

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULARLY SCHEDULED WORKSESSION MEETING
Monday, December 11, 1995
7:30PM**

The regularly scheduled Worksession 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
George C. Egly, Chief of Police
Thomas A. Buzby, Director of Public Works
Warren L. Nace, Zoning Officer
Jim Groff, Authority Operations Manager

Chairman Bennett announced the Supervisors met in Executive Session on Monday, December 4, 1995 in order to discuss legal and personnel matters. Further, the Board met in Executive Session prior to this meeting to continue discussions of legal and personnel matters. Chairman Bennett advised a Public Hearing will be held at 8:00PM this evening to consider the adoption of an Ordinance reducing the speed limit of Upper Stump Road for its entire length through Hilltown Township, and to consider the adoption of an Ordinance changing the street name of "Old Bethlehem Road" to "Minsi Trail."

A. APPROVAL OF CURRENT BILLING: Chairman Bennett presented the Bills List, dated December 12, 1995, with General Fund payments in the amount of \$57,220.68; Fire Protection Fund payments in the amount of \$45,600.00; Debt Service payments in the amount of \$69,362.50; and State Highway Aid payments in the amount of \$1,698.21; for a grand total of all funds in the amount of \$173,881.39.

Supervisor Fox asked why there are so many different bills from Bell Atlantic when there is only one phone system. Mr. Horrocks replied there are three different pay phones that are billed separately, and a phone in the former Township building, as well as the current phone system.

Supervisor Bennington questioned the bill from Penna. Emergency Management Agency for a refund of snow disaster money. Mr. Horrocks explained those are the monies received a year ago for snow emergency. During the single audit, a discrepancy was found and the \$1,205.00 was refunded back to P.E.M.A..

Supervisor Bennington asked why it has taken until the end of the year to pay back the Tax Anticipation Note principal. Mr. Horrocks replied the Board authorized him to withdraw \$50,000.00 from the T.A.N. several weeks ago. The entire amount of the T.A.N. will be paid by the end of the year, as required by law.

Chairman Bennett questioned the bill from Jerry's Auto Body to replace a tinted windshield. Chief Egly explained the Township had been reimbursed by the insurance company for the replacement of this windshield, however Jerry's Auto Body had forgotten to bill for this service at the time.

Motion was made by Supervisor Fox, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to approve the Bills List dated December 12, 1995, subject to audit.

B. HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY REPORT - Mr. Jim Groff, Operations Manager - Mr. Groff read the Authority Report for the month of November, 1995 which is on file at the Township office.

C. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT - Mr. Thomas A. Buzby - Mr. Buzby read the Public Works Report for the period of October 29, 1995 through November 25, 1995, which is on file at the Township office.

Chairman Bennett asked if the Township had enough salt for the snow storm on Saturday. Mr. Buzby replied there was barely enough salt. He did accept delivery today, with three more loads expected this week. Supervisor Fox stated the Public Works Department did a fine job of snow removal. Further, Supervisor Fox noticed that just east of Callowhill Road on Broad Street, the roadway is beginning to break up. Mr. Buzby will check on that area.

D. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT - Chief George C. Egly - Chief Egly read the Police Report for the month of November, 1995, which is on file at the Township office.

While driving home from work last Friday evening, Supervisor Bennington heard on the radio that there was an accident at the intersection of Rt. 113 and Diamond Street. Chief Egly explained a woman stopped at the stop sign, waited for one vehicle to go through, and then pulled out in front of another car. The woman had her 18 month old daughter in the back seat, but both appeared to be fine. Chairman Bennett asked if the accident was caused by D.U.I.. Chief Egly could not state at this time until the test results are received, however it is a possibility.

Supervisor Bennington asked why the Township is paying police overtime to cover the Dublin Parade meeting. Chief Egly replied the Lieutenant was directed to attend that evening meeting in his absence.

One statistic in the Police Report that continues to be meaningless in Chairman Bennett's opinion, is the Moving Permit. Chief Egly has brought this matter to the Board's attention many times in the

past, and stated that unless there is a fine or cost on this permit, it is useless. Many residents moving in and out of the Township do not obtain the permit due to the fact that there are no penalties involved. Chairman Bennett asked if any of the neighboring communities have fines for such a permit. Chief Egly knows that there are several communities who have fines attached to their Move In/Move Out Permits.

E. ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT - Mr. Warren L. Nace - Mr. Nace read the Zoning Report for the month of November, 1995 which is on file at the Township office.

F. PARK AND RECREATION REPORT - Mr. Nick Lupinacci, Chairman - Mr. Lupinacci read the Park and Recreation Report for the month of November, 1995 which is on file at the Township office.

The Park and Recreation Board has determined a date for the Community Day Celebration to commemorate the 275th anniversary of Hilltown Township. The Park and Recreation Board has recommended that Community Day be scheduled for September 7, 1996. This celebration will be handled in conjunction with the Civic Association and other organizations who are interested in participating. The Park and Recreation Board is hoping to hold Community Day as an annual event each year, with the additional emphasis on the 275th anniversary of the Township and the Civic Association's 50th anniversary for the 1996 celebration.

There are number of applicants interested in filling the vacancy left by the resignation of former Chairman Les Lombardi. Applicants will be interviewed at the next Park and Recreation Board meeting.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to approve Park and Recreation's Recommendation #95-9 to establish September 7, 1996 as Community Day for Hilltown Township.

***8:00PM - Chairman Bennett adjourned the regularly scheduled Worksession meeting to enter into the advertised Public Hearing to consider the adoption of an ordinance reducing the speed of motor vehicles on Upper Stump Road for its entire length through Hilltown Township; and to consider the adoption of an Ordinance changing the street name of "Old Bethlehem Road" to "Minsi Trail."**

Following a formal study by the Police Department, Chairman Bennett explained the Supervisors have established a 45 m.p.h. speed limit for Upper Stump Road.

As a resident of Upper Stump Road, Mr. Lupinacci appreciates the action taken by the Supervisors, stating that a formal speed limit for Upper Stump Road was long overdue.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to **adopt Ordinance #95-7, reducing the speed limit of motor vehicles on Upper Stump Road for its entire length through Hilltown Township.**

The second Public Hearing is to consider the adoption of an Ordinance changing the street name of "Old Bethlehem Road" to "Minsi Trail." Chairman Bennett explained this Ordinance was designed specifically to alleviate confusion of police, fire, and emergency vehicle responses between the present "Old Bethlehem Road," which is located on the east side of Hilltown Township, and nearby "Bethlehem Pike," which is located on the west side of Hilltown Township.

There was no public comment.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to **adopt Ordinance #95-8, changing the street name of State Route 4019 from Rt. 313 to State Route 4089 (Blooming Glen Road), from "Old Bethlehem Road" to "Minsi Trail."**

***8:15PM - The Public Hearing to consider the adoption of the two Ordinances was adjourned, and Chairman Bennett reconvened the regularly scheduled December 11, 1995 Worksession meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors at 8:15PM.**

G. HILLTOWN FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT - Mr. William Devlin - Mr. Devlin read the Hilltown Fire Company Report for the month of November, 1995, which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Devlin presented the 1996 officers of the Hilltown Fire Company, as follows:

Mr. William Devlin, Chief
Mr. Shawn Schade, Deputy Chief
Mr. Jim Walters, Battalion Chief #60
Mr. Jeffrey James, Battalion Chief #61
Mr. Dan Cunningham, Captain #60
Mr. William Devlin, Jr., Captain #61
Mr. Jim Gill, Chief Engineer
Mr. John Snyder, Fire Police Captain

*The Safety Officer and the First Responder Director will be appointed by Chief Devlin in January, 1996. Executive Officers for 1996 include Mr. Larry Woodward, President; Mr. Robert Grunmeier I, Vice-President; Mr. Robert Jaendl, Secretary; Ms. Heather Murray, Financial Secretary; and Mr. Buddy Weiss, Treasurer.

Chairman Bennett asked when Santa will be touring the Township on the fire truck. Mr. Devlin replied Santa will be touring the

Township on Saturday evening, December 16, 1995, and Sunday evening, December 17, 1995.

H. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT - Mr. William Devlin
- Mr. Devlin read the Emergency Management Report for the month of November, 1995, which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Devlin noted that Quarterly Training Sessions will be held on Wednesday, December 13, 1995 at 7:30PM at the Emergency Services Training Center in Doylestown. Mr. Devlin invited Mr. Horrocks and the Supervisors to attend.

I. SILVERDALE FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT - Mr. Chuck Stockert - Mr. Stockert read a listing of the 1996 officers of the Silverdale Fire Company, which includes, Mr. Chuck Stockert, Chief; Mr. Charlie Hyland, Deputy Chief; Mr. Kenny Schuler, Assistant Chief; Ms. Diane Derstine, Captain; Mr. Tom Lauden, Fire Lieutenant; and Mr. Sean Morgan, Q.R.S. Lieutenant.

Mr. Stockert thanked the Board for the distribution of the Foreign Fire Relief Funds, stating it is greatly appreciated. Mr. Stockert advised the Silverdale Fire Company's Quick Response Unit should be in operation by next week.

Mr. John Gillespie, Deputy Chief, read the Silverdale Fire Company Report for the month of November, 1995 which is on file at the Township office.

J. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS: None.

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

1. Mr. Horrocks presented three Escrow Releases for the Board's Authorization, one of which is cash held by the Township:

Deerfield Subdivision	Voucher #10A	\$ 111.20
Hilltown Crossings	Voucher #03	\$ 3,734.25
Hilltown Crossings	Voucher #04	\$170,177.75

Motion was made by Supervisor Fox, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to authorize the release of the Escrows as listed above.

2. The Agricultural Security Review Board met recently and drafted a Resolution for the Board's consideration at the December 26, 1995 meeting. The Township has received, in writing, the exact way the State interprets Act 43, which is that if a property is less than 10 acres in area, but adjoins a property that by itself qualifies, they would accept smaller properties. It was suggested that five acres be the minimum.

3. Mr. Horrocks requested that the Board re-date the Finlayson Subdivision linens, which were originally signed and dated over a year ago.

4. Mr. Horrocks requested the Board's authorization to advertise a Public Hearing for Tuesday, December 26, 1995, to consider the adoption of the revised Subdivision/Land Development Ordinance. Mr. Horrocks is also seeking authorization for the Planning Commission to hold a Public Meeting at their regularly scheduled meeting of Monday, December 18, 1995 in order to discuss the revised Subdivision/Land Development Ordinance.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to authorize advertisement of a Public Hearing for the regularly scheduled Supervisor's meeting to be held on Tuesday, December 26, 1995, in order to consider the adoption of the revised Subdivision/Land Development Ordinance; and to authorize a Public Meeting to be held at the regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting of Monday, December 18, 1995, in order to discuss the revised Subdivision/Land Development Ordinance.

L. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Mr. Horrocks advised the Township was awarded \$96,300.00 from the Community Development Block Grant for paving roads. These funds will be available after April 1, 1996. Mr. Horrocks noted the original application was for \$89,900.00, however Hilltown Township has been awarded approximately \$6,400.00 more than anticipated.

2. A request was received from the Calvary Church, who has submitted an application for a Zoning Hearing appeal. The applicant is asking the Board to consider the possible waiver of that fee. As Supervisor Fox recalls, the last time a similar request was made, the applicant was requested to pay any costs that the Township may have. Chairman Bennett and Supervisor Bennington agreed.

Motion was made by Supervisor Fox that for the Calvary Church Zoning Hearing Board Appeal application, the applicant pay strictly Township costs.

Supervisor Bennington noted that if Calvary Church only has to pay the Township costs, in the future, someone may question why the Township is charging more than the cost of an actual Zoning Hearing. Supervisor Fox stated the fees generally average out, however he suspects that most of the Zoning Hearings cause the Township to take a loss.

Supervisor Fox amended his motion to the following: Motion was

made by Supervisor Fox, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to allow Calvary Church to pay only the basic cost of a Zoning Hearing, not to exceed \$1,500.00.

