

Guilderland Board Eases Restrictions on Dwellings

Lot-size restrictions on construction of multiple dwelling units in Guilderland were substantially eased last week by a 3-2 vote of the Town Board.

After deferring action for two months on a recommendation of the town's Planning Board, the board adopted amendments to the zoning ordinance which permit construction of high-rise apartment buildings on considerably less land space than previously required.

The amendments had generated heated controversy early this year, particularly in the densely populated McKownville area where residents fear highrise apartments will jeopardize the water supply serving the hamlet.

Opposition to the amendments had led the McKownville Improvement association to declare it might secede from the town to avoid the possibility of high-rise construction.

It took the board two votes on two separate motions to pass the amendments. Councilman James Choules of McKownville read a prepared statement opposing the amendments and suggesting consideration be deferred until the town undertakes creation of an overall, Master Plan.