

WINDY CITY TIMES CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Aldermanic races

Return responses by fax (773-871-7609), regular mail (Windy City Times, c/o Andrew Davis, 5315 N. Clark, #192, Chicago, Ill., 60640) or e-mail (Andrew@windycitymediagroup.com). Call 773-871-7610, ext. 201, if questions arise.

DEADLINE: Friday, Jan. 9, 2015, by 5 p.m. LATE RESPONSES WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

Please feel free to use additional paper as needed.

YOUR NAME: Pat Dowell INCUMBENT? YES/NO
OFFICE SOUGHT: Alderman WARD (if appropriate): 3rd Ward

1) Do you have or would you install a written policy in your office regarding sexual orientation and gender identity discrimination? Yes

2) Have you started or would you start sensitivity training for your staff members regarding LGBT-related issues? No, our staff is already aware of LGBT related issues.

3) Have you taken or would you take any steps to further HIV/AIDS treatment and education programs? If so, what are those measures? Supported increased funding through city budget process. Work with

4) What is your position on abortion as it pertains to the law?

I am pro-choice.

5) What is your position regarding funding for HIV/AIDS treatment and education?

Public dollars should be allocated to fund HIV/AIDS treatment + education. CPS should provide HIV/AIDS education in our schools.

6) Do you favor marriage equality (marriage between two people of the same gender)? No, but the law is the law and I will uphold the law.

7) Do you favor hate-crimes legislation that increases penalties for crimes committed based on the sexual orientation or gender identity of the person attacked? Yes

8) Do you believe LGBTs should become foster parents if they are qualified? Yes

9) Do you believe LGBTs have the right to adopt children if they are qualified? Yes

10) Would you keep committees such as the City of Chicago Commission on Human Relations' Advisory Council on LGBT Issues? Yes, depending on solvency of city budget + our overall finances.

11) What are your thoughts on a school that would be designed specifically for LGBT students, much like the Harvey Milk School in New York City?

I do not support the establishment of a school specifically designated for LGBT students. This type of segregation harkens back to pre-civil rights days when blacks were designated to all black schools

12) Would you advocate for mandatory anti-bullying policies/training in Chicago public schools?

Yes

13) Would you advocate for mandatory LGBT-inclusive history education in Chicago public schools starting in middle school? No

14) Would you advocate for mandatory comprehensive, LGBT-inclusive and age-appropriate sex education in Chicago public schools starting in middle school? Yes

15) What would you recommend to have a better relationship between police and the citizens they serve, including people of color and the transgender community?

The police force must be reflective of the demographics of the city + police must be trained on how to work with + respect different demographics.

16) If you are an incumbent, did you vote for the recent increase in the city's minimum wage and, if a challenger, would you have? Also, what do you think is the ideal minimum wage for the city of Chicago?

I supported and voted for the ordinance raising the minimum wage to \$13/hour phased in over 5 years.

17) How do you propose to handle the crime rate in Chicago, especially in minority neighborhoods? pass sensible gun legislation at the state level,

increase job opportunities at the local level, deploy more police to high crime areas and make schools more relevant to today's society.

18) What do you feel is the biggest problem facing your ward? How do you propose to tackle that problem?

lack of jobs. Work diligently to promote development of housing, retail, commercial, recreational, educational projects in ward which creates construction + permanent job opportunities for my constituents.

19) Some studies show that 40 percent of homeless youth are LGBTQ. What would you do to provide more resources for prevention, education and services for the entire homeless youth population? I am a supporter and advocate for Teen Living

Program supporting them with city funding and also promoting their expansion within the 3rd Ward.

20) New York City eliminated barriers to transgender people changing their birth certificates. They just need a letter from a doctor to do so. Would you support this for Chicago? No.

21) Are any members of your current staff—either campaign or general office personnel—openly LGBT? No

22) Please list any and all experience you have on LGBT-related issues.

Support activities of Affinity Community Services

23) What do you feel is the biggest problem facing the LGBT community today?

Discrimination regarding sexual orientation.