

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING
Monday, August 14, 2006
7:30PM**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman John B. McIlhinney at 7:38PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also present were: Richard J. Manfredi, Vice-Chairman
Barbara A. Salvadore, Supervisor
Kenneth B. Bennington, Township Manager
Christopher E. Engelhart, Chief of Police
Lynda S. Seimes, Township Secretary

Chairman McIlhinney announced the Board met in Executive Session prior to this meeting in order to discuss personnel issues.

A. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The Park and Recreation Board rescheduled its August meeting to Thursday, August 17, 2006 at 7:30PM.
2. The Planning Commission rescheduled its Worksession meeting in September from Thursday, September 7, 2006 to Tuesday, September 5, 2006 at 7:30PM.
3. The Open Space Committee is holding an additional meeting on Tuesday, September 12, 2006 at 7:30PM in order to review sections of the Open Space Plan.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None.

C. APPROVALS:

Action on the minutes of the July 22, 2006 Supervisor's Special Meeting – Motion was made by Supervisor Salvadore, seconded by Supervisor Manfredi, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2006 Supervisor's Special Meeting as written. There was no public comment.

Action on the Treasurer's Report dated July 31, 2006 – Chairman McIlhinney presented the Treasurer's Report with the following balances as of July 31, 2006:

General Fund Checking	\$ 748,086.54
Payroll Checking	\$ 1,954.57
General Reserve Fund	\$ 266,866.30
Open Space Fund	\$2,004,530.13

Park and Recreation Fund	\$ 212,051.50
Road Equipment Fund	\$ 258,834.57
Fire Fund Checking	\$ 81,566.19
Debt Service Checking	\$ 344,446.31
State Highway Aid Checking	\$ 292,703.75
Escrow Fund Checking	\$2,464,377.75
Sewer Maintenance Fund	\$ 279,254.92
Capital Projects Fund	\$ 45,624.33

Motion was made by Supervisor Manfredi, seconded by Supervisor Salvadore, and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report dated July 31, 2006, subject to audit. There was no public comment.

D. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS: None.

E. POLICE REPORT – Chief Christopher Engelhart – Chief Engelhart presented the Police Report for the month of July 2006; a copy of which is on file at the Township office. Chief Engelhart advised that a speed detail was conducted on Church Road, east of Fairhill Road with a speed limit of 35 m.p.h. There were 33 citations issued, with the highest speed recorded at 62 m.p.h.

F. MANAGER'S REPORT – Mr. Kenneth B. Bennington, Township Manager – Mr. Bennington provided the Board with copies of the Manager's Report dated August 14, 2006, along with the Public Works Report and the Zoning Report for the month of July 2006; copies of which are on file at the Township office. Mr. Bennington announced that the paving projects on Welcome House Road, Middle Road, and Frontier Road have been completed.

G. HILLTOWN WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY REPORT – Mr. Jim Groff, Authority Manager – Mr. Groff presented the Authority Report for the month of July 2006; copies of which are on file at the Township office.

At the direction of the Board of Supervisors, Mr. Groff met with Mr. Canavan of W.B. Homes regarding the possibility of serving the White Chimney Farms site with public sewer. Supervisor Manfredi suggested that Mr. Groff provide a written report and analysis of the issue for the Board's review and consideration.

Supervisor Manfredi asked when the Audit Report for the Hilltown Authority would be finalized. Mr. Groff replied that there is a Finance Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, and the Audit Report should be forwarded to the Township on Thursday of this week.

H. HILLTOWN FIRE COMPANY REPORT – Mr. Robert Grunmeier, Jr., Fire Chief – Mr. Grunmeier presented the Hilltown Fire Company Report for the month of July 2006; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

I. SILVERDALE FIRE COMPANY REPORT – Mr. John Gillespie, Fire Chief – Mr. Gillespie presented the Silverdale Fire Company Report for the month of July 2006, as well as the yearly report; copies of which are on file at the Township office.

J. ZONING HEARING BOARD REPORT – No one was present. The Zoning Hearing Board Report for the month of July 2006 is on file at the Township office.

K. OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REPORT – Mr. Jeff Lapp, Chairperson – Mr. Lapp presented the Open Space Committee Report for the month of July 2006; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

L. PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT – Mr. D. Brooke Rush, Chairperson – Mr. Rush presented the Planning Commission Report for the month of July 2006; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Rush asked the status of the proposed Zoning Ordinance draft amendments. Supervisor Manfredi replied that all individual Ordinances that will amend the Zoning Ordinance have been forwarded to the Township Solicitor and Engineer to draft in Ordinance form for consideration, review, and eventual adoption.

