

Press Release
12/16/64

MCKOWNVILLE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

AT ITS NEXT MEETING THE MCKOWNVILLE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION WILL CONSIDER VILLAGE INCORPORATION FOR THE LAND AREA OF THE MCKOWNVILLE WATER AND FIRE DISTRICTS. A COMMITTEE CONSISTING OF GEORGE B. HURLEY OF 17 NORWOOD STREET, ROBERT W. QUACKENBUSH, 44 HIGHLAND DRIVE, WILLIAM F. PEER, 5 AYRE DRIVE AND MARTIN BARRY, 24 PARKWOOD STREET WILL REPORT ON STEPS TO BE TAKEN TO GET LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL.

MCKOWNVILLE RESIDENTS FIND THIS ACTION MAY BE NECESSARY TO RETAIN THE EXISTING ZONING RESTRICTIONS. THE PLANNING BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GUILDERLAND HAS RECOMMENDED BY 5 TO 2 VOTE THAT THE LOT AREA FOR A FAMILY UNIT SHOULD BE REDUCED FROM A MINIMUM OF 7000 SQUARE FEET TO ONLY 1250 SQUARE FEET, THIS CHANGE WILL PERMIT HIGH-RISE APARTMENTS. A REAL ESTATE CORPORATION WISHES TO ERECT ON FULLER ROAD THREE APARTMENT BUILDINGS OF 14 STORIES, TO HOUSE 300 FAMILIES.

THE ASSOCIATION HAS INFORMED GORDON ROBINSON, CHAIRMAN OF THE TOWN BOARD, THAT THE WATER SUPPLY AND FIRE FIGHTING FACILITIES ARE NOT ADEQUATE FOR HIGH-RISE APARTMENTS, AND HAS PROTESTED THIS CHANGE IN ZONING. HUGH PRYTHERCH, PRESIDENT OF THIS ASSOCIATION STATES A SERIOUS WATER SHORTAGE WILL DEVELOP WITH THE EXPECTED ONE-THIRD INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF FAMILIES. THIS WILL MAKE IT NECESSARY TO BAN OUTDOOR USE OF WATER BY HOME OWNERS, SUCH AS SPRINKLING LAWNS AND WASHING CARS.

FRED W. ABELE, MCKOWNVILLE FIRE COMMISSIONER, STATES THAT HIGH-RISE APARTMENTS CAN NOT BE PROTECTED FROM FIRE HAZARDS WITH THE PRESENT FIRE EQUIPMENT AND MAN POWER AVAILABLE. STAND-BY WATER CAPACITY WILL NOT COMPLY WITH THE STANDARDS OF THE UNDERWRITERS RATING BOARD AND FIRE INSURANCE PREMIUM RATES WILL BE RAISED.