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Q1 Nestlé is permitted to take 3.6 million litres of water per day in Aberfoyle. The Staff Report to the Committee of the Whole on November 7, 2016 was explicit that a new municipal well “when it is developed, has the potential to conflict with Nestlé's water taking” (p. 7) (see report here). As had been previously noted by staff and confirmed in the City's Tier 3 Risk Assessment, the report went on to note that “there are limits to the available groundwater to satisfy Guelph’s future water supply needs,” and that “As such, future renewals of industrial water takings in the area should be weighed against the broader needs of the community” (p. 7). If elected will you “Support a Council resolution to oppose the renewal of Nestle's permit to take water in Aberfoyle”?

Yes

Q2 Clean drinking water and breathable fresh air are necessary to sustain life. The Clair-Maltby area, for which development planning is currently underway, is the last large greenfield area within the city and thus requires very careful planning. Furthermore, because clean water and fresh air are vital to everyone, the protection of the Paris-Galt Moraine is of vital importance to all the citizens of Guelph and surrounding communities. Thus, because Guelph is a groundwater-dependent community, we must protect the groundwater recharge function and quality as well as the unique natural and cultural heritage features of the Clair-Maltby area. Guelph City Council must ensure the sensitive development of Clair-Maltby. If elected will you “Set population density at a maximum of 12,050 for Clair-Maltby”?

Other (please specify):

This is an oversimplification of the issues. I will support sustainable development.

Q3 If elected will you “Protect the natural water recharge functions of moraine in Clair-Maltby development”?

Yes

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Q4 If elected will you “Provide a full-range and size of parks as mandated by the Official Plan — urban squares, neighbourhood, community and regional parks for Clair-Maltby development”?

Yes

Q5 If elected will you “Focus on low-carbon transportation infrastructure to all amenities and residences in Clair-Maltby development”?

Yes,

Other (please specify):

This question is unclear, it could suggest a wide range of solutions - some I would support, some that may not be feasible. Is this intended to reference Active Transportation infrastructure? the answer to that is ... of course.

Q6 If elected will you “Restore, protect and maintain the integrity of the Natural Heritage System in the Clair-Maltby area including the tree canopy and the moraine topography”?

Other (please specify):

Again - a broad question with complex overtones far more deserving than a simple yes / no answer. The general intent of the question is YES however anyone who is serious about this issue will need to balance all aspects of development in order to enhance the natural heritage systems while accommodating growth. We all recognize that the natural topography of the moraine is valuable for so many reasons. Clearly I don't support clear-cutting and terraforming Clair Maltby but to suggest there will be no tree loss or grading is simply naive. The big question is how can we improve and enhance the natural ecosystem as part of the development of the area. These need not be mutually exclusive.

Q7 If elected will you “Protect the heritage buildings and landscapes identified in the Clair-Maltby area”?

Other (please specify):

I support the protection of both heritage buildings and heritage landscapes. I do not know the complete inventory of ALL heritage buildings and landscapes referenced in this question. Occasionally a trade off can be justified between a restored ecosystem at the expense of a compromised or marginal natural feature. Its pretty hard to support a cart-blanch statement such as this and maintain an open mind regarding creative solutions.

Q8 If elected will you “Consult on Clair-Maltby development with all groups, organizations and individuals who have an interest in city-building”?

Other (please specify):

I am fully supportive of a complete and comprehensive public consultation process for ANY mayor land use project.

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Q9 If elected will you "Obtain free, prior and informed consent from the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation, as per the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples before initiating Phase 3 development activities for Clair-Maltby"?

Other (please specify):

Of course we must meet the obligations and intent of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada with regards to free, prior and informed consent. Having said that I am not familiar with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as it relates to this property, the legal implications of indigenous consent with regards to zoning privately held non-indigenous property (particularly the right of veto) and whether or not Clair Maltby meets the criteria of "projects and developments which directly affects the lives and cultures of indigenous peoples."

Q10 The City, the Grand River Conservation Authority and the Province of Ontario have, over five decades, invested millions of dollars to acquire the land needed to form the largest and most complete urban stream corridor nature conservancy in Ontario. Now with land acquisition one property away from being complete, and with a Masterplan for the nature reserve adopted in principle, the City and the GRCA propose the Hanlon Creek Land Acquisition Project be abandoned and portions of the conservation-zoned land already purchased be declared surplus and sold to developers. If elected will you "Fulfill the commitment to establish the Hanlon Creek Conservancy and Nature Reserve and not consider any sale of possible surplus land until the nature reserve is fully established and functioning"?

Other (please specify):

As a member of the GRCA for two terms I am intimately familiar with the land acquisition and disposition policies and guiding principles as they relate to the Hanlon Creek Nature Reserve. In addition to the City not having jurisdiction over these decisions, the GRCA has a clear mandate to fulfill the commitment to establish the Hanlon Creek Conservancy and Nature Reserve.

Q11 The Dolime Quarry in Guelph-Eramosa as been extracting aggregate for over 150 years, pumping out groundwater by the millions of litres per day and blasting deep into the layers of rock that the protect aquifer -- and therefore much of Guelph's drinking water -- from surface water contamination. In 2008, the Ontario Geological Society discovered that excavation at the Dolime quarry had breached the protective layer of the aquifer. The City of Guelph "has long maintained that excavation and water-taking at the Dolime quarry has the potential to impact the quality and quantity of Guelph's municipal water supply system," and is now in a formal mediation process on this issue with the quarry owner, the Ministry of the Environment, and the Ministry of Natural Resources. If elected, will you work to "bring an end to aggregate extraction at the Dolime quarry, and to ensure the highest quality mitigation of the breach and of other damage already done, with expenses covered by the quarry's owner rather than Guelph ratepayers"?

Yes,

Other (please specify):

In collaborating with the owner of the quarry on various groundwater research projects relating to the quarry we are ALREADY sharing in the cost of bringing an end to aggregate extraction at the Dolime quarry. I believe those responsible for damage should foot the cost of repair and remediation and in no way should the solution be at the ratepayers expense. Having said that, in issues of this complexity it is an oversimplification to suggest a unidimensional solution or outcome.

Candidates Position on Grand Agenda for Groundwater Action

Q12 This region's growth and urban development is a potential threat to some water resources. Urbanization and human activities are impacting the region's rivers, wetlands and underground reservoirs (called aquifers), and can impact both the quality and quantity of water available to local communities, industry, and plants and animals. If elected, will you "Support a Council resolution to include public lands of Guelph's urban river corridor in an expanded Bluebelt"?

Yes

Q13 Please provide contact information

Candidate Name	Mike Salisbury
Ward (if candidate for council)	4
Email Address	mike@ward4guelph.ca
Phone Number	5199931441
