

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP
SUPERVISORS' MEETING
April 11, 1988**

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
 Francis X. Grabowski, Twp. Solicitor
 C. Robert Wynn, Township Engineer
 George C. Egly, Police Chief
 Thomas Buzby, Roadmaster

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Bennett and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the March 28, 1988 Supervisors' meeting as written.

Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Bennett and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the April 4, 1988 work session as written.

B. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Chairman Grunmeier announced that there would be no billing report at this time.

C. TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Singley read the report which is on file at the Township office. Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Bennett and carried unanimously to approve the report as given, subject to audit.

D. MANAGER'S REPORT:

Old Business:

Teamsters - Township has received notice from the PA Labor Relations Board of decertification from Teamsters (Local #115) Union. Decertification will become effective twenty (20) days after date of notice (4/7/88) -- April 27, 1988.

New Business:

1. Juvenile Officer's Training Seminar - The Supervisors reaffirmed their motion (made at the 4/4/88 Work Session) to allow Sgt. Ashby Watts to attend the Int'l. Juvenile Officer's Training Conference in Hyannis, Mass., June 26 to June 29, 1988 at an estimated cost of \$426.50. Motion was made by Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mrs. Kelly and carried unanimously.

2. Car Maintenance '88 - Mr. Singley reported that in November '87, two identical bids were received for the car maintenance; the contract was subsequently rebid, and in January '88, a maintenance agreement was awarded to Mike's Service Center (Rts. 113 and 313). Due to mechanical and administrative problems, Mr. Singley requested the Supervisors to rescind the agreement with Mike's and award the bid to the second lowest bidder. Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly to rescind the agreement for repair of Township vehicles with Mike's Service Center, effective immediately; motion was seconded by Mr. Bennett and carried unanimously. (In answer to Mr. Bennett's question, Mr. Singley replied that approximate annual worth of this contract is \$10,000.) Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly to enter into a contract with Rodger's Garage at rate stated in bid of January 1, 1988 - \$22/hour (Township supplies all parts), effective immediately; motion seconded by Mr. Bennett and carried unanimously.

3. Chairman Grunmeier asked if the Zoning Officer has investigated the abandoned well and pond located on property of John Snyder (adjacent to the Calhoun Subdivision). Mr. Singley replied that he has viewed the site and will obtain a copy of the report from Mr. Myers.

4. Telford Borough Authority has requested waiver of fees for building permit for their planned addition to TBA's garage facility located on County Line Road. Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Bennett and carried unanimously to waive building permit fees for addition to TBA's municipal building.

E. ZONING REPORT: Mr. Singley read the report dated 4/7/88 which is on file at the Township office.

Chairman Grunmeier asked Mr. Grabowski to explain the difference between "citations" and "cease & desist orders" issued by the Zoning Officer. Mr. Grabowski answered that the Zoning Officer issues cease and desist orders on his own; whereas, citations are filed (by the Zoning Officer) with the local District Justice.

F. POLICE REPORT: The report dated March 1988 was read by Chief Egly and is on file at the Township building. Chairman Grunmeier questioned status of computer update; Chief Egly replied that it is well underway (to date, accounts, arrests, traffic fines and criminal arrests have been entered).

G. ROAD REPORT: Mr. Buzby read the report dated 2/28/88 through 4/9/88 (6 week report) which is on file at the Township building.

H. ENGINEERING/PLANNING:

1. Mr. Wynn reported that the Township has received a petition from William Mehl to amend the zoning map (from RR to CR District) in the area between East Summit Street and Central Avenue, with proposed construction of 88 townhouses and 6 twin home dwellings. Plans will be forwarded to BCPC and Hilltown PC for their review.

2. William Negley Subdivision (located at corner of Dublin and Blooming Glen Roads): Supervisors approved this subdivision; linens were signed; applicant delayed project but has now resubmitted newly dated linens (no change in subdivision from original approval; last revision date 3/31/87). Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly to approve updating of linens for the Negley Subdivision; motion seconded by Mr. Bennett and carried unanimously.

I. SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Regarding an article which appeared in the newspaper concerning a law suit which has been filed by Bux-Mont Refuse Services, Inc. against the Township and Township Supervisors and staff, Mr. Grabowski reported to the press there would be no comment; that all named in the suit would respond in U.S. District Court at the appropriate time.

J. RESIDENT'S COMMENTS:

1. Gail Hellwarth questioned status of her subdivision located on Route 113 and Forest Road. (This subdivision was a matter of discussion at the Work Session held on 4/4/88). Chairman Grunmeier stated that he visited the Bucks County Planning Commission this afternoon and spoke with Carolyn Greison, BCPC Planner and Mr. Timothy Koehler, BCPC Sewage Facilities Planner. After review of plans and discussion, Mr. Koehler advised two alternatives: (1) Allow applicant to pursue sewer extension (400 ft.) in the sewer area according to the Wastewater Facilities Comprehensive Plan; or (2) Increase the lot size to accommodate spray irrigation. Chairman Grunmeier indicated that Mr. Koehler informed him that you cannot stop "these people" from developing their ground.