M. RESIDENT'S COMMENTS:

1. Mr. Joe Miketta questioned the Board of Supervisors minutes of the meeting of October 23, 1995, regarding the Phinney Subdivision. There were some comments made by Supervisor Fox that Mr. Miketta would like clarification on. Mr. Miketta read the following excerpt from the October 23, 1995 Board of Supervisors minutes: "All the information Supervisor Fox received shows that the Township is nearing a level where the groundwater is being used faster than it is being recharged. The Delaware River Valley Basin Commission is conducting a study at this time in conjunction with the U.S. Geodetic Service. Supervisor Fox explained their feeling is that we are nearing the point where there will be a deficit, at which time we would have to use surface water." Mr. Miketta asked Supervisor Fox if those statements are an accurate representation of what he said, and if it is, Mr. Miketta would like to know where Supervisor Fox got his information. Supervisor Fox believes he received his information from a gentleman who he believes is named Mr. Robbins and asked why Mr. Miketta was inquiring about this matter. Mr. Miketta has had contact with both the Delaware River Basin Commission and the U.S. Geodetic Service within the past week, and when he spoke to those agencies, he mentioned the statements made by Supervisor Fox at the October 23, 1995 meeting. Mr. Miketta spoke with Jeff Featherstone of the Delaware River Basin Commission, and Chris Sterling from the U.S. Geological Survey in Malvern. Mr. Miketta, Mr. Featherstone, and Mr. Sterling are very concerned about the statements made by Supervisor Fox. Mr. Miketta advised that Supervisor Fox does not have the backing of the Federal agencies with regard to those statements. Supervisor Fox commented his statements were just a repeat of what he was told by Mr. Robbins, several months ago. It concerns Mr. Miketta that Supervisor Fox implies he has the backing of Federal agencies when he does not. Supervisor Fox does not feel Mr. Miketta knows what he is talking about, and commented he made that statement after being told exactly that by a man from D.R.V.C. in Trenton, New Jersey.

The second issue Mr. Miketta would like to discuss is the committee that was formed to address the possible quarry expansion. Chairman Bennett stated a committee has not yet been formed. Supervisor Bennington explained he had made a suggestion several meetings ago that the best way to approach matters in 1996 is to get the residents involved in any major issues, including the possible quarry expansion. Supervisor Bennington had suggested that a committee be formed consisting of several residents, Father McBride because of his vested interest with the church and school being in

such close proximity to the quarry, a member of H & K Quarry, a member of the Park and Recreation Board, and a member of the Hilltown Water and Sewer Authority. His thought was that this committee could review and discuss the quarry expansion prior to the first Public Hearing, in an attempt to diffuse the situation. Three residents have volunteered to serve on this committee, along with Father McBride. A formal motion has not yet been made to form this committee, however if Mr. Miketta is interested in serving, the Board will certainly consider him. Mr. Miketta is interested in being involved with the committee, and noted there are several issues other than water supply that should be addressed. Supervisor Bennington intends to make a motion at the December 26th meeting for the Board to consider the formation of this committee. Chairman Bennett commented the Township has not been approached by H & K Quarry for the expansion. The rumor is that H & K Quarry has the Murphy property under option to buy. If H & K does purchase the Murphy property, Mr. Miketta does not believe that they can automatically expand the quarry. Chairman Bennett replied that is correct, and explained one or more Public Hearings would be held. Many of the residents Chairman Bennett has spoken to about the possible quarry expansion are most concerned about water, however there are other considerations such as traffic, noise, and possible pollution. When Mr. Miketta was in State College, there was an attempt to expand a local limestone quarry. That expansion was successfully stopped, and Mr. Miketta feels it would be interesting to compare notes with that community to see how they approached the problem.

2. Due to Representative Druce's support of the matter, Mr. John Gillespie advised the Supervisors that approval has been received from PennDot for the Moyer pond. It is anticipated that by the January 1, 1995, dry hydrants will be installed on both sides of the bridge.

N. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS: None.

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

P. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Supervisor Fox, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously, the December 11, 1995 Board of Supervisors Worksession meeting was adjourned at 8:40PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynda Seimes
Lynda Seimes

Township Secretary

(*These minutes were transcribed from notes and tape recordings taken by Mr. Bruce G. Horrocks, Township Manager).