

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULARLY SCHEDULED WORKSESSION MEETING
Monday, February 10, 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: Kenneth B. Bennington, Vice-Chairperson
John S. Bender, Supervisor
Gregory J. Lippincott, Township Manager
Christopher Engelhart, Lieutenant
David W. Taylor, Code Enforcement Officer
Lorraine E. Leslie, Township Treasurer

Chairperson Snyder requested a moment of silence in memory of Mrs. Nancy Gillespie, former member of the Hilltown Township Park and Recreation Board who passed away last week.

A. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

1. Mr. Jack McIlhinney of Broad Street asked who would be providing sewer service to the proposed Berry Brow Subdivision. Chairperson Snyder replied that the applicant intends to construct a private package treatment plant to service the proposed subdivision.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Action on the minutes of the January 27, 2003 Supervisor’s Meeting – Chairperson Snyder noted the following correction to page 3, second last paragraph, which should read “Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Chairperson Snyder, and carried unanimously to authorize the Hilltown Water and Sewer Authority Engineer, Castle Valley Consultants, to begin the process for the Act 537 Plan Revision so that any future sewer facility to service the proposed Berry Brow Subdivision meets requirements of and is of a type and design consistent with standards of the Hilltown Township Water and Sewer Authority. There was no public comment.”

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, and seconded by Chairperson Snyder, to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2003 Supervisor’s Meeting, as corrected. Supervisor Bender abstained from the vote since he was not present at the meeting. There was no public comment.

C. APPROVAL OF CURRENT BILLING – Chairperson Snyder presented the Bills List dated February 11, 2003, with General Fund payments in the amount of \$96,436.43,

and State Highway Aid Fund payments in the amount of \$9,657.75; for a grand total of all payments in the amount of \$106,094.18.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bender, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to approve the Bills List dated February 11, 2003. There was no public comment.

D. TREASURER'S REPORT – Chairperson Snyder presented the Treasurer's Report with the following balances as of December 31, 2002:

General Fund Checking	\$ 58,527.38
Payroll Fund Checking	\$ 135.47
General Reserve Fund	\$ 19,565.79
Open Space Fund	\$ 211,827.09
Fire Fund Checking	\$ 4,131.05
Debt Service Checking	\$ 185,265.17
State Highway Aid Checking	\$ 27,847.57
Escrow Fund Checking	\$ 861,937.03
Capital Projects Fund	\$1,056,038.94

Motion was made by Supervisor Bender, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report as of December 31, 2002, subject to audit. There was no public comment.

Treasurer's Report dated January 31, 2003 – Chairperson Snyder presented the Treasurer's Report with the following balances as of January 31, 2003:

General Fund Checking	\$ 59,680.37
Payroll Fund Checking	\$ 140.00
General Reserve Fund	\$ 4,576.90
Open Space Fund	\$ 236,095.20
Fire Fund Checking	\$ 1,919.98
Debt Service Checking	\$ 121,170.01
State Highway Aid Checking	\$ 3,154.72
Escrow Fund Checking	\$ 832,268.35
Capital Projects Fund	\$ 740,372.32

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

E. COMMENDATION PRESENTATION: Mr. Lippincott advised that Mr. Ron Allen, former member of the Hilltown Park and Recreation Board would not be present to accept his commendation this evening due to the inclement weather. This Commendation Presentation will take place at a later date.

F. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – In Mr. Buzby's absence, Mr. Lippincott read the Public Works Report for the period of December 10, 2002 through February 10, 2003; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

G. POLICE REPORT – Christopher Engelhart, Lieutenant – Lieutenant Engelhart read the Police Report for the months of December, 2002 and January, 2003; copies of which are on file at the Township office.

H. BUILDING REPORT – Mr. David W. Taylor, Building Inspector – Mr. Taylor read the Building Report for the months of December, 2003 and January, 2003; copies of which are on file at the Township office.

