

Municipal Governance Values/Focus by Party Affiliation

Do you think party affiliation of your town council members doesn't matter? Think again!

| Conservative Focus | Liberal Focus |
|---|---|
| Lower Taxes and frugality with funds – “pick their battles” – good at saying “NO” | Raise Taxes to meet spending requirements – little or no frugality with funds – “everything is important to spend money on” – always say “YES” |
| Focus on well-being and services to residential back streets and residents of town | Focus on Main Street and business owners (who are mainly from out of town) |
| Have limited events to attract out of towners, recreation, and tourism | Main focus is on events to attract out of towners, recreation, and tourism |
| Not focused on sustainable activities such as strict zoning, lighting, easements, aesthetic items | Focused on sustainable activities such as strict zoning, lighting, easements, aesthetic items |
| Focused on basic sewer, water, and electrical infrastructure | Not focused on basic sewer, water, and electrical infrastructure due to focus on other things |
| Policing is a priority | Policing is not necessarily a priority |
| Equality of opportunity and color blindness (no bias) are core values | Diversity, inclusion, and equity (equality of outcome) are core values |
| Limited or less ordinances, especially pertaining to property rights (zoning) | More ordinances, especially pertaining to property rights (zoning) |
| Do not favor COVID mask and/or vaccine mandates for businesses | Favor COVID mask and/or vaccine mandates for businesses |
| Do not favor CATBUS expansion into Walhalla based on demographics of those using CATBUS – possible increased crime, homeless population | Favor CATBUS expansion into Walhalla so that “the poor and elderly have transportation opportunities too” |
| Favor relaxed building codes and enforcement – personal responsibility and freedom important for businesses | Favor strict building codes and enforcement – regulation of businesses required and desired |
| Want to maintain town “culture” status quo – that is, maintain town culture as a local and rural one | Want to globalize and diversify town culture and bring in outside influences and cultures while viewing local culture as “backwards”. |
| Opposed to increased presence of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism advertising budget similar to the one which City of Seneca has with Edward Publishing | Favors increased presence of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism advertising budget similar to the one which City of Seneca has with Edward Publishing |
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