

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULARLY SCHEDULED WORKSESSION MEETING
Monday, June 9, 2003
7:30PM**

The regularly scheduled worksession meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairperson Betty P. Snyder at 7:34PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also present were: John S. Bender, Supervisor
Gregory J. Lippincott, Township Manager
Christopher E. Engelhart, Chief of Police
Thomas A. Buzby, Director of Public Works
David W. Taylor, Code Enforcement Officer
Lorraine E. Leslie, Township Treasurer

Chairperson Snyder announced the Board met in Executive Session prior to this evening's meeting to discuss personnel and real estate matters.

A. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Action on the minutes of the May 12, 2003 Worksession Meeting – Chairperson Snyder noted the following correction to page 4, first paragraph, which should state “The plumbing systems are progressing well, **and** all the underground plumbing **has** been installed.”

Motion was made by Supervisor Bender, seconded by Supervisor Bennington and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2003 Worksession Meeting, as corrected. There was no public comment.

Action on the minutes of the May 27, 2003 Supervisor's Meeting – Chairperson Snyder noted the following correction to page 16, under Item #1 of “Public Comment,” which should state “Chairperson Snyder replied that the Supervisors were provided information by the chairperson of the **Park and Recreation Board**, they did not discuss any issues.”

Motion was made by Supervisor Bender, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2003 Supervisor's Meeting, as corrected. There was no public comment.

C. APPROVAL OF CURRENT BILLING: Chairperson Snyder presented the Bills List dated June 10, 2003, with General Fund payments in the amount of \$45,319.96 and State Highway Aid Fund payments in the amount of \$977.51; for a grand total of all payments in the amount of \$46,297.47.

Chairperson Snyder noted that the following correction to the Bills List Summary, which should state "Dated May 29, 2003 to **June 6, 2003**"

Motion was made by Supervisor Bender, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to approve the Bills List dated June 10, 2003, as corrected. There was no public comment.

D. TREASURER'S REPORT – Chairperson Snyder presented the Treasurer's Report with the following balance as of May 31, 2003:

General Fund Checking	\$ 336,419.03
Payroll Checking	\$ 144.46
General Reserve Fund	\$ 4,579.54
Open Space Fund	\$ 556,793.26
Fire Fund Checking	\$ 87,402.94
Debt Service Checking	\$ 277,639.44
State Highway Aid Checking	\$ 226,394.58
Escrow Fund Checking	\$1,040,339.55
Capital Projects Fund	\$ 638,223.14

Motion was made by Supervisor Bender, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report dated May 31, 2003, subject to audit. There was no public comment.

E. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Mr. Thomas A. Buzby, Director of Public Works – Mr. Buzby presented the Public Works Report for the period of May 10 through June 9, 2003; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Bids were opened at 2:00PM on Thursday, June 5, 2003 for Asphalt and Aggregate. Bid results are as follows:

Bid #2003-3 – Asphalt –

H & K Quarry
4000 Tons ID-2 Wearing - \$26.45/ton
2000 Tons ID-2 Binder - \$24.45/ton
Total: \$154,700.00

Glasgow, Inc.
4000 Tons ID-2 Wearing - \$27.50/ton
2000 Tons ID-2 Binder - \$23.90/ton
Total: \$157,800.00

Mr. Buzby recommended awarding Bid #2003-3 for Asphalt to H & K Quarry, the low bidder.

Supervisor Bennington asked if these prices are for delivered goods. Mr. Buzby replied that the prices are for picked-up goods. Mr. Buzby noted that the bid specs include a travel clause, which accounts for \$.75 per ton per mile, which would put Glasgow's price for ID-2 Binder, even though it is cheaper than H & K Quarry's price, at a much higher rate.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to award Bid #2003-3 for Asphalt to H & K Quarry in the total amount of \$154,700.00. There was no public comment.

