



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF COLLIN COUNTY
www.lwvcollin.org

Nonpartisan

VOTERS GUIDE

May 10, 2014, Local Election
Wylie Mayor and City Council

Early voting: April 28 – May 6

Election Day: May 10 – Polls open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

About This Voters Guide

Updated April 15, 2014

This *Voters Guide* is published by the League of Women Voters of Collin County to help citizens prepare to cast an informed vote. The League of Women Voters encourages informed and active participation in government. The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

This guide lists candidates for Wylie Mayor and City Council as shown in the table of contents. It is available online at www.lwvcollin.org, along with a separate guide for Allen Mayor, City Council and ISD. Candidate responses for all races are also available at www.VOTE411.org, including a feature that allows voters to enter an address and review races specific to that address.

Questionnaires were sent to all candidates who will appear on the ballot for the Wylie election, whether or not the race is contested. Candidate replies were subject to a character limit and are printed without editing or verification. If a candidate did not respond by the print deadline, "No response received" is printed. Later responses may appear in VOTE411. Candidates were asked to avoid references to their opponents. Photos are included for candidates who provided them.

This *Voters Guide* is organized by office, with candidates listed in alphabetical order.

To enter your address and see all races for that address visit www.VOTE411.org.



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Qualifications for Voting

To vote, you must be a U.S. citizen, registered to vote, a resident of the county, and at least 18 years old on Election Day. You must not have been declared mentally incapacitated by a court of law. If you have been convicted of a felony, you may register to vote only after you have completed the punishment phase of your conviction, including any terms of incarceration, parole, supervision, or period of probation ordered by the court.

You must register to vote at least 30 days before the election date. The last day to register to vote in the May 10 election is April 10.

Where to Vote

Collin, Rockwall and Dallas County voters may vote at any Rockwall County vote center during early voting and election day. For voting locations and hours, visit www.wylietexas.gov/city_government/city_secretary/elections.php. You may also call the City Secretary's Office at 972-516-6020.

A photo ID is now required to vote in person. See **What to Take to the Polls** on the back page.

League of Women Voters is a Nonpartisan Organization

The LWV never supports or opposes candidates for office or political parties, and any use of the League of Women Voters name in campaign advertising or literature has not been authorized by the League.

Wylie Mayor & City Council

3-year term, elected citywide. Must be at least 18 years old, a qualified voter, and a resident of the city. The City Council does strategic planning, approves annual budget, sets policy, enacts ordinances establishing municipal law, regulates zoning and development and appoints board and commission members.

QUESTIONS

Budget: What are your priorities for the city's budget?

Growth: What challenges will the continuing growth of your city present with respect to open space, commercial development and residential development, including affordable housing? How would you address them?

Homelessness: Homelessness, including teenagers and families with children, continues to be a problem. What should the city do to address this issue?

Water: Since the proposed state water plan emphasizes conserving water supplies, should

your city do more to encourage conservation? If so, what specific measures would you support?

Transportation: Do you see traffic congestion as a problem in your city at this time or in the near future? If so, what would you recommend to improve it?

Health and Safety: What do you see as the primary health and safety concerns in your city? How would you address them?

Other Issues: What are the most important issues you think will come before the City Council in the next few years? What are your views on these issues?

Wylie Mayor Candidates (1):

Eric Hogue – Candidate for Wylie Mayor

No response received by print deadline; later responses may be in VOTE411.

Wylie City Council, Place 5 Candidates (2):

Cheryl L Powell – Candidate for Wylie City Council, Place 5



Contact Information:

powell@clplaw.org
(972) 522-9425

Education: Juris Doctor ~ The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law Masters in Educational Leadership ~ Dallas Baptist University Bachelor of Science ~ Texas State University

Budget: My priorities would include maintaining funding for projects so the city can continue to expand with ease and continuing to work with various city officials to maximize the city's operating budget without increasing the city's tax rate.