Public Comment:

1. Mrs. Marilyn Teed of Mill Road asked when she would be issued her building permit. Chairperson Snyder did not feel that was an appropriate question for a public meeting, and advised Mrs. Teed to contact the Building Inspector during normal business hours for a status report on her permit. Mrs. Teed commented that she did, however she did not receive an answer. Chairperson Snyder encouraged Mrs. Teed to follow-up with another phone call to the Building Inspector during office hours.

I. HILLTOWN FIRE COMPANY REPORT – Mr. Robert Grunmeier, Chief – Mr. Grunmeier presented the Hilltown Fire Company Report for the months of December, 2002 and January, 2003; copies of which are on file at the Township office.

J. HILLTOWN WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY REPORT – Mr. James C. Groff, Authority Manager – Mr. Groff read the Hilltown Authority Report for the month of January, 2003; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

At the request of Officer Dave Miller, the Emergency Management Personnel Coordinator, Mr. Groff will be attending a future Fire Prevention Bureau meeting to discuss the issues of line size with respect to fire flows in new subdivisions.

K. SILVERDALE FIRE COMPANY REPORT – Mr. John Gillespie, Chief – Mr. Gillespie read the Silverdale Fire Company Reports for the months of December, 2002 and January, 2003; copies of which are on file at the Township office.

Mr. Gillespie advised that Silverdale Borough has provided funding for an in-house simulator, which is a computer program utilized to simulate fire and/or rescue situations, for firefighter training and testing. Silverdale Borough has also approved an Ordinance allowing the Silverdale Fire Company the opportunity to obtain reimbursement through insurance companies.

Mr. Gillespie thanked the Supervisors and staff for their tremendous outpouring of sympathy in the recent loss of his wife, Nancy.

L. PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT – Mr. John Kachline, Chairperson – Mr. Kachline read the Planning Commission Reports for their worksession meetings of January 9, 2003, and February 3, 2003; copies of which are on file at the Township office.

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

N. OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REPORT – No one was present.

O. ZONING HEARING BOARD REPORT – Mr. John Snyder, Chairperson – Mr. Snyder presented the Zoning Hearing Board Report for the month of January, 2003; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Snyder also presented the Annual Report of Fire Police Activity for 2002. Discussion took place as to the fact that there are only four active members of the Hilltown Fire Police, with one out on medical leave for all of the year 2002.

P. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS: None.

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

1. Since Mr. Lippincott has been fielding many questions regarding wind power, he has established a website for people to obtain additional information regarding wind power. The site is <http://www.hilltown.org/windpower.htm>. Mr. Lippincott spoke with representatives of DEP who have been very helpful. The next step is to measure the wind speed here at the municipal building to see if it is feasible for wind power opportunities, which Mr. Lippincott is in the process of doing now.

2. Mr. Lippincott sought Supervisor's approval to have Solicitor Grabowski represent the Township in opposing the Thomas Cuce' Zoning Hearing Board application. Mr. Cuce' is seeking a variance from requesting waiver of Land Development. Since the applicant has never asked the Supervisors for a waiver, Mr. Lippincott believes the application to the Zoning Hearing Board is quite premature and

will become moot if the Board were to grant a waiver of land development. Secondly, if the Supervisors were to deny the land development waiver, the Board may wish to defend its decision. Supervisor Bennington asked if this information was explained to Mr. Cuce', and Mr. Lippincott replied that it was. Mr. Cuce' has since granted an extension for scheduling and review of his Zoning Hearing appeal. The Supervisors agreed to wait before granting approval for Solicitor Grabowski to defend the Township in this matter.

3. The Zoning Reports for the months of December, 2002 and January, 2003 were provided to the Board for review; copies of which are on file at the Township office.

4. Mr. Lippincott presented a Resolution for Planning Modules for the Equestrian Court Subdivision for the Board's consideration.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to **adopt Resolution #2003-14, approving Planning Modules for the Equestrian Court Subdivision, pending completion of separate Operation and Maintenance Agreements for each of the 16 lots, along with deposit of a \$2,500.00 per lot financial security for same.**

Public Comment:

1. Mr. Jack McIlhinney of Broad Street asked if the \$2,500.00 per lot financial security that is collected will be used to ensure that future homeowners will be required to repair any failing septic system. Mr. Lippincott agreed that was correct. Mr. McIlhinney asked what would happen if those funds are depleted. Mr. Lippincott replied that the Township would have to continue to enforce the requirements of the Operation and Maintenance Agreements.

