

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP
SUPERVISORS' MEETING
December 12, 1988**

The meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Robert H. Grunmeier at 7:30 P.M.

Members present were: Robert H. Grunmeier, Chairman
Betty J. Kelly, Vice Chairperson
William H. Bennett, Supervisor

Others present were: James H. Singley, Township Manager
Gloria G. Neiman, Township Secretary
Chief George C. Egly, Chief of Police
Francis X. Grabowski, Twp. Solicitor
C. Robert Wynn, Twp. Engineer

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Bennett to approve the minutes of the 11/28/88 Supervisors' meeting as written; motion carried unanimously.

B. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: General Fund billing in the amount of \$18,864.83, with a State Funds amount of \$8,148.02, were approved by the Board. Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Bennett to pay bills when due; motion carried unanimously.

C. TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Singley read the December 1988 report and noted that the Turnback Account has been closed out and monies transferred to the Highway Aid Account. Motion was made by Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mrs. Kelly to accept the report as given, subject to audit; motion carried unanimously.

D. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS:

1. Jeffrey Drake, 132 E. State Street - Mr. Drake was present on behalf of residents of Blooming Glen Road to ask that the Supervisors officially request PennDOT to lower the speed limit on Blooming Glen Road (between Blooming Glen Estates and South Perkasio Rd.), "to a safe speed, that speed to be consistent with the results of the speed study to be performed." Mr. Drake presented a petition signed by over 40 people. The Board approved a traffic study to be performed by Sgt. Miller of the Hilltown Police Department.

2. Richard McCarthy, 2515 Hilltown Pike, Perkasio, PA - Mr. McCarthy presented a petition signed by residents of Hilltown Pike and Callowhill Road, requesting a speed limit reduction, flashing yellow lights on Hilltown Pike, and larger illuminated stop signs accompanied by warning indicators. Mrs. Blanche Malin, 2527 Hilltown Pike, also expressed concern over the fact that her handicapped child must exit a van while it is stopped on Hilltown Pike. Chief Egly stated that he will be meeting with a representative of PennDOT and Sgt. Miller to discuss this intersection. Chairman Grunmeier stated that the Supervisors should also attend this meeting; the Police Department will advise of date of meeting.

3. Mr. John Rufe, attorney representing Mr. J. Gordon Smith - Mr. Rufe requested clarification of situation of his client's property. Chairman Grunmeier explained that the Zoning Officer has advised there are trailers and a building which is ready to collapse on Mr. Smith's property, in addition to the main building which is also an unsafe structure. The Zoning Officer has indicated that this area should be cleaned up and all deteriorating vehicles removed, according to the Nuisance Ordinance and Zoning Ordinance. For clarification, Mr. Singley explained that Mr. Ludwig, Mr. Smith's engineer, requested that Mr. Smith be on the agenda for tonight's meeting. Mr. Rufe asked that he be allowed time to confer with his client and get back to Mr. Singley regarding time frame for bringing the property into compliance; and stated he would contact the Township within fifteen (15) days. The Board agreed to this request.

8:00 P.M. - Hearing called to order for advertised ordinance for Narothyn Road Speed Limit. Mr. Grabowski explained that this ordinance proposes to reduce the speed limit on Narothyn Road to 35 mph. Sgt. Miller, Traffic Unit Sergeant, indicated that he used 50 cars rather than 100, because this is not a heavily traveled roadway. Chief Egly addressed Mr. Grunmeier's question regarding a request at the previous 11/28/88 Supervisors' meeting to have an officer drive the road 5 times; the Chief explained that according to Mr. John Hendricks of PennDOT, that type of criteria is used on a street which has no traffic traveling upon it; however, the District Magistrate has advised that this would not be acceptable in court.

