



## 2021 ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL **CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE**

**Please return by: February 19, 2021**

You may return completed questionnaires to: [dlacomb@tmaillinois.org](mailto:dlacomb@tmaillinois.org)

# 2021 ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Running for: ☒ Mayor/Village President ☐ Trustee/Alderman

Municipality: City of Waukegan

Ann Taylor

847-602-1896

First & Last Name

Campaign Phone

1146 Waukegan Rd, #309

Campaign Address

Campaign Fax

Waukegan

IL

60085

Ann@AnnTaylorForWaukegan.com

City

State

Zip

Campaign Email

List any local manufacturers who are supporting your candidacy:

Marc McCracken

Name

P.S. Greetings, Inc.

Company

Terence Coleman Jr.

Name

Technova

Company

Ed Magiera

Name

ELM Products Corp.

Company

**(Please provide a 1-page bio with this questionnaire)**

## QUESTIONS

### TAXATION

Despite the significant challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, U.S. manufacturing continues to thrive in the global marketplace, especially here in Illinois. The Chicago metropolitan area contains five out of the 10 most concentrated manufacturing zip codes in America.

But external factors continue to place Illinois manufacturers in a precarious position. In Illinois, we pay some of the highest sales, property and income taxes in the United States. In a global economy, Illinois-based manufacturers compete nationally and internationally for work.

Tax demands, in addition to business expenses, may determine whether bids are won or lost. Losing bids risk good-paying jobs and the generous economic benefits resulting from Illinois-based manufacturing.

Do you support/oppose allowing local governments to abate all or a portion of their property tax for small manufacturers?

☒ Support

☐ Oppose

Do you support/oppose freezing the municipal tax levy at its current amount so the tax rate can start to come down and property owners can begin to see much needed tax relief?      ☒ Support      ☐ Oppose

Do you support/oppose creating a tax exemption for energy used in the manufacturing process?      ☒ Support      ☐ Oppose

Do you support/oppose adding purchases of production-related, tangible personal property to manufacturing machinery and equipment exempted from sales tax?      ☒ Support      ☐ Oppose

### MINIMUM WAGE

Governor Pritzker signed a massive minimum wage increase into law in 2019 that will nearly double the minimum wage in Illinois over the next few years. The latest increase to \$11/hour kicked in on Jan. 1, 2021 and will increase \$1/hour each year until it reaches \$15/hour by 2025. Such a drastic minimum wage increase will surge costs for Illinois employers and lead to layoffs and fewer opportunities for young people and less-skilled workers.

Do you support/oppose the phase in of the state minimum wage to \$15/hour by 2025?      ☐ Support      ☒ Oppose

Would you encourage legislators to support/oppose amending the law to create a regional implementation plan where areas with a higher cost of living (ie. Chicago) would face a higher minimum wage than suburban or downstate regions?      ☒ Support      ☐ Oppose

Do you support/oppose a lower minimum wage (training wage) for teenagers who work less than 650 hours/year?      ☒ Support      ☐ Oppose

### REGULATION

Manufacturing in the United States has changed, becoming more precise and higher value thanks to improved technology and cloud-based manufacturing. We are leading the way with performance and technological advances resulting in high-paying, high-performance jobs for skilled American workers.

Overly burdensome regulations at the federal, state and local levels stifle innovation, invade a company's culture, impact its productivity and, inevitably, thwart its bottom line. Employers already understand their employees' safety and happiness are crucial to their company's success and reason enough for investment. That's why nearly all TMA employers already offer vacation and sick days, employee training, and commonly offer salaries starting at 25 percent above the impending minimum wage.

Manufacturing operations often require special needs that don't fit perfectly into municipal zoning classifications. Do you support/oppose providing flexibility through variances to allow manufacturing companies to locate or expand in your community?      ☒ Support      ☐ Oppose

If elected, would you support/oppose waiving or reducing tap-on fees and/or providing other      ☒ Support      ☐ Oppose

incentives to encourage manufacturers to build new facilities in your municipality?

The COVID-19 pandemic has placed enormous strains on manufacturers, who have faced significant interference from the State of Illinois while trying to provide essential products our society needs. Our manufacturing facilities are already among the safest and healthiest workplaces with employee health and safety the top priority. Do you support/oppose the Illinois mandatory lockdowns that have limited commerce here while manufacturers in surrounding states prosper?

