HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS' WORK SESSION MAY 18, 1988

Chairman Grunmeier announced that this is a work session pertaining to solid waste and recycling which will be mandated by Senate Bill 528 -- for municipalities with population of 10,000 and over, within three years; and for municipalities with population under 5,000, within four years.

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

Jack C. Fox, Planning Commission

Charles Raudenbush, Jr., Recyling Coordinator with the Bucks County Planning

Commission

Chairman Grunmeier asked Mr. Raudenbush how Hilltown Township can set up a recycling program (taking into consideration that the Township covers over 27 square miles, with trash pick-up being conducted by outside contractors.) Mr. Raudenbush suggested that "curb-side pick-up" could be contracted to independent haulers. He stated that there is a meeting scheduled with the haulers at the Bucks County Planning Commission, Neshaminy Manor, on Wednesday, June 1, 1988 at 10:00 A.M., and that the Township is welcome to send a representative.

In further response to Chairman Grunmeier's question, Mr. Raudenbush stated that the recycling program could be instituted with a combination of curb side pick-up and drop off sites, and that the Hilltown Historical Society could be designated as part of the operation. He stated that curb side collection has been implemented in Tinicum, Nockamixon and Springfield Townships.

Chairman Grunmeier questioned the cost to taxpayers, especially if the haulers are required to collect three or four times a week. Mr. Raudenbush stated that optimum pick-up time would be every two weeks. Mrs. Kelly stated that, in her opinion, drop-off collection will not be feasible for the Township. Mr. Raudenbush advised that an ordinance could be passed, mandating haulers to pick-up and deposit recyclables at a specific location. In response to Chairman Grunmeier's request, Mr. Raudenbush stated he would supply sample ordinances for the Board's review.

Chairman Grunmeier asked Mr. Fox if the Historical Society would wish to be designated as a drop-off center for recyclables; Mr. Fox did not seem to be in favor of this suggestion.

There followed discussion regarding how independent haulers would respond to an ordinance requiring recyclable pick-up and cost to the taxpayers. Mr. Raudenbush stated that the haulers would be in favor of this type of pick-up, since every ton of recyclables they collect is one ton less that they must pay to dump. Mr. Fox stated his belief that (for the public to participate) all types of glass must be collected; Mr. Raudenbush answered that the County is beginning with white glass; will expand to all colors of glass and, eventually, to plastics. commented that the Township should find a use for the glass and paper that is being collected, since there is only so much that can be recycled. Chairman Grunmeier stated that the County would take care of that problem. Mr. Raudenbush answered that the County would hire a contractor to take care of it; that they currently are reviewing ten bids for this purpose. There followed discussion of the possibility of haulers utilizing a trailer to allow collection of both trash and recyclables at the same time. Regarding probable cost of collection of recyclables, Mr. Raudenbush stated that, at the most, cost per household would be approximately \$20 to \$25 per year which would be offset by savings in trash collection.

Mr. Raudenbush suggested the alternate option of having only one hauler under contract; he stated that most haulers are very cooperative and will not discourage recycling as it could represent a 10% to 15% savings for themselves. There followed discussion regarding feasibility of advertising for hauling of only recyclables vs. trash and recyclables; or the possibility of dividing the Township in two or three sections (contracts) with the same specifications for each area; including a bonding requirement. He stated that the County facility will be on line by September 1, 1988. Mr. Singley asked if the same recycling requirements will be mandated for commercial and institutional establishments as residential; Mr. Raudenbush answered that recycling would be mandatory for everyone, including fast food stores, factories, schools, hospitals, apartments, etc.

Mr. Singley stated that the Township has applied for the \$750 legal assistance available through the County. Township Solicitor, Mr. Grabowski is presently reviewing specifications. There followed discussion regarding advertisement for those interested in bidding on recyclables; Mr. Raudenbush suggested that Requests for Qualifications could be advertised; and bids could be requested with three options: (1) Trash Collectors; (2) Trash and Recyclables; and (3) Recyclables Only.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria G. Neiman
Township Secretary