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**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULARLY SCHEDULED PUBLIC WORKSESSION
Monday, February 14, 1994
7:30PM**

The Worksession meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman William H. Bennett, Jr. at 7:40PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

A. MANAGER'S REPORT - Mr. Bruce G. Horrocks -

1. The Planning Commission has interviewed three applicants interested in filling the vacant seat on that Board and has recommended that Mr. H. Franklin Rice be appointed to the vacancy.

Motion was made by Supervisor Fox, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously to follow the recommendation by the Planning Commission to appoint Mr. H. Franklin Rice to vacant position on the Planning Commission, with the term to expire on December 31, 1994.

Supervisor Bennington commented all three candidates were very well qualified for the position. Chairman Bennett noted Mr. Rice is a former Chairman of the Hilltown Township Water and Sewer Authority, serving in that capacity for seven years.

2. Mr. Horrocks is requesting Board authorization to advertise for a Public Hearing to be held on Monday, February 28, 1994 concerning an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to authorize advertisement of a Public Hearing to be held on Monday, February 28, 1994 to consider the adoption of an amendment to the Hilltown Township Zoning Ordinance.

3. The Township has received two new quotes from Berkheimer Associates and a meeting has been scheduled at Perkasio Borough to review the proposal. Mr. Horrocks explained the first quote is a three year quote at 2.55% commission, and the second is a ten year quote at 2.5%, with a decreasing variable on the excess over a base period. Chairman Bennett commented it would be a savings of approximately \$3,000.00 per year, and asked if Berkheimer is seeking to contract with all eight Bucks County municipalities in order to offer that percentage rate. Mr. Horrocks replied all eight municipalities received the same quote that Hilltown Township received.

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4. A lone bid for the new police vehicle (Bid #94-1) was received and opened this afternoon from A & T Chevrolet in the amount of \$17,235.00. Mr. Horrocks noted the amount budgeted for 1994 is \$17,830.00.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bennington, seconded by Supervisor Fox, and carried unanimously to accept the bid in the amount of \$17,235.00 from A & T Chevrolet for the new police vehicle (Bid #94-1).

B. Correspondence - Mr. Bruce G. Horrocks, Township Manager -

1. A report has been received from Bunny's Animal Shelter advising that the number of dogs remaining as of December 31, 1993 is 152.

2. On Thursday, March 24, 1994, from 2:00PM to 4:00PM, Surplus Food Distribution will take place here at the Township Building.

C. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS: None.

D. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT - Mr. Thomas A. Buzby - Mr. Buzby read the Public Works Report dated December 26, 1993 through February 5, 1994, which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Buzby thanked the members of the Public Works Department for the excellent job they did plowing and cindering the roadways, and for their upbeat attitude during the severe winter weather conditions.

Chairman Bennett also complimented members of the Public Works Department, stating he personally has heard many positive comments about the condition of Hilltown Township roadways as compared to those in neighboring communities. Supervisor Bennington commented Mr. Buzby thanked his employees for the fine job they did, however he does not believe that Mr. Buzby receives the credit that he deserves. According to the Public Works Report read this evening, it shows that Mr. Buzby worked 240 regular hours and 161 overtime hours. Since Mr. Buzby does not receive paid overtime, those 161 hours are time he has put in on his own. Supervisor Bennington thanked Mr. Buzby for his hard work and stated he really appreciates what he has done. Supervisor Fox and Chairman Bennett agreed with Supervisor Bennington's sentiments.

E. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT - Chief George C. Egly - Chief Egly also thanked Mr. Buzby for the help he and his department gave to the police by clearing State highways, which is not the responsibility of the Township.

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

Chief Egly thanked the fire police for their help with accidents during the month of January.

F. ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT - Mr. Warren Nace - Mr. Nace read the Zoning Report for the month of January, 1994, which is on file at the Township office.

G. HILLTOWN FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT - Mr. Robert H. Grunmeier, II - Mr. Grunmeier read the Hilltown Fire Company Report for the month of January, 1994, which is on file at the Township office.

