

HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING  
February 12, 1990

The meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman William H. Bennett, Jr. at 7:30PM.

Members present were: William H. Bennett, Jr., Chairman  
Kenneth B. Bennington, Vice-Chairman  
Betty J. Kelly, Supervisor

Others present were: James H. Singley, Township Manager  
Francis X. Grabowski, Township Solicitor  
C. Robert Wynn, Township Engineer  
Ashby Watts, Sergeant, Hilltown Police  
Thomas Buzby, Roadmaster  
Clarence Radcliff, Zoning Officer  
Linda Hangey, Secretary

Chairman Bennett announced Chief George Egly was out of town on police detail and that Sgt. Ashby Watts was present in his place. He also announced that Township Secretary, Gloria G. Neiman, had resigned. Mrs. Linda Hangey from the Hilltown Police Department, was present to take minutes at this meeting.

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Bennington questioned page four of Police Chief's Report, of the January 22, 1990 Supervisor's minutes. He questioned the low miles per gallon in the two police vehicles in question, not the low mileage, as stated in those minutes. Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly to approve the minutes of the January 22, 1990 Supervisors' meeting as corrected; motion seconded by Mr. Bennington and carried unanimously.

B. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: General Fund: \$40,761.08; State Highway Aid: ~~\$7464.35~~; Police Pension Fund \$30,648.00. Mr. Bennington questioned the Grim, Biehn, Thatcher and Helf bill in conveyance of land for \$2,200.00. Mr. Singley responded it is monies billed to us for the Blooming Glen area, in conjunction with Hilltown High School Alumni Assn. and the Blooming Glen Playground Assn., which took place in August of 1989. Mr. Bennington also inquired if the Nationwide Insurance bill is a lump sum for the 1990 insurance. Mr. Singley stated that Nationwide Insurance bills in nine installments, but for a twelve month period, this payment being the first three premium installments due now. Mr. Bennington questioned the bill for Dublin Family Restaurant for the Police Liability Seminar, stating that he was under the impression that a \$10.00 per head fee would be charged for those wishing to attend. Mr. Singley replied that originally, \$10.00 per person was to be charged per. However, Mr. Singley was not privy to the original seminar announcement letter mailed out to the fifty-four Bucks County municipalities, apparently stating there was not a fee. Mr. Singley cited miscommunication between various departments involved. Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Bennington, and carried unanimously, to pay bills when due.

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C. TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Singley read the report for the month of February 1990: General Fund - \$25,917.62, Street Lighting Fund - \$1279.99, Fire Hydrant Fund - \$3388.59, Capital Projects - \$153.29, Highway Aid - \$461.22, Police Pension - \$2132.61, Non-Uniform Pension - \$400.17, Fire Protection Tax - \$15,661.26, Escrow Account - \$181.54, and Debt Service to State - 0. Motion was made by Mr. Bennington to accept the Treasurer's Report as given subject to audit; motion seconded by Mrs. Kelly and carried unanimously.

D. RESIDENT'S COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

E. BUDGET: The 1990 Revised Budget was discussed, including the 3 mills on Debt Service, as well as various changes that were made for the Auditor's Report, Recycling, and Fire Liability Insurance. Motion was made by Mr. Bennington, seconded by Mrs. Kelly, and carried unanimously to approve the Revised Budget as stated.

F. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS:

1. Ben R. Scholl, 2301 Fifth Street, Perkasio - commented that he has a building on Old Bethlehem Road, which was severely damaged by a storm, and was inquiring as to the proper procedure to demolish and rebuild this structure. Mr. Clarence Radcliff, Building Inspector/Zoning Officer advised a demolition permit would first be needed, followed by a building permit to reconstruct, which would be valid for one year. The approximate cost would be \$25,000. Mr. Scholl expressed concern that he would be charged a fee to tear down the structure, then charged another fee for a building permit to rebuild. Discussion followed as to whether waiving the permit fee would be acceptable. The Board agreed to inform Mr. Scholl, within a week, as to their decision.

