

HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULARLY SCHEDULED PUBLIC MEETING
Monday, February 24, 1997
7:30PM

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman William H. Bennett, Jr. at 7:35PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also present were: Kenneth B. Bennington, Vice-Chairman
Jack C. Fox, Supervisor
Bruce G. Horrocks, Township Manager
Francis X. Grabowski, Township Solicitor
Mike Russek, Township Engineer's Office
George C. Egly, Chief of Police
Lynda Seimes, Township Secretary

~~Chairman Bennett announced the Board of Supervisors and the Hilltown Township Water and Sewer Authority Board met in Executive Session on Sunday, February 16, 1997 to discuss the issue of the water tank, and the Board of Supervisors also met on Monday, February 17, 1997 in order to conduct interviews for the position of Assistant Township Manager. Chairman Bennett advised 28 applications were received for the position of Assistant Township Manager, with four candidates being interviewed. An appointment to that position will be announced at the March 10, 1997 Supervisor's Worksession meeting.~~

Chairman Bennett explained the Executive Session held with the Hilltown Authority Board involved a discussion concerning the proposed water tank site at the Gliderport property. To correct some misrepresentations, Chairman Bennett advised no condemnation proceedings had been taken at that time. After discussion of all possible alternatives and the possibility of the Gliderport property becoming a public airfield, the Authority members asked the Board of Supervisors to make a decision to locate the water tank on the three acre parcel owned by the Township, adjacent to the Hilltown Civic Park.

Mr. James Groff, Manager of the Hilltown Township Water and Sewer Authority, explained the Authority and the Supervisors have given serious consideration to two sites on the Township owned property next to the park. One site is located directly behind the tennis courts, and one site is located near the Musselman Barn, adjacent to the park. Further, Mr. Groff advised there have been no condemnation proceedings filed towards the Gliderport or any other property in the Township.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mr. John Bolger asked if any steps have been taken to resolve the problem with the park site, which had been found to contain a former trash dump. Chairman Bennett stated the Township

is considering two sites on that particular parcel. One site was originally surveyed and drilled, and the second site is that where there is said to be a former trash dump. It is the Authority's intention to drill and survey the second site to determine whether a quarry or a trash dump did exist on that property. Mr. Bolger asked how high the water tank is proposed if placed on the Township property. Chairman Bennett replied the water tank is proposed at 85 feet. If the Gliderport site had been used, Mr. Bolger commented the water tank was required at 96 ft. in height. Mr. Groff noted the height of 96 ft. was calculated due to the elevation of the Gliderport site. Mr. Bolger believes the elevation at the Gliderport site is higher than that of the park site. Mr. Scott Tagg, chairman of the Hilltown Township Water and Sewer Authority, disagreed and stated the highest point in Hilltown Township is the Hilltown Civic Park, which is an 11 ft. difference from that of the Gliderport property. Several years ago at a public meeting, Mr. Bolger recalls a statement that had been made that if a water tank was erected behind this Municipal Building, its height would only have been 35 feet. Chairman Bennett believes there was a misunderstanding at the time, and Mr. Tagg concurred. Mr. Tagg explained that when this original discussion took place five years ago, the water tank was proposed at a half a million gallons because it would only have served the Silverdale/Blooming Glen areas of the Township. The reason the Authority suggested the parcel next to the park is to serve a larger area of the Township for greater capacity and to provide better water pressure. For every 2.3 ft. of height, there is 1 lb. of pressure. If the water tank were to be constructed behind the municipal building, Mr. Tagg noted approximately 40 lbs. of pressure would be eliminated, which would preclude the Authority serving customers east of this site.

Mr. Bolger commented the Authority is proposing a water tank to service customers in the village of Hilltown, yet none of those residents want public water. Mr. Bolger wondered why the Authority and the Supervisors are insisting on constructing a tank in that area and believes it may directly relate to the expansion of the quarry. Chairman Bennett replied it is not directly related to the possible quarry expansion. The Supervisors are very concerned about the possibility of a quarry expansion and its effect on the shallow wells in the village of Hilltown. Supervisor Bennington noted the quarry has not applied for expansion at this time. Supervisor Bennington asked if Mr. Bolger is satisfied with the water pressure at his home. Mr. Bolger does not feel the water pressure in his home is adequate, however further up the street, there are reducers to bring the pressure down from 50+ lbs. to 45 lbs., which is the minimum for a two story dwelling. Mr. Bolger believes he could have 45 lbs. of pressure if the water tank were constructed behind the municipal building at a height of 35 feet. Mr. Groff disagreed and explained that a water tank constructed behind the municipal building would have to be at a height of 125

