

Important Values and Principles of NBTA:

- 1) **HONESTY, TRANSPARENCY and INTEGRITY** - being trustworthy, open and accountable, doing what is right and just in representing the community in which one lives.
- 2) Belief in *responsible* government by which one is **answerable** for one's actions to the electors and acknowledgement that **DEMOCRACY** does **NOT END** after an election.
- 3) Hold **HIGH PRINCIPLES FOR PROPER CONDUCT** - morality - and *expect the same from others*
- 4) Belief in the principle of **COMPROMISE**
- 5) Willingness to **EMPATHIZE** - to have compassion and sympathy and therefore **RESPECT** the *views and needs of the community* in which one LIVES and REPRESENTS and *be willing to act accordingly*
- 6) **HUMILITY** - having the courage necessary to undertake tasks which are difficult, tedious or unglamorous and to graciously accept the sacrifices involved while *suppressing one's own ego and personal ambitions* in the service of others.

7) Respect the idea that **KNOWLEDGE** of the **FACTS** is an indispensable facet of representing the public

8) Belief in the usefulness of **DIALOGUE** with others and of **BRAINSTORMING** to arrive at ideas and solutions to problems

9) Acknowledge that **THE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES** of the community must **LISTEN TO** and **CONSIDER** the **ADVICE OF** the Administration but understand that the **ELECTED** representatives of the community must **GIVE POLICY DIRECTION to the administration** for the good of the community in which they live and represent.

10) Acknowledge that the **ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES** of the community must **PROVIDE OR ENSURE THE NECESSARY OVERSIGHT** of the civil administration through personal study and knowledge to ensure that the **POLITICAL WILL** of the community is properly carried out.

11) Be open to the idea of **VOTING AS A BLOC** *if necessary* to ensure honesty and integrity and acknowledge that the **collective voice of many** can carry **more weight and authority** than the voice of one.

12) Acknowledge that **POWER** is the ability to prevent others from doing what they would wish while understanding that the **PURPOSE OF a group of individuals** who share the same values and understand the same principles is to get elected on the basis of those ideas and principles and obtain power to legislate with those values and principles in mind on behalf of the community.

THE MUNICIPAL ACT, 2001 states that it is the role of Council:

- a) to represent the public and to consider the well-being and interests of the municipality
- b) to develop and evaluate the policies and programs of the municipality
- c) to determine which services the municipality provides
- d) to ensure that administrative policies, practices and procedures and controllership policies, practices and procedures are in place to implement the decisions of council
- d. 1) to ensure the accountability and transparency of the operations of the municipality, *including the activities of the senior management of the municipality*
- e) to maintain the financial integrity of the municipality and....
- f) to carry out the duties of council under this or any other act