

The McKownville Improvement Association

134-6214-1000
On July 8, 1980, there was a public hearing at Town Hall on the consolidation of the McKownville and Westmere Water Districts. The public hearing brought out a number of points at issue in this matter.

Immediately following the hearing, and without responding to a number of new questions, the Town Board passed a resolution to consolidate the Districts. This resolution is subject to a referendum if sought by the residents of either District.

The McKownville Improvement Association, Inc., in keeping with its charter "to promote the public interest" of the hamlet of McKownville, and without a statement either in favor of or in opposition to the consolidation, believes that the interests of McKownville will best be served by providing for a referendum. We ask your assistance in this matter by signing the petition for referendum and by continuing to have thoughtful discussions - on both sides of the issue. It is our desire to support this discussion and dissemination of ideas with leaflets, such as this, and with a public meeting on the question during the first week in September.

The following questions are believed to be pertinent at this time:

1. Threat of Imminent Danger: It has been reported that if the supply line from Westmere broke, there would be no water to fight a fire.
 - Doesn't the Water Tower on Schoolhouse Road store 200,000 gallons for just that purpose?
 - Why weren't we also told that there already is another connection to the Westmere system on West Dillenbeck Drive?
2. Regarding Crossgates: The McKownville Reservoir's status has been instrumental in the fight against Crossgates. Several memos to Supervisor Walters (from Crossgates) in 1978 clearly indicate Crossgates' intention to destroy the McKownville Reservoir so that their development can proceed. The McKownville Improvement Association, the Concerned Citizens Against Crossgates, and many others have prevented this up to now.

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- Why does the Town continue to act in ways that assist Crossgates?
 - Will the Reservoir site be changed to a park and pond as Crossgates has requested?
3. Regarding Water Pressure: There may be less pressure than is desirable to fight fires at the Ramada Inn and at the 1450 Western Avenue Office Building.
- What are the various solutions to increase their pressure?
 - These buildings are 10 years old. Why wasn't this problem made public before?
 - Who should pay for the costs involved?
4. Value of Water District Property: The water mains, water tower, Reservoir and District lands have been installed by the McKownville Water District. There is a relatively small debt remaining in the District. Crossgates has offered about \$400,000 for making the Reservoir a park.
- What is the value of the assets of the McKownville Water District?
 - What indebtedness will be assumed with a consolidation?

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