

Port Hope

Port Hope Council Candidates



Municipal Elections

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Jamie Ferguson for ward 2 councillor port hope

Give one or more specific things related to the New Nuclear Power Generator proposed for Wesleyville you will want to see happen before the end of your term on council?

There need to be the appropriate studies completed and a clear understanding of what is the ask from the municipality and the community to be a host neighbourhood and what will the positive benefits be

How would you characterize the Port Hope Area Initiative clean up, giving any steps necessary to address concerns you may raise?

The phai file is a very complicated one I think that there is steps in the right direction with the creation of the cac committee as well there still need to be more communication on time line and continued commitment to see the project through

How would you balance the requests of developers with the heritage aspects of existing neighbourhoods and preservation of significant buildings?

There always has to be a respect for our heritage areasand building and new developments should blend with that to be the best possible fit

How would you address the creation of affordable housing, giving three specific items you would introduce during your term on council? How many units would you want to see created by the end of your term?

Affordable housing is a tough one how is affordable housing classed I think that the municipality needs to respect that the county is in charge of socialized housing and the municipality should support that as best they can through the possibility of some surplus land donations the municipality needs to Remove more barriers to developers so the cost of all house comes down and so make it more affordable to everyone

How would you implement the More Homes Built Faster Act locally. giving two examples?

Less red tape from planning faster response times to inquiries and have lands zoned properly through an up to date official plan

What are your views on Strong Mayor powers and their use?

To my understanding strong mayor powers have not been exercised in port hope I think that if there is a good team on council and senior management they should not be required

What specific steps would you take to support local business?

Working with businesses in the community is very important I own a small business and have experienced the red tape and being lost in the bureaucracy that should never happen the municipality is in the customer service business the residents and businesses should have to full support to work through issues and be guided on how to expand and grow there businesses to contribute to a stronger community

What are your plans to support recreational facilities and parks?

Port hope has some great parks and rec facilities but we need to be planning for the future and securing space for future expansions I would like to see a large space set aside for bigger events as our population grows we need a space for larger outdoor concerts and recreation events like rodeos, plowing matches, tractor pulls, monster trucks for example

What is a reasonable municipal tax rate or increase? How would you achieve this, giving specific budget areas or line items?

There need to be a deeper dive done into the budgets I think there is cost saving to be had buy bring some of the services that we hire out back in House and spending less money on consultant we have some wonderful highly qualified staff in house we need to support them so that they can use there credentials

What is a reasonable increase to the Port Hope Police Service budget? Give specific services or line items you would adjust to reach this goal?

Policing is a tough one we have a great police force in ward one and ward two
Policing is getting more complicated every year in an ever changing environment I feel that the local police force is becoming unaffordable to our budget it is the single most expensive line item
We are in a unique position where we are geographically located we have the Durham regional police to the west the Peterborough Lakefield police to the north opp to east and Cobourg police beyond that
I think there is a good opportunity to be doing a ten year policing contract. Perhaps port hope would be the best fit but I do not agree with single sourcing our biggest operating expense
Just because something has always been done that way it doesn't mean it is the best way we need to be looking for savings

Name four new initiatives you plan to implement over your term to improve the quality of life for everyone in the municipality?

Better communication from council to the community
Clear reports to the community what your tax dollars are been spent on
Better customer service from staff
Working to slow the rate of tax increases

How are you uniquely qualified to be elected to council that no one else can provide, but also giving at least one guilty pleasure?

I am the only candidate that is directly involved in agriculture, agri business and agri tourism I am a small business ownerin the community who employs many local residents I recently retired from the fire department in port hope as well I have a clear understanding of the community's needs from emergency services I am also a licensed electrician who worked in port hope for 10 year giving me a clear understanding of the trades

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