

# Community lawyer not the real issue

Editor of The Register Citizen:

Why is Winsted's Mayor McCabe disappointed in the "new direction" the community lawyer's office is taking? It isn't new, it isn't negative, and it certainly is not political. It is the active construction and maintenance of a democracy sustained through citizen empowerment.

What he is seeing is a stream of citizen activity which in most towns is only witnessed during elections. Not in Winsted. Our citizens are learning to remain involved between elections, to keep watch, and to participate in town government. And Mr. McCabe blatantly demeans this citizen involvement by diverting our attention away from the issues and dwelling on the community lawyer.

The community lawyer is not the

issue. The real issue involves the legitimate concerns of citizens. These concerns are not being addressed. When Mr. McCabe refuses to respond to over 1,600 Winsted citizens who want to know the truth, it shouldn't surprise him when their collective voice begins to roar! It is the sounds of this discontent that he hears, not the single voice of the community lawyer.

Linda Condon  
Winchester Center

2/17/92