

36 5

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP  
SUPERVISORS' MEETING  
October 9, 1989**

The meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Robert H. Grunmeier at 7:45 P.M.

Members present were: Robert H. Grunmeier, Chairman  
Betty J. Kelly, Vice Chairperson  
William H. Bennett, Jr., Supervisor

Others present were: James H. Singley, Township Manager  
Francis X. Grabowski, Twp. Solicitor  
C. Robert Wynn, Township Engineer  
George C. Egly, Chief of Police  
Lynda S. Seimes, Ass't. Secretary  
Clarence Radcliff, Building/Zoning Officer

Chairman Grunmeier introduced Ms. Bonnie Roberts, a high school student who is interested in local government.

The Supervisors presented Mr. Kenneth Schuenemann with Resolution No. 89-33, recognizing him for 50 years of service as an active volunteer in the fire service.

Chairman Grunmeier announced that the Supervisors attended the Silverdale Fireman's Parade on Saturday (10/7/89) in recognition of the department's 75th Anniversary and 50th anniversary of the Silverdale Ladies Auxiliary. A presentation was made to representatives of the department and auxiliary; Mr. Bennett read Resolution #89-32, recognizing their service to the community.

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made by Mr. Bennett to approve the minutes of the September 25, 1989 Supervisors' meeting as written; motion seconded by Mrs. Kelly and carried unanimously.

B. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Billing in the following amounts was approved by the Board: General Fund \$87,204.33; Street Lighting Fund \$324.29; and State Highway Aid \$3,885.42. Mr. Bennett questioned employee's hospitalization insurance cost compared to last year; Mr. Singley explained that cost has increased by 115% since 1987. Mr. Bennett also questioned Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor's increase of fees; Mr. Singley indicated this would be discussed during budget meetings. Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly to pay bills when due; motion seconded by Mr. Bennett and carried unanimously.

C. TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Singley read the report for the month of October as follows: General Fund \$135,890.18; Street Lighting Fund \$1,325.22; Fire Hydrant Fund \$3,276.97; Capital Projects Fund \$358.54; Highway Aid Fund \$73,544.93; Police Pension

Oct. 9, 1989

Fund \$110,918.19; Non-Uniform Pension Fund \$65,711.40; Federal Revenue Sharing Fund \$3,712.58; Fire Protection Fund \$46,526.69; Escrow Fund \$1,348.38. Motion was made by Mr. Bennett to accept the report as given subject to audit; motion seconded by Mrs. Kelly and carried unanimously.

D. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS:

1. Jack Fox, Hilltown Pike - Mr. Fox questioned if payments have been made on time to Alderfer & Frank; Mr. Singley replied that they have. Mr. Fox also questioned tonnage fee; Mr. Singley advised it is higher than \$50/Ton. Mr. Singley also reported that Alderfer & Frank does submit quarterly reports, including daily tonnage, to the Township. Mr. Fox referred to the Recycling Act and stated that a host municipality fee should be collected (\$1/Ton) to be used toward recycling. Mr. Singley stated that (to his knowledge) trash transfer stations are not included under Section 1300 of the Act. Mr. Fox disagreed and discussion followed regarding interpretation of the Recycling Act. Mr. Fox also asked if the Board would consider waiving of the \$500 fee for processing of his application to the Zoning Hearing Board, appealing a decision of the Zoning Officer which Mr. Fox felt should have been sent to the Zoning Hearing Board. Chairman Grunmeier stated he does not feel fees should be waived for a private resident's appeal since this could set a precedent whereby all private appeal fees should be waived. Mr. Bennett stated that since Mr. Fox is challenging the Supervisors' decision, with no personal gain, he would agree to waive the fees. Discussion followed. Mrs. Kelly indicated she would not be in favor of waiving the fee.

Mr. Fox also questioned a memo sent to the Planning Commission regarding a request by the Supervisors to tape the PC meetings and stated that this should be discussed during a township meeting. Mr. Singley noted that this was a policy decision by the Supervisors. Mr. Fox also referred to the new position of Code Enforcement Officer and stated that (in his opinion) this should also have been discussed during a public meeting. Mr. Fox stated that the stop lines which were placed at intersections are extremely effective and commended the road crew.

