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Candidate Name: George Cabral
Municipality: Springwater
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1. Water is a finite resource. Do you feel there is a need to protect water, wetlands and recharge areas from development, aggregate extraction and other intrusive activities in your municipality? If so, how will you achieve this?

ANSWER

Absolutely! Water, particularly in this area is considered by some scientists to be some of the purest in the world, as pristine as glacier ice. Putting an aquifer that hundreds of thousands, if not millions of people, rely on under stress through the taking of millions and millions of litres of water daily is simply wrong. The Alliston Aquifer stretches from Tiny township all the way to Highway 9 and services the population, both rural and urban, with drinking water. Our drinking water sources should be protected at all costs, and commercial interests should never trump the protection of this life sustaining resource. Here in Springwater township alone there are more than 10 aggregate pit operations, and one might reasonably expect a similar number in each of our neighbouring municipalities. I personally regularly attend the artisan well on CR27 at Flos Rd 10 for our coffee and cooking water supplies. Do we need another? I would respectfully submit that my answer is no, I would not support another aggregate operation, either as an elected official or as a private individual.

2. Development charges never fully cover the cost of new development. Will you make sure that all costs that should be paid by development charges under existing legislation are covered? When considering an application, on what basis will you decide whether a development is a net benefit for the community?

ANSWER

I believe all development charges under current legislation must be covered and paid as part of the approval process. The downside is that development charges fall far short in recovering the actual costs. In considering an application, net benefit to the community is a key

component. These net benefits may be localized within the development, but depending on the nature of the development, may also be much wider in scope thereby providing a greater benefit to the larger community foot print. There must exist a very strong and compelling reason, readily understood and identified, that would provide enhanced net benefit to our community in order that ANY concession be even considered. At the end of the day, developers want and need to see a return on their investment, however municipal government has an obligation to it's residents to provide the balance and direction as to growth.

3. Do you support/oppose expansion of the Greenbelt into Simcoe County? In either case, please explain why.

ANSWER

I support the expansion of the Greenbelt into Simcoe County. It is critical to protect farmland, water resources, and our open spaces. Here in Springwater township, agricultural land is very productive and continues to play a key role in making our community successful. Once gone and developed, these lands cannot be replaced and what is left is often inadequate for future generations. Putting some assurances in place now will provide some sense of comfort for us and future generations.

4. Simcoe County Council chose a county forest in Springwater – zoned Agricultural – as the site for a (needed) waste handling facility, the Environmental Resource Recovery Centre. Springwater Township objected, pointing out that this is an industrial use and there are suitable properties zoned Industrial. What is your view?

ANSWER

I find it unsettling that Simcoe County would find it acceptable to identify a site for it's waste handling facility within an area zoned as agricultural. It seems counter productive that one level of municipal government would over ride another's zoning considerations when there exists properly zoned industrial areas conducive to the requirements of the waste handling facility. While we all understand the need for, and benefits of, I've often wondered why dumps, waste handling facilities, and transfer stations are not developed at the epicenter of a large tract of industrially zoned land. As a employee, one might not mind working near a waste facility, but as a resident it can quite easily become intolerable.

5. Since 1924, the Ontario Tree Seed Facility in Angus performed a vital task for the whole province of coordinating seed collection from 37 zones across the province to ensure seedlings are returned to grow in the zone to which they are uniquely suited. The Progressive Conservative

government is reviewing the closing ordered by the Liberals. What is your opinion on this matter?

ANSWER

This one is simple, especially as a former Scouts Canada leader who has planted his share of seedlings. The Ontario Tree Seed Facility in Angus should be maintained and continue in operation. In the event that closure be considered again in the future, part of that process should be undertaken to relocate the facility to another suitable location whereby the operation could be continued.

6. If elected, what are your top three priorities?

ANSWER

Ensure that tax dollars are working hard every day to deliver measurable services and value that our residents want, need and deserve. In particular, guiding costs as they pertain to new infrastructure and development.

Work hard with the Elmvale BIA (after all they're the biggest stakeholders) to revitalize the Village of Elmvale's downtown to encourage commerce, create additional activities, events and vibrant social opportunities for our residents and visitors alike. I don't mind rolling up my sleeves to get things done, working on opportunities rather than roadblocks.

Focus on community well being by working pro-actively with our police partners and engaging our community in order to enhance and improve safety of our residents. Work to provide a wider opportunity for community involvement in organized events, activities, both seasonal and cultural.