

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
REGULARLY SCHEDULED WORKSESSION MEETING  
Monday, June 10, 2002  
7:30PM**

The regularly scheduled worksession meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairperson John S. Bender at 7:32PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also present were: Kenneth B. Bennington, Vice-Chairperson  
Betty P. Snyder, Supervisor  
Gregory J. Lippincott, Township Manager  
Kerry L. Trauger, Chief of Police  
Thomas A. Buzby, Director of Public Works  
Lorraine E. Leslie, Township Treasurer

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

**A. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:**

1. Mr. Charles Schaeffer of 109 Schultz Road requested that all individuals use their microphones during the meeting. He recently attended a Zoning Hearing Board meeting where microphones were not used and it was very difficult for those in attendance to hear the proceedings.

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Action on the minutes of the May 28, 2002 Supervisor’s Meeting – Supervisor Snyder noted that item #3 on page four, **should reflect that the Board also directed Mr. Lippincott to contact Mr. Curt Heintzelmau of State Representative Kathy Watson’s office regarding this issue.****

Motion was made by Supervisor Snyder, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the May 28, 2002 Supervisor’s Meeting, as corrected. There was no public comment.

**C. APPROVAL OF CURRENT BILLING:** Chairperson Bender presented the Bills List dated June 11, 2002, with General Fund payments in the amount of \$70,159.13, Fire Fund payments in the amount of \$42,600.00, and State Highway Aid Funds in the amount of \$1,180.48; for a grand total of all payments in the amount of \$113,939.61.

Motion was made by Supervisor Snyder, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to approve the Bills List dated June 11, 2002. There was no public comment.

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

General Fund Checking	\$ 413,603.57
Payroll Fund Checking	\$ 99.61
General Reserve Fund	\$ 21,699.96
Open Space Fund	\$ 203,141.40
Fire Fund Checking	\$ 75,133.64
Debt Service Fund Checking	\$ 255,982.22
State Highway Aid Checking	\$ 261,227.67
Escrow Fund Checking	\$ 489,211.60
Capital Projects Fund	\$1,143,806.26

Motion was made by Supervisor Snyder, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report dated May 31, 2002, 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 5<sup>th</sup> through June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2002; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Discussion took place concerning the possibility of an additional sand volleyball court.

Mr. Buzby received correspondence from Haines and Kibblehouse warning that the price of blacktop will see a substantial increase – anywhere from \$2.65 to \$4.30 per ton. This could affect some of the planned paving work for this year.

F. POLICE REPORT – Chief Kerry L. Trauger – Chief Trauger read the Police Report for the month of May, 2002; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

The officers conducted a speed check today on both Rt. 309 and Blooming Glen Road, with 27 citations issued on Rt. 309 (104 vehicles were clocked in a two hour time frame with 67 traveling at over 65 m.p.h.).

Chief Trauger believes that the Fairhill Road and Diamond Street intersection has been greatly improved with the installation of the larger stop signs and the "Stop Ahead" bars painted in the roadway.

Chief Trauger and Mr. Lippincott have been discussing the possibility of trying a traffic calming device, such as a speed hump, in one of the housing developments. They are seeking an interested resident who will not complain if such a device is erected in front of their dwelling. Supervisor Snyder also suggested that a speed hump be considered on

Central Avenue near Romanowski Field. A lengthy discussion took place and suggestions were made as to what development or roadway a "test" speed hump might be installed on.

G. BUILDING REPORT – No one was present. The Building Report for the month of May, 2002 is on file at the Township office.

H. HILLTOWN AUTHORITY REPORT – No one was present. The Authority Report for the month of May, 2002 is on file at the Township office.

Supervisor Snyder reminded everyone that Bucks County is still in a drought emergency and encouraged water conservation. It was noted that H.T.W.S.A. customers are continuing to conserve water and that water usage is much lower in comparison to this time last year.

Construction has begun on the H.T.W.S.A. treatment facility.

