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3 Planning Studies Started in Guilderland

By DAVID GARDNER

THE GUILDERLAND Planning and Zoning Board, embarking on a study of the town's future, has established sub-committees to examine three separate areas—water, transportation and zoning.

James E. Martinetti, board chairman, reports that the projects were stimulated in part by the Town Board, which has urged his board to take a more active role in the town's planning and zoning affairs.

One committee, under the chairmanship of Fred Craspe, a board member, is reviewing the town's plans to obtain a public water supply.

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MR. MARTINETTI says the committee will examine the water studies made to date by J. Kenneth Fraser and Associates of Rensselaer and by Standard Engineering of Guilderland.

The Rensselaer engineering consulting firm was selected—by a 3 to 2 Town Board vote—to draw up a proposal for improving the town's water supply.

Councilman Leon Besha who, with Supervisor John E. King and Councilman James A. Choules, voted in favor of Fraser Associates, says the proposal would outline a large water district and include cost estimates on the project as well as engineering fees.

However, Councilman Gordon Robinson, who with Councilman Robert Johnstone, voted against Fraser Associates, says the proposal would be limited to the firm's estimate of its fees.

In addition to Mr. Robinson and Mr. Johnstone, other town officials are known to be opposed to the engaging of Fraser Associates and the issue may not yet be closed.

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AS TO THE ZONING and Planning Board's zoning sub-committee, Mr. Martinetti said it is studying the area

along Western Avenue from McKownville to McCormack's Corners and along Route 146 from McCormack's Corners to Lydius Street near the Rotterdam town line.

"We're studying the existing zoning of this area to determine what its future should be," Mr. Martinetti said.

The area under study currently carries several different zoning categories and Mr. Martinetti suggested that the zones in the area may be shifted in the future. Board member Joseph Gilmore is directing the zoning study.

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THE COMMITTEE STUDYING public transportation is attempting to find a method of improving public bus transportation between the Guilderland-Altamont area and Albany and Schenectady.

Harry DuBrin, the board's attorney, is in charge of the public transportation study.

Turning to other studies the board expects to make in the future, Mr. Martinetti said the town will be studied "in its entirety" with an eye to changing zoning.

"It's our intention to have the zoning map brought up to date," he said.

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IN ANOTHER DEVELOPMENT, Mr. Martinetti said that Mr. DuBrin and Town Attorney Frank J. Williams Jr. are discussing the problem of sub-division control—the establishment of housing developments. They will attempt to define how much jurisdiction in the field of sub-division control the Planning and Zoning Board should have. Most of the jurisdiction currently rests with the Town Board.

The Planning and Zoning Board is also studying the facilities of the McKownville Water and Sewer Districts. Both units are said to be operating at near capacity at present. It is believed that expanded fa-

ilities will be needed soon, because the McKownville area is growing rapidly and is expected to continue to grow at a fast rate when the new State University College is constructed in that area.

Mr. Martinetti also announced a new schedule to be observed by the board. On the second Friday night on each month, the board will devote its meeting to zoning matters. On the remaining Fridays, the board will discuss planning affairs.

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