2. Samuel Pierce, Rt. 152 - Mr. Pierce gave a history of the one-room schoolhouse he bought to be converted into a public library. He praised the volunteers who helped to make it a success. Since the building of the new library, the County has indicated they will close the old building by Oct. 25th. Mr. Pierce asked they be allowed to use approximately 1500 s.f. of the old township building on Blooming Glen Road for the Thrift Shop's use. Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly to allow The Friend's of the Library Thrift Shop to use the police portion of the old municipal building for one year (renewable at the option of the Township and Thrift Shop) subject to agreement (liability insurance, etc.) by the Solicitor, the Township Manager, and the Thrift Shop association; motion was seconded by Chairman Grunmeier. Discussion followed:

Mr. Bennett stated that the Board has already made a commitment to the Park & Recreation Board for this property. Mr. Singley reported that the Boy Scouts use the main meeting room every Wednesday and 4-H meet on the second Tuesday in the main meeting room. Mr. Singley noted that the building could be without heat and/or electric during renovations; this would be contingent upon notification from DCA regarding grant application. A vote was taken; (Mr. Bennett noted that his only concern was that the Park & Recreation Board had made a previous commitment); motion carried unanimously.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. Post Office - Letters sent to Congressman Kostmayer and Senator Heinz from Ms. Betty Bryant of the U.S. Postal Service; a meeting was held in Devon, PA with the postal authorities. The Board agreed to send a letter of appreciation to Congressman Kostmayer for setting up the meeting.

2. Mabel Clark - requesting extension for rebuilding of structure at 4409 Bethlehem Pike (two extensions have already been granted by the Board - second extension granted was until 9/30/89 and it was noted at that time there would be no further extensions). Mr. Bennett and Mrs. Kelly agreed to deny any further extensions; the Board unanimously denied further extensions to the Mabel Clark property.

3. Insurance - Proposal received from Gum Insurance for Public Official's and Police Liability. Motion was made by Mr. Bennett to obtain additional \$1,000,000 coverage (total coverage will be \$2,000,000) for Public Official's Liability at increased premium of \$2,420 and additional \$1,000,000 coverage for Police Liability (total coverage \$2,000,000) at an increased premium of \$2,500 with Scottsdale Insurance (thru Gum Insurance Co.); motion seconded by Mrs. Kelly; (Mr. Bennett noted that the coverage is worth the additional amount of money); motion carried unanimously.

4. Line Lexington Sewer - Meeting held last Thursday, advising residents of fees and available financing. New Britain has waived plumbing fees. Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly to waive all plumbing/inspection fees for the 22 residents in the Line Lexington Sewer area; motion seconded by Mr. Bennett and carried unanimously.

5. Resolution #89-34 - recognizing Red Ribbon Campaign sponsored by the Penridge Community Action Team, choice for young people to be "drug free"; commemorated Oct. 22-29, 1989. Motion was made by Mr. Bennett to adopt Resolution #89-34 with \$100.00 contribution to the Penridge Action Team; motion seconded by Mrs. Kelly and carried unanimously.

Oct. 9, 1989

6. Resolution #89-35 - requesting PA General Assembly to provide for full legislative considerations of the seven tort reform measures now pending. Motion made by Mrs. Kelly to adopt Resolution #89-35; motion seconded by Mr. Bennett and carried unanimously.

7. Fire Panel - Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 25th at 7:30 P.M. to receive resident's comments regarding fire protection in Hilltown Township.

8. Bridge Inspections - Motion was made by Mr. Bennett to allow PennDOT to conduct inspections of six township bridges, with the township paying 20% of the cost; motion seconded by Mrs. Kelly and carried unanimously.

9. Road Inspection - The Board agreed to hold their semi-annual road inspection on Wednesday, October 18th at 9:00 A.M.

ROAD REPORT: Mr. Singley read the report for the month of September which is on file at the Township building. Mr. Singley noted that the machine used for painting of stop bars has more than paid at least half of an outside firm's charges for performing the same work. Mr. Bennett commended the road crew for their work.

POLICE REPORT: Chief Egly read the report for the month of September 1989 which is on file at the Township office. Mr. Bennett questioned auction of police cars; will be addressed to Manager.

ENGINEERING/PLANNING:

1. Longview Subdivision - 9 lot subdivision located on Dublin Road, Blooming Glen Road, and Longview Road; average lot size of 4½ acres. Due to seasonal high water table discovered at the site, developer is requesting permission to consolidate 3 basins into one larger basin on Lot #9. Motion was made by Mr. Bennett to allow consolidation of 3 retention basins into one large basin on Lot #9 of the Longview Subdivision; motion seconded by Mrs. Kelly and carried unanimously.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

1. Blooming Glen Playground Association - Hearing sheduled for Oct. 19th at 10:00 A.M. regarding conveyance of land to Hilltown Township. The Board unanimously agreed that a representative of Mr. Grabowski's office be present at that hearing.

