

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULARLY SCHEDULED WORKSESSION MEETING
Monday, March 11, 2002
7:30PM**

The regularly scheduled Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors meeting was called to order by Chairperson John S. Bender at 7:34PM 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
David W. Taylor, Code Enforcement Officer
Lorraine E. Leslie, Township Treasurer

Chairperson Bender called for a moment of silence to recognize the six-month anniversary of the September 11th attack on America.

A. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

1. Mrs. Marilyn Teed of Mill Road does not recall having the opportunity to review plans for the recent site work behind the municipal building. Mr. Lippincott advised that site plans are available for public review in the Administrative Office during normal business hours. Discussion took place. Mrs. Teed resents the fact that the Township is doing things in ways that the general public cannot do. Mr. Lippincott advised the Township has met all the requirements of the Second Class Code in the process of beginning site work and construction of the future Public Works facility.

Mrs. Teed asked when the Open Space Committee, which is an ad-hoc committee, will be made a formal board or commission. Chairperson Bender advised that action on this matter will be taken at the March 25, 2002 meeting. One of the reasons for delay was the collection of data to prepare bylaws, term status, etc. to make the Open Space Committee a permanent board or commission.

2. Mr. Jackson Teed of Mill Road questioned the status of the drainage problem on Mill Road that he had mentioned at a previous meeting. Mr. Lippincott advised that the Director of Public Works is on vacation this week, however it will be brought to his attention upon his return.

B. APPROVAL OF CURRENT BILLING – Chairperson Bender presented the Bills List dated March 12, 2002, with General Fund payments in the amount of \$30,555.58 and State Highway Aid Fund payments in the amount of \$1,964.13; for a grand total of all payments in the amount of \$32,519.71.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Snyder, and carried unanimously to approve the Bills List dated March 12, 2002. There was no public comment.

C. TREASURER'S REPORT – Chairperson Bender presented the Treasurer's Report with the following balances as of February 28, 2002:

General Fund Checking	\$ 6,528.88
Payroll Fund Checking	\$ 99.61
General Reserve Fund	\$ 33,699.96
Open Space Fund	\$ 36,062.93
Fire Fund Checking	\$ 3,410.66
Debt Service Checking	\$ 130,042.64
State Highway Aid Checking	\$ 8,737.01
Escrow Fund Checking	\$ 353,327.53
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 as of February 28, 2002, subject to audit. There was no public comment.

D. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Mr. Buzby was on vacation, and therefore, no Public Works Report was available.

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

Discussion took place concerning the reinstatement of driver's education training in the Pennridge School District.

The Police Department conducted speed surveys on Twinbrook Road and once again on Fairhill School Road. The studies indicated that there is a minimal traffic flow for each roadway and the surveys were completed by more than one survey time period. The survey results are as follows – a 35 m.p.h. speed limit was indicated for Twinbrook Road and a 45 m.p.h. speed limit was indicated for Fairhill School Road. Chief Trauger advised that the 45 m.p.h. speed limit on Fairhill School Road has not changed from the last time a survey was conducted. PennDot regulations do, however, allow municipalities to drop the speed by 5 m.p.h. to 40 m.p.h. A lengthy discussion took place.

To address Mr. Kulesza's complaints regarding speeding on Diamond Street from the last meeting, Chief Trauger advised that speed surveys were conducted on Diamond Street

three times within the past three weeks. Out of 508 vehicles clocked on Fridays during peak travel time, 21 vehicles were traveling at 55 m.p.h. or over, which accounts for 4.5% of the traffic speeding on Diamond Street. On Callowhill Road, during the early evening hours of a Friday, 2.7% were speeding. On Dublin Road, during the same time period, 3.3% were speeding. On the Rt. 309 Bypass under the Fairhill Road overpass, during the same time period, 94% were speeding. Chief Trauger commented that the Police Department is not seeing a high volume of speeding vehicles on Diamond Street. The perception of someone standing in their yard, or walking along the road, is that vehicles are traveling at a higher rate of speed than they actually are. Therefore, the average vehicle traveling on Township roads are not speeding, as far as can be determined by these speed survey results. Discussion took place.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Snyder, and carried unanimously to authorize the advertisement of an Ordinance to lower the speed limit of motor vehicles on Twinbrook Road to 35 m.p.h., and to lower the speed limit of motor vehicles on Fairhill School Road to 40 m.p.h. There was no public comment.