Growth: We need to make sure there is still adequate green space and parks for community enjoyment, while developing commercial and residential developments. As the population continues to expand, we will need to increase businesses within the city limits to gain tax revenue.

Homelessness: Work with community leaders to offer educational programs to increase skill-set, credit health and recovery, and assistance with substance abuse.

Water: I feel the city of Wylie does a great job encouraging water conservation. I would continue to support the city's efforts by educating the residents on the importance of water conservation.

Transportation: As the city grows, we need to make sure we are proactive on the city's expanding infrastructure and not reactive.

Health and Safety: It is important that residents are educated on the vastly available options within the community to assist with health and safety.

Other Issues: I think the most important issues that will come before the City Council will address the growing population and how to address the traffic issues that may arise, the continual need of attracting businesses to the area, and ensuring our public safety (fire and police) have the resources needed to be successful.

William Whitney III – Candidate for Wylie City Council, Place 5



Contact Information:

william@whitneysolutions.com
(469) 361-6922

Education: B.S. CIS IT, Management, and Policy certifications

Experience: City of Wylie Library Advisory Board member North American Electric Reliability Corporation Security Training Workgroup Chairman Electric Reliability Council of Texas Security Training Workgroup Co-Chair Information Systems Security Association Treasurer Toastmasters International - Wylie Chapter - Treasurer

Budget: To ensure the taxpayer dollars are appropriated in the manner they expect it to be utilized for providing public services.

Growth: Proper planning and long term brainstorming is key to ensure our city will continue to prosper without negatively affecting our beautiful city. If elected I plan to meet with key resources to ensure we have long term plans that respect open space but still provides the opportunity for businesses and residences to construct.

Homelessness: In today's society homelessness should be a thing of the past. We have the resources and donors to provide all families and individuals with the temporary needs and education to get them back on their feet in a timely manner. I will personally ensure steps are taken to put the homeless in touch with the proper resources to get them back on their feet and work with the city to make sure information is available.

Water: I feel as though Wylie officials do a great job at ensuring we are conserving water supplies and educating the public on the reasons why. I personally feel that the state and federal government need to do more to ensure we have adequate water supplies for the future. There are many technologies available to make this happen. If elected I will work to ensure the state and federal

government hears the voice of Wylie about our water concerns.

Transportation: Our city and general area is growing in population. This population growth is a tough challenge when deciding what roads to expand. There has been a lot of road construction over the last 10 years to help alleviate congestion on our major roadways. At this point I think the city has done a great job in expanding the right areas. There are some areas that need a little work and I would ensure those areas, or any other areas the citizens have concerns about, are brought up to the expectations of the citizens.

Health and Safety: *No response received.*

Other Issues: One of the biggest issues is whether the city will continue to grow or not and how we will react to those changes. We need to ensure there are contingency plans in place for both supporting a population growth and a decline and how we will adjust to it. We also need to ensure we work with the EDC to attract positive entertainment for our youth, great eateries for our residents to choose how they want to eat, and ways to bring our community closer together. Safety of our children and citizens because statistically an increase in population increases crime and we need to ensure we are prepared

Wylie City Council, Place 6 Candidates (2):

David Dahl – Candidate for Wylie City Council, Place 6



Contact Information:
dd4wylie@gmail.com

Education: University Accounting Major. Numerous professional and national trade certifications in Business Management, Finance, Employee Law, including a Contractor Management series from Contractors 2000. Certified Member, Refrigeration Service Engineer's Society. Journeyman, Plumbers & Steamfitters Union.

Experience: 5 yrs member Wylie Planning & Zoning Commission, 1 yr Zoning Board of Adjustments; close involvement with current City Council Members; 8 yrs P & Z Commission in my former home. Built a successful HVAC business. Close work as a vendor to cities and federal agencies. 4-state Field Technician, Lennox Industries; retired from Lennox corporate offices. Served as President and Vice President of our state HVAC Contractor Association. Leadership roles in charitable and non-profit organizations. Wood Badge Trained leader in the Boy Scouts of America for 20 years.

