

McKownville Residents

1977

On Tuesday, March 8, the Guilderland Town Board voted to consolidate the Westmere and McKownville water districts. Besides erasing the name of McKownville from our community water supply, the Town Board vote will again raise your water taxes: this time to \$63 for the average McKownville house assessed at \$3000. In 1975, just 18 months ago, the water taxes were \$33.

The rise in taxes voted by the Town Board was not the result of higher operating costs for the Westmere district, which pumps and purifies our water supply for us. But the consolidation will permit the Westmere water taxes to again be decreased while again forcing ours upwards.

As you know, McKownville has been drawing its water supply from the Watervliet Reservoir since November 10, 1973, and both Westmere and McKownville will continue to purchase Watervliet water regardless of whether your water taxes are raised or consolidation occurs.

You can stop this Town Board action by signing the petition for a referendum (100 signatures are needed for a referendum), and by voting against consolidation at the referendum election, and by telephoning the Town Board members and telling them of your opposition to the tax rate and the consolidation.

The Town Board telephone number is 356-1980. The Town Board members are Carl Walters, Ray McNiven, John Ryan, Pauline Porter, and Don Cropsey.

The McKownville Improvement Association at a general meeting on March 22nd voted overwhelmingly to oppose the consolidation. We need the help of all residents if we are going to avoid higher taxes for McKownville.