F. BUILDING REPORT -- Mr. David W. Taylor, Code Enforcement Officer -- Mr. Taylor read the Building Report for the month of February, 2002; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Taylor attended a meeting with PennDot this month with regard to the proposed truck lane on Rt. 313 coming out of Doylestown. A truck-passing lane is being proposed on the north side of the road, which would terminate at Stump Road near Broad Street in Hilltown.

It is the Department of License and Inspections' current estimate that the new uniform Building Code implementation has been pushed back to January of 2003.

The Hilltown Authority's building plans for construction of the new sewer plant have been delivered to Mr. Taylor's office for review. Mr. Taylor thanked Mr. Groff for his offer of assistance during the preparation of the proposed draft Sprinkler Ordinance.

G. HILLTOWN AUTHORITY REPORT -- Mr. James G. Groff, Authority Manager -- Mr. Groff read the Hilltown Authority Report for the month of February, 2002.

The drought emergency is in effect for all of Bucks County. Correspondence will be sent to Township residents from the Hilltown Authority, outlining mandatory restrictions associated with the emergency. A drought contingency plan will be filed with DEP, as well. Discussion took place.

Bids for the H.T.W.S.A treatment facility were opened on March 6, 2002. The Authority Engineer is in the process of reviewing references, bonding, and bid specifications, along with similar projects completed by the apparent low bidders for general contractor, electrical, HVAC, and plumbing. The apparent low bidder for the general contracting is Loftus. Bids will be officially awarded once all of the Water and Sewer Service Agreements have been executed by the developer. Supervisor Bennington asked if the H.T.W.S.A will proceed with the bid for the treatment facility, even though an appeal has been filed by P.B.A. regarding DEP's issue of the Part II Permit. Mr. Groff replied that H.T.W.S.A. has been advised by their legal counsel that they are to proceed and move forward.

M.T.B.E. has been found in the water at the Off-the-Wall property on Bethlehem Pike near H.L. Garges. Mr. Groff presented a monthly progress report by the agency who is conducting the testing at the Garges site. A carbon filter has been installed at the Off-the-Wall site, to assist with their water supply, and they are being supplied with bottled water. All property owners within 1,500 feet of the Off-the-Wall site have been notified, and current sampling will be conducted at other wells within that 1,500 feet radius. Discussion took place.

H. HILLTOWN FIRE COMPANY REPORT – Mr. Robert Grunmeier, Chief – Mr. Grunmeier read the Hilltown Fire Company Report for the month of February, 2002; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

The Supervisors presented Commendations to two Hilltown Firefighters – Mr. Shawn Shade, Deputy Chief, and Mr. Andrew Snyder, Battalion Chief, since both have moved from the area and will be leaving the department. The Commendations recognized Mr. Shade and Mr. Snyder for their volunteer efforts, perseverance and professionalism; copies of which are attached to these minutes.

I. SILVERDALE FIRE COMPANY REPORT - Mr. John Gillespie presented the Silverdale Fire Company Report for the month of February, 2002; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

J. PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT – Mr. John Kachline, Chairperson – Mr. Kachline presented the Planning Commission Report for the months of February and March, 2002; copies of which are on file at the Township office.

K. PARK AND RECREATION REPORT – Mr. Jon Apple, Chairperson – Mr. Apple presented the Park and Recreation Board Report for the month of February, 2002.

Recreational Events scheduled for 2002 are as follows:

- Easter Egg Hunt at Hilltown Civic Park, Saturday, March 23, 2002 (rain date: March 30, 2002)
11:00AM ages 1 and 2
11:10AM ages 2 thru 4
11:20AM ages 5 thru 9
- Theater Camp at Scout Cabin, Blooming Glen Playground
Monday, July 8th thru Friday, July 12th, with performance on Friday evening
- Tennis Camp at Hilltown Civic Park
Monday, July 8th thru Friday, July 12th. Cost and age groups still to be determined with Upper Bucks YMCA.
- Co-ed Volleyball League at Hilltown Civic Park
Tuesday evenings (starting the first Tuesday after Memorial Day)
\$30.00 per team charge (Coordinated by Heather Phillips)
- Arbor Day Celebration – Date to be determined, perhaps held at Grasse Elementary School.

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

M. ZONING HEARING BOARD REPORT – Mr. John Snyder, Chairperson – Mr. Snyder read the Zoning Hearing Board Report for the month of February, 2002; a copy of which is on file at the Township office.

N. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS: None.