Budget: Much of our infrastructure and major road improvements of the last ten years have been paid by bonding. We must continue to stay fiscally sound to preserve our bond rating. In current budgeting, my priority must be the support of Wylie's great employees. We have award-winning Police, Fire and Rescue; long-term employees in City Administration, Public Works, Parks and Recreation, our Library and all the other departments. We must see that they have the resources to work efficiently and to protect and support our quality of life; then we can leverage our growth in new amenities.

Growth: Wylie is essentially land-locked. We have comparatively little land left for development. We must plan carefully to ensure future development gives maximum value both intrinsically and revenue-wise. We have significant park land reserved and considerable wetlands that can never be developed, as well as NTWD and Corps of Engineers land, to prevent over-building and provide open spaces. P & Z requires planned housing developments retain land for parks and open spaces. Wylie has a large amount of low cost housing. The need for senior citizen housing will increase and should be addressed

Homelessness: Wylie supports the initiatives of Collin County in these areas. I favor continuing the City's practice of making carefully-monitored contributions to Non-profits who provide services to our citizens. I also favor fostering volunteer efforts such as Habitat for Humanity and our local Christian Care Center, which offers short-term help with rent, utilities, food, and clothing. The city can

continue to call attention through its communications to the valuable efforts that are being made.

Water: Wylie has already taken many steps to restrict and limit water use by requiring rain sensors on irrigation systems, enforcing current building codes which require low use fixtures and requirements for proper landscaping. We can continue to enforce the restrictions in place from the North Texas Water District and educate against wasting water.

Transportation: Wylie experienced rapid growth over the last decade. We are catching up on road construction and will still need to continue for a while longer. In my time on the Planning and Zoning Commission we gave approval to a well thought out Thoroughfare Plan, which gives adequate allowance for future growth. As traffic comes through Wylie, we will have in place alternative routes so local residents can still move around. Adjustments and build out will be determined by resources and need. The City Council will need to continue looking ahead.

Health and Safety: Wylie continues to be a safe place to live. Primary threats are from storms and weather. We need to be forward thinking in our planning for natural disasters and educate our people as to what they can do to support our emergency service personnel as well take care of their own needs. With our growth also comes anonymity. We need to foster a greater sense of community. People helping people. As the DFW area grows, we must be prepared to support growth in our

Police Department. They have responded very well in the past and are key to our low crime rates.

Other Issues: We are transitioning as a city from an incredible growth surge to more moderate growth. We'll need to carefully consider the needs of all of Wylie. We'll continue to need to pursue economic growth in order to provide jobs and help with the costs of

the community but make good placement to foster good neighborhoods. I am familiar with our zoning laws and think they will continue to serve us well. We will also face challenges of providing for senior living. I support such development. In all, I will carefully study each issue presented and seek for a strong future along the Wylie Way.

Andres Gonzalez – Candidate for Wylie City Council, Place 6



Contact Information:

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(214) 771-8490

Education: Bachelor of Science in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 1993

Experience: My previous political involvement was as President of Every Person Is Concerned (EPIC) 1997-1998, in the 48th Ward in Chicago, and in that position I was actively involved as a member of the 48th Ward Zoning and Planning Committee under Alderman Mary Ann Smith.

Budget: As a new candidate for Place 6 of the City Council in Wylie I am still learning about the various projects that are being planned. I believe it is too early to comment fully. One area that has been on the minds of residents that is of concern to me and why I have chosen to become involved now is the plan to address traffic flowing into, out of, and through our community.

Growth: As I understand it the city currently has plans for significant portions land development. Several new subdivisions that have been planned have broken ground, and another that was planning an expansion has broken ground as well. My first action will be to see what upcoming projects are on the horizon and what will be in the best interest to help Wylie grow while preserving the things about Wylie that have been attracting people to live here.

Homelessness: I looked at this question with a bit of surprise because I haven't seen this as a problem within our community. I asked around and got similar reactions. I will definitely have to get back with a follow-up when I get elected.

