

## Hawley's Run

To The Editor:

I saw the picture and the article on the front page about Grace Hawley running for supervisor in Colton.

It said the GOP's pick – Well, Grace, her nephew and his cousin run the so called Colton Republican Committee. What a laugh.

It was another secret meeting as Grace Hawley is noted for. It was not the Republican Party that endorsed her, that's for sure.

Hawley said that she "was unhappy with the direction politics have taken in the community in recent months."

She has been one of the problems. And she had the nerve to write her letter to the editor of the Courier Observer, when she voted a few months ago to fire the Courier as the town's official paper. She voted to fire Roger Linden as the town attorney and hire Hank Ford's personal attorney.

She also voted to fire Jim Plumley as the chief CEO. And she voted against Dick Owens in a very dirty, vindictive form of government at the beginning of the year.

And Hawley is on the Republican Committee. That's something for Republicans to be proud of.

All the committee members were part of Ford's plan for pay back. She's adopted Ford's style too at stretching the truth.

"Having lived here all my life ..." Did we just annex Pierrepont? And didn't she graduate from Canton, not Colton, High School? Sounds like a 'blow-in' to me.

Hawley said, "We have faced some difficult decisions and spent many hours attempting to resolve issues in a manner that would benefit the majority of residents."

Boy, is that a bunch of crap. I guess she is talking about all those illegal secret meetings that some of the board had in the last few years, especially the past year. Most of those decisions were probably made in the car during the trip to Albany for the famous sell out.

Hawley was unhappy with the current political tone in the township. How about the recent Board of Assessment Review meeting, when she, Kilroy, and McNamara laughed, snickered, and made faces at those running the meeting.

Her behavior was so disgusting I was ashamed that she was a Colton Town Board member.

Bill Swafford's town board meetings are smoothly run, interesting and normal. Hawley doesn't know the meaning of normalcy when it comes town law.

As a board member, Hawley has voted every time to get her son anything he wanted for the Highway Department. Kevin Hawley is the Colton superintendent of highways. A clear conflict of interest – she says not – but it is.

Grace Hawley voted to increase taxes for all the landowners in Colton, when she voted to drop the New York state assessment on seven parcels from \$10 million to \$3 million.

And the state's assessments on all parcels are frozen for five years. Who makes up the difference? And Grace is worried about taxes?

Come on – give me a break. And what about her leadership on the famous Caterpillar Committee that cost the town \$21,000 this year for the caterpillars that weren't even there.

Take a good look at her record. She sat at Ford's left side to make his motions and vote 'yes' on his special agenda. The way Grace Hawley has voted she should not be endorsed by any Republicans at the local or county level.

Ken Dodge

*Editor's Note: The Courier-Observer has previously run a correction noting the headline that suggested Ms. Hawley was the GOP pick was erroneous. She is expected to be in a Republican primary to determine the GOP's supervisor candidate for the fall election.*