

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING
Tuesday, May 29, 2012**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairpcrson Barbara A. Salvadore at 7:00PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiancc.

Also present: John B. McIlhinney, Vice-Chairman
James C. Groff, Supervisor
Richard C. Schnaedter, Township Manager
Christopher E. Engelhart, Chief of Police
Francis X. Grabowski, Township Solicitor
C. Robert Wynn, Township Engineer
Lynda S. Seimes, Township Secretary

A. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The Board will meet in Executive Session following this meeting.
2. The Board of Supervisors acknowledged Hilltown Boy Scout Troop #87 for presenting the colors and Mr. Steve Gratias for playing Taps at the annual Remembrance Ceremony held at the Civic Park on Memorial Day.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None.

C. CONSENT AGENDA:

- Minutes of the May 14, 2012 Supervisors Meeting
- Bills List dated May 30, 2012

Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney, and seconded by Chairperson Salvadore to approve and accept the Minutes of the May 14, 2012 Supervisor's meeting as written. Supervisor Groff abstained from the vote since he was not in attendance. Motion carried. There was no public comment.

Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Chairperson Salvadore, and carried unanimously to approve and accept the Bills List dated May 30, 2012 as written. There was no public comment.

D. LEGAL – Mr. Francis X. Grabowski, Township Solicitor –

1. Miller/Torrey Rose Subdivision Cash Escrow Agreement and Assumption of Obligations Agreements – Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously to accept and approve the Miller/Torrey Rose Subdivision Cash Escrow Agreement and Assumption of Obligations Agreements. There was no public comment.

E. PLANNING – Mr. C. Robert Wynn, Township Engineer –

1. FEMA Projects – Proposals were received as follows:

a) Orchard Road Pedestrian Bridge (sidewalk/erosion repair):

-	Litzenberger, Exc.	\$3,675.00
-	JF Landscaping	\$4,300.00
-	Toth Brothers	\$4,900.00
-	Ken Beer and Sons	No proposal

b) Orchard Road Bridge (erosion repair/gravel bar removal):

-	Litzenberger, Exc.	\$15,160.00
-	Toth Brothers	\$15,600.00
-	JF Landscaping	\$16,600.00
-	Ken Beer and Sons	No proposal

c) Steeplebush Drive Culvert (gravel bar removal):

-	Toth Brothers	\$17,800.00
-	JF Landscaping	\$19,100.00
-	Ken Beer and Sons	No Proposal
-	Litzenberger, Exc.	No Proposal

Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously to accept the lowest price proposals for the three projects as listed above - Orchard Road Pedestrian Bridge to Litzenberger Exc. in the amount of \$3,675.00; Orchard Road Bridge to Litzenberger Exc. in the amount of \$15,160.00; and Steeplebush Drive Culvert to Toth Brothers in the amount of \$17,800.00. There was no public comment.

2. Our Lady of Sacred Heart Land Development Waiver – Parking Lot Landscaping Waiver Request – In conjunction with the approved land development waiver plan for expansion of parking facilities at the church property, the applicant was required to install thirteen deciduous trees within the landscape islands and around the perimeter of the parking lot in accordance with Section 140-37.B(1) of the SALDO. Accordingly, the plan specified installation of seven red maples and six Japanese Zelkova canopy trees within the parking lot. The applicant is requesting relief from installation of the 7 red maples as shown on the approved plan due to apparent conflicts with other facilities in the vicinity of the parking lot. It was noted that the church would agree to install the 6 required Japanese Zelkova plantings within the landscape islands in the center of the new parking lot, and would also be willing to relocate the 7 red maple trees elsewhere on the site if the Board so desires. Supervisor McIlhinney suggested that Red Maple trees be substituted instead of the Japanese Zelkova trees. Discussion took place.

- c) Roof Systems Consultants
Lower Gwynedd, PA Base Price: \$10,000.00 (w/the option of construction management an additional \$6,000.00)

Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously to employ the services of Kimmel Bogrette to prepare specifications for the Hilltown Township Municipal Building Roof Repair/Replacement bids, as the price as specified above. There was no public comment.

