

HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR SCHEDULED WORKSESSION MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1994
7:38pm

The worksession meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman William H. Bennett, Jr. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also present were: Kenneth B. Bennington, Vice-Chairman
Jack C. Fox, Supervisor
Bruce G. Horrocks, Township Manager
(Arrived 8:05pm)
George C. Egly, Chief of Police
Tom Buzby, Director of Public Works
Warren Nace, Zoning Officer

Chairman Bennett announced that there were no confirmed appointments tonight. First on the agenda would be the approval of the bills not paid, subject to the approval from the Board of Supervisor's.

Mr. Fox questioned on page two of the Bills List under equipment repair/ maintenance agreements payable to Financial Products Corporation and referencing maintenance agreements/ NCR Towers. Chairman Bennett said he usually questions these things when he's signing checks. We will ask Mr. Horrocks when he arrives. Mr. Fox also questioned the repairs on the 87 dump truck totaling \$1,300.00.

Mr. Horrocks replied the payment was a quarterly fee for the two NCR tower computers that the township has. Half of the cost is reimbursed by the Authority because they have one of the two computers. This company is new to the township this year.

A. APPROVAL OF CURRENT BILLING:

Bills List dated September 13, 1994, for a General Fund total of \$31,435.00; A State Highway Fund total of \$1740.00; for a grand total of \$33,372.68.

Motion was made by Supervisor Fox, seconded by Supervisor Bennington and carried unanimously to approve the Bill's List dated September 13, 1994 subject to audit.

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

1. Mr. Horrocks has spoken to EPA concerning the water in Dublin with TCE along Rickert Road and Quarry Road. EPA said they will hook the affected residents up with public water without the residents paying any tap-in fee that Dublin Borough might charge to Hilltown Township or Hilltown Township Authority or whomever takes the water in bulk. They will put water to their homes for free. Immediately after the residents start using the public water

Page 2
Board of Supervisor's Worksession
September 12, 1994

they will have to pay the quarterly fees that will be charged. EPA is very anxious to get this moving as they are now working on Rt. 313. They will bring the line down Rt. 313 into Rickert Road down Rt. 313 to Quarry Road and into Quarry Road. Dublin Borough's only concern is that this be looked at as a correction solution for those affected and that they are not prepared especially until their new well comes on line which they feel will not be until May, 1995. If a resident does not want the water connection EPA would not force it. Hilltown does not have an ordinance with mandatory hook up so we would also not be able to force connection. EPA would put a 'L' for a future lateral into all those homes not hooking up. If however they do not hook up there is no cost that will ever be borne by EPA or by Sequa or by anyone involved with the TCE. You either say yes up front or you do not receive it for free. Mr. Horrocks suggested the Solicitor get together with Dublin Borough's Solicitor to try and determine what kind of agreement could be worked out in this bulk sale. Dublin Borough has expressed no concern over this type of an arrangement. However, at this point because it is two Municipalities and because we are still unsure as to who on this side would be responsible for the billing of the water customers, maintenance of the line, and how we want to deal with it, EPA wants to get this resolved quickly. EPA told Mr. Horrocks on the phone that they are taking the lines on the two streets to where they feel there is danger. They are going to take it to the point that they feel satisfied. EPA's responsibility is to correct the problem that is there today. The new well that is going on line is going to help correct the problem because they are drawing the contaminated water back in.

Motion was made by Supervisor Fox, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to have our Solicitor contact the Solicitor of Dublin Borough and talk about the legality of the purchase of water as stated above.

2. A few months ago Mr. Tim Snyder talked about annexing a parcel. He no longer wants to annex that parcel. Mr. Snyder asked Mr. Horrocks to request for one last time a waiver which was considered previously by our Planning Commission and recommended to the Supervisors, which you previously considered. He would like to request that the sidewalk he has to put into the Dublin Borough line stop there and not go the additional thirty feet to the edge of the property. The last thirty feet being in Hilltown Township. We made this recommendation to Dublin Borough three or four months ago. The Board again expressed their opinion not to change their previous recommendation.

3. Mr. Horrocks has spoken to Mr. Joe Finnan from PUC, and Mr. Jack Tretter, from UGI about the gas line situation along

Walnut Street. Mr. Tretter said they were going to be making a repair. For the past three business days Mr. Horrocks has been trying to reach Mr. Tretter with no success. This was at least two weeks ago. Mr. Horrocks is not aware whether anything was done or not. Mr. Finnan from PUC advised Mr. Horrocks to contact Mr. Tretter and then get back to him at PUC. Mr. Tretter indicated to Mr. Horrocks there were small leaks in the line that were not dangerous but UGI was going to do the best they can to **repair** the line. Once Mr. Horrocks has spoken to Mr. Tretter he will call PUC back and see where the Township stands.