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

1. Last month, the Board took no action on the Pennridge School District's correspondence asking the Supervisors to donate defibrillators to the middle schools and high schools. If the Board feels it is inappropriate to donate the defibrillators outside of Hilltown Township borders, Mr. Lippincott suggested that the local businesses that donated money be contacted to see if they would like the donations to go toward the purchase of defibrillators for Hilltown police vehicles to service the entire community. The Supervisors were agreeable to Mr. Lippincott's suggestion.

2. Mr. Lippincott presented a Resolution supporting the reinstatement of Driver's Education in the Pennridge School District curriculum.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Snyder, and carried unanimously to **adopt Resolution #2002-14, encouraging the Pennridge School District to reinstate Driver's Education into the curriculum, and to suggest that all**

municipalities in the Pennridge School District adopt this Resolution. There was no public comment.

3. In the 2002 Budget, the Board created a line item for sick-time buy-back for Administrative Staff, which would replace the vacation buy-back benefit. The Personnel Benefits Policy must be updated to include the following language:

Administrative Staff with accumulated sick days in excess of twenty (20) days, at their option, may forfeit up to ten (10) days of such sick time for which the Township shall reimburse them at their base rate. Intention of such forfeit must be received in writing by September 1st. Reimbursement will be processed on the last regularly scheduled payroll of the calendar year within which this option is chosen.

Motion was made by Supervisor Snyder, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to authorize the update of the Township Personnel Benefits Policy to replace vacation buy-back with sick time buy-back for Administrative employees, as specified above. There was no public comment.

4. The Township has been informed by the Bucks County Planning Commission that the former Municipal Building in Blooming Glen will be eligible for DCNR Grant funding, as well as 2003 Community Development Block Grant Funding. The 2003 Community Block Grant funds can only be used for exterior repair. Supervisor Bennington asked if DCNR grant funds can be used for interior work as well as exterior work. Mr. Lippincott is not certain, however he will contact DCNR to determine whether interior work of the former Municipal Building would be included in their grant funding.

5. Another Township resident, Mr. Marty Lindmeier, has donated a piece of equipment, a track hoe, for use by David Erb, Inc. for the site work for the proposed maintenance building. On behalf of the Township, the Supervisors offered a sincere thank you to Mr. Lindmeier for his generous donation, and once again, to Mr. Erb for all the site work he has donated to the Township.

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

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

1. Correspondence was received from Melvin Ray Moyer, who presently farms the Frontier Road property that was recently purchased by Hilltown Township and Dublin Borough. Mr. Moyer is requesting to continue farming the land until the Township and Borough take action on the site. Discussion took place.

Motion was made by Supervisor Snyder, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to authorize Mr. Melvin Ray Moyer to continue farming the Frontier Road property for an additional year, pending receipt of the necessary fees. There was no public comment.

2. Mr. Henry Rosenberger has submitted his resignation from the Open Space Committee in order to focus on his family farm and business.

Since it is the intention of the Supervisors that the formalization of the Open Space Committee will take place at the March 25, 2002 meeting, the Supervisors tabled the issue of finding a replacement for Mr. Rosenberger until after discussion at that meeting.

3. Correspondence has been received requesting a meeting with Township staff to discuss a proposed A-Plus Convenience Store at the Sunoco Station located at Rt. 309 and Hilltown Pike. The applicant has paid the required \$500.00 escrow.

Motion was made by Supervisor Snyder, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to authorize a staff meeting to review the sketch plan for the proposed A-Plus Convenience Store at the Sunoco Station, as specified above. There was no public comment.

4. Correspondence has been received from Cahill Associates who has been hired as a technical consultant by the Delaware Riverkeeper Network to assist in the completion of the Rivers Conservation Plan for the Upper and Middle Neshaminy Creek Watershed. This plan will identify significant river resources, potential threats to these resources, and recommend restoration, maintenance, and enhancement options, as well as identifying specific projects that will be eligible for later funding through DCNR. They are requesting copies of Hilltown's Comprehensive Plan and Open Space Plan, which will provide them with detailed information about the Township so that they can include our ideas and plans in the RCP. Therefore, Cahill Associates is requesting that the \$35.00 per document fee and associated postage be waived, as is being done in other municipalities. Upon approval by DCNR, the Neshaminy Creek will be listed on the State Rivers Registry, which would open the door to receive funding for the recommended projects in the plan. This means Hilltown Township would be eligible to receive matching funds from the State to implement any project or recommendation listed in the Neshaminy RCP.