2. Jack C. Fox, Hilltown - Advised a Resolution is needed to start grant application procedures for recycling. This Resolution will state that the Township is committed to collecting recyclables (newspaper, clear glass and aluminum cans) at curbside, and Hilltown Township will be responsible for 10% of the cost, which is not refundable from the grant money. Chairman Bennett inquired as to how much money would actually be needed. Mr. Fox advised that up to \$80,000 would be needed to get the recycling program off the ground, with the Township liable for 10%, or approximately \$8,000.00. This amount includes containers and educational equipment. Mr. Bennington asked if this program would cover the entire township, and if State funds were involved. Mr. Fox replied yes to both questions. Chairman Bennett explained that Hilltown Township is mandated by the State, because our population is in excess of 10,000, to have curbside recycling in effect by September 26, 1990. Motion was made by Mr. Bennington, seconded by Mrs. Kelly and carried unanimously to accept Resolution #90-6 regarding Recycling.

Mr. Fox also requested permission to employ Mr. Kenneth Woodruff as a consultant to complete the grant application for recycling to DER. Mr. Woodruff estimates that approximately \$1200.00 would be needed, of which 90% would be returned by the state. His base rate is \$59.00 per hour and \$18.00 per hour for clerical work. Chairman Bennett inquired as to whether Mr. Woodruff had provided the same service for other communities. Mr. Fox stated he has worked for Quakertown, Perkasio, Newtown, Bristol Borough and Bristol Township. Mr. Bennington recapped by stating the consultant would properly complete the grant application paperwork. Grant money would be 90% of the cost for start up of recycling in Hilltown, and the only cost to Hilltown Township would be 10% of any fees incurred for recycling under Act 101 - an approximate cost of \$150.00, at most, to employ Mr. Kenneth Woodruff. Motion was made by Mr. Bennington and seconded by Chairman Bennett, to hire Mr. Kenneth Woodruff as a consultant to recycling. Mrs. Kelly was opposed and questioned the reason to spend funds to hire a consultant when personnel is available to do so. Mr. Fox replied that the personnel available does not know how to properly fill out these grant applications and it would be more beneficial to use a professional service in hopes of receiving this grant money. Motion was passed 2:1.

#### G. MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. Mr. Singley notified the Supervisor's, general public and news media that Hilltown Township is in receipt of a letter from Mr. Robert Hanna, our attorney from Marshall, Dennehey, Warner, Coleman, and Goggin, they have filed a copy of brief and support of the defendant's finished trial on January 30, 1990. The case of Renninger vs. Hilltown, involving Mr. Renninger and Hilltown Township, Hilltown Township patrolman, Officer Frank Dilworth, and Chief George C. Egly. Hilltown Township is asking that the judgement be overturned and a new trial be awarded.

Mr. Bennington questioned whether appeals go to the judge who heard the case originally, and if so, why a judge who already ruled on Officer Dilworth's case, would be inclined to accept an appeal. Township Solicitor, Francis X. Grabowski replied that if in fact there were any errors of law that may have occurred during the course of the trial, either by the judge or within the instructions that were given to the jury, the judge can overrule and order a new trial, based on the acknowledgement that possibly the court made a mistake. If the court feels the jury's decision is totally outlandish and contrary to the law, the judge has a right to overrule that decision as well. Practical experience shows this is not often the case, however, the law does allow for that possibility to exist. If Hilltown Township's attorney's intend to take a further appeal, the case will go to a much larger group of judges beyond Judge Shapiro.

2. Personnel - Mr. Singley read a letter of resignation recieved January 26, 1990 from Gloria G. Neiman, Township Secretary.

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3. Delp/Mumaw Zoning Application, January 22, 1990 meeting - Mr. Singley received additional letter on this issue from Mr. Clarence K. Radcliff, Zoning Officer/Building Inspector. When it was before the Board in January, there was a question regarding the date of compliance. The date in question was a typographical error of June 26, as opposed to July 26, which was within the six month time frame for compliance. The Board, at that time had recommended Mr. Mumaw appear before the Zoning Hearing Board for a different use.

Mr. Bennington questioned Mr. Radcliff's letter stating that Mr. Mumaw has a use similar to Mr. Delp's. Mr. Bennington feels that Section 605 is explicit regarding change of use. Mr. Radcliff explained that Mr. Mumaw has an electronic service and repair use and Mr. Delp has a refrigeration service and repair use, whereby both are basically very similar. Motion was made by Mr. Bennington, seconded by Chairman Bennett, and carried unanimously to have Mr. Mumaw appear before the Zoning Hearing Board.