Public Comment: Ms. Lauren Mangin stated that children play on the road in the warmer weather and requested that the speed limit be reduced to 30 mph. Chairman Grunmeier stated that Sgt. Miller has recommended "Children at Play" signs be installed at the entrances to the road; installation of a "sharp curve" sign at the bend in the roadway coming from both directions; and the speed limit be posted at 35 mph. Ms. Mangin requested that the speed limit be reduced on the curve; Sgt. Miller suggested that 25 mph would be acceptable for this curve; Chief Egly stressed that the 25 mph speed limit would not be enforceable. Mrs. Kelly stated that she traveled this road and saw many very young children playing in the street and suggested the parents provide supervision. Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly to adopt Ordinance #88-8, with stipulations stated by Sgt. Miller in his 11/8/88 letter; motion seconded by Mr. Bennett. Mr. Bennett agreed that the parents (29 families) should provide supervision for their children, since the main violators of the speed limit are teenagers of these residents. Chairman Grunmeier stated that if the children continue to play in the street, the only other solution would be to install sidewalks and curbs at the resident's expense. He agreed with Mrs. Kelly that the children must be taught to stay away from the street. There being no further discussion, a motion was taken; motion carried unanimously.

8:15 P.M. Hearing adjourned; regular meeting called to order.

E. MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. Township Building - Mr. Singley reported on the 11/23/88 project meeting minutes; roof sheathing to be 90% complete; finished shingle roofing to be 70% complete. Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Bennett recommend to HTWSA that change orders be approved in the amount of \$3500 for carpeting and approximately \$3400 for windows, providing the Authority approves choice of carpeting color; motion carried unanimously.

2. Police Contract - Motion was made by Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mrs. Kelly to approve the Hilltown Township Police Contract for the years 1988, 1989 and 1990; motion carried unanimously.

3. Budget - Mr. Singley noted that the budget has been advertised for final adoption at the 12/27/88 Supervisors' meeting, with revisions per meetings of 11/29/88 and 12/1/88. Turnback account has been finalized with all monies transferred to the Highway Aid Account; Federal Revenue account will also be deleted at the end of the year.

4. Pennridge Aquatic Club - request for contribution for summer swim team; motion was made by Mrs. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Bennett to contribute \$250 to the Pennridge Aquatic Club; motion carried unanimously.

5. Tax Reform - letter received from Senator Greenwood stating that this would have to go through a referendum on the May Primary Ballot.

6. Quarry - Mr. Singley reported on the blast which occurred on Tuesday, December 6th at approximately 10:30 A.M. That blast registered .23 at the Holland property (Mr. Singley indicated this is very minimal for earth movement); however, the air blast registered 1.36 which is one of the highest experienced by H & K. All readings were requested from H & K for that day.

F. ROAD REPORT: Due to Mr. Buzby's excused absence, Mr. Singley read the report dated 11/6/88 through 12/3/88. This report is on file at the Township building.

G. POLICE REPORT: Chief Egly read the November report which is on file at the Township building.

H. ENGINEERING/PLANNING:

1. Hilltown Industrial Park - Previously approved in 1981; however, improvements not completed at that time are now being installed by the new owners. Mr. Wynn discussed curbing and planting required and upgrading of retention basin. Applicant is seeking relief from setback requirements for parking. Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Bennett to approve change in access location with relocation of parking in order to continue work on this site development; motion carried unanimously.

2. 209 Realty Company Subdivision - Retention basin #2, located in the west corner of the site near Rt. 152, has been revised. Revised agreement provides for discharge at a different point, toward the pond; entire basin has been shifted toward the property line to provide additional usable open space. Linens will be signed by Supervisors after this meeting.

3. Linens for Signatures - Deerfield Subdivision and Lindsey Subdivision plans will be signed by Supervisors after tonight's meeting.

4. Union National Bank has requested their site development agreement to be extended until May 1, 1989 to allow completion of signage, final paving, and retention basin. Motion was made by Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mrs. Kelly to accept extension of the Union National Bank Site Development to 5/1/89; motion carried unanimously.

5. St. Philip's Church, Clearview Road - Correspondence received from Mr. James Strothers, advising that the proposal discussed with Cowan Associates indicates that an Act 537 revision may be necessary to permit public sewer extension to this property. The Board agreed that Mr. Strothers be advised to make presentation to the Planning Commission Board.

I. SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

209 Realty Subdivision (Phase 2, Sterling Knoll) - Development agreements have been prepared, escrow has been deposited with the bank in the amount of \$654,726.00; Mr. Grabowski recommended authorization of same. Motion was made by Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mrs. Kelly to approve escrow and agreements for the 209 Realty Subdivision; motion carried unanimously.

