

MCKOWNVILLE WATER ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING WEDNESDAY FEB. 16, 1966

PRESENT: Abele, Feldmann, Purdy, Swyer, Hamme, King, Zyniecki, Dascher
ABSENT: Schwartz, Reynders

Called to order 8:30 PM at Town Hall

Minutes of meeting of Dec. 15, 1965 read and approved on motion by Purdy, seconded by Feldmann.

Letter to Town Board dated Jan. 1, 1966, containing recommendations formulated at preceding meeting as read.

Abele gave a report on the meeting held on January 31st at the McKownville Methodist Church relative to the upper pond. Present were the Town Board and Church Board members, Mr. Purdy, Abele and Swyer from the McKownville Water Advisory Board; Mr. Leonardi and Mr. Magleys Attorney, Mr. Pipito both of whom own portions of the upper reaches of the pond.

The following questions were raised:

1. Legal rights of upstream owners.
2. Who will pay the legal fees for the Church as they cannot expend money for this purpose.
3. How much water will be drawn off.
4. Protection for Mr. Leonardi and Mr. Magley both of whom use the water.

The Church Board seemed favorable in general to the lease agreement proposed. However they will have to present this to the Methodist Conference for approval. They did, however, question how much the water should be worth.

The Town Attorney is to run down the answers to the legal questions.

Discussion followed and it was generally thought that this Board can do nothing more for the moment to expedite the matter but that it should not be allowed to drop since it has been progressed this far. It was also felt to be of utmost urgency timewise.

Abele reported William Olsmit of McKownville Fire Dept. had been appointed as assistant water plant operator at a salary to be determined by the Supervisor but not to exceed \$2500 annually. This makes a reality one of the previous recommendations of this Board and is in accordance with a recommendation of New York Fire Insurance Rating Organization.

Abele announced that a meeting will be held on Thursday, February 24th by Town Board to resolve the rate for Three Hills Terrace. Representatives from the Town Board, Townwide Water Advisory Board and McKownville Water Advisory Board are invited and asked to attend. Abele and Purdy were selected to attend to represent this Board. We had recommended a rate of 60¢ per M gallons. The Townwide Board recommended 31¢.

7.50
2.00
4,180.00 x .415 = 1,734.70

The rates for Three Hills Terrace were studied as well as for Birchmont. It was felt that the rate should not be predicated on the Birchmont rate presently in effect as this is not realistic. Latham water District charges 60¢ per M gallons for water sold. Bethlehem charges more. Thus the rate recommended by this Board is not out of line. Abele showed computations which indicate that McKownville residents will pay a total base rate of from .585 to .745 per M gal. for water and Birchmont pays .411. This was based on a 200 gpd per family, the same as the base amount to be allowed to Three Hills Terrace residents. The extra water allowed in the McKownville District for sprinkling decreases the rate as more water is used. However, no outside use of water will be permitted to Three Hills Terrace.

Discussion followed on the revision of rates to Birchmont District. The present rate of \$2000 per year has been charged since the formation of the Birchmont District. There is no way of accurately determining how much water they use. The 2" meter which formerly measured this was removed as it constricted fire flows. Abele opined that if their rate is raised to 60¢ per M gallons it should be on the basis of a metered flow as the only fair way of determining how much water is used. King said that the alleged \$1800 loss from sale of water would probably pay for the meter many times over in a couple of years.

Motion by Feldmann, seconded by Dascher and adopted unanimously to recommend that a master meter of sufficient size be installed at the entrance to the Birchmont system immediately, cost of the meter to be charged to McKownville Water District and that the charge to Birchmont be adjusted to a rate of 60¢ per M gallons used as recorded on this meter less the water used by Three Hills Terrace as recorded on their master meter. This was amended by Mr. Purdy to make the installation of the Birchmont Meter subject to a check with Mr. Fraser to determine the cost of such an installation to determine if feasible. (A check subsequently with Mr. Fraser revealed a possible cost of nearly \$2000 for such an installation as Mr. Fraser recommended a six inch meter which would have to be installed in a concrete block pit. He said a smaller venturi type meter would not accurately measure minimum flows and would not be practical. Due to the plans for connecting Birchmont to the Westmere District eventually such a meter installation would not be practical.)

