

SPECIAL MEETING

APRIL 20, 1965-8:00 P. M.

A Special Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Guilderland was held at the Westmere School Auditorium, Town of Guilderland, New York on the above date. Roll call by Mildred Wise, Town Clerk showed the following present:

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| Robert Johnstone | Councilman |
| James Choules | Councilman |
| Harold Hughes, Jr. | Councilman |
| Cadwell Magley | Councilman |
| | absent |
| Gordon Robinson | Supervisor |
| | also present |
| Frank Williams | Town Attorney |

This meeting had been ordered by the Town Board for the purpose of holding a Public Hearing on the proposed establishment of a Water District in the area of Guilderland known as Three Hills Terrace. Notice of this Public Hearing as it appeared in the Altamont Enterprise on April 9, 1965 was read by Mildred Wise, Town Clerk. In the absence of Supervisor Robinson, due to illness, the meeting was conducted by Councilman Johnstone.

J. Kenneth Fraser, Town Water Engineer, exhibited a map of the proposed water district. Mr. Fraser explained that the possibility of obtaining water from the City of Albany, for the proposed district, had failed to materialize and the alternative would be to obtain the water from the McKownville Water District by way of the Birchmont Water District. Mr. Fraser further stated that there are 75 homes in the Three Hills Terrace area to be serviced and if water were to be taken at an extremely high rate it would result in decreasing the pressure in the Birchmont Water District, that, therefore it would be necessary to put some restrictions on the water use making it available only for domestic needs. The indebtedness of \$66,000 would be spread over a period of 40 years.

Councilman Johnstone then asked for voices in favor of the proposed water district. James Bruce, Ivaloo Ave. spoke in favor of it saying that the people in the Three Hills Terrace area are desperately in need of water, that most of the wells are either dry or produce bad water, that the people are largely dependent on the North Bethlehem Fire Department for water which is delivered in tank trucks. Mrs. Nell Goodrich then inquired as to the cost to the homeowner. Mr. Fraser replied that the average cost on the property assessed at \$2,000 would be \$63.50 annually to finance the bonds, plus approximately \$40.00 per year for water used. The cost of meters would add \$30 to \$35 per home, plus private cost of a plumber to bring the pipe from the street to the house.

Marshall Miller of the North Bethlehem Fire Department spoke in favor of the proposal stating that the present method of hauling water into the district is done on a volunteer basis thus tying up men and trucks from the Fire Company. Catherine Gillespie, Ivaloo Ave., spoke in favor of the proposal. Others in approval of the proposal included Morgan James, Kilda Bounds, Florence Barcomb Al Lawler, James Cornell, Leo LaFave, William LaFave, Mildred Olson, John Rockenstire, Rose Lawler, Al Blanchet, Mr. & Mrs. Jazenbowski, Albert Madden Leslie Jones also went on record as approving.

Councilman Johnstone then asked for voices in opposition to the proposed water district. Max Weinstein, Highland Dr. then stated that there has not been water to spare in the McKownville District and precautions must be taken to conserve water and asked that only existing homes be supplied. George Goodrich, of the Three Hills Terrace area stated that he was opposed to the proposal and urged his neighbors to sink deep wells as he has done and thus

SPECIAL MEETING

APRIL 20, 1965-8:00 P. M.

insuring themselves of an adequate water supply. James Barber, Dillenbeck Dr. then stated that he would like to see the report made last Tuesday when pressure was tested on the end of Dillenbeck Drive where the new District would be fed through a 4 inch pipe. Mr. Fraser replied there was no written report but that the hydrant had produced 77 pounds of pressure. J. Francis Purdy then spoke and urged that water be supplied only to existing homes and that the outside use of water be prohibited. William Kromik then pointed out that in his opinion the people in the new district would really not be getting much water for the sum of money invested. William Greenfield, West Dillenbeck Dr., stated that in his opinion by next July these people would be very disillusioned by the amount of water they would be able to get. Robert Slover of Cross St. in Three Hills Terrace said he had all the water he wanted due to the fact he had driven a well deep enough and he did not want to be charged for cost of a new district. Sal Amato inquired regarding the adverse effect of pressure in the Birchmont District and said he considered this a very dangerous risk. Charles Kraft, a plumber, stated that the 4 inch pipe would never supply sufficient water during periods of heavy use. Also voicing opposition were Robert Clark, Kenneth Ray, Gerald Hamme and Hugh Prytherch, the general consensus of opinion being that there should be use restrictions and no additional building in the area during the term of emergency.

Attorney Frank Williams explained further steps in the formation of a new water district stating that application must be made to the Water Resources Commission and must also be approved by the Audit and Control Dept. of the state of New York who will determine whether sufficient assessed valuation exists to pay the costs. Mr. Amato stated that he felt this proposed district

SPECIAL MEETING

APRIL 20, 1965-8:00 P. M.

is not in the "public interest" as it jeopardizes the Birchmont Water District and that it is also questionable whether Three Hills Terrace would get satisfactory water after spending their money.

Durward Brewer, Chairman of the Town Wide Water Advisory Board then stated the Easterly Water District is on the drawing boards and that in time it would benefit both Birchmont and McKownville Water Districts. He stated that new building could be controlled by the Planning Board. He further pointed out that meters would limit water use in the proposed district.

All persons desiring to be heard were heard whereupon Councilman Hughes, seconded by Councilman Magley moved that the Hearing be adjourned. The motion carried by unanimous Board approval and the Hearing was declared closed at 8:58 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,



Mildred Wise, Town Clerk

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