

[by Smita Bharti · 2,240 supporters](#)

[Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors: Deny Toll Brothers development plan](#)

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Petition update

Due Process and Voter Rights



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State College, PA

Jan 2, 2016 — On December 30 and 31, Colleen Unroe, duly elected by Ferguson Township Ward 3 voters in the November 3, 2015 election, was notified that former Ward 3 supervisor Drew Clemson and Ferguson Township Manager Mark Kunkle are contesting Unroe's eligibility to be sworn in and seated at the January 4, 2016 meeting of the Ferguson Supervisors.

Clemson lost the election to Unroe and is now suing her, asking a judge to appoint him to this position. Why these individuals waited until the holiday right before the swearing in ceremony to notify her that her eligibility was being contested can only be construed as a plan to keep her from having adequate time to seek legal counsel.

Unroe has communicated to Nittany Valley Water Coalition organizers that she is planning to attend the supervisors meeting Monday evening, but not what she plans to do or say at the meeting.

We hope she will decide to retain her due process rights and the due process rights of her constituents to use the 20-day period described in these lawsuits to explore her legal options, and to give time for community members to clarify the legal issues at stake.

It is our understanding that the contested seat should remain vacant for that 20-day period at a minimum, while the legal issues are carefully reviewed and formally addressed.

We do not believe the new board of supervisors should act in haste, without full and independent legal analysis of the situation, to prevent Unroe from taking her seat or to appoint a replacement at the January 4 meeting.

In the meantime, organizers are working to identify a suitable replacement who can - in the event that Unroe vacates her seat for any reason - be appointed to represent the will of the voters who in good faith elected Colleen Unroe to replace Drew Clemson.

We encourage people to come out to the meeting at the Ferguson Township Municipal Building on Monday,

January 4 at 7 p.m. to witness the swearing-in ceremony for Laura Dininni and Peter Buckland, and to make it clear to the new board that you will hold them accountable for any actions of theirs that violate Colleen Unroe's legal rights and the legal rights of the voters of Ferguson Township without due process.

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