4. Pileggi Property, Route 309 - Pileggi-Peruzzi Sign Dispute - Mr. Singley stated there are three options available for the Board of Supervisor's to pursue in this matter. The first being the Township could issue a citation, the second being the Township could immediately file an equity action in County Court alleging a zoning violation and asking the Court to issue an Order for the removal of the disputed sign. The third and final course of action involves a new provision of the planning code, which allows an adjacent property owner to file an equity action to abate any perceived zoning violations on a neighboring property.

Chairman Bennett questioned whether the sign was approved. Mr. Singley replied the sign is on the land development blueprint, which has never been signed by the Board of Supervisors and has never been registered at the Recorder of Deeds in the County Courthouse. Mr. Grabowski explained that before Act 170 took effect, site development plans were not regarded and construed to be land developments. Apparently, there was a plan presented before the Board of Supervisors which received an acknowledgement that the use was permitted. The argument Mr. Pileggi is making is the plan included the existence and presence of the identification of a sign, and that is sufficient to constitute approval by the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Grabowski further stated the fact remains this zoning office has no record of any sign permit application or that any permit was issued. The Board agreed to discuss all three options at the next Executive Session.

5. Liquid Fuels for County - Two options were made available thru the County on receiving Liquid Fuel funding in 1990. Hilltown could receive 90% (\$1879.00) of the "No Strings" Liquid Fuel Funding, which would be paid within 45 days of receipt of request, or 100% (\$2,088.00) through Liquid Fuels with the normal paper work and delays. Mr. Singley recommended following through on 100% funding(\$2,088.00). Motion was made by Mr. Bennington, seconded by Mrs. Kelly and carried unanimously to make 100% Liquid Fuels Allocation.

6. Mr. Singley discussed conflict of interest for Grim, Biehn, Thatcher and Helf in the upcoming Zoning Hearing Board case of Browning/Jurin. Mr. Singley recommended Mr. Jeffrey Drake represent the Township on the Browning/Jurin matter coming up in March. Motion was made by Mr. Bennington, seconded by Mrs. Kelly and carried unanimously to appoint Mr. Jeffrey Drake to represent Hilltown Township for one session in the Browning/Jurin case and/or any continuances.

7. Public Works Report - Mr. Buzby read the report dated Dec. 31, 1989 thru January 27, 1990, which is on file at the township office. Mr. Buzby requested permission to attend a Commercial Driver's License seminar being held in Harrisburg on Wednesday, February 21, 1990, weather permitting. Motion was made by Mr. Kenneth Bennington, seconded by Mrs. Betty Kelly and carried unanimously to have Mr. Buzby attend the Commercial Driver's License seminar. Mr. Bennington commended Mr. Buzby and the entire Highway Department on the excellent job they have been doing patching roads and repairing potholes, despite being shorthanded. Chairman Bennett explained that the Highway Department's foreman, Mr. Scott Lear, was recently injured on the job and also, within the last month, a member of the Highway Department had resigned his position. Chairman Bennett and Mr. Buzby stated Hilltown is presently in the market for a new backhoe, at an approximate cost of \$65,000 to \$70,000, which has been budgeted for 1990.

8. Police Chief's Report - Sgt. Ashby Watts read the January, 1990 report, which is on file at the township office, and also presented a geographic slide show of the crime rate in Hilltown Township. 61% of crime is focused on Rt. 309 side, 21% from Keystone Drive to Old Bethlehem Road, and 18% in the remaining portions of the township. There is an average of one to three drug arrests per week.

#### H. ENGINEERING/PLANNING:

1. Underground Storage Tanks - Under requirements and regulations adopted by the Department of Environmental Resources in 1989, and required by the Environmental Protection Agency, underground storage tanks must be registered on a regular basis. Mr. Wynn has completed the registration forms for the township for three tanks which are utilized for diesel fuel and gasoline. Older tanks must be monitored monthly, but because all three of the tanks are relatively new, it is not required. In order to forward registration forms to DER, Mr. Wynn is seeking approval from the Board and a check for \$150.00 - the cost of \$50.00 per tank for three tanks - to complete storage tank registration. Motion was made by Mr. Bennington, seconded by Mrs. Kelly and carried unanimously to forward a check for \$150.00 and completed forms to DER for registration of underground tanks.

2. Orchard Road Bridge - Mr. Wynn stated one of the requirements of the approval of the Calhoun Subdivision, now called Orchard Station, on the south side of Orchard Road, is the replacement of the existing arch bridge with a new concrete box culvert.

