HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE NO. 2006 - ______

ORDINANCE OF HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CABLE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP AND VERIZON PENNSYLVANIA, INC.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Title VI of the Communications Act (see 47 U.S.C. § 601 et seq.), the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992, and the Telecommunications Act of 1996, the regulations of the Federal Communications Commission and Pennsylvania law, Hilltown Township in Bucks County is authorized to grant franchises to construct, operate and maintain a cable system utilizing public rights-of-way and properties within the Township's jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, Verizon of Pennsylvania, Inc. ("Verizon") is upgrading its existing telecommunications system under Title II of the Communications Act (see 47 U.S.C. §201 et seq.) and has applied for a non-exclusive cable franchise agreement from the Township to operate a cable system under Title VI of the Communications Act (see 47 U.S.C. §521 et seq.); and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to grant a non-exclusive franchise to construct, install, maintain, extend, and operate a cable system in the Township; and

WHEREAS, Verizon is in the process of installing a Fiber to the Premise Telecommunications Network ("FTTP Network") in the Township for the transmission of non-cable services pursuant to authority granted by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, the FTTP Network will occupy the public rights-of-way within the Township, and Verizon desires to use portions of the FTTP Network once installed to provide cable services in the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township desires to protect and manage the public rights-of-way, require high standards of customer service, receive financial compensation for Verizon's use of the public rights-of-way as provided by federal law, obtain complimentary services for its public buildings, obtain educational and governmental channels; establish certain reporting requirements, and provide for the future cable-related needs of its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Township has determined Verizon to be financially, technically and legally qualified to operate the cable system to provide cable services; and

WHEREAS, the Township has determined that the public interest would be served by granting a franchise to Verizon according to the terms and conditions contained in the franchise agreement negotiated with representatives of Verizon.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that the Board of Supervisors of Hilltown Township does hereby approve and adopt the cable franchise agreement negotiated with Verizon, including all of the terms and conditions contained therein, and does hereby authorize the execution of such agreement.

ENACTED AND ORDAINED this 25th day of September, 2006, by the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Hilltown, in lawful session duly assembled.

HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS