

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULARLY SCHEDULED WORKSESSION MEETING
Monday, April 14, 1997
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 7:45PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also present: Kenneth B. Bennington, Vice-Chairman
Jack C. Fox, Supervisor
Bruce G. Horrocks, Township Manager
Gregory J. Lippincott, Zoning Officer
Thomas A. Buzby, Director of Public Works
George C. Egly, Chief of Police

Chairman Bennett announced the Board and the Township Manager met in Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss personnel matters, and they expect to follow this meeting with another Executive Session with the Township Solicitor in order to discuss labor negotiations.

Mr. Horrocks announced the Conditional Use Hearing scheduled for 8:30PM for the case of Nextel Communications of the Mid-Atlantic, Inc. has been cancelled. The applicant withdrew their application late this afternoon.

A. TREASURER'S REPORT - Mr. Horrocks presented the Treasurer's Report with the following balances as of March 31, 1997:

General Fund Checking Account	\$	34,429.59
Payroll Fund Checking Account	\$	449.80
Fire Fund Checking Account	\$	11,704.76
Debt Service Fund Checking Account	\$	91,585.94
State Highway Aid Fund Checking Account	\$	60,100.17
Escrow Fund Checking Account	\$	132,258.46

Motion was made by Supervisor Fox, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report dated March 31, 1997, subject to audit.

B. APPROVAL OF CURRENT BILLING - Chairman Bennett presented the Bills List dated April 15, 1997, with General Fund payments in the amount of \$55,371.61, and State Highway Aid payments in the amount of \$4,345.75; for a grand total of all funds in the amount of \$59,717.36.

Motion was made by Supervisor Fox, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to approve the Bills List dated April 15, 1997, subject to audit.

C. HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY REPORT - Mr. James Groff, Authority Manager - Mr. Groff presented the Authority Report for the month of March, 1997 which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Groff will be attending the April 21, 1997 Planning Commission meeting to discuss the zoning application and request for waiver of land development for placement of the water tank.

D. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT - Mr. Thomas Buzby, Director of Public Works - Mr. Buzby read the Public Works Report for the period of March 2, 1997 through March 29, 1997, which is on file at the Township office.

***8:00PM - PUBLIC HEARING to consider the adoption of a proposed amendment to the Hilltown Township Zoning Ordinance of 1995, as amended, with regard to the construction of decks and patios in attached dwellings.**

Mr. Horrocks explained the Hilltown Township Planning Commission prepared this amendment which has been reviewed and recommended for adoption by the Bucks County Planning Commission. A copy of the proposed Ordinance amendment is attached to these minutes.

There was no public comment.

Motion was made by Supervisor Fox, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to **adopt Ordinance #97-1, amending the Hilltown Township Zoning Ordinance of 1996, as amended, with regard to the construction of decks and patios in attached dwellings.**

The Public Hearing was adjourned and the regularly scheduled worksession meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was reconvened at approximately 8:05PM.

E. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT - Mr. George C. Egly, Chief of Police - Chief Egly read the Police Report for the month of March, 1997 which is on file at the Township office.

Chief Egly advised the United States Department of Justice has suggested that the Treasurer, Mrs. Lorraine Leslie, attend one of their seminars for auditing purposes at the completion of the grant.

In the past several months, Chief Egly has been conducting testing procedures to fill the position created by the grant extension for a third police officer. Chief Egly recommended the Board appoint Mr. Chris Browne of Warminster to that position.

Motion was made by Supervisor Fox, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to appoint Mr. Chris Browne to the position of Hilltown Township police officer, as specified above.

F. ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT - Mr. Gregory Lippincott, Zoning Officer/Assistant Township Manager - Mr. Lippincott read the Zoning Report for the month of March, 1997 which is on file in the Township office.

G. HILLTOWN FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT - Mr. Robert Grunmeier - Mr. Grunmeier read the Hilltown Fire Company Report for the month of March, 1997, which is on file at the Township office.

H. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT - Mr. Grunmeier, Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator, read the Emergency Management Coordinator's Report for the month of March, 1997 which is on file at the Township office.

I. SILVERDALE FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT - Mr. John Gillespie - Mr. Gillespie was not present at this time.

J. PARK AND RECREATION REPORT - Mr. Nick Lupinacci - Mr. Lupinacci read the Park and Recreation Report for the month of March, 1997, which is on file at the Township office.

As mentioned at a prior meeting, Mr. Lupinacci advised a Hilltown resident wished to donate a tree to be planted at the Civic Field Park. The Board had instructed Mr. Lupinacci to determine a location to plant the tree, and recommend a type and size of tree. After determining a price, the resident has opted to withdraw the donation at this time.

Mr. Lupinacci stated a Park and Recreation Board member, Mrs. Bea Waite, who is a volunteer with the American Cancer Society, presented information concerning a walk-a-thon to be held on Saturday May 31 through Sunday, June 1, 1997. The event will be held in Central Park in Doylestown Township. Even though the walk-a-thon will not be held in Hilltown Township, the Park and Recreation Board felt it may be something residents of Hilltown would like to participate in. There is a registration fee of \$150.00, plus each individual must procure sponsors who in turn would provide contributions to the American Cancer Society. Mr. Lupinacci is seeking a donation of \$150.00 from the Board of Supervisors to sponsor a team from Hilltown Township, and is also hoping for Board authorization to place a public notice in the newspaper to seek participants.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to authorize the donation of \$150.00

for participation sponsorship of the Hilltown Township Park and Recreation Board team in the American Cancer Society Walk-a-thon scheduled for May 31-June 1, 1997, and also asked that local newspapers advertise a request for participants.

Mr. Lupinacci advised a scaled down version of last year's Community Day has been scheduled for Sunday, September 14, 1997, with the main focus being musical concerts. Township organizations will be solicited for participation and donations. The Park and Recreation Board suggested that this year's event could include the availability of tours through the Municipal building and local fire companies, as well as informal meetings with members of the Board of Supervisors. Letters of request to community businesses and organizations for participation will be mailed to possible sponsors in June.

The Park and Recreation Board has been reviewing and discussing the Comprehensive Plan and anticipates submission to the Bucks County Planning Commission to be rewritten and reviewed before June of this year.

Mr. Lupinacci asked the status of discussions with the Hilltown Authority concerning placement of the water tank. Chairman Bennett explained the issue has not come before the Board of Supervisors for formal discussion. Supervisor Bennington commented the Supervisors made a motion at the last meeting authorizing Mr. Lupinacci to represent the Park and Recreation Board in ongoing discussions between the Supervisors and the Hilltown Authority. It dismays Supervisor Bennington that Mr. Lupinacci was not included in those discussions. Supervisor Fox feels a meeting should take place, including not only Mr. Lupinacci but all members of the Board of Supervisors.

Motion was made by Supervisor Fox to hold a meeting with the Hilltown Authority, the Board of Supervisors, and Mr. Lupinacci, representing the Park and Recreation Board, in order to discuss the issue of the water tank. There was no second to the motion.

Chairman Bennett explained a meeting was held prior to the recommendation for attendance by a representative from the Park and Recreation Board. That meeting included Chairman Bennett, and Mr. Horrocks representing the Board of Supervisors, and Mr. John Bender, treasurer of the Hilltown Authority, and Mr. Jim Groff, manager of the Hilltown Authority, representing the Hilltown Township Water and Sewer Authority to finalize details of the addendum. There had been difficulty scheduling a meeting that all members of each board could attend. Chairman Bennett noted the agreement had previously been signed between the Board of Supervisors and the Hilltown Township Water and Sewer Authority. From earlier discussions, those present at the meeting felt they

understood the Park and Recreation Board's main request, which was placement of lights on the baseball field, at an approximate cost of \$50,000.00. Discussion at the informal meeting involved details to be presented to the Board of Supervisors and the Authority, as a whole, for agreement. Chairman Bennett stated most of the discussion centered on financial considerations between the Authority, which is a profit making body, and Hilltown Township. Supervisor Bennington was upset that a meeting was held without representation by the Park and Recreation Board. Supervisor Fox agreed, and stated he felt other members of the Board of Supervisors should also have been present at that meeting.

K. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

1. Mr. Jack Hetherington announced that the Civic Association Golf Outing, which has traditionally been held in September, is being held this year on Sunday, June 8, 1997. Further, Mr. Hetherington advised Candidates Night sponsored by the Hilltown Civic Association, will be held on Tuesday, April 22, 1997 here at the Municipal building.

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

1. Mr. Horrocks presented a series of six Escrow Releases for the Board's authorization, two of which are cash held by the Township:

Country Roads Phases III & IV	Voucher #22	\$	2,839.24
Country Roads Phases III & IV	Voucher #23	\$	25,833.60
Orchard Glen Subdivision	Voucher #07	\$	1,727.33
Ralph G. Moyer Subdivision	Voucher #4A	\$	38.43
Quiet Acres Mobile Home Park	Voucher #2A	\$	410.08
Waste Management of Indian Valley	Voucher #06	\$	557.39

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

M. CORRESPONDENCE - None.

N. LINENS FOR SIGNATURE: None.

O. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Several months ago, Supervisor Bennington made a motion to plant a tree in honor of former Supervisor Betty J. Kelly. Supervisor Bennington asked the progress of that proposal. Mr. Horrocks has contacted Mrs. Kelly's son Jack, who requested that a sufficient amount of time be given in order to invite guests to the presentation ceremony. Mr. Horrocks requested Board

authorization to purchase a tree to be planted in Mrs. Kelly's honor. Discussion took place. The Board directed the Township Engineer to advise which type and size of tree would be appropriate.

2. Supervisor Bennington asked what response has been received from those members recently appointed to the Open Space Committee. Mr. Horrocks advised only one member has indicated that he will be out of town when the first meeting is held, but is very willing to attend any future meetings. The first meeting of the Hilltown Township Open Space Committee will be held on Wednesday, April 23, 1997 at 7:30PM.

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

Q. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Supervisor Fox, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously, the April 14, 1997 Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors Worksession meeting was adjourned at 8:35PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynda Seimes

Lynda Seimes
Township Secretary

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



**ORDINANCE # 97-1
AMENDING THE
HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE OF 1995,
AS AMENDED**

SECTION 1.

Add definition to ARTICLE II, Section 201, Subsection 143.5.:

“Lot Line, Side Party Wall: Any side lot line which also divides attached dwellings by common vertical walls.”

SECTION 2.

Amend ARTICLE IV, Section 406, Subsection I2., Paragraph 1.2 to **add** as a final sentence:

“The provisions of this Paragraph 1.2 shall not apply to the extent Paragraph 1.3 is applicable.”

SECTION 3.

Amend ARTICLE IV, Section 406, Subsection I2., Paragraph 1.3 to read as follows:

“Decks and patios are permitted in side and rear yard areas only and may be located no closer than five (5) feet from any lot line, except for a side party wall lot line of attached dwellings in which case the deck or patio may extend to the side party wall lot line. A fence six (6) feet in height, and extending the length of the deck or patio along the side party wall lot line, and attached to the deck or patio is permitted.”

SECTION 4.

Amend ARTICLE V, Section 531, to read as follows:

“The yard requirements shall not apply to fences or walls less than six (6) feet in height above the finished grade in the side and rear yards and three (3) feet in front yards, nor to terraces, steps, uncovered and unenclosed porches, nor to similar features less than three (3) feet above the finished grade, subject nevertheless to the provisions of ARTICLE IV, Section 406, Subsection I2., Paragraph 1.”

SECTION 5.

The effective date of this Ordinance is five days following adoption.

HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

[Handwritten signatures of three board members over horizontal lines]

ENACTMENT DATE:

4/14/97