

Lorene Sandifur

I have never publicly endorsed nor supported a candidate for election to any state office so my writing of this letter is very much out of character. When I was informed that Mike Karickhoff was running for the office of State Representative, District 30, I decided that I could not remain silent on his many merits as a Kokomo City Councilman which more than qualify him for the office of State Representative.

Having attended city council meetings on a regular basis for many months in the recent past, I was privileged to witness Mr. Karickhoff's dedication as he serves the citizens of Kokomo. I use the word "serves" because Mike views himself as a servant and conducts himself accordingly. What I found extremely refreshing was that while a city councilman is considered to be a local politician, Mike always rose above local politics. He voted for what he believed was best for the city of Kokomo and her constituents based on listening to all parties involved and thoroughly doing his "homework" on all issues. Mike took an interest in not only the big issues, but he also displayed a genuine concern for each citizen's concern, no matter that citizen's level of influence.

Mike was very well informed on any proposal that came before the council. He made sure he had all the facts before casting his vote. His professionalism, organization and preparedness epitomize the many hours he invests in his passion to serve all constituents. Mike understands how government functions at all levels and is able to effectively communicate with those of us who may not have the same level of expertise.

Perhaps what impresses me the most about Mike is that he is an honest man who does not speak out of both sides of his mouth. I always knew where he stood and why he took his stance. I never left a council meeting doubting his qualifications as a councilman. To those who attend meetings on a regular basis, he is viewed as a man who knows what he was talking about. His ample intelligence to effectively serve as a State Representative is more than evident given his history as a councilman.

I have moved away from the town that I hold so dear to my heart in order to be closer to my children and grandchildren, but I still care deeply about Kokomo. Kokomo will always be "home" and for that reason, I am hopeful that Mike Karickhoff will be given the opportunity to serve Kokomo at the state level.

Sincerely,
Lorene Sandifur