Chairperson Bender was agreeable to waiving the document fees, however he was concerned that the Township would be committed to carrying out any recommendations that were made. Supervisor Snyder commented that there are a number of generic, broad-scope projects that the Township could make use of through the matching funds program. Supervisor Bennington was against forwarding the Comprehensive Plan, which

will be updated and adopted by the time this study by the Delaware Riverkeeper Network for the River Conservation Plan for the Upper and Middle Neshaminy Creek Watershed is completed. A lengthy discussion took place.

Public Comment:

1. Mr. Jack McIlhinney of Broad Street commented that the Delaware Riverkeeper Network is a private organization, and therefore, they should be required to pay for the documents, just as a private citizen would. Discussion took place.

Supervisor Bennington suggested that the Open Space Plan be forwarded to the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, but that they be advised that the Comprehensive Plan is currently being updated. Supervisor Snyder agreed to donate the postage for mailing of the documents.

Motion was made by Supervisor Snyder, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to forward the Open Space Plan, and the new Comprehensive Plan if available, to the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, as specified above. There was no public comment.

Q. MYLARS FOR SIGNATURE: Wietecha Subdivision

R. PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mr. John Gillespie, deputy chief of the Silverdale Fire Company, asked if the new Public Works Building would be sprinklered and alarmed. Mrs. Leslie replied that the building would be sprinklered. The Silverdale Fire Company will have the opportunity to review those plans when they are available.

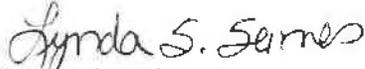
S. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. In the past, when former Supervisors have passed away, Supervisor Bennington noted that a tree has been planted by the Township in their memory. He suggested that a tree be planted in former Supervisor William Bennett's memory. Discussion took place about the possibility of planting this memorial tree during the Arbor Day celebration. The Supervisors were agreeable to planting this memorial tree in September of this year.

T. PRESS CONFERENCE: A conference was held to answer questions from those reporters present.

U. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Snyder, and carried unanimously, the March 11, 2002 Board of Supervisor's Worksession Meeting was adjourned at 9:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda S. Seimes
Township Secretary

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



**COMMENDATION
HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP
BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Supervisors of Hilltown Township would like to recognize Mr. Shawn Shade for his dedicated volunteer fire service to the Hilltown Volunteer Fire Company.

WHEREAS, Mr. Shade has devoted much time and significant effort over the years as an active volunteer in a tireless effort to effectuate fire safety in our community; and

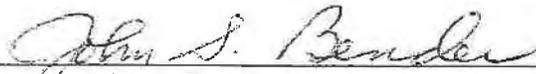
WHEREAS, Mr. Shade has served in many varied positions in the fire department, most recently as Deputy Chief; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shade has worked diligently while exhibiting responsibility, perseverance, and professionalism, and continues to play an active role to aid Hilltown Township residents in the true spirit of volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, recognition is hereby given to Mr. Shade, who will be missed by his presence, but will be remembered for his many contributions to the Hilltown Township Volunteer Fire Company.

THEREFORE, SO BE IT RESOLVED this 11th day of March, 2002 that the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors salute Mr. Shade for his exemplary and meritorious service to the Hilltown Township Fire Company and to the municipality as a whole.

HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



John S. Bender, Chairperson



Kenneth B. Bennington, Vice-Chairperson



Betty P. Snyder, Supervisor



**COMMENDATION
HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP
BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Supervisors of Hilltown Township would like to recognize Mr. Andrew Snyder for his dedicated volunteer fire service to the Hilltown Volunteer Fire Company.

WHEREAS, Mr. Snyder has devoted much time and significant effort over the years as an active volunteer in a tireless effort to effectuate fire safety in our community; and

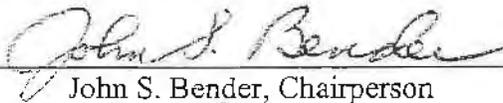
WHEREAS, Mr. Snyder has served in many varied positions in the fire department, most recently as Battalion Chief; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Snyder has worked diligently while exhibiting responsibility, perseverance, and professionalism, and continues to play an active role to aid Hilltown Township residents in the true spirit of volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, recognition is hereby given to Mr. Snyder, who will be missed by his presence, but will be remembered for his many contributions to the Hilltown Township Volunteer Fire Company.

THEREFORE, SO BE IT RESOLVED this 11th day of March, 2002 that the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors salute Mr. Snyder for his exemplary and meritorious service to the Hilltown Township Fire Company and to the municipality as a whole.

HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



John S. Bender, Chairperson



Kenneth B. Bennington, Vice-Chairperson



Betty P. Snyder, Supervisor