Bid #2003-4 – Aggregate

H & K Quarries

1500 Tons – 1B Crushed Stone - \$9.40/ton
500 Tons - #2A Modified - \$5.25/ton
100 Tons - #2 Crushed Stone - \$9.55/ton
50 Tons - #3A Crushed Stone - \$5.55/ton
150 Tons - #4 Crushed Stone - \$5.85/ton
200 Tons - #5 Modified Stone – NO BID
200 Tons – Surge - \$7.00/ton
Total: \$20,325.00

Glasgow, Inc.

1500 Tons – 1B Crushed Stone - \$10.15/ton
500 Tons - #2A Modified - \$6.95/ton
100 Tons - #2 Crushed Stone - \$10.15/ton
50 Tons - #3A Crushed Stone - \$7.85/ton
150 Tons - #4 Crushed Stone - \$7.85/ton
200 Tons - #5 Modified Stone – NO BID
200 Tons – Surge – NO BID
Total: \$21,285.00

Mr. Buzby recommended that Bid #2003-4 for Aggregate be awarded to H & K Quarry in the total amount of \$20,325.00. Discussion took place regarding the fact that H & K Quarry did not bid on #5 Modified Stone and Glasgow did not bid on #5 Modified Stone and Surge. Again, Mr. Buzby explained that there is a \$.75/ton per mile travel clause, which affects the overall price.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to award Bid #2003-4 for Aggregate to H & K Quarry in the total amount of \$20,325.00. There was no public comment.

F. BUILDING REPORT – Mr. David W. Taylor, Building Inspector – Mr. Taylor presented the Building Report for the month of May, 2003; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Construction activity has begun on the Staples store at the Home Depot outparcels, as well as the strip center that is attached to it. Supervisor Bennington asked what other stores would be in the strip center. Mr. Taylor did not know. The Home Depot will be opening on July 29, 2003.

Foundation has been installed for the Peruzzi Toyota expansion.

With regard to the State Building Code, Mr. Taylor advised that there is an anticipated start up date for the end of the year.

G. WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY REPORT – Mr. James Groff, Authority Manager – Mr. Groff presented the Hilltown Water and Sewer Authority Report for the month of May, 2003; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

The new Hilltown Authority Treatment Facility is now fully operational and treating sewage at this time.

Even though she is aware that the site is not located in the Hilltown Authority's service area, Chairperson Snyder asked if Mr. Groff knew when sewer lines might be installed for the proposed Village at Dorchester Subdivision, the age-restricted community located on Bethlehem Pike. Mr. Groff will contact Telford Borough Authority tomorrow to provide a status report.

H. HILLTOWN FIRE COMPANY REPORT – No one was present.

I. SILVERDALE FIRE COMPANY REPORT – No one was present.

J. PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT – Mr. John Kachline, Chairperson – Mr. Kachline read the Planning Commission Report for their worksession meeting of June 2, 2003; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

K. PARK AND RECREATION BOARD REPORT – No one was present.

L. OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REPORT – No report was provided.

Mr. John Wietcha, member of the Open Space Committee, asked if the Board had the opportunity to review the proposal submitted last month with regard to lot sizes for purchase of open space. The Board has not yet reviewed the information.

M. ZONING HEARING BOARD REPORT – No one was present. The Zoning Hearing Board Report for the month of May, 2003 is on file at the Township office.

Chairperson Snyder suggested that the Township oppose the scheduled June 19, 2003 Zoning Hearing Board appeal for Cerauli (Appeal #2003-11). The applicant is seeking a variance for construction of an addition, which would intrude upon the setback adjacent to Township open space. Discussion took place.

N. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS:

1. Mr. Mark Fazio – Hilltown Village Request – Mr. Fazio presented a packet of information, including a petition signed by residents of Hilltown Village seeking Township support to address the following issues:

- Immediate reduction of speed within the Village Center to 25 m.p.h.
- Plan of control and improvement to the intersection of Rt. 152/Hilltown Pike.
- Provide for safe pedestrian traffic flow.
- Protect the historic ambiance of the village and its structures.
- Stop the quarry expansion.

Mr. Fazio requested that the petition itself be forwarded to PennDot for review and consideration. In addition to the petition, the packet of information lists seven other sections, including History, 12/11/00 Meeting Minutes, 2000 Questionnaire, the Intersection, 4/28/03 Meeting Minutes and Bucks Review, Village Planning Handbook, and Points of Discussion.

