

COLUMBUS BOARD AND UNDER STAFFED HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

On June 13, 2024, I attended the Columbus Town Board Meeting to ask questions about the town highway department, and the board's apparent failure to fill employment positions in said department.

Upon entering the meeting, I was given a paper stating rules of conduct, and that I had only three minutes to state my questions and concerns. I thought well, the real message is, "Glad you came, but we really don't care what you have to say!"

Within a short time, I was given a chance to express my concerns:

1. The highway job wage was far below going-wage-rate and board members were only "dreaming" if they thought they would get any applicants when offering such a low wage.
2. There was no way three people could do the work when the fifty miles of highway in Columbus required a crew of six.
3. I produced milk that required pick-up every two days; winter would be here soon and that the milk truck would go right on by if my road was not open and plowed.
4. I would not absorb the costs of "dumped milk" due to impossible road conditions, and would sue the town to recover "all my costs in such an instance."

At the conclusion of my remarks I heard expressions of pleasantries and gobble-de-gook from the town supervisor, and then, I left for home, thinking:
"Why did I even bother?"

In actuality, it appears leadership in Columbus is non-existent.

William Larchar, Columbus resident