

# DYER FOR HOUSE 2020 UPDATE

Matt Dyer for State Representative, 66<sup>th</sup> District



## Of the People, By the People

I'm often asked why I decided to run for office. One of the primary reasons I chose to run was because participating in government is necessary if we have any hope of retaining our ability to self-govern.

As a more-than-casual political observer throughout my life, I have witnessed countless conversations, online and off, complaining that "the government" is bad in some way or another and all politicians are corrupt. The particulars of the complaint varied depending on which side of the aisle initiated the complaint, but the ultimate point remained that "the government" could not be trusted. Ever. This complaint seems to have reached a louder, shriller peak currently under the stresses of a failed federal response to the COVID-19 pandemic. We shout and rail at "the government" as if we are watching a football game and "government" was the name of the opponent.

The problem with this narrative is that we *are* the government. We are all tasked in a



*Litchfield Courthouse*

free society with contributing to the rules and regulations that bind us—or augmenting, altering, or eliminating those rules. We are it. To claim that “the government” is not doing its job and then refuse to participate is to abdicate responsibility for social and communal commitment and for self-rule. It’s as empty as yelling at the TV during a football game. In some local elections, the turnout barely passes 30% of eligible voters, despite the fact that state and municipal regulations govern the bulk of our lives. If we desire our government to govern by the people and for the people, it must be made up *of* the people. Getting involved is the only way to fix what so many think is broken. It’s the only way to preserve a future where civilized voices still matter. It’s the only way to protect each other, including those unable to protect themselves. I have seen “the government” and it is us.

In that spirit, I hope you would be willing to donate as little as \$5 to my campaign this year. This small amount, along with your signature, will show the State Elections Commission that I have the support necessary to wage a competitive campaign in order to ensure that every voice matters.



*Paid for by Dyer for House 2020, Kristen Mostowy, Treasurer. Approved by Matt Dyer.*

*Photos by Lindsey Victoria Photography.*

[www.dyerforhouse2020.com](http://www.dyerforhouse2020.com)