to 145 ft. to serve the villages of Hilltown and Blooming Glen. Mr. Bolger is suspicious that the Board of Supervisors intends to approve an expansion of the quarry. Supervisor Bennington reminded Mr. Bolger that the quarry has not applied for an expansion. Mr. Bolger agreed that they haven't yet applied, however he noted they recently purchased adjoining property. Mr. Bolger suspects the Supervisors and the Authority have a hidden agenda with regard to the proposed water tank. Chairman Bennett explained the major concern of most residents is not that they do not recognize the need for water and water pressure, but rather that they do not want a water storage tank constructed in their back yard. Chairman Bennett agreed there has been speculation that the quarry will apply for expansion, however no formal application has been received by the Township.

Mr. Bolger asked if the Supervisors intend to vote on a site for the water tank this evening. Chairman Bennett replied the Board will vote this evening if there is a motion to do so.

Supervisor Bennington explained the site for the proposed water tank was narrowed down to four locations. His first choice has always been to the rear of the Hilltown Fire Company, however he was told it can not be constructed there due to the flight paths of the Gliderport. Supervisor Bennington's second choice was the Gliderport property, however he publicly stated that he would not vote to condemn their property. Unfortunately, it came down to the fact that there would have to be condemnation proceedings, and there would also have to be more than one acre of land taken because of the public access airport application filed by the Gliderport. This would have cost approximately \$200,000.00, and Supervisor Bennington refused to use Township funds if the Authority could not support a final judgement by the Appeals Board. The third choice for a site was the parcel next to the Hilltown Civic Park, which was the only alternative remaining with a proposed height of 85 feet. Of the two sites on that particular property, Supervisor Bennington prefers the one to the rear of the site near the Musselman Barn which is in a wooded area. This site will require test borings to insure the property will hold up under the weight of the water tank. If that site is not acceptable, the fourth choice, next to the tennis courts will be used.

Mr. Bolger is concerned that blasting from the quarry may affect the water tank structure. Mr. Groff commented there have been many questions concerning the stress load that a quarry blast might have on a water tank. Mr. Groff explained seismic activity sheets will be procured from both quarries, and the tank manufacturer will then construct the tank accordingly. No matter which site is ultimately chosen, any type of quarry blasting will be regulated. The water storage tank will be constructed and designed to handle that degree of blasting plus more, and there will be no concern with blasting.

2. Mr. Nick Lupinacci agreed that a decision must be made for placement of the water tank, though he does not necessarily feel it must be made this evening. Mr. Lupinacci would like to see the Supervisors negotiate with the Water and Sewer Authority in an attempt to resolve any outstanding issues.

3. Ms. Theresa O'Hara of Rickert Road had previously mentioned the possibility of an underground water storage tank and asked if engineering for an underground tank had been conducted. It is Chairman Bennett's understanding that an underground storage tank could be constructed if there was an elevation of approximately 900 feet, however those conditions do not exist in Hilltown Township. Ms. O'Hara asked if the Township is considering renting space on the proposed tank for the installation of telecommunication antennas. Chairman Bennett advised there have been many proposals to attach antennas to local towers or water tanks in recent months. If a proposal is presented to the Board of Supervisors, consideration will certainly be given. It is Chairman Bennett's personal opinion that any rental fees would go to the Township, the same as the fee for the rental of the tower behind the municipal building. Ms. O'Hara feels it is bad enough that the site will be marred with the construction of a water tank, and would hope that antennas would not be permitted on the tank. Further, Ms. O'Hara believes it would be a shame to place the water tank on the Township property next to the park.

