VILLAGE WATER PRECINCT NEWS LETTER

This newsletter, which hopefully will be a semi-annual publication, is to let you, the water user, know exactly what is happening within the Precinct. The Precinct does have several proposed major projects under study dealing with both water quality and distribution on which your commissioners would very much welcome your input or comments at our monthly meeting (last Monday of each month) and especially at our yearly Precinct Meeting at which time we all vote on the major construction items for the coming year. The Precinct and the water it delivers should be everybody's concern, so please take an active interest in it.

1. Water Quality - Based on all outstanding tests, presently available to us, indications are that the water quality has improved and is well within the State and Federal safe water drinking standards. Recently, the N. H. Department of Environmental Services wrote to our Water Department Superintendent to inform him that the LSI level of our water was one of the best in the state! While the level of Iron and Manganese within our water remains high, but well within State and Federal standards, we are reviewing various proposals ($100,000 - $700,000) to rid the water of excess Iron and Manganese. While this could improve the water clarity, what we have to decide is how much this clarity is worth from our limited funds. We may have to direct what funds we do have available toward improving and enlarging a fairly old and somewhat restricted distribution system.

2. Water Distribution System - A recent study by our engineering firm has identified several major areas of the distribution system that should be replaced due to age, pipe material and/or undersizing. The commissioners, with your help, must now decide which project to do first and just how to fund the projects. Before we make any decisions, we will be talking to the Central Water Precinct on their long range plans and with Mr. Winn Hannrahan, who is representing both Precincts in negotiations with the Manchester Water Works on future plans for water usage in the whole Manchester/Hooksett watershed area.

3. Water Rates - Your commissioners have long realized that the present water rates, which have not been changed for several years, needed adjustment to raise a small amount of additional operating revenues. In addition, and at the urging of the N. H. Department of Revenue Administration, the rates should be moved from depending heavily on taxes to usage. The board has established a new rate structure that will lower the water Precinct taxes, but raise the quarterly water bill. The new rates will also effect large water users more than those that conserve and use less water. Don't forget that while the quarterly bill will rise, the yearly Precinct tax will decrease. Listed below is the new rate structure:

First 6,000 gallons per quarter -- $15.00 Minimum

All in excess of 6,000 gallons per quarter -- $.85 per 1,000 gallons