With increased development surrounding the village, Mr. Fazio noted that the traffic concerns are becoming even greater. His own employees and/or tenants, when simply wishing to make a trip to the post office, the Country Store, or the Civic Park, drive their vehicles because of the hazards involved with walking.

Mr. Fazio owns two historic buildings and a business at the corner of Rt. 152 and Hilltown Pike, which has been repeatedly struck by vehicles, the most recent being within the past few weeks. Mr. Fazio's stone building and other older buildings in the area, by either being hit by a vehicle or from continual quarry blasting, are deteriorating at an accelerated level. Mr. Fazio advised that the chimney in one of his buildings collapsed approximately one day before his other building was hit by a vehicle. He

believes the chimney collapse is a result of a series of quarry blasting explosions that he feels were much more intense lately than he ever recalls. Granted, the chimney is 150+ years old, however Mr. Fazio feels that it was more than coincidental that the collapse happened so soon after those very strong quarry blasts. Mr. Lippincott noted that any complaints about blasting must be forwarded to DEP. Supervisor Bender asked if Mr. Fazio relayed his blasting complaints to the quarry. From what he has heard at the recent quarry public hearings, Mr. Fazio does not believe it would do any good to complain to the quarry. Supervisor Bender recalls that quarry representatives at those public hearings have encouraged residents to contact them with any complaints, and suggested that Mr. Fazio do so. Chairperson Snyder noted that at one of the upcoming quarry public hearings, H & K intends to have a blasting expert available to testify.

Supervisor Bennington referred to the December 11, 2000 Board of Supervisor meeting minutes, which are enclosed in Mr. Fazio's documents, where the Board suggested that Mr. Heinrich, the Township's Traffic Consultant, review the intersection. Supervisor Bennington asked if that review was conducted by Mr. Heinrich and what those results were. Mr. Lippincott believes a review was done, and noted that even more recently, the Supervisors forwarded a request to PennDot to reduce the speed limit on Rt. 152 into the village of Hilltown, which was subsequently denied by PennDot. Discussion took place. Mr. Lippincott will research the matter to determine if a review was conducted by the Traffic Consultant. Supervisor Bender noticed monitoring strips along Hilltown Pike today, and asked if a study was being conducted by PennDot. Mr. Lippincott believes that the Hilltown Police were monitoring traffic along Hilltown Pike. Mr. Fazio also felt that the school entrance on Hilltown Pike near the village should be marked by flashing lights.

Supervisor Bender suggested that State Representative Kathy Watson should be involved with this issue, in an attempt to spur PennDot into action. Chairperson agreed, noting the proximity of the Hilltown Civic Park, the school, and the village of Hilltown, with regard to this intersection.

Mr. Fazio wants direction from the Board of Supervisors that it will be possible to control that intersection, since his buildings and business have suffered so much damage. Mr. Fazio and the other petition signers are willing to lend their support to find a solution to this problem. Chairperson Snyder believes that PennDot will respond to a group of citizens as quickly as they would respond to a municipality's complaints. Therefore, she feels that with the involvement of Representative Watson, the Township's Traffic Consultant, and the citizen's input, there may be a chance of moving PennDot on the issue.

Supervisor Bennington suggested that the Township obtain copies of blasting records for a period of time to determine if there was any evidence that they are increasing in

Intensity, as well as other factors. Mr. Lippincott noted that the intensity of blasts depends on cloud cover and wind direction. The Supervisors directed Mr. Lippincott to request copies of blasting records from the quarry and DEP.

If a historic village designation is deemed for Hilltown Village, Mr. Fazio asked if it would provide for any funding. Mr. Lippincott explained that funding and grants are available for installation of sidewalks, curb cuts for handicap access, etc. for deemed historic districts. Discussion took place.