4. Mr. Dave Bradley asked how expensive and how difficult it would be to increase the height of the tank once it has been constructed. Mr. Groff explained it is expensive, but it can be done. Since current water needs could be satisfied with a much lower tank located behind the municipal building, and since there is no current need in the village of Hilltown, Mr. Bradley suggested a smaller tank be constructed behind the municipal building with the possibility of adding height to the tank at a later date. Chairman Bennett feels it is a question of economics, noting a half million gallon tank could be constructed at 50 feet in height at a cost of \$750,000.00, however a million gallon water tank could be constructed for \$975,000.00. Whether or not this is a nimby issue, Mr. Groff commented the area behind this building is wide open and it would be very difficult to "hide" the tank. The same opposition to the water tank would surface once again with neighboring residents of this location. The Township experienced a great deal of controversy when constructing the tele-communications tower and the salt storage building during those approval processes as well. Mr. Groff does not feel the site behind the municipal building is a good choice.

5. Mrs. Alice Kachline, a former member of the Planning Commission, recalls that the quarry did approach them a few years ago to advise that they were interested in expanding their

operations. Mrs. Kachline realizes there has been no formal application made to the Township, however she feels it would be naïve to think that there will not eventually be a request for quarry expansion. Mrs. Kachline is aware that the quarry property is zoned Rural Residential, and the only way they could expand is if the Supervisors would agree to change zoning. Mrs. Kachline hopes that the water tank is not being proposed near the Hilltown Civic Park for the eventual use of a quarry expansion. Mrs. Kachline is opposed to construction of the water tank on the site next to the park. Mrs. Kachline feels the Supervisors have a responsibility to the residents who live in this Township and who voted to put them into office, not to the people who may move into the Township in the future.

Chairman Bennett commented the Supervisors are attempting to do the most good for the majority of Hilltown residents, while being very mindful of the health, safety and welfare of all concerned.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington and seconded by Chairman Bennett to locate the water storage tank on the three acre parcel adjoining the Hilltown Civic Park, which is owned by the Township, in one of two spots - preferably the wooded area to the rear of the Thomas Musselman Barn if possible, or the site near the tennis courts. Supervisor Fox was opposed. Motion passed.

Chairman Bennett called for a five minute recess at 8:10PM. The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors of February 24, 1997 was reconvened at 8:16PM.

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Action on the minutes of the December 23, 1996 Supervisors Meeting - At the last meeting, Chairman Bennett requested that the audio tape of the December 23, 1996 Supervisors meeting be played for clarification.

Supervisor Bennington read the motion in question, as transcribed in the minutes of the December 23, 1996 meeting, which follows: "Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, and seconded by Chairman Bennett to authorize the Township Solicitor to review the recommendations of the Bucks County Planning Commission, in order to revise the Sign Ordinance so that it is less restrictive. Supervisor Fox was opposed. Motion carried."

The audio tape of page 18 of the December 23, 1996 meeting was played twice for clarification. Following is a word for word transcription of the audio tape of that section of minutes:

Supervisor Bennington - "Okay, so my motion, Mr. Bennett, is to ask the Solicitor to take the recommendations of the Bucks County Planning Commission to revise our Sign Ordinance so it is not so demanding so we won't get sued again like we did on

the billboards the first time."

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, and seconded by Chairman Bennett to approve the minutes of the December 23, 1996 Supervisors meeting, as written. Supervisor Fox was opposed. Motion passed.

Action on the minutes of the January 27, 1997 Supervisors Meeting -
Motion was made by Supervisor Fox, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the January 27, 1997 Supervisors Meeting, as written.

Action on the minutes of the February 10, 1997 Supervisors Worksession Meeting -
Motion was made by Supervisor Fox, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the February 10, 1997 Supervisors Worksession Meeting, as written.

B. APPROVAL OF CURRENT BILLING - Chairman Bennett presented the Bills List dated February 25, 1997 with General Fund payments in the amount of \$74,617.16, State Highway Aid payments in the amount of \$1,825.51, and Escrow Fund payments in the amount of \$6,420.46, for a grand total of all funds in the amount of \$82,863.13.

Supervisor Fox asked if the payment to Niessen, Dunlap and Pritchard is the final bill for the audit. Mr. Horrocks replied that billing is for the month of January, with the second payment due next month.

Motion was made by Supervisor Fox, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to approve the Bills List dated February 25, 1997, subject to audit.

C. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS/PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Hilltown and Silverdale Fire Company Presidents - Mr. Larry Woodward, president of the Hilltown Fire Company, and Mr. John Perritt, president of the Silverdale Fire Company, were in attendance to present a mission statement to the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Woodward read the statement signed by the chiefs and presidents of the Hilltown Township Volunteer Fire Company and the Silverdale Volunteer Fire Company, as well as the Hilltown Township Manager, which follows:

"In an effort to provide the quality of fire service rendered to those people who need this help, and to expand on existing services to meet the needs of the future, the Silverdale Volunteer Fire Company and the Hilltown Township Volunteer Fire Company wish to actively pursue a united effort for the

purpose of consolidating resources.

Resolutions passed without opposition at the February 1997 regular monthly meetings of both the Hilltown Township Volunteer Fire Company and the Silverdale Volunteer Fire Company giving approval by the general membership to form a panel of Executive and Operational Officers of each respective Company to begin consolidation discussions.

We request now, as the governing body of this Township/Borough, that you formally endorse this mission effort, so that we may continue to identify objectives to provide the highest quality emergency services to the community."

Mr. Perritt commented membership of both fire companies are unanimously in agreement with this proposal and are seeking the support of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors. Chairman Bennett felt this statement was a terrific idea and Supervisor Bennington agreed. Supervisor Fox was pleasantly surprised and very happy about this proposal.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to formally endorse this mission effort as stated by the Hilltown Township Volunteer Fire Company and the Silverdale Volunteer Fire Company.

D. MANAGER'S REPORT - Mr. Bruce G. Horrocks, Township Manager -

1. Mr. Horrocks presented a series of six escrow releases for the Board's consideration:

Bricks Villa Phase II	Voucher #09	\$	558.12
Country Roads Phases III & IV	Voucher #17	\$	5,000.00
Country Roads Phases III & IV	Voucher #18	\$	27,199.80
Off-the-Wall	Voucher #4A	\$	194.94
Orchard Glen Subdivision	Voucher #04	\$	56,409.75
Telvil Subdivision	Voucher #1B	\$	63.25

Motion was made by Supervisor Fox, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to approve the release of the six authorization vouchers as noted above.

2. Mr. Horrocks requested authorization to advertise bids for aggregate, ID-2 Wearing and Binder, and a roadside mower.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to advertise bids for aggregate, ID-2 Wearing, and the roadside mower, as specified above.

3. The Park and Recreation Board recommended that Mrs. Jane James be appointed to complete the vacant term on that board.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to appoint Mrs. Jane James to complete the vacant term on the Park and Recreation Board.

4. One letter of interest had been received to fill the vacant seat on the Hilltown Township Water and Sewer Authority. The Authority recommended the appointment of Mr. Bruce Knipe to that vacancy.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to appoint Mr. Bruce W. Knipe to the unexpired term on the Hilltown Township Water and Sewer Authority.

5. Two requests have been received from non-profit organizations to waive rental fees to utilize the Scout Cabin and the Hilltown Civic Park. Security deposits will be required.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to waive rental fees for Hilltown Cub Scout Pack #199 of Our Lady of Sacred Heart for use of the Hilltown Civic Park, and to waive rental fees for Brownie Troop #1120 for use of the Blooming Glen Scout Cabin, with the condition that a security deposit is required.

E. CORRESPONDENCE -

1. Correspondence was received today from the Hilltown Township Zoning Hearing Board requesting consideration of increased compensation for attendance at meetings.

F. SOLICITOR'S REPORT - Mr. Francis X. Grabowski, Township Solicitor -

1. Solicitor Grabowski presented a Declaration of Easement for the Balco Subdivision, which is located on Rt. 113, for the Board's approval.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to **adopt Resolution #97-11 to accept the Declaration of Easement for the Balco Subdivision.**

2. A hearing was held before the Zoning Hearing Board concerning the Pileggi zoning matter on January 16, 1997. The Township has until March 6, 1997 to present briefs and propose findings of fact and conclusions of law to the Zoning Hearing Board, unless there is a request by the applicant to hold an additional hearing. Solicitor Grabowski is not aware of a request

for an additional hearing, and Mr. Horrocks advised the Township is not in receipt of any requests for a hearing at this time.

3. With regard to the Phinney appeal, Solicitor Grabowski explained that oral argument was heard by the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court on February 7, 1997 in Philadelphia. A decision by the Commonwealth Court may take from two to nine months to be rendered.

