

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

The meeting of the Hilltown Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Robert H. Grunmeier at 7:30 P.M.

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

Others present were: James H. Singley, Township Manager
Gloria G. Neiman, Township Secretary
Chief George Egly, Chief of Police
Thomas Buzby, Roadmaster
Francis X. Grabowski, Twp. Solicitor
C. Robert Wynn, Township Engineer

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 27, 1988 Supervisors' Meeting: Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly to approve the 12/28/88 minutes as written; motion seconded by Mr. Bennett and carried unanimously.

January 3, 1989 Reorganization Meeting Minutes: Mrs. Neiman noted two corrections to these minutes as follows: Page 4, Item 4-motion to reappoint Jack Fox to a 5 year term on the Planning Commission was seconded by Chairman Grunmeier, not Mr. Bennett. Also, addition of "Item 3A - Zoning Hearing Board (3 years): Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly to reappoint Harley Moyer to a 3 year term on the Zoning Hearing Board; motion was seconded by Mr. Bennett and carried unanimously." (Mrs. Neiman noted that these were errors in transcription of the minutes.) Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly to approve the minutes of the 1/3/89 reorganization meeting as corrected; motion seconded by Mr. Bennett and carried unanimously.

At this time, Chairman Grunmeier introduced Mr. Thomas Wynkoop, Operations Manager of the Hilltown Township Water & Sewer Authority, who presented an annual report. (Since Mr. Wynkoop must attend another meeting, his report was presented at this time and questions from the press were invited after his presentation). Mr. Wynkoop was hired by the Authority on 3/1/88 to oversee operation and maintenance of the water distribution and sewer collection systems and to keep members informed. Highlights of Mr. Wynkoop's report were: Accomplishments for '88: 1) Construction of a water line on Schoolhouse Road from Narothyn Road to the Telford Borough Authority system. 2) Improvements in public relations with residents of Hilltown and Silverdale. Goals for '89: Continue improved public relations; installation of fire hydrants where water lines exist; completion of interconnection with TBA (proposed by 1/12/89); preparation for reconstruction of Silverdale water system; construction of interconnection with Perkasio Borough Authority on S. Perkasio Rd. and Walnut Street; and in response to a 12/5/88 letter from Chairman Grunmeier, the Authority found it possible to lower their base rate from \$100/year to \$72/year.

Mr. Bennett questioned fire hydrants in the Pleasant Meadows development; Mr. Wynkoop stated that water will be turned on shortly in that development and HTWSA will continue to install hydrants over the next 1½ months. Chairman Grunmeier questioned location of replacement water lines in Silverdale and was told they are behind the curb. In answer to Mr. Bennett's question regarding the amount of customers needed to "break even", Mr. Wynkoop replied, approximately 600. A press conference followed. Chairman Grunmeier noted that public relations between the Water & Sewer Authority and township residents has greatly increased since Mr. Wynkoop's employment. Mr. Larry Jones, a resident of South Perkasio Road, questioned operation of Well House #2; Mr. Wynkoop indicated that this well house will become operational tonight. In answer to another question, Mr. Wynkoop stated that projections for growth are based mostly on subdivision plans which have already received final approval. Mr. Dan Kepich, owner of the Nursery on Rt. 113 and 313, questioned pressure to fire hydrants; Mr. Wynkoop replied approximately 1200 to 1400 gal. per minute.

C. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Billing in the following amounts were approved by the Board: General Fund - \$4,839.51; and State Funds Account - \$226.99. Mr. Bennett questioned repair cost of postage meter; Mr. Singley stated that the cost involved replacement of a computer part. Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly to pay bills when due; motion seconded by Mr. Bennett and carried unanimously.

D. TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Singley read the Treasurer's Report which is on file at the Township Building. Motion was made by Mr. Bennett to approve the report as given subject to audit; motion seconded by Mrs. Kelly and carried unanimously.

E. CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS: John Brennan, a confirmed appointment, indicated he would prefer to speak during "Resident's Comments".

