

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING
Monday, February 27, 2012**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairperson Barbara A. Salvadore at 7:05PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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 met in Executive Session following the last meeting to discuss real estate, personnel, and legal; and also met prior to this meeting to discuss real estate.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None.

C. CONSENT CALENDAR:

- Minutes of the February 13, 2012 Meeting.
- Bills List dated February 28, 2012.

Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney and seconded by Supervisor Groff to accept the Consent Calendar items for discussion purposes only. Prior to a vote, discussion took place.

Supervisor McIlhinney objected to the invoice from Benner and Wild for advertising of the UCC Code Appeals Board hearing. Solicitor Grabowski explained that this bill is for the advertising of the hearing, and he believes it will be paid from the applicant's escrow account for this specific hearing. Supervisor McIlhinney withdrew his objection.

Motion carried unanimously to accept the Consent Calendar as noted above. There was no public comment.

D. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS:

1. Mr. Garrett Schorran – Request to farm Township open space – Mr. Schorran was present on behalf of himself and Mr. Kevin Folk to seek authorization to farm the former Murphey property, a 7 acre parcel on Broad Street, which the Township acquired through the H&K Quarry Agreement as adopted in 2005. Previously, Mr. Ken Smith farmed this property, with the understanding that if and when the Supervisors decided they would like to proceed with

another use for the property, farming activities would cease, and any planting furrows in the land would be removed with the property graded flat back to its original condition.

Supervisor McIlhinney recalls that there had been previous flooding complaints from a neighboring property owner. Mr. Wynn explained that last summer the matter was resolved when H&K constructed a swale, which diverted the water away from the neighboring property. As long as the newly constructed swale which runs along the east side of the property is not disturbed, there should be no further issues with flooding. Discussion took place. The Board also asked Mr. Schorran to inform the Township in advance if they will be using any fertilizer, insecticides or pesticides on the property. Mr. Schnaedter was directed to meet with Mr. Schorran and Mr. Folk to discuss the open space farming stipulations and sign an agreement

Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously to permit Mr. Schorran and Mr. Folk to farm the above noted Township open space with the stipulation that any planting furrows in the land would be removed and the property would be restored to its former flat condition once farming operations cease; and to direct the Township Manager to meet with any applicants for farming of Township open space henceforth to advise them of these requirements. There was no public comment.

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

1. Draft Floodplain Ordinance – Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously to forward the draft Floodplain Ordinance to FEMA for review. There was no public comment.

2. Mill Road Bridge Easement Appraiser – Mr. Wynn received an email from PennDot stating that they will be contracting with another firm to conduct an “appraisal problem analysis” which must be completed prior to the Township securing an approved appraiser. Discussion took place.

Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously to authorize Mr. Wynn, following the required appraisal problem analysis, to hire a PennDot approved appraiser for the easement necessary from PECO, noting that 95% of the cost of the appraisal will be paid through the grant. There was no public comment.

3. Malin Subdivision – Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously to accept completion of the Malin Subdivision maintenance period. There was no public comment.

F. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Request authorization to proceed with land appraisal – Motion was made by Supervisor Groff, seconded by Supervisor McIlhinney, and carried unanimously to authorize the Township Manager to engage Mr. Tim Browning in an amount not to exceed \$1400.00 for appraising a property for purposes of investigation of a possible open space purchase. There was no public comment.

2. Request authorization for mowing of Township park land/open space – Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously to authorize Mr. Ken Beer to mow the Forest Road Park property, the Berry Brow Open Space property, and the Beyer Farm property, at no cost to the Township, in exchange for the hay that is cut. There was no public comment.

3. Request authorization to bid on Bituminous Seal Coat for the 2012 road maintenance season and authorization to bid on the Schoolhouse Road paving project – Motion was made by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously to authorize bidding on Bituminous Seal Coat for 2012 road maintenance season, and also to authorize bidding on the Schoolhouse Road paving project. There was no public comment.


G. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Supervisor Groff recognized Mr. Frank Rice, a former founding member of the Hilltown Authority, who was present this evening.

H. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

I. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Supervisor McIlhinney, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously, the February 27, 2012 Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors meeting was adjourned at 7:23PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Lynda Seimes
Township Secretary

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