☐ Support

☒ Oppose

**GENERAL** (Please answer each question in 150 words or less – feel free to provide answers on a separate sheet)

---

**Why are you running for office?**

It's time we brought Waukegan back. As an independent leader, I will work with everyone willing to collaborate on a better future for our city. We will work together to make our community stronger, somewhere people want to come to live, work, and raise their children. We will clean up our city, get drugs and illegal guns off our streets, keep our families and neighborhoods safe, and restore Waukegan as the heart of Lake County.

---

**What do you hope to accomplish if you are elected?**

My agenda is straightforward. I want to restore Waukegan as the heart of Lake County. Waukegan used to be a thriving community, but today it is struggling and most of our problems come down to poor leadership. We are overtaxed and we have rampant corruption. I'm running to stop incumbent Mayor Sam Cunningham's tax hikes, end patronage hiring and corruption, and ensure that the city government treats every Waukeganite with dignity and respect.

---

**Why should a manufacture support your candidacy?**

I am a successful small business owner. Our family company Taylor Enterprises provides consulting for the medical device industry. We specialize in compliance with FDA regulations including the selection of statistically valid statistical techniques and valid statistical rationales for sampling plans. Nearly all of our work ends up on the floor of manufacturers both locally, throughout the state, the nation and worldwide.

Thank you for taking time to respond to our query. We will share your responses with TMA membership. Thank you for your interest in Illinois manufacturing and our industry's pertinent future in your community.

  
Candidate Signature

2/19/21

Date

### ANN TAYLOR BIOGRAPHY

Ann immigrated to Waukegan as a young child from Liverpool, England. Raised in our wonderful community, she watched our city go from the heart of Lake County to what it is today—abandoned buildings, rampant crime, and an exodus of families to neighboring towns. Ann knows how wonderful Waukeganites are because she's been one nearly her entire life, and she knows that together we can do better.

Waukegan runs deep in her family. Her parents' first home was a basement apartment off Yorkhouse Road in Waukegan. Ann's father's first job was in Waukegan at Firestone on Route 41. He later worked for Sears in downtown Waukegan in the automotive department, and then worked for Metropolitan Life Insurance on Grand Avenue. Ann's mother was a hard-working employee at the Waukegan J.C. Penny on Genesee Street and later at Lakehurst Mall.

Like many Waukeganites, Ann was the first in her family to graduate from college. Her parents didn't have the money to pay for her schooling, so they sold the family home and moved into a mobile home in a trailer park and Ann took out additional student loans. In college, Ann met her husband, Wayne, and they have been happily married since 1981. They have 2 grown daughters.

Ann Taylor has represented Waukegan's 9<sup>th</sup> Ward since 2015, but she isn't a politician. Ann never aspired to run for office. When she first ran for alderman in 2015, she wasn't a well-versed public speaker and didn't enjoy the limelight, rather she was just a very active member of our community. When Ann realized that there would not be a qualified, independent candidate to represent her community, she decided to run for alderman.

As Alderman for the 9<sup>th</sup> Ward, which covers western and southwestern Waukegan, Ann has been Waukegan's most independent leader. As a staunch believer in fiscal responsibility, Ann has voted against every tax increase because she firmly believes that Waukegan cannot afford to keep putting more debt on the back of Waukegan's hardworking taxpayers. Ann has been at the forefront of supporting local businesses, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. She has worked with local, state, and federal agencies to ensure that Waukegan's employers can survive during these difficult times. And Ann has been working with concerned community groups and local businesses to stop EtO pollution and to ensure that Lake Michigan stays clean for generations to come.

As an independent leader, Ann will work with everyone willing to collaborate on a better future for our city. She will work to make our community strong, somewhere people want to come to live, work

and raise their children. She will clean up our city, get drugs and illegal guns off our streets, keep our neighborhoods safe and restore Waukegan as the heart of Lake County.

Outside of serving as Alderman, Ann is the President of Taylor Enterprises which serves some of the largest medical device companies in the world. She is a past board member of the Genesee Theatre and United Way Women Leadership Council; she is a current member of Women United, a volunteer for Waukegan Main Street; a supporter of Waukegan Police Animal Control, the Ray Bradbury Experience Museum, and the Three Brothers Theatre; PTO President of Oak Grove School, Past Treasurer of the Illinois Dental Hygienist Association; and a founding member of the Lake County Dental Hygienist Society.