Municipal Election 2018 Candidate Animal Welfare Survey

Conducted by Windsor/Essex County Humane Society (WECHS)

Amherstburg

Candidate Name
by Position Sought*
**only those candidates who participated in the survey are listed*

Q1: Do you see animal welfare as an issue the municipal government should play a role in?

Q2: Do you support municipal vouchers to assist resident with spaying and neutering their own pet cats with a goal of reducing the future free-roaming cat population?

Q3: Do you support municipal vouchers to assist low-income residents with spaying and neutering their own pet cats with a goal of reducing the future free-roaming cat population?

Q4: Do you support municipal by laws that limit the time that dogs can be outside without supervision?

Q5: Do you support municipal by laws that limit the time dogs can be left outside in extreme weather?

Q6: Do you believe that municipal By laws should set limits on the number of animals a resident can keep?

Q7: Do you believe that municipal by laws should prohibit the sale of dogs and cats, requiring stores to work with shelters and rescues to rehome adoptable animals instead?

Q8: Do you support municipal by laws that restrict the ownership of certain animals?

Q9: Do you support municipal by laws that restrict the ownership of exotic pets?

Q10: Do you support allowing residents in urban areas to keep backyard chickens?

Q11: Do you support municipal by laws allowing the owner of a vehicle used to abandon an animal to be ticketed for abandonment, even if they are not driving the vehicle?

Q12: If municipalities don't restrict cats from being at large, they are not mandated to provide residents with a place to bring stray cats, although many do so voluntarily as a service their residents want. Do you believe that your municipality should provide residents with a place to bring stray cats?

County Candidates Only - Q13: As noted in Q12, many municipalities are not legally mandated to provide animal control services for animals other than dogs. That means, for example, that while your municipal animal control provider would pick up a stray dat bit by a cow on public property, most would not pick up an injured stray cat or raccoon. Do you believe that your Town's animal control provider should be required to pick up sick or injured stray cats?

Q14: Do you support municipal by laws that restrict performances of exotic animals in circuses?

Q15: Do you support municipal by laws that prevent drivers from driving with a dog in the lap?

Q16: Do you support municipal by laws that prohibit residents from causing or permitting distress (including mental distress) to animals?

Q17: Why should resident who care about animals vote for you?

MAYOR

Glenn Swinton

I am an avid responsible pet owner that believes every animal's well being on important but at the same time, the responsibilities are those of the animals owners. I believe we should focus more on building irresponsible pet owners accountable to control the stray pet populations.

COUNCILLOR

Peter Courtney

Animal welfare is important to me and I support the humane treatment of animals. However, I believe that animal welfare is a complex issue and requires a balanced approach to ensure animal welfare. By-laws need to be in place so there is clear guidance for all to know what to do and where to go when they encounter a pet/animal in distress. Animal populations need to be controlled as well as monitored to prevent them from going without the basic support/needs to survive. I hope I have answered this question adequately.

Libby Keenan

I have run a horse farm in rural Amherstburg for thirty years. I have several acres of mature forest which is not dedicated as a release sight for rehabilitated wildlife. I have provided homes for many either stray or adopted cats, dogs and horses over the years. I will not take in any animal I can not afford to care for properly or have the proper shots and be spayed or neutered... I donate financially annually to Wings rehab animal shelter. I have saved many horses from slaughter whom others gave up on giving them homes and careers teaching people to ride and also complete successfully. I do not sell horses, they live out their natural lives here in safety, well loved and cared for.

Lynn Laporte

Donald McArthur

I have two dogs named Maggie and Penny. They are Australian Shepherds and they are smart and playful with oodles of energy. I also have a cat named Skipper.
I love taking long walks with my dogs in the River Canard Valley and along the Greenway trail in Amherstburg. And I love curling up on the couch with my cat nearby.
Taking care of our pets is a great way to teach my daughter Violet about caring for others and taking responsibility.
I hope I win this election, but, if I don't, I know my dogs and my cat will be there when I get home and pick me up when I'm feeling blue.

Mari Renaud

Having an dog is awful lot like having a child. I see the attachment that people have to their pets. I also think that the community would expect animal control.

Tom Sutherland

I have been in the FMB program in Amherstburg for over 4 years and am continue to promote this endeavour.

Lori Wightman

I am the mom to 3 rescue animals, one dog Jersey(recently crossed the rainbow bridge) and two cats, Minou and Kali that came to us from the Humane Society. I have loved animals all my life, always having a pet that was a rescue or a re-home. I find animals benefit us far more than we do them and we owe them the care that they deserve for so selflessly enriching our lives.

Wightman: I am not against urban chickens but I do think there should be a limit and ongoing evaluation once this is a somewhat newer issue coming up for debate.

Responses Comments by Candidate

L. Martin I believe you already know where I stand on this issue as I have spoken to you personally on several occasions. All the best.