J. RESIDENT'S COMMENTS:

1. Kenneth Bennington, 926 E. Walnut St., Perkasie Mr. Bennington discussed Senate Bill 535 (pro-development bill) and stated that he is in vigorous opposition to this bill. He stated that this bill has passed the House, with one major change - impact fees which the Township could charge developers have been taken out. Mr. Bennington requested that the Board no longer waive sidewalks or curbing, water fees, etc. for the developers. Mr. Bennington (a member of the H.T. Planning Commission) also questioned method of receiving appointments to the Boards and Authorities and asked if there has been a change in policy. Chairman Grunmeier replied that advertisements are placed in the newspaper and announcements are made at public meetings, stating that anyone wishing to apply for available positions may do so. Mr. Singley stated that the procedure is in conformance with guidelines. Mr. Bennington requested a listing of all applicants and their qualifications by Monday. Chairman Grunmeier suggested meetings be held to interview new applicants: Ron Allen; Earl Sullivan; Doris Bartl; and any others. The Board agreed to meet Tuesday, 12/20/88 at 7:00 P.M. - new applicants will be notified.

2. Bill Godek, 206 Broad Street - Mr. Godek questioned recent quarry blast and stated that he telephoned the Police Department and complained of vibration, not noise. Mr. Singley clarified this by saying the Township office received three calls - all complaining of noise. Mr. Godek also questioned Agricultural Security District area and whether this land could be changed to quarry operations. Mr. Wynn answered that the property owners may develop their property as they wish; this act provides protection for the farmer only. Mr. Godek requested information on a parcel adjoining his property and asked if a subdivision application has been received. Mr. Wynn reported that "Habitations, Inc." submitted a sketch plan to the PC and obtained a well permit from the Township; however, no formal submission has been made to date. Mr. Godek expressed concern over the possibility of his well going dry if a pumping test were performed for this property; Mr. Grabowski replied that this type of test is always closely monitored.

3. John Snyder, President, Hilltown Township Fire Co. - Mr. Snyder stated that the Fire Company will no longer be involved in the collection of newspapers due to difficulty in disposing of papers.

K. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. BCPC letter received regarding Act 101, Municipal Waste Planning and Recycling Act - will send notification of meetings.

2. Correspondence from Joseph Miller, 1115 Route 152, Perkasio regarding possible purchase of land on Rt. 152 (owned by the Civic Assoc.) - Mr. Singley reported this is being studied by the Park & Rec. Board.

3. Reports received from Perkasio, Dublin and Hilltown fire companies.

4. Joint Study Commission - Police Protection Services: Meeting will be held on 1/31/89 between E. Rockhill, W. Rockhill and Sellersville to discuss regional police forces. Chairman Grunmeier, Mrs. Kelly and Mr. Bennett indicated they would attend.

L. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Mrs. Kelly announced that the Township employee's Christmas Party will be held on Friday, December 23rd.

2. Mr. Bennett suggested that consideration be given to disposal of the current township building; Chairman Grunmeier suggested this be placed in the newsletter, requesting comments from residents. The Board agreed.

3. Chairman Grunmeier stated he has commissioned an artist and that his family will donate a picture of the current township building to be placed in the new building.

4. Mr. Bennett stated that he has determined from the Board of Assessments that all of Bucks County Real Estate is assessed at 6.5%. Chairman Grunmeier stated he has contacted Senator Spector, Senator Heinz and Rep. Kostmayer seeking help regarding the wetlands permits for the Pleasant Meadows "road to nowhere"; reply has been received indicating that a meeting will be set up shortly to rectify this situation.

5. Chairman Grunmeier received a letter from Mr. Robert Bender, New Britain Township, regarding public sewer system installation in the Line Lexington area; a meeting will be set up for discussion of same -- Chairman Grunmeier, Mr. Singley and Mr. Wynn indicated they will attend.

6. Chairman Grunmeier suggested the Township Manager present an Annual Report for 1988 at the January 9, 1989 meeting; the Board agreed.

7. Mr. Singley reported that a personnel meeting was held prior to tonight's meeting.

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

There being no further business, a motion of adjournment was made by Mrs. Kelly at 9:06 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Gloria G. Neiman
Township Secretary