

November 2, 2012

To the Editor:

In an age when party affiliation tends to cast black storm clouds over the discourse, it is of great consequence to keep in mind what is and what is not important when electing a representative to represent us in the State House. It is beyond debate that most people believe that our federal and state governments need to improve and need to listen more and fix problems rather than just posturing and barking about them. When electing a state representative, it is actions that are more important than words, promises, or gimmicks. We need and must have a representative who will work for us around the clock, and not worry or vote based upon who ultimately gets the credit or the publicity.

In my tenure as selectman in this great town, I have had the privilege of serving with many thoughtful and dedicated people from different political parties. I have never met nor do I know Mr. Lamb, so I cannot comment on his anticipated devotion to our town. I do know that he has run for political office unsuccessfully before, and since he is running once again, I am sure he is passionate about many issues that directly impact Southborough. I have no track record with Mr. Lamb, so I can only base my impressions of him on campaign literature and written words authored by supporters.

I received a campaign card from Mr. Lamb the other day that, when opened, shockingly played music promising to "Shake, Rattle and Roll" the State House if elected. I am always impressed when people are willing to think outside the box, but the card was remarkable, not because of its atypical, hidden musical surprise (a song, by the way, written depicting specific sexual maneuvers), but its complete lack of any platform he would pursue if elected. Its entire written content was focused on disapproving attacks against Representative Dykema's voting record. I do not know if the music was aimed at an uneducated electorate (if so, the mailings in Southborough were misplaced), or if the music was designed to dumb-down the import of the November 6, 2012 election. I do know that the expenses incurred in such a mailing did nothing to further my knowledge about Mr. Lamb's policies, did nothing to tell me where he stands on any issue, and did nothing to convince me why I should vote for him. The campaign literature did, however, make me deduce that he enjoys Bill Haley and the Comets (or perhaps Big Joe Turner). I commend him for his taste in music, but one's musical preferences do not guide me to one candidate over another.

So while I do not know Mr. Lamb and therefore have no idea of what type of state representative he would make for our town, I do have such a track record with Carolyn Dykema. I have had the honor of working with Carolyn for two years in my capacity as selectman and have witnessed first-hand Carolyn's commitment and dedication to the residents of Southborough. When you spend the amount of time I have recently spent debating the issues and seeking to improve our community for all who reside and work here, it becomes clear very quickly who truly cares about making a difference and putting in the extra effort. I am convinced beyond all doubt that Carolyn has the best interests of Southborough in

mind and that her actions do in fact make a difference. Carolyn is a passionate, effective and consistent advocate for the town of Southborough and someone who truly understands the important issues facing our town. Carolyn has been a representative in the true meaning of that word, representing all of Southborough and all of our residents, and has done so pragmatically, effectively, and without gimmicks. I would urge any undecided voter to base their vote on the important matters of substance and step back from the perils of modern day campaign methods.

John Rooney
Chairman of the Board of Selectmen
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