2. Mr. John Perritt commented that the Silverdale Fire Company presently has six active fire police members and would be willing to assist the Hilltown Fire Police in any way they can.

With no further public comment, motion passed.

R. CORRESPONDENCE – Mr. Gregory J. Lippincott, Township Manager –

1. Correspondence was received from the attorney for Peruzzi Toyota, along with the required \$500.00 escrow, seeking authorization for a sketch plan meeting with Township staff to discuss a proposed 5,100 sq. ft. expansion to their service department.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to authorize a sketch plan meeting with Township Staff for the Peruzzi Toyota proposal to construct a 5,100 sq. ft. expansion to their service department. There was no public comment.

2. A copy of correspondence sent to Pennridge area communities regarding the DEP letter to PACC seeking nominations of representatives to be considered to serve as members of each of the six regional committees to meet requirements of the Water Resources Planning Act was presented to the Board for review. Mr. Lippincott spoke with a representative of DEP who advised that the regional committees would be meeting quarterly during daytime hours, with a few evening meetings as well. If someone is chosen to serve on one of the six regional committees, they may be required to serve on the State committee as well. A lengthy discussion took place.

3. An invitation was received from the Dublin Volunteer Fire Company, seeking the attendance of a Township representative and a guest at their annual fire company banquet on February 22, 2003 at the Sellersville Fire Department banquet hall at 7:00PM. Supervisor Bennington agreed to attend.

4. A request was received from Mr. Derek D'Angiolini, owner of a property located at 329 Schoolhouse Road (TMP #15-1-144) in Hilltown, seeking authorization from the Supervisors to request that Telford Borough Authority relinquish its service rights to the property in question and to allow the site to be connected to the Hilltown Township Water and Sewer Authority sewage collection system to correct the present health concerns created by the malfunctioning on-lot system. Mr. Lippincott explained that the Hilltown Township Authority sewer line is only 300 ft. from the property, while the Telford Borough Authority sewer line is 2,000 ft. from the property. Discussion took place.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously to authorize a request to Telford Borough Authority to relinquish its service rights to TMP #15-1-144 located at 329 Schoolhouse Road and to allow the site to be connected to the Hilltown Township Water and Sewer Authority sewage collection system in order to correct the present health concerns created by the malfunctioning on-lot system. There was no public comment.

S. MYLARS FOR SIGNATURE:

1. Equestrian Court Subdivision

T. PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mr. John Gillespie of Moyer Road thanked the Board of Supervisors and the Park and Recreation Board for the Commendation that was presented to his wife Nancy for her years of service on the Hilltown Park and Recreation Board, noting that it meant a great deal to him and his family.

2. Mrs. Marilyn Teed of Mill Road requested assurance that she would be receiving correspondence from the Township prior to the next Supervisor's meeting regarding her proposed building permit application. Mr. Lippincott commented that this issue is a current legal matter that will not be discussed during this meeting. Mrs. Teed disagreed, noting that her building permit application is not part of the legal action against the Township. Chairperson Snyder refused to provide that assurance to Mrs. Teed and advised her that further communication can happen if she would contact the Township office during normal business hours.

U. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Supervisor Bender stated that Mrs. Barbara Salvatore, who the Supervisors appointed to the Dublin Regional EMS Board as Hilltown's representative, has been elected president of that organization for this coming year. He congratulated Mrs. Salvatore on the excellent job she has done so far.

2. Chairperson Snyder announced that the Board met in Executive Session prior to this meeting in order to discuss personnel and real estate matters.

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

W. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Bender, and carried unanimously, the February 10, 2003 Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors Worksession meeting was adjourned at 8:25PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda Seimes

Township Secretary

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