4. Mrs. Eva Pellow of South Perkasio Rd., is considering putting a home on a in-fill lot. Initially there were two issues on this property and Mr. Horrocks had Mrs. Pellow searching the EDU section of it prior to our end of it. With further EDU's being allocated to PWTA, Mrs. Pellow can in fact now be fairly confirmed that she could get an EDU out of PWTA for this in-fill. This particular lot carries with it a deed restriction. Mr. Horrocks is seeking authorization for the Solicitor to review this and possibly during the second meeting this month discuss it with Mrs. Pellow. In the early 1970's the Pellow's neighbor came to the Township and had a subdivision which was approved and finalized. One of the requirements of this subdivision was that this particular parcel be reconsolidated with the Pellow's land. This was never done. However, it is a technically because the last approved subdivision this Township had on this said to reconsolidate it and that is the reason why the deed restriction was placed there. Mr. Horrocks is not sure what legally or technically can be done with this property. The Board authorized the Solicitor get involved.

C. CORRESPONDENCE - Mr. Bruce Horrocks -

- 1. Mr. Horrocks has two Planning Modules for Gro-N-Sell which have come back from County to be signed.
- 2. The Township received a check from Pennsylvania Emergency Management office for \$44,689.00 for our snow money. It turns out to be about \$200.00 higher than the 75% figure we anticipated. This has all been deposited into the General Fund. Mr. Horrocks will sit down with Mr. Buzby and after appropriate discussion the money will be distributed accordingly.

D. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS: None

E. CHAIRMAN OF WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT - Mr. Scott Tagg -

Mr. Tagg has also brought with him Mr. Frank Beck, Vice-Chairman of the Hilltown Township Water and Sewer Authority and their Engineer Mr. Bill Kee. Mr. Tagg has brought the two of them to

Page 4
Board of Supervisor's Worksession
September 12, 1994

this worksession meeting because it was requested they do this in the absence of their manager, Mr. Tom Wynkoop who is currently in the hospital recuperating from some serious surgery and other problems. Mr. Wynkoop will probably be in the hospital for at least another week. Mr. Tagg also announced there would be a Hilltown Water and Sewer Authority Meeting on Wednesday September 14, 1994 and the Board of Supervisor's was invited to attend along with anyone else interested. At this time the 1993 Financial Report will be provided.

Mr. Tagg read the Water and Sewer Department Report for the month of August, 1994, which is on file at the Township office.

Supervisor Fox asked Mr. Tagg if they were guaranteed the seventy five additional EDU's. Mr. Tagg replied not yet. Mr. Tagg doesn't think they have heard from PWTA that they were getting the EDU's yet or an allocation of them to the particular instance that was mentioned in the report. However, they have been released to them.

Supervisor Bennington inquired about the status of the pump test in Perkasio where they are pumping an extra couple hundred thousand gallons of water. Mr. Tagg said he has not heard any other reports other than two weeks ago when they had not encountered any problems with low water levels and wells and were up to seven hundred thousand gallons a day pumping right at that point. This was during some of the rains that we had. Mr. Tagg is not aware of what is happening during this ten day dry period. Supervisor Bennington is concerned that they are pumping all this excess water. Supervisor Bennington said if they are pumping seven hundred thousand gallons a day and running Mr. Mahaffey out of water who else is going to run out down there. Supervisor Bennington said it concerns him that they are pumping all that excess water. I thought that if he went dry Perkasio was going to pay for the total hook up. They are suppose to monitor all the wells in the surrounding area. Mr. Tagg will check on this and report back at the next Water Authority Meeting.

Supervisor Fox asked if the copper and lead is coming from the pipe or from a well. Mr. Tagg replied copper and lead is a new requirement of the EPA for all water systems. As the water sets in the pipes in someone's house a sample of the first drop of water in the morning is taken and sent out for copper and lead testing. The purpose is to see if the water is corrosive and if it is damaging the pipe. Mr. Tagg said he is happy to report our water is not doing that.

F. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS - Mr. Thomas Buzby -

Mr. Buzby read the Public Works Report dated August 7, 1994 through September 3, 1994, which is on file at the Township office.