Discussion next centered on installation of individual residence meters in the McKownville District. Abele said this has been studied for years but nothing done because of the cost and how to charge for such an installation. Since the Westmere and Three Hills Terrace Districts will both have residence meters it was felt that the time is now ripe to recommend this.

Motion by Zyniecki, seconded by Feldmann and adopted unanimously to recommend the installation of meters in all residences in the McKownville Water District, the cost to be borne by the District and amortized over their useful life with the cost per year per user to be reflected in the annual tax rate. In the case of future construction, procedures in use in the Latham and Bethlehem Water Districts should be followed.

Abele questioned whether a Birchmont resident should be represented on this board. Members felt it not advisable since we represent taxpayers of our own District only and cannot speak for Birchmont residents. It was proposed, however, that some individual from Birchmont could be invited to attend meetings which would be concerned with their supply.

Mr. Swyer raised the question of the adviseability of combining the Birchmont and McKownville Districts. Mr. Abele was in favor of this as they are both in McKownville Fire District. The question of Birchmont's unpaid bond issue was raised. Abele suggested perhaps they could be absorbed and still pay off their bond issue as is sometimes done in fire districts where boundaries are changed. So action was taken but the matter was deferred for future consideration.

Mr. Feldman proposed a list of recommendations which he thought merited action and they are as follows:

1. Installation of a 10" flashboard at the reservoir spillway to impound additional water. King questioned whether approval from Water Resources Board and Abele questioned whether raising the pond level this much would be a hazard to the dam in case of flash storms. An opinion was hazarded that such a flashboard had previously existed.
2. That the Town Board be asked to supply this Board with a stenographer when we meet with such salary cost to be borne by the Water District.
3. That the elevated storage tower be inspected, existing leaks repaired and the tower placed in good condition.
4. That a 5 to 10 foot metal boat be purchased for use on the reservoir and stored at the pumping station.
5. That sizeable signs against trespassing be purchased and installed on the reservoir property.
6. That a sign identifying the water supply be purchased and installed on the filter plant.
7. That the exterior of the filter plant and grounds be cleaned up and made to look more presentable. *Suggest to present - details...*
8. That both upper and lower ends be treated from a boat with copper sulfate to keep the growth of algae and weeds down.

To these the following were added by Swyer and Abele

9. That Engineer Fraser be instructed to prepare detailed maps of the distribution system, including location of all valves and appurtenances as recommended in the New York Fire Insurance rating report and as previously recommended in our letter to Supervisor Robinson. This is to include both McKownville and Birchmont Dist.
10. That Engineer Fraser be instructed to prepare cost estimates for installation of a second main on the North side of Western Avenue from the filter plant to a point where a connection could be made to the Stuyvesant Plaza to complete their loop and provide a bypass to the rest of the District in case of breakage of the single large main now in use on the South side of Western Avenue. This was also recommended by New York Fire Insurance Rating Bureau and like-

*no 2, 5/10/68
- available
had some 2000
April 20, 1968*

yes

yes

yes

yes

yes

wise recommended to former Supervisor Robinson in a letter.

11. That the possibility of obtaining State or Federal Aid to bear part of the cost of improvement be made or contemplated be investigated and this Board supplied with details.
12. That the possibility of Fluoridation of this water supply as well as the new Townwide supplies being installed be studied and results reported to this Board.
13. That a report to the people be sent to all water users in the McKownville and Birchmont Water Districts by the Town Board advising them of the improvements which have been made at the recommendation of the Board. Mr. Abele read a sample report of this nature which he had prepared. The Board approved the report as prepared and recommended that a copy be sent along with these minutes.
14. That a list of these recommendations be tabulated and transmitted to the Town Board as part of the transmittal letter accompanying the minutes of this meeting.

Motion by Swyer, seconded by Feldman and adopted unanimously to adopt these recommendations.

Dascher suggested that a detailed list of the recommendations made to the Town Board be kept so that they may be followed up and checked off as accomplished. Perhaps the Town Board could keep us advised as to their progress or disposition.

Sprinkling regulations for the coming season were discussed. All were in favor of some revisions in varying degrees. Purdy and Feldman were designated a committee to study this matter and report their findings and recommendations to this Board at its next meeting.

Motion by Swyer, seconded by Hamme to adjourn at 10:20 P.M.
No definite date was set for the next meeting.

Fred B. Abele, Chairman