

# An Open Letter to Warrenton Residents, Town Officials, and Media

## Ward 5 Town Councilmember Jay Heroux Has a Conflict of Interest in the Amazon Data Center Vote and Must Recuse (Not Vote) on this Issue

**Warrenton Town Council Member Jay Heroux is VP of Definitive Logic, an Arlington, VA-based IT contractor and partner to Amazon Web Services (AWS),** who has applied to the town to build a 220,000 square foot data center here in Warrenton, next to Country Chevrolet.

According to the Definitive Logic Web site, Mr. Heroux is "responsible for developing and executing clients' digital transformation technology projects" which certainly would include cloud-based IT projects financially connected to AWS.

**Definitive Logic has published extensive case studies and articles on their Web site highlighting the success of their AWS related projects.** Additionally, Definitive Logic is a featured "Certified AWS Partner" on the Amazon AWS Web site, further documenting its extensive ties to AWS.

Amazon is a giant dominating the IT world, and Definitive Logic is a small company. It appears that Definitive Logic is heavily dependent on the good will, cooperation, and partnership with Amazon to win contracts and to carry them out.

The Warrenton Town Charter states that (bold face added):

*§ 4-6. Conflict of interest.*

***No member of the Council shall participate in the vote on any ordinance, resolution, motion, or other proceeding in which he, or any person, firm, or corporation for which he is attorney, officer, director, employee, or agent has a financial interest other than as a minority stockholder of a corporation or as a citizen of the Town. (1964, c. 47)***

The attached examples document the extensive involvement between Mr. Heroux's employer and AWS, demonstrating the major financial contribution that this partnership brings to Mr. Heroux's company.

In light of this clear and compelling conflict of interest in violation of our Town Charter, we the undersigned residents of the Town of Warrenton call on Mr. Heroux to recuse himself from the upcoming Town Council vote on the AWS data center.

**If you agree with this letter, e-mail us at [eric@jumpcode.com](mailto:eric@jumpcode.com) and we will add your name and address to this letter. Additionally, you can contact Mr.**

**Heroux directly at: [jheroux@warrentonva.gov](mailto:jheroux@warrentonva.gov)**

**Distributed By:** Eric and Christina Gagnon, Your Neighbors at 200 Winchester Street

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