Supervisor Bennington asked if PennDot was going to repave Diamond Street. Mr. Buzby said he heard it was going to happen and then a patch crew was sent in and told Mr. Buzby Diamond Street was not going to be paved.

Chairman Bennett said he had a call from a resident concerned about the overhanging trees on Route 113 just west of Keystone going toward Souderton. Mr. Buzby said it could be a PennDot problem because Route 113 is a state road. Mr. Buzby will take a look at it but PennDot should be made aware of the problem.

Supervisor Fox said he noticed that the dump truck HT44 is being stored outside for some time now. Is there something in its place or are we running out of space. Mr. Buzby said we have a 1994 GMC small three to five ton dump truck and right now we have a demo dump truck from HMS for the winter with a new type of body with various other things on it. According to Mr. Buzby we have the use of this during the winter months free of charge. We are completely out of room. Nothing else will fit in the garage. Supervisor Fox suggested this go on long term planning for another building to store some of the equipment.

G. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT - Chief George C. Egly -

Chief Egly read the Police Report for the month of August, 1994, which is on file at the Township office.

Chief Egly said it is his understanding that Penndot has cancelled out on repaving Diamond Street. We are having a lot of problems with ambulances. They are now going over to the 309 bypass to get to Grand View Hospital due to the fact the road shakes the inside of the ambulance so bad. Chief Egly is wondering if we could find out the reason why Penndot cancelled out of doing the repaving. Mr. Horrocks said it probably has to do with funds but he will check on it.

Chairman Bennett said he noticed the town watch time seems to be getting lower and lower. It's down to an hour a week. This doesn't seem to be very effective to me. Chief Egly said he thinks everyone has lost interest because they ride around and do nothing most of the time.

H. ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT - Mr. Warren Nace -

Mr. Nace read the Zoning Officer's Report for the month of August, 1994, which is on file at the township office.

Page 6
Board of Supervisor's Worksession
September 12, 1994

I. PARK AND RECREATION REPORT - Mr. Les Lombardi -

Mr. Les Lombardi (Chairman) has brought with him Mr. Nick Lupinicci (Vice-Chairman). Mr. Lombardi read the Park and Recreation Report which is on file at the township office.

Mr. Horrocks said there were two bids authorized by the Board of Supervisor's for advertisement. Bid #94-8 was for a tot lot which is a play structure with a minimum of ten play events on it for the Civic Park. One bid was from Miracle Recreation Equipment Company. The total bid was \$15,711.00. The second and last bid was from George Eli Associates and their total cost was \$13,065.00. These bids were opened at the Park and Recreation Meeting last week. George Eli Associates has three items that are different than the specifications. One item was instead of quoting a double horizontal 'S' rail they quoted a horizontal loop ladder. When I spoke to the individual on the phone he had no problem changing that. We did ask him the specifications for a tube 'L' slide. He quoted a tube 'S' slide. He cannot or will not quote on an 'L' slide for the project. The only other difference is the 360 degrees spiral slide. We requested a canopy and roof. The canopy prevents a child from going over the slide and down. The canopy is on the spiral slide but does not include a roof on it.

Mr. Lombardi said that George Ely stated that their company does not manufacture an 'L' slide because they have had complaints where youngsters would go down to that 90 degree angle and get hung up there. Other than that Miracle is bidding on square steel post and Eli is bidding on round steel post and this was not a specifications requirement. Mr. Lombardi said the only other point we checked into was the warranties and Eli Associates Group warranties actually supercedes by one year in two categories than the Miracle one. The major difference we found was since Eli Associates was a Pennsylvania company their transportation is less than \$300.00 and Miracle comes from the midwest and their transportation is close to \$2,000.00.

Mr. Horrocks said the installation is within \$50.00. The cost of the units is within \$4,000.00. The shipping difference is exactly \$1,000.00. The total difference is \$2,646.00.

Supervisor Fox asked if the equipment was as good as the one we asked for. Mr. Lombardi said based on warrantee and everything we think we are looking at the same reasonable units. We like the warrantee, we like the fact they are willing to upgrade those two conditions we wanted met, plus we are using a Pennsylvania company. Mr. Lombardi said the conditions of the bid was that the equipment would be installed within forty five days. After the installation

Page 7
Board of Supervisor's Worksession
September 12, 1994

we are responsible for the landscape ties and wood mulch like we did at Blooming Glen Park. Mr. Lombardi recommends that the Board of Supervisor's approve the Eli Associates bid.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox and carried unanimous to accept bid #94-8 from George Eli Associates for the Tot Lot in the amount of \$13,065.00 with that money coming from the bond for capital improvement in the park.