4. The Santos Subdivision was a legal issue that involved property adjacent to the Hawk Ridge Subdivision where there was a question as to private rights and responsibilities regarding an easement matter. A conference is scheduled before Judge Weaver on March 5, 1997. Since this issue involves the Township to the extent that the subdivision was approved, Solicitor Grabowski plans to attend the conference on March 5, 1997 in order to support the position of the Township.

5. A Conditional Use Hearing was held on January 29, 1997 to hear the Sprint Spectrum Cellular application for the installation of wiring and antennae to an existing North Penn Water Authority tank located on Clearview Road. The Board of Supervisors granted the Conditional Use and the decision was mailed to the applicant.

6. Solicitor Grabowski reported on the status of the Ludlow violation, explaining that the Ludlow family attempted to begin construction of a single family dwelling on Rickert Road without obtaining building permit applications. Judge Biester issued an injunction to halt construction on that property. Mr. and Mrs. Ludlow filed various pleadings with the court and the Township filed preliminary objections to those pleadings. Judge Biester upheld those preliminary objections on the matter.

7. Supervisor Bennington noted there is no Ordinance in place that the Township can use as part of the Conditional Use Hearing when telecommunications companies make a request to construct towers or place antennae on existing structures within Hilltown Township.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to authorize the Township Solicitor to draft an Ordinance that will protect the Township when telecommunication companies make a request for Conditional Use.

Solicitor Grabowski advised the new Telecommunications Act of 1996 has input from the Federal Communications Commission, which has stated that the issue of the electromagnetic force affects are no longer an issue to be decided by local government. Further, the Bucks County Planning Commission drafted a model Ordinance on these

types of uses, however it appears that the next generation of telephone cellular use seems to improve before the Ordinance is ever adopted by any municipalities. Solicitor Grabowski will provide copies of the Bucks County Planning Commission model Ordinance for the Planning Commission's review at their worksession meeting scheduled for next week.

G. PLANNING - Mr. Mike Russek, Township Engineer's Office -

1. McDonald's Playplace - Mr. Russek explained the site is the McDonald's Restaurant located in the Hilltown Crossings Shopping Center at the southern front corner of the site. The applicant is proposing construction of a 1,048 sq. ft. playland off the northern end of the facility.

This preliminary plan was unanimously recommended for approval by the Planning Commission subject to satisfactory completion of the following conditions:

- Completion of outstanding items contained within the engineering review dated February 6, 1997.
- Addition of an entrance door to the restaurant on the northeast side and crosswalks as recommended in the Bucks County Planning Commission review.
- Installation of a crosswalk across the main drive between the shopping center parking lot and the parking area for the restaurant and bank.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to grant conditional preliminary approval to the McDonald's Playplace plan, subject to completion of the conditions as specified by the Planning Commission and the Township Engineer.

2. Sprint Spectrum - Following review of the applicant's proposal, the Planning Commission unanimously recommended waiver of land development submission for the proposed communication facilities to be installed on the North Penn Water Authority tank. Mr. Steve Marshall, legal representation for the applicant, was in attendance to discuss the plan. Supervisor Fox commented the Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval of a waiver of land development submission with the condition that an as-built plan be submitted.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to grant waiver of land development submission for the Sprint Spectrum plan based upon recommendations by the Planning Commission.

3. Nextel Communications - The location of the property involved is on Highpoint Road, between Callowhill Road and Rt. 152. The applicant proposes a 40 ft. addition to an existing 130 ft. tower located on the property, for a total of 170 ft. in height.

The Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval of the Conditional Use applicant and waiver of land development conditional upon the following:

- Applicant presents testimony and documentation satisfactory to the Board of Supervisors to indicate why the communication facility could not be placed on the tower located at Broad Street and Callowhill Road.
- ~~Applicant presents documentation indicating approval by the Bureau of Aviation.~~
- A light should be installed on top of the tower.
- A variance is obtained from the Zoning Hearing Board for encroachment within the setback along the property line.
- As-built plan is prepared and submitted to the Township upon completion of the installation.

Supervisor Bennington suggested this request be tabled until after the Conditional Use hearing itself. The Supervisors were in agreement, and the matter was tabled.