Chairperson Snyder suggested that the Township request that PennDot consider lowering the speed limit on Hilltown Pike. Mr. Fazio asked if the Township could conduct a comprehensive traffic study of the intersection of Rt. 152 and Hilltown Pike. Mr. Lippincott will contact Mr. Heinrich to see if a review was conducted on that intersection, as referred to in the December 11, 2000 meeting minutes. Mr. Fazio urged the Board to consider appointing a Transportation Committee now, which is recommended as one of the highest priorities in the proposed Comprehensive Plan. Further, he requested that the stop bars at that intersection, which have begun to fade, be repainted. Mr. Fazio would be appreciative of any immediate assistance the Township might be able to provide with regard to the intersection, perhaps with just police presence or the presence of the speed limit sign, since he fears that his building could not withstand another hit.

O. MANAGER'S REPORT – Mr. Gregory J. Lippincott, Township Manager –

1. Mr. Lippincott presented the Zoning Report for the month of May, 2003; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

2. A copy of the Letter of Support/Commitment to be sent to the Bucks County Planning Commission regarding the Delaware Estuary Grants Program Grant Application for the Pennridge Area Coordinating Committee was presented for the Board's consideration. Upon approval, this letter would be available for the Board's signature following this meeting.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bender, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to authorize that the Letter of Support be sent to the Bucks County Planning Commission regarding the Delaware Estuary Grants Program Grant Application for the Pennridge Area Coordinating Committee, as noted above. There was no public comment.

3. At the last meeting, the Supervisors authorized the Governor's Center to conduct a Township-wide Fire Company Peer Review Study to determine ways to improve fire services. Mr. Lippincott presented a Letter of Intent with regard to this issue for the Board's signature following this evening.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to authorize the sending of a Letter of Intent for the Governor's Center to conduct a Township-wide Fire Company Peer Review Study, as specified above. There was no public comment.

P. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. At a previous meeting, correspondence was received from BFI to request an administrative meeting with Township Staff, Solicitor and Engineer to discuss a possible recycling and solid waste transfer project that BFI would like to develop on 18.7 acres adjacent to their current facility, however after authorization was granted by the Supervisors to schedule that meeting, the applicant withdrew their request. BFI has once again made the same request and are prepared to deposit the required \$500.00 escrow.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bender, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to authorize the Township Staff, Solicitor and Engineer to meet with BFI to discuss a possible recycling and solid waste transfer project, pending deposit of the required \$500.00 escrow. There was no public comment.

Q. MYLARS FOR SIGNATURE: Lynrose Estates Lot Line Adjustment

R. PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mr. Harry Mason of Morgan Lane noted that in some Townships, impervious surface areas are considered in two ways – the impervious area that builders are required to comply with and an additional percentage increase of impervious area that the property owner is permitted to expand upon. He suggested that the Planning Commission review this information.

Mr. Mason questioned the Cerauli Zoning Hearing variance that Chairperson Snyder felt the Township should oppose. Chairperson Snyder commented that she was very concerned about the possibility of additions, patios, sheds, etc. going into the setback adjacent to Township open space, since there are other surrounding properties who might make that same request.

Mr. John Kachline of Mill Road spoke to Mr. Cerauli, who explained that the reason his home was constructed on top of a steep slope was because due to the developer's grading, the water seems to just lay in the rear of his property. If the developer would have drained that area properly, Mr. Kachline believes Mr. Cerauli would not be experiencing these difficulties. Supervisor Bennington asked what Mr. Cerauli is proposing. Chairperson Snyder believes the applicant is proposing an addition and a raised patio.

2. Mr. Mike Beatrice of Church Road noted that there is a program in place called Project Keystone sponsored by PennDot for the southeastern Pennsylvania area with regard to stone arch bridges. PennDot no longer wants to maintain these historic bridges, and intends to replace them with modern bridges. The stone bridge Mr. Beatrice is most concerned about is located on Rickert Road toward Dublin, which is on the list to be replaced. Project Keystone is taking 126 bridges into consideration, determining which they will preserve and which will be replaced. Those bridges with the greatest chance for preservation will be those with the strongest public support. Mr. Beatrice wondered if there is any interest in preserving the bridge on Rickert Road. Mr. Lippincott heard about this project last Friday at the Bucks County Consortium meeting, where Mr. Andy Warren of PennDot was the guest speaker. Mr. Warren advised that PennDot is seeking municipalities to partner to save stone arch bridges. Mr. Beatrice noted that the bridge on Rickert Road has a wonderful traffic calming effect, because of its high arch. Chairperson Snyder believes that the bridge on Rickert Road has already been designated for replacement by PennDot. A lengthy discussion took place. The Supervisors directed Mr. Lippincott to obtain a listing of the stone arch bridges from PennDot for the Board's review and consideration.