F. MANAGER'S REPORT:

1) Municipal Building - Project site meeting minutes of 12/28/88 were discussed - Mr. Singley indicated that the driveway binder is complete; drywall ceiling is 75% complete; roll-roofing and perimeter wall electrical rough-in to be completed by 12/29/88; interior ductwork is in progress; and Chief Egly reported the radio antenna contractor will meet with the foreman within the next week.

2) Agenda Deadline - Mr. Singley asked the resident's and press to take note of his request, that anyone wishing to be a confirmed appointment or to be placed on the agenda, notice should be received by the end of the business day, Wednesday preceding the Supervisors meeting of Monday.

3) Township Manager's Report for 1989 - Highlights of Mr. Singley's report included: The 1989 budget is approximately only \$134,000 more than the budget in 1985; taxes have been kept constant at 5 mills over the last three years; additional staff have been added both in the Administration and Police Departments; computerization of Administration and Police Departments; and purchase of additional vehicles for road crew and police. Highlights of 1988: Lowest general fund budget over last 3 years; Settlement of non-uniform contract; Signing of Police Bargaining Unit Contract (3 years); Helped initiate Upper Bucks Consortium of Communities; and began construction of new Municipal Building. In closing, Mr. Singley stated that it has been his goal "to function in such a manner that Hilltown continues to grow and become a model community in all phases of municipal government for others to emulate", and that the staff and department heads continue to perform their jobs with the best of concerns for the Township. (A complete copy of this report is attached to these minutes).

4) Chairman Grunmeier questioned tenant insurance on the new municipal building - Mr. Singley explained that during a recent storm, several roof shingles were blown off. Hilltown Township Water & Sewer Authority obtained a construction binder which covers work accepted by the Authority (coverage = \$1.5 million). However, cost of the replacement shingles will be covered by the producer of the shingles.

G. POLICE REPORT: Chief Egly read the December 1988 report which is on file at the Township building. Chairman Grunmeier requested status of the State Street speed survey; the Chief indicated this will be accomplished when weather conditions permit.

H. ROAD REPORT: Roadmaster, Thomas Buzby, read the report dated 12/4/88 through 12/31/88 which is on file at the Township office. Mr. Buzby commented on the increasing problem of litter within the township; noting that many large items are being left along the roadways. Chairman Grunmeier commended the crew on their snow removal efforts.

I. ENGINEERING/PLANNING:

1) Eric Tobin, representing the Baker Subdivision, was present to request the Board's consideration of an Act 537 revision for extension of public sewer and installation of a pumping station. Property is located on Rt. 113 on approximately 11½ acres, northeast of Keystone Drive (within the service district of Telford Borough Authority). Sewer extension proposes to service the property with sewer from the Hilltown Township Water & Sewer Authority. Mr. Wynn explained that, under the Wastewater Facilities Component, this area is not proposed for sanitary sewer extension through the year 2000. PC has recommended that the Act 537 Plan be denied since it does not conform to the Wastewater Facilities Plan, Zoning Ordinance, or Comprehensive Plan.

Motion was made by Mr. Bennett to deny the Act 537 revision for the Baker Subdivision based on the PC's recommendation; motion seconded by Mrs. Kelly and carried unanimously.

2) Broderick Subdivision - Developer's agreement provided that improvements be accomplished by 1/2/89 and monies have been retained in escrow; however, they have not been completed as of this date. (Due to weather conditions, improvements cannot be accomplished at this time). By letter of 1/8/89, Mr. Kemmerer has requested an extension to 5/15/89. Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly to approve the extension for the completion of improvements at the Broderick Subdivision until 5/15/89; motion seconded by Mr. Bennett and carried unanimously.

3) Flood Plain Ordinance - Mr. Wynn explained that in March '88 changes in the Flood Plain Ordinance were directed by FEMA which necessitated changes in the local Flood Plain Management Ordinance. The changes were made and the ordinance forwarded to FEMA for their review. Notification received 11/28/88 that the ordinance as revised has complied with federal requirements, and that a copy should be forwarded to the state. Mr. Wynn has sent a copy to DCA and they have verbally indicated the ordinance, as written, is satisfactory. Mr. Jack Fox stated that the State Municipalities Planning Code specifies that flood plains come under the review of the Planning Commission. Mr. Wynn explained that the changes were specifically spelled out by FEMA; Mr. Grabowski stated that there would be sufficient time for the PC's review; Mr. Wynn will forward a copy of the Flood Plain Ordinance to the PC.

J. SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

1. Street Light Petitions have been received for Deerfield Place Subdivision and Sterling Knoll, Phase II Subdivision; both petitions have been signed by all residents of those developments. Motion was made by Mr. Bennett to adopt Resolution #89-8 and Resolution #89-9, approving street lights for the Deerfield and Sterling Knoll Subdivisions; motion seconded by Mrs. Kelly and carried unanimously.

2. Mr. Grabowski reported on a building study which is being performed by the Bureau of Aviation, involving the Pennridge Airport. The Secretary of Aviation has advised that Act 164 obligates every municipality affected by an airport to adopt enforceable applicable zoning laws. Although Pennridge Airport is not located in the territorial boundaries of Hilltown Township, Mr. Grabowski stated that the Township may wish to attend technical briefings which will be held on Tuesday, January 17, 1989 at 7:00 P.M. at the PennDOT Maintenance Building, St. Davids. Mr. Bennett indicated he would attend this meeting.

K. RESIDENT'S COMMENTS:

1. John Brennan, South Perkasio Road - Mr. Brennan began to read from a prepared statement; Chairman Grunmeier stated that this appeared to be a political statement; and if Mr. Brennan wished to discuss anything pertaining to Hilltown Township, he could do so; however, anything with a political nature should not be addressed at a Township meeting. (Mr. Brennan presented his statement in writing to the Chairman).

2. Jack Fox, Hilltown Pike - Mr. Fox indicated that an airport ordinance had been made up by the PC which could be amended. Mr. Grabowski and Chairman Grunmeier indicated that this would be different from what is proposed by the Bureau of Aviation.

3. Toni McMillan, 4425 Bethlehem Pike, Telford Mrs. McMillan questioned the amount of additional police officers to be hired in 1989. Mr. Singley answered that one additional officer is proposed to begin in March, 1989 - subject to review by the Board of Supervisors.

Mrs. McMillan also questioned covering of shifts; Chief Egly explained that this is mandated by the Police Contract.

L. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Upper Bucks Consortium of Communities meeting will be held at the Dublin Fire Hall at 7:30 P.M. on January 19, 1988 regarding DCA study on Volunteer Fire Companies - Supervisors and general public are invited to attend.

2. Recycling Grant Workshop will be held on January 25, 1989 at 9:00 A.M to 12:00 Noon at the Fire Training School in Plymouth Township, Montgomery County. Mr. Singley and Mrs. Kelly indicated they would attend.

3. DCA Workshop for Workman's Compensation for Volunteer Fire Companies will be held on February 8, 1989. Chairman Grunmeier indicated he will attend.

4. December fire reports have been received from Dublin, Hilltown, Telford, and Sellersville fire companies. Annual reports also received from Hilltown and Dublin.

M. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Mr. Bennett questioned letter from Haines & Kibblehouse regarding addition of a crusher - Mr. Singley read the H & K letter and indicated that this would be located at the Skunk Hollow plant.

2. Chairman Grunmeier reminded the Board that Resolutions #89-1 through #89-6 (adopted at previous meeting) must be signed after the meeting. Resolution #89-7 - Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly to adopt Resolution #89-7, recognizing Elizabeth Hamann for her service to the community as a Town Watch member; motion seconded by Mr. Bennett and carried unanimously.

3. Chairman Grunmeier suggested that the Home Base Fire Chief present an oral report and have input at the second Supervisors' meeting of the month: Motion was made by Mr. Bennett to require the Fire Chief of the Home Base Fire Company to attend the second Supervisors' meeting of each month to give an oral report; and to have input on any building plans pertaining to fire protection which may come before the Board; motion seconded by Mrs. Kelly and carried unanimously. The Township Secretary will notify the Fire Chief.

N. PRESS CONFERENCE: Chairman Grunmeier stated that any political questions would not be answered and would be ruled out of order; any questions pertaining to the Township would be heard. A press conference followed.

There being no further business, a motion of adjournment was made by Mr. Bennett at 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Gloria G. Neiman
Township Secretary