Mr. Horrocks said the second bid was a little more complex. Bid #94-9 was for assorted paraphernalia. We received three bids on this. We did advertise that we may award individually. So we requested individual prices with shipping per item. If we look at the totals we received a bid from Recreation Resource out of Kennett Square with a total cost of \$7,173.00. George Eli Associates price was \$6,775.00 and Miracle Recreation was \$6,622.00. On a total price Miracle was \$53.00 less than George Eli Associates. Mr. Lombardi said none of the equipment was quoted installed. His recommendation would be to go by the bottom line number \$6,622.00 and get everything from one person.

Supervisor Bennington asked why didn't you bid everything together in one large bid. Mr. Lombardi said we had to guarantee the installation of the playground unit within 45 days. We wanted to have control over the delivery of the assorted equipment that we would install. Instead of lumping it all together we thought by doing it in two separate categories and having individual bids it would facilitate us getting the best price. The more complex you make it the less bids you are going to get.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to accept bid #94-9 for assorted paraphernalia from Miracle Recreation for \$6,622.00 not installed with money coming from the bond for capital improvement in the park.

Mr. Lombardi said all the money for recommendation #94-4 would come out of the bond which we approximate to be around \$140,000.00. This would still leave some money for maintenance and work that needs to be done in the spring. We feel we really have to push Hilltown Civic and get as much done as we can this fall. This would move us from being a passive park system and into a state of the art park. This has been discussed, rediscussed, argued, challenged, rechallenged, drawn and redrawn.

Supervisor Bennington said he has no problem with anything that is specified in this recommendation and is willing to go by the recommendations but suggested it was a very aggressive schedule. I'll make a motion to give you the authority tonight to do this but it is going to be pretty close.

Page 8
Board of Supervisor's Worksession
September 12, 1994

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to accept the recommendation of Park and Recreation Board #94-4 with all the specifics as mentioned in their sheet and leave it up to the principles just mentioned to put it into fruition in the time frame they discussed.

Mr. Lombardi said he would like to thank everyone involved because we have had quite a few meetings. We went out and received outside consulting and have been working very hard. We will meet on October 13, 1994 and the agenda for the next meeting will be setting up and discussing fee structure.

J. HILLTOWN FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT - The Hilltown Fire Department report for the month of August, 1994 is on file in the Township office.

K. RESIDENT'S COMMENTS: Mr. John Gillespie presented a formal letter as requested by Mr. Horrocks concerning the Deputy Emergency Coordinator's position.

L. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS: Supervisor Bennington said UGI is really starting to aggravate him even more than normal. If you publish those names and numbers I'm sure all the people in the area can barrage them with phone calls and get them moving. They obviously haven't done anything since the last time we mentioned this. UGI said not to worry about a four inch line, it wasn't anything comparable to the twenty three inch line that exploded in Edison, NJ. I might have gotten a little carried away but I checked with Mr. Ed Hunsinger, who used to be the president of Souderton Fire Company who is now on the Borough Council and I confirmed with him that back in 1977 in Souderton Borough there was a home on Wild Avenue which belonged to the Johnson Family who complained along with their neighbors about gas smells in the area. They said nothing was done about it. The gas company said it was only a small line and nothing to worry about. The house blew up because nobody did anything about it and the gas seeped in through the sewer lines into the Johnson house because they had gas heat. So I don't want UGI telling me that four inch gas lines don't cause a problem. Thank God these people didn't have any serious injuries or death.

Supervisor Bennington asked if we are buying salt ahead of time contemplating the winter we had last year. Mr. Buzby said if we have the kind of winter we had last year we will be in the same predicament because we have no where to store the excess salt. Mr. Horrocks said this needs to be addressed in the future. We are looking at this potential to come out of capital money. Supervisor Bennington asked what a salt building would cost. Mr. Buzby quoted an estimated price of \$100,000.00.

Page 9
Board of Supervisor's Worksession
September 12, 1994

Supervisor Fox said the Planning Commission has finished the Zoning Ordinance. We are waiting for a review from Mr. Wynn. We will probably vote at our next meeting. You can consider advertising at the end of September.

M. ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to adjourn the September 12, 1994 Board of Supervisor's Worksession Meeting at 9:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara L. Hefner

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Administrative Secretary

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