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HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
REGULARLY SCHEDULED WORKSESSION MEETING  
Monday, May 9, 1994  
7:30PM

The 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: Jack C. Fox, Supervisor  
Bruce G. Horrocks, Township Manager  
George C. Egly, Chief of Police  
Warren Nace, Zoning Officer

Chairman Bennett advised that Supervisor Bennington is ill, Mr. Buzby is on vacation, and Mr. Grunmeier is participating in a class, therefore they would not be in attendance this evening.

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

1. Lynda Seimes, the Township Secretary's last day of employment with the Township is this Friday, May 13, 1994. Mr. Horrocks advised the position has been advertised in the newspaper as "secretary", but for the formal Township Secretary signature that is occasionally needed on documents, he requested the Board appoint an alternate Township Secretary in the interim period. Previously, this title has been shared either by the Township Manager or by one of the members of the Board of Supervisors.

Motion was made by Supervisor Fox and seconded by Chairman Bennett, to appoint William H. Bennett, Jr. as the temporary Township Secretary until a secretary is appointed.

2. The regularly scheduled May 23, 1994 Board of Supervisors meeting has been postponed and will be held on Tuesday, May 24, 1994 at 7:30PM. The reason for the postponement is that the Supervisors will be attending the regular meeting of the Pennridge Wastewater Treatment Authority, which will be held on May 23, 1994.

Chairman Bennett noted the Hilltown Civic Association normally meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month, however in view of this change, the Civic Association meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 31, 1994 at 8:00PM at the Township building.

3. Mr. Horrocks wished to re-state a policy which had been interpreted differently in the past. When the Township receives completed Zoning Complaint Forms, Mr. Horrocks requested the Board's approval to exclude those forms from the requirements of the "Open Records Act". This request is being made for personal security reasons, and in most cases, is the start of an investigation, of which investigations are excluded in that requirement as well. In the recent past, Zoning Complaint Forms have been offered as public documents for review, however through

the Township Solicitor's office, it has been determined that these complaint forms should be excluded from the "Open Records Act".

Motion was made by Supervisor Fox and seconded by Chairman Bennett to exclude the Zoning Complaint Form from public review, and that it will not come under the Open Records Act because of legal matters.

4. Mr. Horrocks received correspondence today from the Township Engineer's office dealing with the Stonycrest Subdivision Maintenance Bond, which expires on May 24, 1994. Since the Board has rescheduled their meeting, Mr. Horrocks requested the Board to notify the Bond holder, First Indemnity of America Insurance Company, of the incomplete items required under the maintenance portion of the Agreement, and indicate that the maintenance period has not been successfully satisfied until completion of the outstanding items. Generally, this is a formality, and the bank, in theory, will be issuing another Letter of Credit.

Motion was made by Supervisor Fox and seconded by Chairman Bennett to notify both the Quaker Group, who is the developer of the subdivision, and First Indemnity of America Insurance Company that the Bond expires on May 24, 1994, and unless an extension is received in writing by that date, the Township will hold the subdivision in default.

5. The Park and Recreation Board will hold a special meeting on May 17, 1994 at 7:30PM here at the Township building. The Hilltown Township Planning Commission members and the Board of Supervisors have been invited to attend. The Park and Recreation Director of Warminster will be in attendance to offer suggestions and answer questions.

6. A request has been received from Carl and Joan Seidel of 1507 Fairhill Road, who would like to enclose their swimming pool on three sides with a self-closing, self-latching fence, and use their home as the fourth side of the fence. Mr. and Mrs. Seidel have provided a notarized letter holding the Township harmless for any accidents associated with their swimming pool. Mr. Horrocks believes this particular issue will be addressed in the new Zoning Ordinance.

