998. Discussion took place concerning the recent Park and Recreation Board meeting held with residents of Pleasant Meadows concerning the open space area and the proposed walking trail.

Mr. Nick Balbi will be speaking at the October 8, 1998 Park and Recreation Board meeting regarding Penridge Community Day and Hilltown's participation in that event.

K. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS: None.

L. MANAGER'S REPORT – Mr. Bruce G. Horrocks, Township Manager -

1. Three bids were received for the traffic signal proposed at Callowhill Road and Hilltown Pike. Bid results are as follows:

L. Rice Electrical	\$29,685.00
Lenni Electrical	\$36,178.00
Armour and Sons Electrical	\$37,350.00

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Grasse, and carried unanimously to award Bid #98-6 for the traffic signal at Callowhill Road and Hilltown Pike to L. Rice Electrical in the amount of \$29,685.00.

2. Mr. Horrocks presented six Authorization Vouchers, two of which are cash held by the Township, for the Board's consideration:

Bricks Villa Phase II	Voucher #27	\$ 916.56
Country Roads Phase II	Voucher #42	\$ 258.61
Longleaf Estates Phase I	Voucher #15	\$ 3,670.79
Orchard Glen Subdivision	Voucher #38	\$ 1,042.38
Quiet Acres	Voucher #19B	\$ 228.70
Quiet Acres	Voucher #20B	\$13,000.00

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Grasse, and carried unanimously to approve the release of the six Authorization Vouchers as noted above.

3. Mr. Horrocks requested Board's approval for the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Plans of both the Uniform and Non-Uniform employees, identifying 1999's MMO, which is the minimum municipal obligation for the plans. In 1999, the MMO for the Non-Uniform pension plan will be \$34,777.00 and the MMO for the Uniform pension plan will be \$112,514.00.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Grasse, and carried unanimously to approve the 1999 MMO's for the Non-Uniform and Uniform pension plans of the Township.

4. The Township received a request from the Pennridge Full Gospel Tabernacle requesting that rental fees be waived for the use of the Scout Cabin on Saturday, September 19, 1998. The applicant will supply the security deposit.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Grasse, and carried unanimously to waive Scout Cabin rental fees for the Pennridge Full Gospel Tabernacle Church on Saturday, September 19, 1998.

5. Mr. Horrocks advised the Safety Committee, comprised of Hilltown Township employees and a representative of the Hilltown Fire Company, will be meeting on a monthly basis to discuss worker's compensation and other safety issues. If these meetings are held monthly for six months, next year's insurance policy can be issued a 5% discount for a five-year period.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Grasse, and carried unanimously to authorize the approval of the Safety Policy Statement as presented by Mr. Horrocks.

M. CORRESPONDENCE: None.

N. MYLARS FOR SIGNATURE:

1. Culp Lot Line Adjustment – Re-date

O. PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Ms. Mary Muse, owner of Frederick's Flowers, was in attendance to discuss the emergency medical service for the Souderton area of Hilltown Township. Chief Egly explained the Bucks County Emergency Services Department of Bucks County recently changed the coverage areas for ambulance services.

Souderton ambulance will not travel into Hilltown Township any longer. Medic 151 (Grandview Hospital) has now been assigned to service that area. This decision was made by Bucks County Emergency Services Department, however Chief Egly advised the Board of Supervisors can overrule that decision. Mrs. Muse, who is also a Registered Nurse, noted that the time factor involved for a response from the Souderton Ambulance is approximately 2 to 3 minutes. Response time for the Grandview Hospital Ambulance is 8 to 10 minutes. Mrs. Muse is most concerned about the difference of response time of each ambulance service, and how it will affect the residents and businesses located along the Bethlehem Pike/Rt. 113 strip of the Township. Discussion took place. The Supervisors knew nothing about this change. Mr. Horrocks suggested the Supervisors receive some sort of documentation from the Bucks County Emergency Services Department prior to making a decision and the Board was agreeable.

2. Mrs. Beth Parsons of 189 Reliance Place was also very concerned about the ambulance services. Mrs. Parsons home is 4/10ths of a mile from Souderton Ambulance station, whereas the distance to Grandview Hospital is 4.2 miles. Mrs. Parsons explained this change began in 1995 when the Souderton Community Ambulance decided to go ALS (Advanced Life Support) as opposed to basic life support, with Medic 151 assisting them. Mrs. Parsons believes Souderton Ambulance lost 60% of their call volume due to the conversion to ALS. There is also a State law that the county dispatch must send the closest available ambulance, and therefore, Mrs. Parsons advised Bucks County is blatantly in violation. Mrs. Parsons feels this change jeopardizes the health, safety, and welfare of Hilltown Township residents who live in the Souderton area.

3. Mr. Joe Miketta, Jr. mentioned a culvert that had been opened by the Public Works Department on Chalfont Road during the past week. Mr. Miketta is concerned about the potential for stormwater run-off and erosion on his property due to this culvert opening. Mr. Buzby advised the culvert was in existence for over 20 years; and it had simply been opened so that water could flow properly, as it always had prior to the blockage. Mr. Miketta has been trying to control the erosion on his property by working with Bucks County and the Federal government in an attempt to direct run-off from Hilltown Pike. Mr. Buzby is meeting with Ms. Lisa Ishamiro of the Bucks County Soil Conservation District to discuss the situation and invited Mr. Miketta to attend. Mr. Miketta suggested the Public Works Department clean the ditches on both sides of Chalfont Road in order to direct the run-off down Chalfont Road. Mr. Buzby replied that decision must be made by the Bucks County Conservation District. Mr. Miketta presented correspondence to the Board concerning this matter.

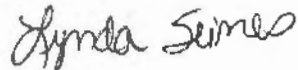
P. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Supervisor Grasse noted the Board can not be aware of every problem that exists in the Township unless residents bring it to their attention. Supervisor Grasse thanked Mrs. Muse for making the Board aware of the ambulance situation in her area.

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

R. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Grasse, and carried unanimously, the September 14, 1998 Board of Supervisor's Worksession meeting was adjourned at 8:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda Seimes
Township Secretary

(*These minutes were transcribed from notes and tape recordings taken by Mr. Bruce G. Horrocks, Township Manager).