I. HILLTOWN FIRE COMPANY REPORT – Mr. Jim Walters read the Hilltown Fire Company Report for the month of May, 2002; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

J. SILVERDALE FIRE COMPANY REPORT – Mr. John Gillespie read the Silverdale Fire Company Report for the month of May, 2002; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

K. PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT – Mr. John Kachline, Chairperson – Mr. Kachline read the Planning Commission Worksession Meeting Report of June 3, 2002; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

The Planning Commission recommended the following dates for Public Hearings concerning the proposed Comprehensive Plan:

July 1, 2002	First Public Hearing.
July 29, 2002	If a second Public Hearing is required.
August 5, 2002	Worksession to incorporate public comment from previous hearing (or hearings).
August 19, 2002	Planning Commission vote for recommendation to Supervisors.

Supervisor Bennington was concerned that there might be a lack of attendance at the July 1<sup>st</sup> meeting since many people are on vacation at that time. After a lengthy discussion,

the Board agreed, and it was determined that the first Planning Commission Public Hearing for the proposed Comprehensive Plan should be held on July 29, 2002.

Public Comment:

1. Mr. Jack McIlhinney asked if the Planning Commission would only review the summary sheets of the proposed Comprehensive Plan, and exclude discussion of the remainder of the document. Mr. Kachline replied that the Planning Commission felt that since the proposed Comprehensive Plan, in its entirety, is available for public inspection at the Township office, and copies of the proposed Comprehensive Plan will be available for inspection at the Public Hearings, any questions from residents will be addressed at the Public Hearing about any portion of the document at any time.

2. Mrs. Marilyn Teed of Mill Road asked how much input the public will have with regard to TDR's. Chairperson Bender realizes that this is a major issue in the Comprehensive Plan and believes that there will be a great deal of questions, comments, and discussions at the Public Hearings. Supervisor Snyder noted that the Comprehensive Plan Task Force members recommended investigation of TDR's and there are many people who will have to be educated and/or convinced that this is either a good idea or a bad idea for Hilltown Township.

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

M. OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REPORT – No one was present. The minutes of the April, 2002 Open Space Committee are on file at the Township office.

N. ZONING HEARING BOARD REPORT– No one was present. The Zoning Hearing Board Report for the month of May, 2002 is on file at the Township office.

O. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS: None.

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

1. At the May 13, 2002 meeting, Alice Kachline, Tax Collector, requested the Board's consideration of deed transfers being recorded by the Township, since Bucks County is presently four months behind in providing deed transfer information to her. To date, there are eight municipalities in Bucks County who do this. Mr. Lippincott advised that the Fire Prevention Bureau has long suggested that the Board consider implementing the position of Fire Marshall, who would conduct re-sale home inspections, which would provide that information to the Tax Collector and to the Township in a more timely fashion. Mr. Lippincott noted that Perkasic Borough is investigating the possibility of having their Tax Collector record deeds. Discussion took place. The Board agreed that

Mrs. Kachline's request would be taken into consideration during the 2003 Budget process.

Public Comment:

1. Mr. Jack McIlhinney, representing Hilltown Landowner's Association, agreed with the Township recording deeds, however he strongly objects to the idea of the Township's inspection of dwelling re-sales.

Chairperson Bender asked what a re-sale inspection would entail. Mr. Lippincott replied that a Fire Marshall would insure that the dwelling complies with all current safety regulations, that the physical street address is properly posted for 911-emergency services, insure that handrails are properly installed, verify that smoke detectors are installed and in working order, etc. (Mr. John Gillespie of the Silverdale Fire Company made inaudible comments without approaching the microphone and therefore, those comments could not be transcribed). Mr. McIlhinney is concerned that home inspections would eventually get into building/construction items, thereby playing the part of "buyer's advocate," which could delay settlements or create difficulties for the seller. A lengthy discussion took place.

