

A REPORT ON WATER TO THE MCKOWNVILLE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION  
May 8, 1969

1. McKownville Water Advisory Board held four meetings during the year.
2. The Board Chairman attended one to two meetings per month of the Townwide Water Advisory Board, concerned with all problems of the Towns Water Districts.
3. Consolidation of the McKownville and Westmere Districts has been effected as of January 1st. Due to rise in Assessed Valuation the rate became \$9.37 per thousand instead of the slightly higher rate envisioned.
4. The 10" line has been completed into Stuyvesant Plaza with consequent improvement of fire flows. Still to be accomplished is the loop in Executive Park which has been complicated by legal complications.
5. The improvements in piping and hydrant installation in the Birchmont area have been completed.
6. The connection with Westmere Water District which was approved for emergency use cost only \$9400 against the \$18,000 contemplated and was a life saver a couple of months ago when one of the pumps at the McKownville plant broke down. The Westmere plant supplied all our water for two months while the pump was being repaired.
7. During the period when the plant was down it was completely repainted inside, cleaned, the filters taken down completely and rebuilt and the plant put back in very good condition. It went back in service a couple of weeks ago.
8. Hydrants were repainted late last year.
9. The Chemist has been increased to two visits per month at a cost of \$1200 annually. He has given many helpful suggestions including applications of caustic soda to lessen the corrosive action of the water.
10. Washington Avenue Extension does not seem to materially have affected the supply. There was difficulty last fall but tests by the Chemist this spring reveal the reservoir water quality the best condition in many years.
11. Fluoridation of the system was approved last June, permission obtained from the various regulating bodies and equipment ordered. So far it has not been received. Consideration is being given to diverting equipment from Westmere to accomplish the Fluoridation. McKownville supply has a natural fluoride content of .3 ppm. Desirable content is .8 to 1.2. The Westmere supply on the other hand has been shown to be nearly up to the standards with natural fluorides.
12. The elevated storage tank has been inspected and the report calls for work amounting to \$8,000 to be done.
13. Water restrictions will be same as last year and effective on May 15, 1969.
14. The Town water ordinance regulating water supplies has been submitted to the attorney, Mr. Tabner for review before being considered by the Town Board for adoption.

15. Niagara-Mohawk Power Corp. has applied to purchase an area of 0.413 acres of Water District land in order to enlarge their existing substation. This led to the discovery that the company owns a right of way approximately 100 feet wide through the Water District property. It had been thought that this was merely an easement as available property maps did not show the ownership. This investigation held up the easement to Stuyvesant Plaza to install the remaining pipe for their loop at Executive Park.

The matter was resolved as follows: It was recommended to sell the .413 acres for \$1000 provided that the Niagara -Mohawk improve the esthetics of the area around their substation. They agreed to budget up to \$2,000 for this purpose. They would prepare without cost to the Water District up to date property maps of the Water District lands owned for use by the Water District. This has not yet been completed.

16. To summarize, most of the improvements to the supply contemplated in 1964 and 1965 have been realized. Cooperation of the Town Board and officials has been excellent. The water supply and distribution system is now in the best condition it has been since placed in operation. While Westmere was able to supply both systems in the off peak season it could not do so for long during the peak season without severe restriction on the use of water.
17. Meters have been installed and read. However, billings so far have not been based on these as insufficient data is yet available. The water rent has been raised from \$23 per year to \$24. However, billing has been staggered so that most people got billed for more than half year. It is hoped to establish more realistic rates so that the rent will cover operation of the plant with the tax bill portion covering the cost of capital investment and debt retirement.
18. Birchmont users should have noticed a drop in water rent this year.
19. No bonds have been sold due to high interest rates and all indebtedness incurred in recent years is still in bond anticipation notes.

Respectfully submitted,

*Fred B. Abell*

Chairman,  
McKeesville Water Advisory Board.