

Calling All Pets! Become a PAWlitical Leader

Does your pet have leadership skills?

Salt Lake County Animal Services and Mayor Ben McAdams are excited to announce the first PAWlitical Pet Election. Non-human residents of Salt Lake County are encouraged to run for Mayor. The election for the prestigious position of Salt Lake County PAWlitical Mayor is for a 2-year term of office. While PAWlitical Pets must be Salt Lake County residents, voters can live anywhere.

This PAWlitical Election is a fundraiser sponsored by Salt Lake County Animal Services. It will be held every two years. The funds raised from this event will go to our Injured Animal Fund. We provide care for hundreds of injured and sick animals every year. This will benefit them greatly!

Salt Lake County PAWlitical Pet Filing Qualifications

- Salt Lake County pet resident (all cities within Salt Lake County: Alta, Bluffdale, Cottonwood Heights, Draper, Herriman, Holladay, Midvale, Murray, Riverton, Salt Lake City, Sandy, South Jordan, South Salt Lake, Taylorsville, unincorporated Salt Lake, West Jordan, West Valley City)
- Licensed (Proof needed if applicable. If your pet is not licensed we can help you get that done.)
- Fully vaccinated (proof needed if applicable)
- Spayed/Neutered
- Provide a clear photo (4 x 6) of your PAWlitical Candidate. Digital only (jpeg, png, gif) and emailed to Randee at rlueker@slco.org.

Disclaimer: All PAWlitical Pet Candidates must be well-behaved, social, and healthy. NO biters allowed. Salt Lake County Animal Services reserves the right to remove any PAWlitical Candidate or PAWlitical official from office if a serious animal ordinance violation occurs.

How to apply

- Pick up an application from Salt Lake County Animal Services or at designated polling locations, download it from Salt Lake County Animal Services Facebook/website, or email Randee (rlueker@slco.org) for an electronic copy.
- Mail/drop off completed application, \$25 entry fee, and copy of current vaccinations to: Salt Lake County Animal Services, C/O PAWlitical Pets 2017, 511 West 3900 South, Salt Lake City, UT, 84123.
- After we receive your completed entry, we will send out an email confirmation with important dates and rules. At that time, you will need to respond to the confirmation email with a short biography and a digital (4 x 6) photo of your PAWlitical Candidate.

\$25 Entry fee includes:

- The opportunity for your pet to participate in the election to become the Salt Lake County PAWlitical Mayor for one 2-year term.
- Photo placed on Salt Lake County Animal Services website, Facebook, and on community boards located at Salt Lake County Animal Services and the Salt Lake County Government Center (2001 S. State Street).
- Opportunity to attend the PAWlitical Pets Meet & Greet “Tea Pawty” on Thursday, October 12th.

2017 Salt Lake County PAWlitical Pet Duties & Responsibilities

- Serve a 2-year term honorably
- Attend various events with Salt Lake County Mayor Ben McAdams, as determined by his office
- Uphold all animal ordinances and be a good pet representative
- Keep current on vaccines and animal license (if applicable)
- Promote responsible pet ownership

2017 Important Political Pets Mayor and Council Election Dates

Monday, September 11th - Registration opens for PAWlitical Mayor – Entry fee is \$25.00

Saturday, September 30th - Registration closes

Thursday, October 12th - Meet & Greet with all PAWlitical Pet Candidates

Friday, October 13th - Voting begins – Votes are \$1.00 each

Friday, November 10th – Last Day to vote

Tuesday, November 14th – Winners announced on Facebook Live at Salt Lake County Animal Services

Late November / Early December (Date TBD) – Swearing in of the PAWlitical Pet Mayor and Council

FAQ's:

1. How can I vote?

- This is the only election where it's completely LEGAL and ENCOURAGED for people to BUY A VOTE!
- You can vote electronically on the Salt Lake County Animal Services website for \$1/per vote.
- You can vote for your favorite PAWlitical Pet Candidate directly at the shelter by filling out a voter form (cash and check accepted in person).
- Voters can live anywhere in the world.

2. How is the winner selected?

- The winner is selected by the greatest amount of money raised by the voters via the voting system. A tie will be broken by the PAWlitical Candidate with the highest number of unique voters.

For example, PAWlitical Candidate A raised \$100 by 6 voters and PAWlitical Candidate B raised \$100 by 15 voters. PAWlitical Pet Candidate B would be declared the winner. The pet with the second highest dollar amount raised will be declared the Deputy Pet Mayor. After the Pet Mayor and Deputy Pet Mayor have been determined, the next nine pets with the highest number of votes will be declared members of the first official Salt Lake County PAWlitical Council.

3. Can I enter more than one of my pets?

- Absolutely! Each pet will need their own application and entry fee. Only one pet can win, though.

4. **Can I enter someone else's pet?**
 - No. You must be the guardian (or co-guardian) of the pet.
5. **Why does my pet have to be spayed/neutered?**
 - One of the core philosophies at Salt Lake County Animal Services is that every pet be spayed/neutered. This helps reduce the pet population and thus reduces the number of pets that come into the shelter. To us, it's responsible pet ownership. To read more on the programs near you, the benefits, and frequently asked questions about spaying/neutering please visit:
<http://slco.org/uploadedFiles/depot/publicWorks/fAnimal/Low%20Cost%20Spay%20Neuter%20resources.pdf>
6. **When will the winner be announced?**
 - After all the votes are tallied and verified, the winner will be announced on Tuesday, November 14th (after all the boring elections are over so we can have a little fun!)
7. **Can I make yard signs, buttons, etc. to promote my PAWlitical Candidate?**
 - ABSOLUTELY! Have fun with this. Tell your friends. Tell your family. Make buttons. Blog about it. Hit the campaign trail in your neighborhood or the local parks and talk to people about it. Promote on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc. Spread the word!
 - It's the responsibility of the PAWlitical Candidate's human guardian to check with the city recorder, planning and zoning, or county public works office, to make sure signs are not in violation of ordinances. A PAWlitical Candidate's human guardian must get permission from property owners before posting a sign.
8. **What happens if the PAWlitical Mayor or Council Member cannot serve their full 2-year term?**
 - If the PAWlitical Mayor or Council Member cannot serve their full 2-year term, the 2nd runner up (Deputy Pet Mayor) will be inaugurated into office for the remaining term. The position of Deputy Pet Mayor will be filled by the PAWlitical Pet Council Member with the highest number of votes in the initial election. Inability to fulfill the duties of office must be declared in writing to Salt Lake County Animal Services representative, Randee Lueker, with at least one-month notice.
9. **I have more questions. Who do I contact?**
 - Email Randee Lueker at rlueker@slco.org