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The original plans provide for a pre-cast concrete box. Closing of the road for approximately three to four months has been advertised as of Feb. 13, 1990. Motion was made by Mr. Bennington, seconded by Mrs. Kelly and carried unanimously to change the bridge construction from pre-cast to concrete.

3. Pleasant Meadows Box Culvert - Mr. Wynn spoke with Dr. Thomas Cordrey, Soil Scientist, employed by Mr. Garis and on behalf of the Township, to secure the necessary wetlands taken from us. The Game Commission, one of the State agencies that has to authorize wetland encroachment, has indicated they have no objections, but there has been an objection raised by the Fish Commission. The Environmental Board and the DER will be meeting on February 22, 1990 and it will be DER's recommendation, that they, along with the Fish Commission, establish a time frame to meet with Township officials at the site. DER can rule and approve the application without the Fish Commission's approval, but would like the Fish Commission to endorse it.

4. Traffic Signal at Rt. 313 and Rt. 113 - Proposed installation of "Stop" bars and "Stop Here on Red" signage at jointly shared intersection of Hilltown Township and Bedminster. Mr. Wynn requests cost estimate from Mr. Buzby to have this work done, the cost being shared equally between Bedminster Twp. and Hilltown Township.

5. H.L. Garges, Land Development - Carwash - Linens and papers to be signed.

#### I. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

1. Pritz Subdivision - Two lot subdivision on S. Perkaskie Road requires installation of street trees, monumentation and construction of a drainage swale for a total cost of \$11,200.00 to be placed in escrow. Mr. and Mrs. Pritz decided to make a deposit directly to the Township to be held in segregated escrow account. Motion was made by Mr. Bennington, seconded by Mrs. Kelly, and carried unanimously to accept Pritz Subdivision.

2. Kenneth Beer Subdivision - Subdivision on Blooming Glen Road requires installation of trees and construction observation. The Beers' would like to make a direct deposit of \$2846.25 to be held in escrow account, to Hilltown Township. Mr. Bennington made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Kelly and carried unanimously to accept the Kenneth Beer Subdivision.

3. Occupational Privilege Tax - Mr. Grabowski inquired as to whether the Board would give consideration to having the taxation assessment be exempted from any person who's total income during the taxable year is less than, or equal to, \$5,000.00 of total income - earned, as well as unearned. Mr. Grabowski requested a decision by the Board to advertise this ordinance for the next meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Bennington, seconded by Mrs. Kelly and carried unanimously to authorize Mr. Frank Grabowski, Township Solicitor, to advertise said ordinance.

4. Industrial Waste Ordinance - An ordinance was enacted by Hilltown Township last year, which called for the adoption of certain requirements and regulations on the treatment of industrial waste within Hilltown Township through Hilltown Sewer Authority and Pennridge Wastewater Treatment Authority. EPA has changed guidelines and minimum requirements for pre-treatment of Industrial sewage, thus necessitating our original ordinance be revised. The Hilltown Authority has taken responsibility of accepting the occurrence of costs of new advertisement and preparation of revised ordinance. The Pennridge Authority has supplied us with revised ordinance and this would need to be advertised to request consideration of adoption. Motion was made by Mr. Bennington, seconded by Mrs. Kelly and carried unanimously to authorize Mr. Grabowski to advertise this ordinance.

5. Purchase of Vacant Land - At the January 22, 1990 meeting, there was authorization to enter into discussion of the possible purchase of vacant land in Blooming Glen, contiguous to lands previously acquired by the Township. Unfortunately, there was an outstanding agreement of sale already pending, and a few days following the Supervisor's request, that entire parcel was sold to a third party.

6. Baker Subdivision Appeal - Proposed 8 lot subdivision on Rt. 113 between Diamond Street and Keystone Drive. The Board of Supervisors had denied subdivision application originally. The applicant also filed a private request to DER to allow for extension of public sewer to serve the lots. The Township took a position at the Jan. 22, 1990 meeting to oppose the private request. Mr. Wynn has filed a responsive document to that effect. The subdivision appeal was heard before Judge Clark and it has been requested that a certain determination by Hilltown Township on this matter, be made. Mr. Grabowski requested this be discussed at the next executive session.