3. Mr. Wally Rosenthal of Rosie Lane requested a status report of the Berry Brow Subdivision and the Traffic Impact Study. Mr. Lippincott advised that the preliminary plans were recently submitted. Chairperson Snyder is also aware that a review by the Bucks County Planning Commission recommends that a Traffic Impact Study be conducted.

S. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT – Chief Christopher Engelhart – Chief Engelhart apologized for the delay. He and John Gillespie, chief of the Silverdale Fire Company, were responding to a single vehicle fatal traffic accident in the 1400 block of Fairhill Road.

Chief Engelhart explained that there would be no written report for the month of May, 2003, due to illnesses and the holidays. He advised that there were 80 criminal arrests for the month of May, along with 260 traffic citations issued for the month, including 18 warnings that were associated with those citations.

Chief Engelhart announced that on June 19, 2003, the new police officer will be graduating from the Police Academy. He will begin patrol with another officer on June 20, 2003.

Chief Engelhart recommended that a 25 m.p.h. speed limit be imposed on Morgan, Victoria, and Brittany Lanes to match the speed limit within the Longleaf Estates development.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to authorize a speed study on Morgan Lane, Victoria Lane, and Brittany Lane, as recommended by Chief Engelhart. There was no public comment.

Supervisor Bender questioned the monitoring strips on Hilltown Pike. Chief Engelhart advised that monitoring was not being conducted by the Hilltown Police on Hilltown Pike, and suggested that perhaps PennDot was conducting a study. Discussion took place concerning the number of vehicles that do not stop at the intersection of Rt. 152 and Hilltown Pike, which Chief Engelhart advised is a violation. The Supervisors directed the Hilltown Police Department to monitor that intersection, and suggested that the speed monitoring sign be placed somewhere in that area approaching the village of Hilltown.

T. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Supervisor Bender requested that Mr. Lippincott determine who is responsible for the monitoring strips that were placed on Hilltown Pike.

2. Supervisor Bender advised that the next Public Hearing for the request for re-zoning of the Haines and Kibblehouse Quarry is scheduled for Tuesday, June 17, 2003 at 7:00PM at the Middle School in Silverdale.

3. Supervisor Bender announced that he would not be present for the July 14, 2003 Supervisor's Worksession meeting.

4. Supervisor Bennington asked Mr. Lippincott to contact DEP and the H & K Quarry to obtain blasting records.

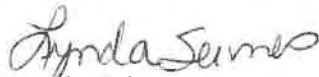
5. Chairperson Snyder advised that there was a complaint several weeks ago regarding a piece of Township open space that was not yet mowed and trimmed in a timely fashion. She is aware that part of the problem was the extremely wet spring. In an attempt to help minimize maintenance on Township open space, Chairperson Snyder suggested the Board consider the possibility of doing some re-forestation on appropriate open space parcels, such as the small area at the intersection of Rt. 113 and Diamond Street. Discussion took place.

6. Chairperson Snyder noted that there was correspondence at the last meeting regarding failing septic systems in the Orchard Road/Keystone Drive area. She had asked residents to provide the Township with names and addresses of failing systems in that area, however she has only received two responses. Mr. Lippincott suggested that the Township send correspondence to those property owners within 1000 ft. of the original failing system. The Board was agreeable.

U. PRESS CONFERENCE: A conference was held to answer questions of those reporters present.

V. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously, the June 9, 2003 Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors Worksession meeting was adjourned at 9:12PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda Seimes

Township Secretary

(*These minutes were transcribed from tape recordings taken by Mrs. Lorraine E. Leslie, Township Treasurer).