M. OLD BUSINESS –

1. The Board discussed possible future plans for the Scout Cabin located in the Blooming Glen Playground. Due to its poor condition and high maintenance costs, Mr. Buzby previously recommended that the building be demolished and replaced with a pavilion. After discussion, the Supervisors agreed to individually visit the site, with a determination to be made at a future date.

N. NEW BUSINESS –

1. Last year, the Supervisors held a Public Hearing to consider applications for Community Development Block Grant Funding, at which time funding was awarded for Cherry Road reconstruction work. However, due to a shortfall in allocations, Bucks County had asked that the project be delayed this year, while agreeing that to cooperate with the Township for the coming year's funding. Unfortunately, the County is requiring the Township to go through the hearing process once again for 2007 funding. Discussion took place.

Motion was made by Supervisor Manfredi, seconded by Supervisor Salvadore, and carried unanimously to authorize the advertisement of a Public Hearing to be held on September 11, 2006 at 8:00PM to consider applications for Community Development Block Grant funding for the year 2007, as noted above. There was no public comment.

O. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Supervisor Manfredi referred to the drainage issue that has been brought to light in the Hawk Ridge Subdivision, which will be discussed in greater detail at the August 28th meeting, when the Township Engineer is present.

2. Supervisor Salvadore was asked by a resident to investigate property maintenance issues for several subdivisions where development has not yet begun. She instructed Mr. Bennington to notify those developers of the property maintenance violations and most sites have since been mowed. Chairman McIlhinney commented that a policy was put in place by this Board requiring residents to complete and sign a Zoning Complaint Form for these very issues. He does not believe that it is Supervisor Salvadore's responsibility to lodge complaints at the behest of individual residents. As an elected official who represents the taxpayers of this Township, Supervisor Salvadore feels it is her duty to pass along requests or complaints to the appropriate individuals.

P. PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mr. John Gillespie referred to a recent newspaper article concerning Lansdale Catholic High School that is being considered for a site on Rt. 152. Mr. Gillespie does not feel that the area roadways are sufficient to handle the kind of traffic this use would generate. Since the culverts along the roads are very deep and experience a great deal of flooding, he is concerned about school busses traveling and passing each other on the narrow roads. Mr. Gillespie believes that improvements to Rt. 152 should be considered if the proposal to construct a new high school is put forth. Further, he noted that parking at the middle school in Silverdale Borough is presently insufficient and suggested that if this proposal comes before the Board consideration should be given to providing adequate parking for evening events, as well as daytime use. Mr. Bennington advised that Lansdale Catholic School is currently conducting a survey of the families of students with respect to both the Hilltown and Royersford locations to determine the feasibility of constructing a new school at either location.

2. Mr. Bill Godek of Broad Street noted that on Tuesday, August 8, 2006, there was a fire in the black top plant at the H & K Quarry site on Skunkhollow Road, which resulted in a vast plume of smoke and several area roadways being closed. Mr. Godek expressed concern with the fire and asked the following questions:

- What was the extent of the damage?
- Is there is requirement to notify the Township?
- Any fatalities or injuries?
- Were there any toxic fumes?
- Is there a requirement to notify DEP?
- Is the fire being investigated by the Bucks County Fire Marshal?

After lengthy discussion, Mr. Bennington was directed to contact the Hilltown Fire Chief and representatives of H & K Quarry to determine the answers to Mr. Godek's inquiry.

3. Mrs. Cindy Paulits of 3204 Berry Brow Drive understands that the existing sewage pump station, which services the Reserve at Hilltown/Hilltown Ridge development overflowed several weeks ago. Mr. Bennington advised that the Hilltown Township Water and Sewer Authority was immediately notified of the incident, since they are responsible for the pump and haul agreement until the sewage treatment plant is completed and operational. Mr. Bennington will contact the Authority Manager, and provide Mrs. Paulits with a status report.

4. Mr. John Piccini of 3202 Berry Brow Drive asked the status of the drainage problems in the Reserve at Hilltown/Hilltown Ridge Subdivision. Supervisor Manfredi met with Mr. Wynn, the Township Engineer, on site. He explained that there is a requirement on the approved plan that drainage ditches be cut along the sides of each dwelling, however it became apparent that this has not been accomplished. There are two options available – to compel the developer to adhere to the approved plan, or the Township can discuss different alternatives with the developer to resolve the issues. This matter will be discussed in greater detail at the August 28th meeting when Mr. Wynn is present.

Q. MYLARS FOR SIGNATURE: Ashland Meadows

R. PRESS CONFERENCE: There were no questions from the press in attendance.

S. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Supervisor Salvadore, seconded by Supervisor Manfredi, and carried unanimously, the August 14, 2006 Hilltown Township Board of Supervisor's meeting was adjourned at 8:52PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Lynda Seimes

Township Secretary

(*These minutes should not be considered approved until officially voted upon at a public meeting of the Board of Supervisors).