7. Payment to Auditors - A recommendation was made to pay Niessen, Dunlap and Pritchard, Auditor's, when Hilltown Township's audit is complete. The approximate cost of audit will be \$15,000.00 - \$16,000.00. Motion was made by Mr. Ken Bennington, seconded by Mrs. Betty Kelly and carried unanimously to remit fee to auditing firm when audit is complete.

J. RESIDENT'S COMMENTS:

1. Paul Groeber, 1506 Keystone Drive - Presented 37 photographs of a property located at 1500 Keystone Drive, leased to Ferguson Towing, by property owner Mr. William Bennett. Mr. Groeber questioned Clarence Radcliff, Building Inspector/Zoning Officer, about a business being operated out of this property. Mr. Radcliff replied he did indeed take the 37 photographs, and that in his professional opinion, a business was being operated on the property in question.



Mr. Groeber stated the problem has gone on too long and he feels action should be taken to correct it. Mr. Groeber cited several dates and number of vehicles that were present on the property at given times. He also requested the name of an alternative person to contact to report these violations when the Zoning Officer cannot be reached in the evenings or on weekends.

Mr. Bennington stated he went out to the Groeber property to do an inspection of the Keystone Drive property in mid-January. At that time, there was a sign posted in the lane stating "Pass At Your Own Risk Beyond This Point". He proceeded no further, but made a visual inspection from a field. At that time, he saw two vehicles with an empty flatbed truck. Based on the Zoning Officer's opinion and the photographs, a Cease and Desist order was issued to Mr. Ferguson, with a copy sent to Mr. Bennett, dated Feb. 8, 1990. A Cease and Desist order gives operator 30 days to comply. If at the end of thirty days, the operator does not comply, a citation will be issued, which insures a fine will be imposed on a daily basis to Mr. Ferguson, who will then have to appear before District Justice Hunsicker.

2. Mr. Christman, 315 Fairhill Road - Stated trucks being used in this business run up and down Fairhill Hill Road on a regular basis, at night and on weekends, at excessive rates of speed.

3. Ms. Sue Hatch - 1412 Keystone Drive - Advised there is a uniform truck going into said property on Mondays, and also a Snap-On Tool truck making regular stops at the property.

Chairman Bennett stated that he himself had made several inspections of this property on various dates, one being that very afternoon, and found no more than the legal amount of vehicles on the property.

Mr. Bennington informed the concerned public that any further complaints regarding this issue, should be directed to Mr. Bennington personally, if the Zoning Officer cannot be reached. Mr. Bennington is hopeful the Cease and Desist order will take care of the problem.

4. Mr. Robert H. Grunmeier, Jr., 1811 Bethlehem Pike - Mr. Grunmeier questioned Mrs. Betty Kelly about her participation on the Recycling Committee. He asked if she had been in contact with Mr. Chuck Raudenbush and if he had agreed to complete recycling grant application forms. Mrs. Kelly replied she had relayed this information to the Township Manager, who said he would take care of it. Mr. Grunmeier also read a portion of the Jan. 2, 1990 Reorganization Meeting minutes, quoting Chairman Bennett's goals for Hilltown Township - those being "open communication with the residents and fiscal integrity of the Township with maximum service to the residents".



Mr. Grunmeier had requested copies of Recycling Committee meeting minutes for the month of January from Township Manager, Mr. James Singley, on January 31, 1990. Mr. Singley stated he had been on vacation for 5 days, had just come in to attend this meeting, and hadn't been able to respond to Mr. Grunmeier's request as of this date. Mr. Grunmeier replied since the Recycling Committee is an appointed committee, where they have official meetings, he imagines this information is open to the public. Mr. Grunmeier asked the date of revised budget. Mr. Singley replied the date of the revised budget is the week of January 29, 1990.

Mr. Grunmeier inquired if quotes had been taken from different accounting firms for the audit, and whether the 1 mill Debt Service increase was for the purpose of the audit. Chairman Bennett replied that three quotes had been received with prices as high as \$40,000 to \$90,000. The quote accepted was for approx. \$15,000.00 and was the lowest and most timely quote received. The 1 mill Debt Service increase was for the purpose of the audit, plus an additional cost to do with Fire Insurance, and the remaining amount of the allotment was for recycling.

