

To the Selectmen of Carroll

July 26, 2020

I have read the minutes of recent Selectmen meetings and the various letters written by selectmen to each other and the board - such as the statement by Mr. Gauthier of 6.15.2020 and the letter by Ms. Maroney and the response by Mr. Scalley of 6.15.2020.

Prior to the Pandemic I also attended a number of meetings and observed possible errors by the selectmen in following the NH open meeting laws. This is not surprising, as I do not think all of the selectmen have received extensive legal training that would ensure good adherence to these laws. The fact that such letters and statements are written by the selectmen is obvious confirmation that better knowledge of legal matters in leading public meetings and adhering to conflict of interest matters - for example - could be improved.

I would humbly like to suggest that our town and specifically our selectmen take advantage of the training offered by the New Hampshire Municipal Association. Their attorneys are available to travel to our town and offer on demand training courses/sessions on such topics as: "Conflict of Interest and Ethics for Local Officials", "Effective Public Meetings" as well as many other topics. Please see <https://www.nhmunicipal.org/demand-training>. These training course do not limit the number of attendees and charge a small fee. Given the amount of money our town is spending on legal advice this would be, in my opinion, a very sensible expenditure with an excellent rate of return.

I hope that my suggestion for some training is received in the right constructive manner. As a scientist, I have found over many decades, and now firmly believe, that one can always learn more and thus get better at what we do after learning more about a subject.

Respectfully,

Mike Perlmutter