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TALK OF HIGH-RISE APARTMENTS PRODUCES "SHUDDERS", MAYOR SAYS

GLEN ROCK- The subject of new ratables came before the Borough Council at last week's meeting as it has at almost every meeting for some time. The discussion this time centered around high rise apartments that Sinibaldo Leone, local resident and merchant, said were desired by many people he speaks to.

Mayor Allan B. Murray countered that every time he discusses high rise apartments with residents, "they shudder." The mayor said that a study made by members of the governing body and Harley Hesson, tax assessor, indicated that high-rise apartments such as the Horizon House in Fort Lee, would probably bring in an increased amount of ratables per child over the average one-family residential neighborhood.

Hesson had drawn up some figures on ratables that might be expected from such apartments, Murray said, and had also estimated the number of children involved. The study indicates a gain in ratables as compared to one-family homes, the mayor said.

Councilman Charles F. Smith, in answer to a question from defeated council candidate John J. McCullough Jr., said an apartment that was high enough – 14 to 16 stories – might even be more advantageous from the point of ratables than industry.

Experience had shown that such a building would bring in some children but not too many, Mayor Murray said.

The land south of Route 208 off Harristown Road, presently zoned for industry, was suggested as a possible place for a high-rise apartment. Mayor Murray said he would be glad to have residents' thinking on the matter and Leone retorted that the fall election might be a good time to let voters make a choice.