

A REPORT TO THE CITIZENS OF GUILDERLAND

GUILDERLAND WATER

Because a public water supply system is one of the key issues facing the Town of Guilderland today, a town-wide Water Advisory Board has been established. This group has been directed to survey the present situation and report its findings and recommendations to the Town Board.

The function of the Water Advisory Board is threefold. It is to explore and evaluate all possible solutions to the problem of obtaining an adequate water supply for the town; it is to recommend one or more plans to the Town Board for their consideration and possible presentation to the tax payers; it is to supply the citizens of Guilderland with facts and data so they will be able to make an intelligent decision about a future water supply for the town.

Any proposal for water must have the backing of the voters if it is to be adopted and developed. Therefore, it is the committee's wish that the citizenry become aware of the facts. This sheet is a first step to acquaint the people with the water situation as we now know it to be.

WHY DOES THE TOWN NEED A PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY?

1. For personal and community health. As the population density of Guilderland increases, sewage and detergent pollution in shallow well systems increases. A public water supply would insure water of adequate, satisfactory quantity and quality.
2. Increased value of property. Each home in Guilderland represents an investment on the part of its owner. With a town water supply this value would be increased.
3. For sound growth of the community. Guilderland will be far more attractive to property buyers - Residential, Commercial, Industrial - if the town has a public water system.
4. For consumer convenience and security. With a town water supply, the uncertainties of well systems and the associated repair bills would be eliminated.
5. For fire protection. Adequate water will reduce not only fire insurance rates, but will reduce the annual property damage from fire.

WHAT PLANS ARE UNDER CONSIDERATION:

1. Extending Albany's Water System into Guilderland. Recent inquiries have established that the City of Albany is not in a position to extend its system into Guilderland.
2. Use of Watervliet's reservoir. A preliminary investigation has revealed that Watervliet will sell Guilderland water from its reservoir at the rate of \$70.00 per million gallons (of raw water) but Guilderland would have to install its own pumping and filtration plant before the water could be used. The cost of building a pumping station and a filtration plant plus putting in transmission lines to distribute the water, would be approximately 5 million dollars.

3. Use of the Rotterdam System. Rotterdam has offered to sell Guilderland water at the rate of \$100.00 per million gallons but Guilderland would have to carry the full burden of building its own pumping facilities to deliver the water and lay its own pipe line from Rotterdam, through Schenectady, to Guilderland. In addition to construction costs, land easements would have to be purchased to go across Schenectady.
4. Construction of a surface supply for the Town. An adequate water supply could be developed by using the Mill Pond or the Hunger Kill which feeds it. This would cost from 4.6 million dollars to about 5.9 million dollars depending on whether or not a dam is required.
5. Underground supply. The advantages of an underground system are such that most of the exploratory efforts by the Town of Guilderland have been in this direction. If a deep well system is developed by the Town, the principal cost of the project will be limited to building a transmission system. Because of the economic advantages of an underground water supply, well drilling and testing are now in progress. The Town has three (3) sites now under development. These are: one in the French's Mill Road area; another in the State Fard Road area, and a third in the vicinity of McCormack's Corners. The advantages of an underground system are that a filtration plant and dam are not necessary.

STATE AND FEDERAL AID

Contrary to what many people believe, presently there is no state or federal money available for the construction of local water supply systems. Federal aid has already been used by the Town for exploratory efforts, but construction costs must be carried by the Town.

As the Committee's work continues, more information will be released.

Signed: Guilderland Town Wide Water Advisory Board