

Agendas

To the Editor:

People who don't live in Colton can laugh their hearts out—but, we, the ones that are unfortunate to be here at this time to deal with the inefficient and nutty politics can cry in our spilt milk. One mess after another! In Colton, new members have been added to all boards—some elected by misinformed voters and some appointed by our new Town Board that appoints their relatives—nephew/aunt and wife/husband. What have you?—a conflict of interest I would think.

Public offices are traditionally deemed incompatible in circumstances in which one office has authority to review or oversee the activity of the other offices. While Zoning Boards of Appeals and Planning Boards both have responsibility in the area of appeal and Planning Boards have responsibility in the area of land use, their duties and responsibilities are quite different. In Colton, our Town Board members stick their noses in. I wonder if it is to protect the interest of their relatives and to get them on the Town payroll?

In January the Town Board said they wanted an interview process to pick qualified candidates rather than the old "first come, first appointed" method. Committees were set up to interview the candidates and score them on their responses. After hard work by Cyndy Hennessy to ensure fairness in the selection process, the Town Board ignored the recommendations of the committees. Of course, Zelinski's hand-picked candidates for ZBA and Planning Board were appointed. In addition, they chose the nephew of a Board member! That Board member voted for her nephew rather than abstaining. And here, I thought this Board wanted a revised Code of Ethics! They should start with their own actions!

So, you should note, that the appointment of relatives on all the Boards ensures that the Boards function as a family unit. Isn't that nepotism? Wait, it's called nepotism! Talk about personal agendas!!

A taxpayer not related to
any Board member,
Kenneth Dodge
South Colton