



**RINGWOOD ACRES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION INC.
MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER
JANUARY 15, 1993**

Fellow RAHA Neighbors and Sewer Users,

At our most recent RAHA meeting on December 9th, 75 of us were addressed by our attorneys, Paul Jemas and Diane Nardone, on the legal actions we might pursue and their likely financial implications in light of the recent law suit filed by the Borough of Ringwood against the RBSA. Unbelievable as it may sound, that suit petitions the court to allow the boro to force the RAHA homeowners to be solely responsible for all RBSA debt. That includes the dormant pipes in the Cupsaw Lake area and other debt that would cost us each \$9000 per year! This is, of course, a ridiculous legal maneuver, but technically, if a judge granted their petition, the only thing standing between us and a \$9000 per year sewer bill would be the boro council's good will! This action also publicly and definitely unmasks the arrogance of the boro and their attitude toward us and our position - it's all our problem, even though we had nothing to do with creating the situation.

The main action discussed by the group with our attorneys was that of bringing suit against the boro and the RBSA so that we, the affected party, will be properly represented. After some discussion, a consensus emerged that we should indeed pursue legal action, if necessary to protect our position. The group then voted to designate an "Executive Committee" to centralize and expedite decision making when necessary. That committee consists of Chuck Lesnick, Tom McEneny, George Waghorn, Shaun O'Regan and Rich Kennedy. We then authorized our attorneys to move ahead with the appropriate legal action in our defense.

By the time you receive this letter, a suit will have been filed in State Superior Court against the Borough of Ringwood and the RBSA. A copy of the particulars of that suit will become available shortly. As was discussed at our last meeting, the case could continue over a long period of time and be expensive. If we all participate in the funding, it will cost us all an additional \$500 to \$600. The less participation we get, the more expensive it will be for those who press the fight.

It is time to get to the business of collecting the needed monies for our defense. Based on the projections we discussed at the meeting and in separate meetings with our attorneys, it has been decided that we need to hold two fund raising drives in the near term - one in January and one in June - each for \$300. We need to complete the first drive as soon as possible. Several people have already come forth with their contributions. Everyone's help is vital to our success.

In addition we need to collect annual RAHA dues needed to cover our non-sewer expenses like: real estate taxes, insurance, incorporation fees, clubhouse rentals, advertising, bank account fees, incidental fees etc. A detailed RAHA budget, projecting these expenses, as well as an accounting of existing funds will follow shortly, but for the time being, we will assume the current annual dues of \$15 will be adequate.

THEREFORE, WE ARE ASKING EVERYONE TO DROP OFF A CHECK FOR \$315 IN PERSON OR BY MAIL TO EITHER GEORGE WAGHORN (23 JAMES DRIVE), TOM MCENENY (22 JAMES DRIVE) OR TO CHUCK LESNICK (73 EDWARD DRIVE) AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. MEMBERS OF THE COLLECTION COMMITTEE WILL CALL ON THOSE WE HAVEN'T HEARD FROM IN A COUPLE OF WEEKS.

With regards to the reporting of legal fund monies collected and dispersed, both past and future - it must be strongly restated that a general publication of an accounting of our finances is a very sensitive issue. Therefore we are asking that anyone who wants to know more about this subject, contact the Treasurer (George Waghorn), or any other RAHA officers privately.

ONCE AGAIN, YOUR FULL PARTICIPATION AND CONTRIBUTION IS NEEDED FOR OUR SUCCESS! WE STRONGLY URGE YOU TO CONTRIBUTE THE FULL AMOUNT TO THE LEGAL FUND. REMEMBER \$500-\$600 TO DEFEND OURSELVES FROM THIS BUREAUCRATIC OPPRESSION AND GIVE OURSELVES A GOOD CHANCE TO WIN IS FAR LESS THAN THE EXTRA \$1900 PER YEAR THAT WE WILL CERTAINLY PAY IF WE DON'T FIGHT!

RAHA