5. John Snyder, 2018 Mill Road - Received a letter regarding a training session for Zoning Hearing Board procedures sponsored by the Department of Community Affairs. This training session is being made available to Zoning Hearing Board members, Solicitors, Zoning Officer, and Planning Commission members at a cost of \$20.00 per person. It will be held in Malvern, PA on March 29, and taught by Ms. Sandra Slade - a professor of Law at Delaware Law School. Mr. Snyder feels it would be beneficial for all Zoning Hearing Board members, and the Zoning Officer, to attend.

6. Joe Brady, 135 Broad Street, Hilltown - Questioned H & K Quarry's intent to construct a black top plant in the quarry located behind their property, and also to inquire as to whether the Township is involved in monitoring air and water quality, as is the DER. Chairman Bennett stated a letter was received in January from H & K Quarries regarding the fact they had applied for a permit to construct an asphalt plant at this location. Hilltown Township has requested a copy of the application submitted to DER last week, with no response as of yet. There is little the Board can do based on an agreement signed by a previous Board of Supervisors in 1981, to end lawsuits that were out of control at that time. Essentially, that agreement stated that H & K could ultimately have an asphalt plant at that quarry location, and have a time period of 18 months to bring this plant in to compliance. After that 18 month time period, H & K would have to close up the asphalt plant at the Blooming Glen quarry location.

Township Solicitor, Frank Grabowski further explained that DER is the agency enforcing the Clean Streams and Clean Air Act, and should be monitoring and enforcing air and water pollution in this instance. The Township, for the most part, is pre-empted

from that area, other than what is covered by the Zoning Ordinance itself. The 1981 agreement related to zoning matters - there were 5 or 6 cases pending at that time - and the Board of Supervisor's decided the amount of money spent to fight these cases was not in the best interest of the Township. There is language in this agreement which is very clear and specific, stating the Township shall not oppose transfer of an asphalt batching or concrete batching plant from one location to another. At this point, when the Township receives copy of the application from DER, a public meeting will be recommended for the benefit of residents to review the application and the 1981 agreement.

Mr. Brady stated H & K Quarry has expressed interest in purchasing a property along their street, and the resident's are concerned about the quarry's expansion into their neighborhood. There are already many problems and concerns such as speed limit control, lack of load covering, etc. At present, Chairman Bennett explained, there is an agreement between Hilltown Township and H & K Quarries, for loads of which pieces being 1/4" or finer in size are being hauled, the load must be covered, and if there is a violation of the motor vehicle code regarding speed limit violations, the Police Department can get involved. Mr. Brady asked if the 1981 agreement guarantees that zoning districts would have to be changed for H & K to mine that property? Mr. Grabowski replied the agreement affected the zoning as it existed in 1981, not as to how it exists now or as it would in the future. The Township has a policy decision to make regarding this matter, as to whether they would allow for further quarry expansion by way of zoning changes.

7. Jack Fox, Hilltown - The past few years, Mr. Fox commented, he has complained about the Sunshine Laws, things being done behind resident's backs, money being spent, and people being appointed to contracts without bids. Listening to the public comment this evening, Mr. Fox believes that these problems are being addressed by the current Board of Supervisors, and an open policy will be followed. Mr. Fox does not feel the Recycling Committee meetings, at this point, need to be made public. At such a time as they can make some concrete recommendations to the Board regarding recycling, those meeting minutes and notes would be made public. Mr. Fox further stated he did not feel previous action on recycling was proceeding in a timely manner, and that it was time to "get the ball rolling".

Mr. Grunmeier commented that Mrs. Kelly's recycling committee was not an appointed committee, but an informal gathering of residents that she herself brought together, as a Supervisor, for input. The current Recycling Committee, however, is an appointed committee, as of the Jan. 2, 1990 Reorganization Meeting, and if Hilltown is to follow an open communication policy with it's resident's, the Board should open these meetings to the public under the Ethics Act.

Chairman Bennett commented that the current administration's policy is for openness, yet he feels a public board or committee

such as the Zoning Hearing Board, Park and Recreation Board and others, who currently have open meetings, still have work sessions which are not open for public comment. Chairman Bennett requested time to discuss this matter with the Board and would respond at the next Board of Supervisor's Meeting.