Mr. Grunmeier stated Hazardous Materials Training (Operations Level) has almost been completed, however 8 hours of "spill and leak control" is still required, which he would like to conduct at the Public Works building, with the Board's permission.

The refurbished truck's delivery time is approximately 2 months behind schedule, however it is to the fire company's benefit since there is a \$50.00 per day penalty on it. If it is delivered when anticipated, the fire company will receive approximately \$7,500.00 in penalty payments.

Mr. Grunmeier has received correspondence from Penn Builders with regards to the project at Sacred Heart School. Penn Builders has completed the gymnasium/classroom addition to Our Lady of Sacred Heart and they were required to install a sprinkler system with a stortz connection. Mr Grunmeier inspected the site to insure the fire company can connect to the system. Mr. Grunmeier needs to know why Penn Builders was required to use a stortz connection, and advised the fire company must be able to check out the connection before it is installed. Mr. Grunmeier explained a stortz connection is placed between two windows, and since this sprinkler system is dry, he does not believe it will be very effective. Supervisor Fox stated what the Planning Commission recommended and the Board of Supervisors approved, was outside fittings from a truck. Mr. Grunmeier suggested the fire company be involved in the planning stages of projects similar to Our Lady of Sacred Heart. From this moment forward, Mr. Horrocks noted, each time a building permit is submitted with a sprinkler system requirement, the fire chief of that district will be notified, in writing, in advance to eliminate any "back-up" inspections. These are currently B.O.C.A. requirements, though apparently on the Sacred Heart project, there was an inspection by an out-of-Township service, which never got to the fire company until after the matter was determined.

Supervisor Fox asked if the stortz connection is an effective system. Mr. Grunmeier replied there is a strong possibility the fire company will never use the stortz connection, and he requested blueprints of the project, showing which sections of the building are sprinklered. Mr. Grunmeier explained the stortz connection is a dry system, which must be supplemented by a truck. The stortz connection is approximately 3 1/2 to 4 feet off the ground, which could cause a serious kink in the hose. Normally, stortz connections are used with a 30 degree elbow. Mr. Grunmeier noted many of these issues should have been addressed prior to installation, however since the system is already installed, the fire company will do the best they can.

Supervisor Bennington seems to recall that a member of the fire company was before the Board discussing the Sacred Heart project and this very issue, stating that they needed to review the plans in order to determine whether it would be an effective system. Mr. Grunmeier commented he was before the Board concerning this issue, however the question at the time was whether or not the building would be sprinklered. The fire company felt the building should be sprinklered and wet, which would require tanks and pumps. Mr. Grunmeier noted the last time the issue was discussed, it was decided that the sprinkler system, once installed, would be for future expansion. Mr. Grunmeier did not hear further discussion concerning the sprinkler system until he received this recent correspondence from Penn Builders.

Mr. Horrocks believes the problem is that at the planning level of the Planning Commission, sprinkler systems have no bearing at all. Not until a building permit application and a plan is submitted, does the Township even know if B.O.C.A. will require a sprinkler system. The problem is that once a building permit application is submitted, the Township must make all the fire chiefs aware of a proposed building and the potential sprinkler system for review.

H. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT - Mr. Robert H. Grunmeier, II - Mr. Grunmeier had nothing to report for Emergency Management, however, he wondered whether a replacement had been found for the position of Emergency Management Coordinator. The Board agreed to review the three resumes that have been submitted to the Township in order to make an appointment at the February 28, 1994 Board of Supervisors meeting.

Supervisor Fox complimented all the volunteer fire companies, including Hilltown, who were out diligently helping with emergency situations during the recent bad weather.

I. RESIDENT'S COMMENTS: None.

J. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS: None.

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

L. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Supervisor Fox, seconded by Supervisor Bennington, and carried unanimously, the February 14, 1994 Board of Supervisors Worksession meeting was adjourned at 8:42PM.

Respectfully submitted,



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