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## VOTERS GUIDE

**Nonpartisan**

NOVEMBER 3, 2020, GENERAL ELECTION

MURPHY CITY COUNCIL

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Early voting: October 13-30

Election Day Polls: November 3 – 7 am to 7 pm

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### ABOUT THIS VOTERS GUIDE

This Voters Guide is published by the League of Women Voters of Collin County to help citizens prepare to cast an informed vote. The League of Women Voters encourages informed and active participation in government. The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

This guide is available online at [www.LWVCollin.org](http://www.LWVCollin.org), along with guides for other offices that include all or part of Collin County. Candidate responses for all races are also available at [www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org), where you can enter an address and view a personalized ballot with races specific to that address.

Questionnaires were sent to all candidates for each office, whether or not the race is contested. Candidate replies were subject to a character limit and are printed without editing or verification. If a candidate did not respond by the deadline, "No response received" is printed. Candidates were asked to avoid references to their opponents. Photos are included for candidates who provided them.

This Voters Guide is organized by office sought, with candidates listed in alphabetical order.

### Table of Contents

Murphy Mayor	2
Murphy City Council, Place 3	3
Murphy City Council, Place 5	5

<p>League of Women Voters is a Nonpartisan Organization The LWV never supports or opposes candidates for office or political parties, and any use of the League of Women Voters name in campaign advertising or literature has not been authorized by the League.</p>
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**Murphy Mayor and City Council**

3-year term, elected citywide. Must be at least 18 years old, a United States citizen, a qualified voter, and a resident of the city. The City Council establishes city policy through ordinances and resolutions.

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**Questions**

**Growth:** Collin County is one of the fastest growing counties in the state. What should the City Council do, if anything, to address population growth?

**Economy:** Should the City Council try to attract more businesses? Why or why not?

**Finance:** What would you like to change, if anything, about the city budget and taxation?

**Trust:** How will you work with residents to earn their trust in city government?

**Services:** What changes should be made, if any, to city services? What would it take to make these changes?

**Other issues:** What other important issues are facing the City Council, and how would you address them?

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**Scott Bradley  
Murphy Mayor  
Uncontested**

No response received

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**Andrew Chase**  
**Murphy City Council, Place 3**



**Education:** I graduated from Jesuit Dallas Preparatory School and received a BA and MA from UNT with Political Science as my major and English as my minor.

**Experience:** I served as President of my local teacher association for 4 terms and was a delegate to several state and national conventions. I served 2 terms on the Murphy Board of Adjustments and currently a 3rd term on the Murphy Ethics Commission.

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**Growth:** It is obvious that the city of Murphy is land locked. If the city wants to increase its tax base related to population, maybe it should not restrict family residences to single family housing. This may be the time for it to consider a limited number of two story condos in the remaining space that is still available.

**Economy:** New businesses also provide more tax revenue. Do we really need another pizza parlor, or fast food chicken place, or sandwich shop? More diverse businesses such as a movie theater, bowling alley, office supply store or kids' play center would be welcomed (when conditions allow). More retail and entertainment variety would really help the city meet its citizens' needs.

**Finance:** It is my understanding that the budget is only reached after careful and thorough planning. I have no qualms with the taxation format although a tax break for seniors would be beneficial.

**Trust:** Promoting citizen participate in government is a good way to build trust. Making council meetings and town halls available to the public both in person and online is important. Providing an avenue for citizens to give their input and concerns via face to face town halls, phone calls, emails, online postings are all ways to ensure their voices are heard. With the City's website, information is made transparent to its citizens. With the upcoming election, I hope to engage with the Murphy citizens via my Facebook Page, meeting with diverse groups and attending Q&A events (where possible).

**Services:** The first thing I would like to do is thank our first responders for a job well done. The fire fighters, police and healthcare workers have consistently performed admirably for the citizens and should be supported at every opportunity. Several other areas of service could be improved. Bulk pickup should really be provided more frequently than once or twice a year. There are several streets that are woefully lacking in even minimal repair. Better flood control is

also needed is some locations. If this results in some increase in taxes, it might need to be considered.

**Other issues:** Traffic congestion needs relief. Crossing major thoroughfares from side streets without signal lights needs to be addressed along with lack of street lighting in portions of the city. A more robust library that could provide not only access to books but also multi-media resources and educational programs could richly serve the residents both young and old. It should not only offer books but copying facilities, media checkout, internet access, etc. More free nighttime public facilities such as lighted tennis, baseball and basketball courts would also be a benefit.

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**Betty Nichols Spraggins**  
**Murphy City Council, Place 3**



**Education:** Attended University of Southern California - Marshall School of Business. Graduated Sunset High School in Dallas.

**Experience:** Murphy City Council 2013-2019, Murphy Boards starting 2009, Councils/Boards for Mexia, Farmersville, and Dallas, Murphy Chamber Ambassador, Owner of multiple businesses, President of Dallas Suicide and Prevention, Dallas Fire Department Board, etc.

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**YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/v/uGXzhGbhPdc>

**Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/p/CFJJCHhghyZ/?igshid=dqb2djf6h8jf>

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**Growth:** My 2 previous terms on Murphy City Council were spent ensuring the highest quality building standards along with the lowest density possible for the City of Murphy. The remaining space for residential growth in Murphy is limited, as is the commercial space; therefore the utmost care should be taken to maintain the highest standards in residential and commercial building.

**Economy:** As the 2018 Murphy Chamber of Commerce's Chairman's Award winner I was recognized in part for being an ambassador to businesses. The City Council should never be complacent in the pursuit of high quality and sales tax revenue producing businesses. The stronger our sales economy becomes the lower property taxes for our residents remain, while providing some of the best city services in Texas.

**Finance:** Serving on the Council which hired the current City Manager, we reformed the culture at City Hall. I am confident that we have the best practices and staff in the state of Texas, executing our budget at the lowest levels of responsible taxation.

**Trust:** Often, when citizens must interact with their government it is under stressful circumstances. It is rare that people utilize government on their best days. What builds trust for our residents is 3 core principles in government - Transparency, Clarity, and Consistency. Sunshine is the best disinfectant, patience in the explanation of the city's codes, and objective fairness in their application is how we maintain trust in the City of Murphy. We must be the "Voice of the People." I was awarded "Best Council Member" by the Murphy Monitor while previously in office.

**Services:** We encourage all citizens to become engaged and alert Council members to services they wish for and identifying ones that may be not fulfilling their particular needs. Effective communication between residents, Council, and city staff is what is required for solutions that enhance our community.

**Other Issues:** The most serious issue facing our local government is the stripping of local control by the state government in various ways. They have eroded our taxation flexibility, damaged the city's ability to demand the highest commercial building materials, and endeavor this legislative session to put localities at a disadvantage in lobbying together for the interests of local taxpayers.

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**Sarah Fincanon  
Murphy City Council, Place 5  
Uncontested**

No response received

You may bring this *Voters Guide* into the voting booth! In 1995, the Texas law prohibiting use of printed materials, such as this *Voters Guide*, in the polling place was ruled unconstitutional (*Texas Election Code, Section 61.011*)

**Your vote is your voice. Be heard.**