Supervisor Fox asked if there are any doors and windows in the wall of the house, and the applicant replied there are doors. Supervisor Fox noted the present Ordinance and the B.O.C.A. Code does not allow this, though he understands the applicant's viewpoint. The new Zoning Ordinance, which will go into effect within months, will allow a blank wall, containing no doors or windows to be used as the fourth side of the fence, however he personally can not approve this request. Supervisor Fox commented

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93% of the children under 4 years of age who drown are either visiting or living at the site where the swimming pool is located. In good conscience, Supervisor Fox can not allow the applicant to do what they have requested. Chairman Bennett disagrees with Supervisor Fox, particularly if the applicant involved agrees to hold the Township harmless, however there is no other Board member present to second his motion. Chairman Bennett feels there is too much government regulation, and he believes this particular issue is a question of parental responsibility. The Board agreed to take no action on the matter at this time.

Mr. Seidel asked if he may make this request at a later date when Supervisor Bennington is present to vote on the issue. Chairman Bennett invited Mr. and Mrs. Seidel to appear again before the Board in the future if they so desire.

Chairman Bennett commented there is an indoor swimming pool located on Fairhill Road, and wondered how this law would apply in that instance. Apparently, the pool was an addition to the house and there is a door from the house into the indoor swimming pool area which is glass enclosed. Supervisor Fox suggested possibly a self-latching door would be required, and felt this matter should be considered before the new Zoning Ordinance is approved.

Mr. Horrocks will bring Mr. and Mrs. Seidel's same request before the Board of Supervisors at their meeting on May 24, 1994.

- B. CORRESPONDENCE - None.
- C. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS: None.
- D. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Mr. Horrocks read the Public Works Report for the period of April 3 through April 30, 1994, which is on file at the Township office.
- E. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT - Mr. George C. Egly, Chief of Police - Chief Egly read the Police Report for the month of April, which is on file at the Township office.

With regard to the dog situation discussed at the last Supervisor's meeting, Chief Egly advised the dog's owner paid the fine of \$300.00 plus cost of prosecution on May 2, 1994. The owner still claims that the dog is out of state, and will not be returning.

Chief Egly explained there is a problem with residents living on Stump Road, between Upper Church and Callowhill Roads. The Chalfont Postmaster is requesting that those residents call that section of road "Upper Stump Road" due to the fact that there is presently a Stump Road in Montgomery County within the Chalfont post office delivery area. Those residents are currently using

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Upper Stump Road, which appears to be confusing not only the police department, but also the fire department, when smoke, fire or burglar alarms go off. Chief Egly suggested that those residents use "H" behind their house number, just as those within the Perkasio post office delivery area have done. Mr. Horrocks would like to research this matter further, because New Britain Township officials have told him that they have experienced no problems, yet they are still located within the Chalfont post office delivery area.

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

Mr. Nace is requesting action from the Board of Supervisors concerning the junkyard complaint at the site located at 200 Pinewood Lane. Mr. Nace advised this complaint was originally registered in January of 1992, and a new complaint concerning the same property was received in March of this year. To date, the property owner has ignored notices of violation.

Motion was made by Supervisor Fox and seconded by Chairman Bennett to prosecute the property owner of 200 Pinewood Lane through the District Justice.

G. HILLTOWN FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT - Due to Mr. Grunmeier's absence, the Hilltown Fire Chief's Report was not read.

H. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT - Mr. Horrocks noted that technically, Mr. Devlin, who was appointed to this position at a previous meeting, is still not officially the Emergency Management Coordinator. The Township is awaiting correspondence to be sent from the Governor's office to the Bucks County Emergency Management Coordinator approving the appointment, before the County will recognize Mr. Devlin as the Hilltown Township Emergency Management Coordinator.

I. RESIDENT'S COMMENTS: None.

J. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS: None.

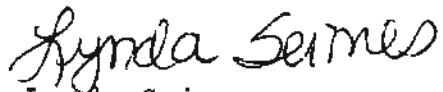
K. PRESS CONFERENCE: A conference was held to answer questions of those reporters present.

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L. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Supervisor Fox and seconded by Chairman Bennett, the May 9, 1994 Worksession meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was adjourned at 8:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda Seimes  
Township Secretary

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