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January 24, 2025

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR PARENTE

As you know, we purchase our water from the Village of Williston Park. Williston Park Mayor Ehrbar has communicated necessary rate increases due to sweeping changes to water standards in drinking water. Our agreement with Williston Park directs how the costs are shared between the villages. Fortunately, by entering into an agreement with the Village years ago, we are not facing the increases alone. The rate increase reflects shared responsibility for compliance with the federal changes.

By way of background, The Federal Environmental Protection Agency has established new water standards for PFAS residue in drinking water. Williston Park water is currently in compliance with all Federal and State guidelines and will continue to meet or exceed both of these standards. However, the EPA has recently lowered the standard for PFAS to 4 parts per trillion, effective December, 2029. The Village has undertaken the major task of reviewing the needs required to comply with the new regulations, including the projected cost and revenue needed. A firm was hired to conduct a water rate study, and it has been determined that a 33% increase to water rates effective March 1, 2025 is warranted.

A Water Rate Hearing is scheduled for 7:00pm on February 24, 2025, in the Village of Williston Park at the Williston Park Village Hall. We, the residents of East Williston, are invited and encouraged to attend. Our entire East Williston Board will be present. We are requesting that if you have questions now, please email the East Williston Village Office at villageoffice@eastwilliston.org. We will compile the questions and submit them to Williston Park in advance. We are also all welcome to ask questions at the meeting in person, as we may not yet know what questions we will have until we hear the formal presentation.

A copy of the Water Rate Study will be available for review at the Village Hall during normal business hours and on our website.

Sincerely,

Bonnie LS Parente, Mayor