2. Discuss SALDO requirement of notifying abutting landowners of filing of preliminary plans for 10+ lot subdivisions – Supervisor McIlhinney suggested that the requirement for notification of neighboring property owners of a proposed subdivision should be 3 lots (which constitutes a major subdivision), instead of 10 lots. Chairperson Salvadore and Supervisor Groff were agreeable. It was noted that since this is a Subdivision Ordinance requirement, the next time a revision is proposed to be made to the Ordinance this issue would be addressed and included in the advertisement for Public Hearing in conjunction with any other revisions.

3. Discussion of Property Maintenance Ordinance (Grass height issue) – At the last meeting, a resident requested that the Board adopt a Property Maintenance Ordinance which would address grass height on residential properties. Solicitor Grabowski provided the Board with two Ordinances which were adopted by Lower Makefield Township and Doylestown Township. Supervisor McIlbinney referred to the State law that regulates noxious weeds such as thistle, and suggested that the Township simply adopt an Ordinance mirroring the State law. He also mentioned that there have been complaints about thistle on the remaining undeveloped lots in the development where he lives.

If such an Ordinance were to be adopted, Solicitor Grabowski explained that the Zoning Officer would be required to cite the offender, then go to the District Justice Court where the Township would be required to pay a filing fee for a hearing that would be held up to 45 days thereafter. Solicitor Grabowski noted that the Doylestown Township Ordinance addresses the concerns of substantiating the health, safety and welfare issue for use when a complaint goes to the District Justice. Discussion occurred.

The Board suggested that Mr. Schnaedter send a “friendly letter” to both the developer of White Oak Farms, and the resident along Hilltown Pike that received a complaint at the last meeting, asking both to mow their property.

Public Comment:

1) Mrs. Rose Pickwell of 2335 Hilltown Pike was in attendance this evening in her husband’s absence. Since the last meeting, their neighbor has mowed the grass once however it

has not been cut since, and continues to grow to knee height and above. The high grass on the neighboring property is also interfering with the sight distance when pulling out of their driveway onto Hilltown Pike, and has resulted in considerable stormwater runoff as well. Mrs. Pickwell commented that not only is the neighboring property an eyesore it is also a health hazard, with the proliferation of ticks and other vermin. Mrs. Pickwell is aware that the neighboring property was going into foreclosure, and is not certain that the owner has the money or the drive to maintain his property.

G. NEW BUSINESS:

1) Discussion of Traffic Signal Sharing System Maintenance Agreement with Hatfield Township – Mr. Schnaedter received an email from Andrew Haines, Hatfield Township Manager, requesting that Hatfield Township assume responsibility of maintenance of the shared traffic signals with their border. Mr. Haines provided a standard agreement form from PennDot for the Board's consideration. Lengthy discussion took place. The Board unanimously agreed to table this issue pending receipt of additional information.

2) Consider H&K Quarry Request for Extension of Hours of Operation
Correspondence was received today requesting approval to allow the concrete batch plant and/or the asphalt batch plant to operate between the hours of 6:30PM and 6:30AM, Monday through Friday between June 1, 2012 and June 29, 2012. The Supervisors requested more timely notification in the future, rather than on the day of the Township meeting.

Motion was made by Supervisor Groff, seconded by Supervisor McIlhinney, and carried unanimously to authorize the extension of hours of operation of the H&K Quarry concrete batch plant and/or asphalt batch plant for the month of June, 2012, as noted above. There was no public comment.

H. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Supervisor Groff referred to recent correspondence from Mr. Henry Rosenberger regarding farm equipment signage he would like to see erected on Rt. 113 through the village of Blooming Glen. Supervisor Groff suggested that Mr. Schnaedter research the matter, provide the Board with an update, and then respond to Mr. Rosenberger's correspondence. Chief Engelhart is also in the process of preparing a memo to the Board in response to Mr. Rosenberger's request.

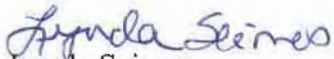
2. Supervisor Groff suggested that the Board, with the assistance of Mr. Schnaedter, Solicitor Grabowski, and Mr. Wynn, discuss prioritizing the Township's Capital Projects for this year. The Board agreed.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

J. PRESS CONFERENCE: There were no questions asked by those members of the press in attendance.

K. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously, the May 29, 2012 Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors meeting was adjourned at 7:43PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda Seimes

Township Secretary

(*NOTE: These minutes were transcribed from recordings and should not be considered official until approved by the Board of Supervisors at a public meeting).