Comments: Mr. Bennett stated that he is not in favor of spray irrigation and asked if vacant ground in between could be developed. Chairman Grunmeier answered that two lots are possible but, due to topography of the ground, anyone who would wish to develop further north on Route 113 would need to install a lift station. Mr. Wynn also indicated that further development north on Route 113 would be outside the jurisdiction of the Water & Sewer Authority and also outside of the Wastewater Facilities Plan area. Mr. Bennett stated that he would be in favor of public sewer for this development. Mrs. Kelly indicated that she does not approve of spray irrigation. The consensus of the Board was that, if the subdivision meets all other requirements, they would be in favor of allowing public sewer extension of approximately 400' (with the understanding that there could be a possibility of four lots which would eventually be serviced; however, only two lots are proposed at the present time for this applicant).

2. Brickajlik Subdivision, located at intersection of Rt. 113 and Diamond Street (this subdivision was also a topic of discussion at the 4/4/88 work session). Chairman Grunmeier stated that this subdivision was also discussed with Mr. Koehler of the BCPC, who recommended that there should be delineation of wetlands to determine if cluster housing would be feasible. Mr. Wynn stated that the applicant has granted a 90 day extension. Chairman Grunmeier asked the Brickajliks (who were present at this meeting) if they would pursue a wetlands study; they replied affirmatively and indicated they would submit a copy of the report to the Township Secretary.

Comments:

1. Mrs. Jean Bolger questioned the Board's feelings about development in the Township. Chairman Grunmeier answered that, as an elected official, he must abide by rules and regulations; that he would like to see the municipality stay rural, however, at this time, that is not a realistic premise. He further stated that the Supervisors job is to insure that the Township will have a pleasing aesthetic appearance after it is fully developed. Reference was made to Senate Bill 535; Senator Greenwood and Representative Heckler have urged residents to petition for hearings. There followed further discussion between Mrs. Bolger and Chairman Grunmeier regarding extension of the sewer line. It was brought to Mrs. Bolger's attention that the Brickajliks bought the needed edu's in 1978 and have also paid for laterals (from that time).

2. Mr. John Bolger questioned Senate Bill 535 and was told that it is a revision of the Municipal Planning Code. Chairman Grunmeier stated that certain sections (of the Bill) will affect municipalities adversely. Mr. Bolger also questioned amount of homes proposed in the Brickajlik Subdivision and was told that 51 are presently proposed, but that the wetlands study will address that issue. He also expressed concern over supply of water and was told if North Penn water is not available, they would have to obtain permission from HTWSA to tie into their line. Chairman Grunmeier stated that the Water & Sewer Authority has hired Mr. Thomas Wynkoop as Water Operator, and that he is doing an excellent job which has resulted in better communication between the residents, the Authority and the Township.

3. Mr. Kenneth Bennington (P.C. Chairman) requested a copy of the Wastewater Facilities Component Plan for his review.

4. Supervisor Bennett stated (in answer to Mrs. Bolger's comments) that the Comprehensive Plan calls for sewers north of Rt. 113, not south of that road. Chairman Grunmeier stated that the Comprehensive Plan, Wastewater Facilities Component and Zoning Ordinance do not agree. He indicated a map on the wall of the HTWSA office which depicts their sewer jurisdiction area. Chairman Grunmeier further stated that the Board (with the input of the PC and HTWSA) must look at each development on an individual basis and what it's appearance will be fifteen years from now.

5. Mr. Wynn indicated that an Act 537 Plan revision for a single family home discharge (Witt residence) has been submitted to the Township. Although this revision would not normally be presented to the PC, the Board agreed to submit to that Board of their input.

K. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Toth Brothers sent a letter thanking the road crew for cleaning up the area along Swartley Road.

2. Penridge Community Day will be celebrated July 3, 1988 with a rain date of July 10th. Motion was made by Mrs. Kelly to donate \$200 to this event; motion seconded by Mr. Bennett and carried unanimously.

3. Fire reports received from Dublin, Perkasio, Line Lexington, and Souderton Fire Companies.

L. SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

1. Mrs. Kelly reported that Mr. Edmonds (Schultz Road) expressed his thanks to the road crew for their efforts in cleaning up Schultz Road. He also asked that "no litter" signs be placed in that area. Roadmaster, Mr. Buzby, stated that they could be ordered, however, he is not in favor of "oversigning" which could cause hazards. Chief Egly stated that the litter is being dumped during the night.

2. Mrs. Kelly announced that Open House will be held on Saturday, April 16th from 12:00 Noon to 3:00 P.M.

3. Mr. Bennett stated (in regard to foregoing public comments) that he is not in favor of development; that the Comprehensive Plan will be updated within the next 18 months, and that this will be an opportune time to address all considerations. He also indicated that he is concerned about impact on the schools, police department and esthetic appearance of the Township. Mr. Bennett stated that the Board should not be accused of being in favor of development; because they are not.

4. Chairman Grunmeier stated that invitations have been sent to the Supervisors from North Penn Water Authority for a banquet to be held May 19. Supervisors are asked to submit their replies to the Township Secretary.

5. Chairman Grunmeier also advised of Sellersville Borough's 250th Anniversary Celebration to be held on June 11th.

6. The Supervisors will hold their semi-annual road inspection on Saturday, April 23rd at 9:00 a.m.

M. PRESS CONFERENCE: Mr. John Gerner, Editor of the News Herald, apologized to Chairman Grunmeier for remarks made in the editorial column of his newspaper. After personally reviewing tape recordings of a previous meeting, Mr. Gerner apologized for misquoting Chairman Grunmeier and stated that he would print a retraction in his newspaper. Chairman Grunmeier expressed his appreciation for this gesture.

There being no further business, a motion of adjournment was made by Mrs. Kelly at 8:36 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



(Mrs.) Gloria G. Neiman
Township Secretary