

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULARLY SCHEDULED WORKSESSION MEETING**

Monday, April 13, 1998

7:30PM

The regularly scheduled Worksession 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
George C. Egly, Chief of Police
Thomas A. Buzby, Director of Public Works
Gregory J. Lippincott, Zoning Officer/Assistant Manager

Chairman Bennett announced the Supervisors met in Executive Session prior to this meeting in order to discuss legal and personnel matters.

A. TREASURER'S REPORT - Mr. Horrocks presented the Treasurer's Report with the following balances as of March 31, 1998:

General Fund Checking Account	\$ 116,647.82
Payroll Fund Checking Account	\$ 114.17
General Reserve Fund	\$ 150,680.57
Fire Fund Checking Account	\$ 5,418.89
Debt Service Checking Account	\$ 121,639.52
State Highway Aid Checking Account	\$ 2,763.89
Escrow Fund Checking Account	\$ 245,621.12
Capital Projects - Series 1989	\$ 25,316.04
Capital Projects - Series 1994	\$ 96,809.32

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

B. APPROVAL OF CURRENT BILLING: Chairman Bennett presented the Bills List dated April 14, 1997, with General Fund payments in the amount of \$39,343.55, Fire Fund payments in the amount of \$17,299.00, and State Highway Aid payments in the amount of \$3,235.56; for a grand total of all payments in the amount of \$59,878.11.

Motion was made by Supervisor Grasse, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to approve the Bills List dated April 14, 1998.

C. HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY REPORT - Mr. Groff was not present at this time. A copy of the Hilltown Authority Report for the month of March, 1998 is on file at the Township office.

D. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT - Mr. Thomas A. Buzby, Director of Public Works - Mr. Buzby read the Public Works Report for the period of March 1 through March 28, 1998, a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Grasse, and carried unanimously to authorize the attendance of Mr. Steve Britsch, Mr. Mike Moyer, and Mr. Thomas Buzby at the State Convention in Hershey, Penna. on Monday, April 20, 1998 to visit the equipment exhibits.

E. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT - Chief George C. Egly, Jr. - Chief Egly read the Police Report for the month of March, 1998 which is on file at the Township office.

Chief Egly advised there have been 13 D.U.I. arrests to date and 22 vehicles have been impounded from drivers with suspended licenses. Last year's D.U.I. arrests totaled 156, as compared to Pennridge Regional who had a D.U.I. arrest record of 57 for 1997.

Chief Egly noted a member of the Hilltown Fire Police's training has lapsed. Previously, Chief Egly suspended seven members of the Fire Police from duty for this very reason.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Grasse, and carried unanimously to suspend Ms. Jadelle E. Vile Devlin from the Hilltown Fire Police effective immediately.

F. ZONING REPORT - Mr. Gregory J. Lippincott - Zoning Officer - Mr. Lippincott read the Zoning Report for the month of March, 1998 which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Lippincott presented recent figures concerning the Tenant Identification Ordinance. Mr. Lippincott found it interesting that ½ a person less is being reported this year than was reported in 1990 per rental unit. The Township suspects there are 88 more rental units that have not been reported this year. Even if every renter is reported, there will still be less people living in rental units in the year 2000 than there were in 1990. Discussion took place.

Mr. Lippincott presented a proposed agreement between Hilltown Township and Mr. Clifford Downs of 519 Welcome House Road. Mr. Lippincott explained that Mr. Downs was issued a notice of violation in late December, 1997. Mr. Downs submitted an

application for construction of a pole building in order to store the uninspected vehicles on his property. The agreement before the Board this evening is to allow Mr. Downs to construct a residential pole building and place vehicles inside it by June 30, 1998. If Mr. Downs does not comply by that date, he will be fined \$500.00 per day.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Grasse, and carried unanimously to maintain the outstanding violation against Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Downs until they comply fully with Township regulations by June 30, 1998; and to authorize the execution of said agreement as noted above.

G. HILLTOWN FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT - The Hilltown Fire Company Report for the month of March, 1998 was read and a copy is on file at the Township office.

H. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT - No one was present at this time.

I. SILVERDALE FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT - Mr. John Gillespie - Mr. Gillespie read the Silverdale Fire Company Report for the month of March, 1998 which is on file at the Township office.

J. PARK AND RECREATION REPORT - Ms. Jane James and Mr. Bob Wendig - Ms. James read the Park and Recreation Board Report for the month of March, 1998 which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Wendig advised the Park and Recreation Board recommended approval of the Open Space Plan, and also recommended approval of the agreement with Deep Run Sports Association for recreational use of Township owned land across Rt. 152 from the Municipal Building. Discussion took place. The Supervisors unanimously agreed to table the approval of the agreement with Deep Run Valley Sports Association pending review by the Township Solicitor and the Township Engineer.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Grasse, and carried unanimously to approve Park and Recreation Recommendation #98-3, permitting the Pennridge YMCA to organize and manage a beach volleyball league at the Civic Park, at no expense to Hilltown Township.

K. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS:

1. Ms. Julie Stevens and Mr. Larry Gruver, Niessen, Dunlap and Pritchard - Audit Report - Mr. Gruver advised the 1997 audit went very smoothly and there is no letter of recommendation since all reports were filed timely with the State and other

agencies. Mr. Gruver introduced Ms. Julie Stevens, supervising senior accountant for Niessen, Dunlap, and Pritchard, who presented the 1997 Hilltown Township Audit Report, a copy of which is on file at the Municipal building.

Supervisor Grasse was very pleased with the audit report, and thanked Mr. Horrocks and his fellow Supervisors for their fiscal responsibility. Supervisor Bennington commended Mrs. Leslie and Mr. Horrocks on a job well done.