2. Calhoun Subdivision - located on Orchard Road. Escrow agreements have been executed by developer and Union National Bank in the amount of \$868,945.00. Motion was made by Mr. Bennett

to accept the Calhoun Subdivision escrow agreements; motion seconded by Mrs. Kelly and carried unanimously.

RESIDENT'S COMMENTS:

1. Kenneth Bennington questioned statement made prior to beginning of meeting; Chairman Grunmeier ruled Mr. Bennington out of order since meeting had not been called to order at that time.

2. Philip Begley referred to the proposed position of Assistant Township Manager discussed at a previous meeting and asked, if advertised, how long it could take for this position to be filled. Chairman Grunmeier replied 5 to 6 months. Mr. Begley expressed concern over lack of street signs at intersections (i.e., Hilltown Pike & Broad Street). This will be referred to the Safety Committee. Mr. Begley complained of a roughly graded area of lawn near his property (Rex Subdivision) -- Mr. Wynn explained that Mr. Begley has been mowing Mr. Rex's property for several years and advised that Mr. Rex should be responsible to maintain this area.

3. William Godek, Broad Street - Mr. Godek asked reason for delay in meeting; Chairman Grunmeier replied that the meeting was held up to allow time for arrival of a photographer to take pictures of presentations which were made. Mr. Godek noted that he would like the meetings to start on time in the future. Mr. Godek also questioned 25% increase in Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor's fees. Mr. Singley explained this is a budgetary consideration involving personnel which can be discussed (under the "Sunshine Law") out of context of a public meeting. Mr. Singley also stated that budget work sessions are open to the public.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Fire reports received from Dublin, Souderton, Telford and Silverdale.

2. Letter received from Arlene & Sam Delp regarding 3-wheelers running at Rickert Road area. Police Department has been advised. Regarding speed limit on Rickert Road, Mr. Singley will respond to Mr. & Mrs. Delp that the Board has approved a speed study.

3. Bucks County Municipal Waste Management Plan - draft given to Supervisors for their review. Request has been made to radify by Dec. 29, 1989. Mr. Singley asked that Supervisors review prior to their Oct. 23rd meeting.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Mrs. Kelly announced that a recycling poster contest will be held for kindergarten through 6th grade students at John Grasse, Seylar, and Sacred Heart elementary schools.

Oct. 9, 1989

2. Mr. Bennett asked if bids have gone out on recycling. Mr. Singley stated that bids will be advertised in newspapers and also sent to approximately six companies on Tuesday, Oct. 10th.

3. Mr. Bennett also asked date of auction for police cars. Mr. Singley advised bids will be advertised within next two weeks.

4. Chairman Grunmeier announced that the Hilltown Township Volunteer Fire Company took first place in the Lansdale parade in the 1960-69 Pumper Category.

5. Chairman Grunmeier read a letter received from Silverdale Borough Council, thanking Mr. Thomas Wynkoop of HTWSA, and Kratz Brothers Construction Company for their outstanding job on replacing water lines through town.

6. Chairman Grunmeier asked if a date has been set for the joint meeting between the Water & Sewer Authority and Planning Commission. Mr. Fox stated that he has discussed this with the Chairman of the Water & Sewer Authority and is awaiting notice of a meeting date.

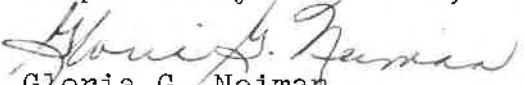
7. Chairman Grunmeier announced that the Supervisors will attend the BCATO semi-annual convention on October 19th; and that recycling will be discussed in detail at that time.

8. Chairman Grunmeier asked for the Board's opinion are regarding the Assistant Township Manager's position. Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly to create the position of Assistant Township Manager and to allow the Township Manager to advertise for the position of Assistant Township Manager in the Township News; local newspapers; and state publications; motion seconded by Mr. Grunmeier. Mr. Bennett stated he would like to wait until the budget process is completed in December to decide whether this position is affordable. Chairman Grunmeier stated that it is not fair to place the burden of running the township on one person when smaller municipalities have assistant managers. He stated that an assistant manager could take care of complaints and help with zoning to afford better service to the residents. A vote was taken: motion carried 2:1 - Mr. Bennett was opposed.

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

There being no further business, a motion of adjournment was made by Mr. Bennett at 9:52 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Gloria G. Neiman  
Township Secretary

Note: Minutes of this meeting were taken from tape recordings and notes taken by Ms. Lynda Seimes, Assistant Secretary.