Mr. Bennington stated the current Recycling Committee is a cross section of seven community members - a nurse, an engineer, a retiree, an Acme Market employee, a teacher, etc. - trying to decide how best to start recycling in the Township. Mrs. Kelly was responsible for recycling for three years, and no progress was made as far as applying for grants. The current Recycling Committee will have a public meeting when they come up with the best method for pursuing recycling implementation.

Mrs. Kelly responded that she was in possession of the grant forms and had given them to the Township Manager for completion. Mr. Raudenbush had agreed to complete the forms, however, the Township Manager said it was his responsibility to handle the submission of forms. Mrs. Kelly further stated that recycling has only been worked on for one year, she had been actively working on the Solid Waste Committee for three years.

8. William Godek, 206 Broad Street- Mr. Godek inquired if H & K Quarries would be permitted to run both asphalt plants consecutively. Mr. Grabowski responded that the ultimate decision of the interpretation of this contract and of the application to DER must come from the Board of Supervisors, after their review and perusal of said documents. Mr. Singley did not feel it would be in the best interest of Hilltown Township, at this meeting, to give a yes or no answer until further review by the Board. The Air Quality Permit was submitted to DER, and on Feb. 8, 1990, Mr. Singley received a call from DER office in Norristown, responding to our request to notify Hilltown upon receipt of the permit. Hilltown Township should be receiving the copy of the permit within the next week, and it would be available for public inspection at that time.

Mr. Godek further questioned who in the Township determines whether a dwelling should be considered for condemnation, if there is a danger of a particular home collapsing. Mr. Godek feels he has a real concern about his home for the health, safety and welfare of himself and his family. Mr. Radcliff stated Hilltown Township does not have an existing structures code - which is a separate BOCA code the Township chose not to adopt. Mr. Grabowski advised it depends on the amount of danger involved, and that the Zoning Officer and Police Department would have to ascertain the extent of the problem.

9. Lois Gordon, 414 Broad Street - Ms. Gordon expressed concern over whether H & K Quarry would be limited to either the tar and asphalt plant or to mining and blasting, if they receive the necessary permits. She also questioned if the contract negotiated 8 years ago is open ended or does it expire and leave renegotiations with the Quarry open at a later date. Chairman Bennett replied that it is Hilltown's understanding that H & K Quarry would be permitted to continue their normal day to day operations with the addition of an asphalt plant. Mr. Grabowski explained the contract is a contract period with certain provisions which are affected by a ten year period, but renegotiations is not one of them.

K. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Notification from the State of an Honorable Mention Award for the Township Newsletter in the State Association's 22nd Annual Township Citizen's Report Contest.

2. Fire company reports received from: Silverdale, Sellersville, Dublin, Souderton, Perkasio and Telford. These reports will be on file at the Township building.

3. Hourly rates were discussed for the Highway Department: Laborer 1 - \$8.00/hr., Laborer 2 - \$9.00/hr., Laborer 3 \$10.00/hr., Parttime Summer Help - \$6.00/hr. The Board was in agreement to classify the rates this way, since present rates apply to everyone, regardless of their skills. Motion was made by Mr. Bennington, seconded by Mrs. Kelly and carried unanimously to accept the new rate schedule for the Highway Department.

4. A fee of \$25.00 was proposed for inclusion in the Pennridge Chamber of Commerce Community Directory. Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Bennington and carried unanimously to remit fee to Pennridge Chamber of Commerce to be listed in their Community Directory.

L. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Mr. Ken Bennington commended resigning Township Secretary - Gloria G. Neiman, on her 6 years of fine, dedicated service. She has done a tremendous job, and will be very difficult to replace. The Board of Supervisor's wishes her well.

2. Chairman Bennett stated Hilltown Township has been seeking an Assistant Township Manager with approx. 170 applications received from all over the country. The Board of Supervisor's are currently reviewing these applications and will be conducting interviews for this position this week. The Highway Department is seeking 2 new Road Crew members with receipt of approx. 60 applications.

3. Due to the resignation of Gloria G. Neiman, Township Secretary, a temporary acting Township Secretary must be appointed. Motion was made by Mr. Bennington, seconded by Mrs. Kelly and carried unanimously to appoint Mr. William H. Bennett, Jr. as temporary acting Township Secretary.

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

Respectfully submitted,

*Lynda S. Seimes*  
Lynda S. Seimes  
Asst. Twp. Secretary

(\* These minutes transcribed from notes taken by Mrs. Linda Hangey and from tape recordings of this meeting)