Supervisor Bennington asked if the \$111,731.00 in the Debt Service Fund can be utilized for paying Hilltown Township's share of the Bucks County Open Space funding. Mr. Gruver replied the Township approved the use of real estate millage for debt service, and therefore, those funds must be used for debt service since they were collected for that purpose. The money can be used to repay any debt, including the existing bond issue or any future debt.

Chairman Bennett noted that the Township was in a difficult financial situation in 1990, when Niessen, Dunlap and Pritchard were hired, however that entire situation has been rectified. Chairman Bennett thanked Mrs. Leslie, Mr. Horrocks, and the auditors for their hard work.

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

1. Mr. Horrocks presented nine escrow releases for the Board's authorization:

Estate at Tall Oaks Subdivision	Voucher #04	\$	583.50
Estate at Tall Oaks Subdivision	Voucher #05	\$	2,270.19
Hilltown Crossings	Voucher #1B	\$	110.61
Keystone Estates	Voucher #09	\$	42.65
Longleaf Estates Phase I Subdivision	Voucher #04	\$	2,496.06
Longleaf Estates Phase I Subdivision	Voucher #05	\$	141,276.83
Orchard Glen Subdivision	Voucher #30	\$	13,032.00
Orchard Glen Subdivision	Voucher #31	\$	4,797.90
Quiet Acres	Voucher #13B	\$	42.65

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Grasse, and carried unanimously to release the nine escrows as noted above.

2. Mr. Horrocks advised two bids for Bid #98-1 for Asphalt and Bid #98-2 for Aggregate were opened this afternoon. Bid results are as follows:

Bid #98-1 - Asphalt

M & M Stone.....ID-2 Wearing - \$20.50/Ton
ID-2 Binder - \$19.00/Ton

H & K Materials.....ID-2 Wearing - \$20.80/Ton
ID-2 Binder - \$19.20/Ton

Included in the bids is a \$.50 per mile per ton adjustment. This would be a difference of \$2.50 per ton between H & K's bid and M & M Stone's bid. With that difference, Mr. Horrocks recommended that Bid #98-1 for Asphalt be awarded to H & K Materials.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Grasse, and carried unanimously to award Bid #98-1 to H & K Materials in the amount of \$20.80/ton for ID-2 Wearing, and \$19.20/ton for ID-2 Binder.

Bid #98-2 - Aggregate (seven different varieties)

M & M Stone.....\$17,075.00
H & K Materials.....\$17,225.00

Included in the bids is a \$.50 per mile per ton adjustment. Mr. Horrocks recommended that Bid #98-2 for Aggregate be awarded to H & K Materials.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Grasse, and carried unanimously to award Bid #98-2 for Aggregate to H & K Materials in the total amount of \$17,225.00.

3. A request has been received from the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors to adopt a resolution dealing with frivolous law suits.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Grasse, and carried unanimously to **adopt Resolution #98-24 expressing the Township's opposition to frivolous law suits in the State of Pennsylvania.**

4. Mr. Horrocks is seeking Board authorization to exonerate Township taxes on municipal property due to the installation of the Comcast tower located at the rear of this building.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Grasse, and carried unanimously to exonerate Tax Parcel #15-28-90-3 from municipal taxes for the current year.

5. Mr. Horrocks advised the Board directed him to consider possible individuals to serve on a Police Chief Review Board. Four of the five individuals suggested are presently or have been police chiefs, four of the individuals are Hilltown Township residents, and Mr. Horrocks himself is the fifth candidate. Mr. Horrocks recommended that Chief George C. Egly, Mr. Joseph Kirschner, Mr. Timothy Dickinson, Mr. Warren Horrocks, and himself be appointed to the Police Chief Review Board.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Grasse, to appoint the five above named individuals to the Police Chief Review Board.

M. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Correspondence has been received from Bunny's Animal Shelter advising there are 119 dogs remaining as of March 31, 1998.

N. LINENS FOR SIGNATURE:

1. Dean's Harley Davidson

O. PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mrs. Jane James of 972 Bypass Road was one of the complainants involved in Mr. Downs zoning violation against his property which is presently being used as a junk yard. Mrs. James advised there are approximately 25 to 30 vehicles, truck bodies, two dump trucks, and a flat bed trailer on the property. Mrs. James wished to reiterate her concern, even though a pole building is proposed to be constructed for storage of these vehicles. Mrs. James hopes the Township will continue strict enforcement of regulations in order to resolve this matter.

2. Three weeks ago, Mr. Dave Sattelle responded to the newspaper advertisement seeking individuals to serve on the Police Chief Review Board, however he did not receive a response from the Township. Mr. Horrocks did not receive Mr. Sattelle's letter of interest. Chairman Bennett explained there had been some discussion to hire a "head hunter", however the expense involved would have been too great. After much discussion, the Supervisors decided to establish a Police Chief Review Board consisting of members involved in law enforcement who would be best qualified to select a police chief candidate. Chairman Bennett thanked Mr. Sattelle for his interest and encouraged him to volunteer for any future board vacancies.

P. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Supervisor Bennington received correspondence from a resident of Ottsville, complaining about the retrofitting of the Hilltown Plaza Shopping Center and the proposed traffic signal that will be installed at that intersection. Supervisor Bennington believes the installation of a traffic signal at that intersection will deter accidents and prevent problems the Township has experienced in the past.

Supervisor Bennington is also very upset with the recent cable television rate increase. Chairman Bennett and Supervisor Grasse agreed.

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

R. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Supervisor Grasse, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously, the April 13, 1998 Board of Supervisor's Worksession Meeting was adjourned at 9:05PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda Seimes

Township Secretary

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