4. Marinucci Subdivision - This preliminary plan located on Mill Road was unanimously recommended for denial by the Planning Commission due to lack of activity since the fall of 1995. Technical reasons for denial are based on the engineering review dated November 7, 1995 and the Bucks County Planning Commission review dated October 4, 1994. This application was submitted and is currently being reviewed under the prior Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances. Denial of the plan and resubmission of the application will require compliance with current Ordinance standards.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to deny the preliminary plan for Marinucci, based upon non-compliance with requirements in the engineering review dated November 7, 1995 and the Bucks County Planning Commission review dated October 4, 1994.

H. ENGINEERING - Mr. Mike Russek, Township Engineer's Office -

1. Off-the-Wall - Mr. Russek explained the applicant was granted an approval for a plan to expand their facility in

1992/1993. At that time, the applicant entered into a development agreement with the Township and established an escrow account. As of 1994, that escrow account, which is still active with the Township, had a balance of \$9,502.75. The reason for those retained funds from the first agreement was due to required buffer plantings which had not been installed at the time. The applicant then submitted a subsequent plan which was approved for additional expansion, at which time no buffer plantings were required according to new zoning requirements. A second development agreement and escrow was then established for the new plan. The applicant has provided a \$500.00 donation to the Park and Recreation Fund and is requesting release of the balance of the first escrow fund in the amount of \$9,502.75, due to the fact that buffer plantings are no longer a requirement for the project.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to release the escrow funds from the first agreement for Off-the-Wall Land Development in the amount of \$9,502.75, as specified above.

2. Phinney Planning Modules - Mr. Russek advised the Phinney Subdivision plan received conditional approval and one of the items the applicant is pursuing at present is the approval of Planning Modules for septic disposal. The Planning Commission reviewed and signed off on the modules, however they included a statement which will be submitted to D.E.P. advising there is a subdivision requirement for a centralized water system that is currently under litigation. The statement was added to the module because within the narrative, it refers to on-site individual wells, and the Planning Commission did not want the approval of the modules to be deemed a Township endorsement of the individual systems.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to approve the Phinney Planning Modules as stated, to include a statement advising there is a subdivision requirement for a centralized water system that is currently under litigation.

3. Park and Recreation Recommendation #97-1 - The Supervisors received Recommendation #97-1 from the Park and Recreation Board with regard to utilizing the existing lights and telephone poles that the Township currently has in its possession to light the soccer field at the Hilltown Civic Park. Supervisor Fox asked if the equipment available is sufficient to light the soccer field, and Mr. Horrocks replied that it is. Mr. Horrocks recommended that any installation costs come from funds remaining in the 1989 Bond Issue. Supervisor Bennington also recommended that the Park Use Ordinance be advertised for revision to reflect the additional time that the park will be open due to lights on the soccer field. Mr. Horrocks commented the Park and Recreation Board

is well aware that an Ordinance revision is necessary. Supervisor Fox asked if the lights on the soccer field will be regulated or coin operated. Mr. Horrocks noted those details are yet to be discussed by the Park and Recreation Board, however one thing they are insistent upon is that there will be a turn-off time, either manually or automatically.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to approve Recommendation #97-1 from the Hilltown Township Park and Recreation Board to authorize use of the lights donated by Kevin Carney to be utilized on the soccer fields as opposed to the baseball field at the Hilltown Civic Park, and to specify that the hours of operation of the park be revised to reflect evening hours.

I. LINENS FOR SIGNATURE:

1. PECO

J. PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mrs. Deanna Eckert of Rt. 152 asked who designed the entrance/exits at the Hilltown Crossings Shopping Center, because she feels there is no safe merge zone when pulling on to Rt. 309 from the shopping center. Mr. Russek replied the design of those entrances was a concurrent effort between the applicant's traffic engineer and PennDot. Further, Mr. Russek believes the northernmost exit was primarily designed for delivery vehicles exiting the property, not customer traffic. Discussion took place. Mrs. Eckert was also concerned about the safety factor of the steep bank in front of McDonalds in the Hilltown Crossings Shopping Center which has a very low guardrail along Rt. 309. Mr. Russek replied there is guiderail and curbing that circles the entire perimeter on the front of the site.

2. Mr. John Snyder suggested a light be installed at the main entrance to the park, which is very difficult to see after dark.

K. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS: None.

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

M. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Supervisor Fox, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously, the February 24, 1997 meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was adjourned at 9:25PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynda Seimes, Township Secretary

Lynda Seimes