

Animals That Have Officially Held Political Office



Politics is usually seen as a serious business, but history offers plenty of unusual cases where animals have been granted—sometimes symbolically, sometimes quite officially—real political positions. These quirky stories mix humor, local tradition, and, at times, a subtle critique of human politics.

Stubbs, Mayor of a Town in Alaska

In 1997, the residents of Talkeetna, a small Alaskan town, “elected” a ginger cat named Stubbs as their honorary mayor. He held the title for nearly 20 years, becoming a tourist attraction and achieving a level of popularity that many human politicians could only dream of.

Bosco, Mayor of Sunol, California

In 1981, Sunol, a community in California, elected Bosco Ramos, a Labrador-Rottweiler mix, as its mayor. Reelected in 1984, Bosco remained in office until his death in 1994. Locals affectionately dubbed him “the most honest mayor in America.”

Clay Henry, Mayor of a Texas Town

In the 1980s, the small Texas town of Lajitas chose a beer-loving goat named Clay Henry as its mayor. The animal became a local mascot, and after his death, successors—Clay Henry II and III—kept the tradition alive.

Sweet Tart, Mayor of Omena, Michigan

In 2018, the residents of Omena, Michigan, voted a cat named Sweet Tart into office. The election was part of a

lighthearted tradition in which local animals routinely take up political posts, bringing a mix of civic pride and humor.

Pegasus, Candidate for U.S. President

In 1968, the American counterculture group Yippies nominated a pig named Pegasus for President of the United States. While his campaign didn't go far, Pegasus remains a legendary symbol of political satire and protest.

These unusual elections often serve as more than just a joke. They highlight local identity, entertain communities, and sometimes express dissatisfaction with traditional politics. After all, when animals take office, they're seen as refreshingly honest, loyal—and, unlike many humans, immune to corruption.

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