

April 4, 2019

Town of North Harmony Supervisor and Board Members,

After really getting a chance to digest the proposed County Lake MOA I have many concerns with it. First, I assumed it was a “Memo of Understanding” not a legally binding contract that will affect North Harmony’s ability to “home-rule” with regard to your ability to apply for DEC permits as the Town sees fit and manage the lakefront within your jurisdiction. The agreement basically takes away your ability to make decisions for your community for the next three (3) (herbicide application) seasons!

It appears that the DEC permits applied for this year may not be able to executed if approved! Future permit applications will be based on unclear and undefined MOA language.

In two (2) recent interviews Mr. Borrello has made it clear that it’s a “non-negotiable” contract! What do you say to the N.H. residents north of Long Point? Why the inflexibility in an agreement that effects so many citizens and Towns around the lake? Even though the language is a bit deceiving, step out of line and any of the signatories can sue the Town!

What is the real definition of 25% of the littoral zone south of Long Point? Acreage, footage, frontage?
No definitions or clear language.

In my opinion the document catered to the “anti-herbicide” groups that really do not reflect the consensus of area residents! I know Mr. Borrello will disagree with me, but to make this a legitimate document why weren’t the taxpayers allowed to participate! I asked him. He said North Harmony was my voice. I would think with the long-term consequences and importance of this issue the County would have had an online web session or a survey of property owners?

I think a document that is binding should consider home rule, have definitions, and be open to further discussion. Those who do not sign will be outcasts and most likely be unable to getting County funding.

The document needs work! I thought its intent was to pull groups together and gain consensus. It fails horribly in that effort. I implore North Harmony to send a message by voting against signing the MOA and hope other Towns will follow suit.

Thank You

David Groth