Water: I think we can do more. As a homeowner every year I see the restrictions posted on watering. What I don't see are a lot of other types of outreach encouraging our residents to find ways to reduce water consumption. I think that more can be done to demonstrate the personal financial benefit that homeowners can realize by investing in ways

to cut water usage, and I'd support informational outreach like this.

Transportation: Yes. We have a thriving business development at the intersection of FM 544 and FM 1378, and I personally experience difficulty commuting to and from work. We have to have a plan to address efficient flow of traffic while preserving our community. I grew up in a neighborhood in Chicago that had a great sense of community, but the key problem was that a significant amount of traffic "cut" through my neighborhood using the street on which I lived. At times that traffic was a threat to the fabric of community and at times a benefit to business. The challenge is finding balance.

Health and Safety: Well, I'd like to address this by continuing a bit on the traffic congestion. We have a lot of young, active families in Wylie. Everyday I see more and more people running and cycling in our community. They are also walking to school. And all of this activity is happening on main thoroughfares. I understand that the current city council has already invested in a parks and trails plan, but I am concerned that the plan may have had blinders with respect to thoroughfare planning. I'd like to see us address making pedestrian traffic safer, especially around schools.

Other Issues: Overall managing growth of Wylie by finding a balance. Wylie has a small town feel that invites people with its charm. Wylie seems to sit in the center of travel for several communities, and the growth of

businesses, while positive for our local business development, means more traffic that can erode the sense of community. I believe we need to work harder to maintain that sense

of community while continuing to attract businesses and services that will create opportunities for our residents.

You may bring this *Voters Guide* into the voting booth! In 1995, the Texas law prohibiting use of printed materials, such as this *Voters Guide*, in the polling place was ruled unconstitutional (*Texas Election Code, Section 61.011*)

This *Voters Guide* and guides for Allen Mayor, City Council and ISD are available on the League's website at www.lwvcollin.org and at www.VOTE411.org

Your vote is your voice. Be heard.

What to take to the polls

Texas now requires voters to show an acceptable photo ID at the polls.

The only acceptable photo IDs are:

Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) issued photo IDs

- Driver's license
- Personal identification card
- Concealed handgun license
- Election Identification Certificate

United States government issued photo IDs

- Passport
- Military identification card
- Citizenship certificate or naturalization certificate with photograph

Only the above photo IDs can be accepted at the polls. Other photo IDs including student IDs and employer IDs cannot be accepted.

Additional information about the photo ID requirements:

- ✓ The photo ID needs to be *current or have expired no more than 60 days* before voting (citizenship and naturalization certificates have no expiration date).
- ✓ The *name on the photo ID should match* the voter registration card. If names don't match, a voter may be accepted if names are "substantially similar." If names match, addresses don't need to match. If the names don't match exactly, the voter can be accepted if names are substantially similar; poll workers will look at address, date of birth, and the photo. If names are substantially similar, the

voter will initial a box for similar name when signing in to vote.

- ✓ Voters with a *documented disability* from Social Security or Veterans Affairs can apply for a voter registration certificate exempting them from the photo ID requirement.
- ✓ Voters without acceptable ID can obtain an *Election Identification Certificate (EIC)* from Texas DPS at no cost by providing proof of citizenship and identity and registering to vote at DPS or showing a voter registration card. Requirements for the EIC can be found at <http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/DriverLicense/electionID.htm>. There is no charge for the EIC but the necessary documentation may have a cost.
- ✓ *Photo ID is not required to vote by mail.* Voters may apply for a mail ballot if 65 or older, ill or disabled, or absent from their county during early voting and on Election Day. Note: Photo ID will be required of first time voters if a driver's license or Social Security number was not included with the voter registration application.
- ✓ Voters who do not show an acceptable ID at the polls can vote a *provisional ballot* and have 6 days to show the required photo ID.
- ✓ Those who lack a photo ID because of a religious objection to being photographed or because of a natural disaster declared by the president will be allowed to vote a provisional ballot and complete an affidavit within six days of the election.