

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING  
Monday, October 10, 2011**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman John B. McIlhinney at 7:00PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also present: Barbara A. Salvatore, Vice-Chairperson  
James C. Groff, Supervisor  
Christopher E. Engelhart, Chief of Police  
Lorraine E. Leslie, Township Treasurer/Finance Officer  
Lynda S. Seimes, Township Secretary/Interim Manager

A. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1) The Board of Supervisors met in Executive Session to discuss personnel with respect to the Manager Search on October 4, 2011.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None.

C. CONSENT CALENDAR:

- Minutes of the September 26, 2011 Supervisors Regular Meeting.
- Minutes of the September 26, 2011 Advertised Public Hearings.
- Bills List dated October 11, 2011.
- Financial Statement dated September 30, 2011.

Motion was made by Supervisor Salvatore, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously to approve and accept the Consent Calendar as noted above. There was no public comment.

D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1) Discussion and consideration of purchase of police vehicles – Chief Engelhart is requesting that the Board authorize purchase of a Chevy Tahoe to replace the vehicle that was totaled earlier in the year. Currently the patrol sergeants are utilizing a Tahoe with approximately 140,000 miles, primarily to attend court or training classes. The old Tahoe would then be replaced and put back into the reserve fleet.

Chairman McIlhinney noted that there was \$40,000.00 allocated in the 2011 budget for this particular purchase, of which \$5,000.00 was previously spent, plus an additional \$12,000.00 which was received from the insurance company because one of the police vehicles had been totaled last January. Supervisor Salvatore commented that Chief Engelhart's memo also states that he will be seeking approval for the purchase of two police cruisers in 2012.

There are still some Ford Crown Victoria's available for purchase however they can no longer be ordered as they will be out of production as of 2012. Estimated cost of a 2011 Crown Victoria is \$36,500.00 with immediate delivery. Unfortunately, the remaining stock of Crown Victorias are going quickly. One dealer who had 30+ vehicles two weeks ago, now only has two vehicles remaining.

Since that is the case, Supervisor Groff suggested the Board consider purchasing a patrol car at this time, and leaving the Tahoe for purchase in the 2012 budget. Discussion took place. It was Chief Engelhart's preference to purchase the 4-wheel drive Tahoe, which is invaluable to the Police Department during inclement weather. He did note, however, that there could be a rather lengthy delivery date on the Tahoe at this time. Supervisor Groff suggested that the Tahoe Chief Engelhart presently uses, which has approximately 57,000 miles on it, be put back into the primary fleet. While it could certainly be done, Chief Engelhart does not necessarily feel it is a wise decision since the vehicle is 10 years old. He would suggest retaining the old Tahoe with 130,000+ miles to be kept in reserve for inclement weather and to be used for officer court dates.

After hearing Chief's recommendation, Supervisor Salvadore asked when the Township could expect to take delivery of the Tahoe. Chief Engelhart replied that unfortunately, delivery of the Tahoe would most likely be toward the end of winter in 2012, depending on production schedules. Supervisor Salvadore suggested the Board authorize a certain dollar amount, with the determination of which vehicle to purchase at Chief Engelhart's discretion. If during the process of 2012 Budget discussions in the next month, the Board determines that the Police Department should purchase a patrol car for next year, Chairman McIlhinney commented that a down payment could be made on a Crown Victoria now, if one is still available. Lengthy discussion took place.

Since the Crown Victoria will no longer be produced after this year, Chief Engelhart advised that several options for 2012 exist, including the new Ford Police Interceptor, the Chevy Caprice and the Dodge Charger. At this time, he believes the Chevy Caprice would be the best option. Supervisor Salvadore recalls that the Caprice would also be the most expensive model to refit with the police package. Chairman McIlhinney noted that the Chevy Caprice was the favorite of many police departments for an extremely long period of time.

Motion was made by Supervisor Salvadore, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of a Chevy Tahoe in the amount of approximately \$42,000.00 from the 2011 Budget. There was no public comment.

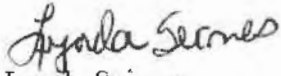
E. SUPERVISOR COMMENTS: None.

F. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

G. PRESS CONFERENCE: There were no questions from those reporters present.

H. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Supervisor Salvadore, seconded by Supervisor Groff, and carried unanimously, the October 10, 2011 Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors meeting was adjourned at 7:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda Seimes

Township Secretary/Interim Manager

(\*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).