

September 19, 2024

Dear Town of Norwood Staff, Mayor Meehan, and Board of Trustees,

Please find this letter as my formal resignation from my position as a member of the Norwood Board of Trustees. Effective immediately. I have been contemplating this decision for a while now and I feel that now is the time that I should step down. The reasons for my resignation are as follows:

- I am involved in other community boards and programs that I feel I should put more focus to.
- I will likely be coaching high school basketball in Nucla from November to March so I would miss multiple meetings.
- The extra meetings and stress the last few months that have resulted from the Town Trustee Meetings has had a negative impact on my family.
- We are hoping to build a house on our subdivided land in the spring and once moved in, we will be outside of the town limits which would disqualify me from being a trustee anyways.
- At this time, I don't think that I provide anything of value to what the town is currently dealing with.

On top of those reasons, I would like to mention my general frustration with my time on the board as a whole. I joined the board to help figure out the land use code, the building department, and possibly getting Norwood set up as a home rule community. None of that happened though. In my opinion, we accomplished nothing of value for our town since I was added to the board and it wasn't because of the lack of eagerness or expertise. We could have accomplished things of value. However, any positive gains that we made were ruined by the fiasco that has taken place in the last number of months. Even though there has been mediation and efforts to fix things, I personally do not have confidence that people will stay in their respective lanes and trust others to do their jobs. And as frustrating as it is because I love this community, I honestly have no interest in being associated with a board that is unnecessarily at odds with the town staff or a board that takes actions to disrupt or diminish the town staff's ability to be effective. I would also like to mention my overall disappointment regarding quite a few small decisions (the most recent being the letter to the county about the solar farms) that we as a board made. I wish we as a board would have stepped up and been more decisive and quick to act but we were routinely shut down by the mayor because she seemed to have more information than the rest of us that ended up not really being of benefit. I have every reason to believe that those decisions will continue to happen and that is disappointing.

Town Staff: Thank you for all that you do. You continue to work harder than any of us board members and you should be commended regularly for your hard work. The staff is more important to the town and community than any of us as trustees and I would hope that the other board members agree. I would hope that personal or board decisions aren't made that would cause us to lose members of our staff because the whole community will suffer even more than it already has.

I am grateful for the opportunity to be on the board and to learn how the town (should) operate. I am disappointed that it came to this but hopefully the rest of you can right the ship and get things back to where they need to be. If anyone wants to talk, feel free to reach out. See you around.

Sincerely,



Morgan Rummel, PE