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Stop the sewer spin

Since our infamous sewer fee was enacted several years ago we have heard time and time again it is a fee based on your supposed usage not a tax based on the assessed value of your home. Sound familiar? Then why is this council trying to sugar coat the expected huge increase in our sewer fees by saying as quoted in the recent *Clifton Journal* article this 35 percent increase "would bring with it a \$48 increase on the average Clifton home assessed at \$177,000"?

Our sewer fee is not based on the assessed value of our homes. If it was we would be able to deduct it from our income taxes and it would be part of the real estate tax freeze for seniors with a certain income level. Stop the spin! The taxpayers of Clifton deserve honest and transparent government.

We deserve to know the breakdown of this 35 percent increase. This 35 percent increase is a far cry from the 6.5 percent increase from Passaic Valley Sewage Commission charges. What accounts for the huge difference? What we have been told is this separate sewer utility is not liquid.

With an expected 35 percent increase in the sewer fee, it is time to dismantle this separate sewer utility and put the costs back into the general budget so that some of the huge surplus can be used to offset these outrageous costs.

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