2. Notification has been received from the Bucks County Planning Commission concerning the official updates of the Neshaminy Creek and Little Neshaminy Creek Stormwater Management Plans. Each of the 38 municipalities that comprise the Neshaminy and Little Neshaminy Creek watersheds is required to designate a representative to the Watershed Plan Advisory Committee so that organization of the study program may begin. The designated representative will be the link between the BCPC and Hilltown Township, the person who will channel information from and to the Township throughout the life of the program. The Bucks County Planning Commission recommends that the representative be the municipal engineer or a municipal employee who knows the daily workings of drainage conditions within Hilltown Township.

Since Mr. Wynn is also the Township Engineer for Plumstead Township, Supervisor Bennington suggested that Mr. Wynn be appointed as Hilltown's representative, and perhaps the billing for his services could be shared with Plumstead.

Public Comment:

1. Mrs. Marilyn Teed of Mill Road commented that one of Hilltown's residents is a hydrogeologist, and suggested that he be considered as Hilltown's representative. Supervisor Bennington noted that the Bucks County Planning Commission suggests that the representative be the municipal engineer or a municipal employee familiar with the daily workings of drainage conditions in Hilltown. Discussion took place.

3. Mr. Lippincott presented the Zoning Report for the month of May, 2002; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

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

1. A copy of correspondence sent to Representative Godshall was received from FAZ Associates with regard to a summary of traffic conditions along Central Avenue between County Line Road and Bethlehem Pike.

Supervisor Bennington asked if Representative Godshall incurred the costs for an additional traffic study. Mr. Lippincott replied that Franconia Township paid for the traffic study.

Supervisor Snyder noted that the correspondence suggests a list of actions for further consideration, and feels that perhaps this Board should respond to some of those suggestions. Chairperson Bender suggested that a copy of the letter be forwarded to Mr. Wynn and Mr. Heinrich for further review, and the remaining Supervisors agreed.

2. Correspondence was received from a resident of Gentry Drive in Hilltown, complaining about the recent boom in development in our area.

Supervisor Bennington directed Mr. Lippincott to respond to his correspondence, explaining that the Township is not permitted to charge impact fees per the State and that the development district allows for development. Supervisor Snyder offered to help draft this response letter, which the entire Board will review prior to mailing.

3. A request has been received from members of the Zoning Hearing Board to increase their rate of pay per meeting attendance to \$35.00 per meeting.

The Supervisors advised that the Zoning Hearing Board request would be considered during the 2003 Budget process.

4. Correspondence was received today from the Hatfield Township Zoning Hearing Board, advising that a meeting will be held on Monday, June 24, 2002 at 7:30PM at the Hatfield Township Building to hear the continued application of the Bergey Road Industrial Associates L.P., who has requested a Special Exception to permit shared parking and to allow 70% impervious coverage, which exceeds the permitted 60%. The property is located at 1150 Bethlehem Pike. According to the Municipalities Planning Code, Hatfield Township must notify a neighboring municipality located within 500 feet of a subject property.

R. MYLARS FOR SIGNATURE: Nace/Hess Lot Line Adjustment

S. PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mr. John Gillespie of the Silverdale Fire Company commented that members of the department will be training with the Hilltown Police Department on defibrillators tomorrow evening.

2. Mrs. Alice Kachline stated that deeds are currently being recorded by the Perkasio Borough administrative staff, not the Tax Collector.

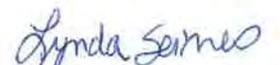
T. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Supervisor Bennington advised that the next Hazardous Waste Collection will be held on June 20, 2002 at the Middle Bucks Institute of Technology in Warwick Township on Rt. 263. Other dates include August 10, 2002 at the Upper Bucks County Vocational School on Ridge Road in Bedminster, and September 21, 2002 at the Quakertown Community Swimming Pool on Mill Street in Quakertown Borough.

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

V. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Supervisor Snyder, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously, the June 10, 2002 Board of Supervisors Worksession meeting was adjourned at 8:42PM.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Lynda Seimes  
Township Secretary

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