

Linda Miller concluded a recent letter: “Please, if our leaders remain silent, is there anything anyone can do to give us the leadership needed to help us through this health crisis?” What an excellent question----one to give us pause as we enter our municipal election season and then move on to the 2022 elections for state and national offices. For representative democracy to work, we must elect leaders who are willing to lead, who are strong enough to make unpopular decisions. We can’t expect our leaders to be experts in every field, but we can expect them to abide by the consensus of those who are experts. Our elected officials should be willing to put aside their own initial opinions and the opinions of the loudest crowd and consider, accept, and then advocate for the recommendations of experts. As voters, it’s our job to learn about candidates----who they are, what experience they have, and what they stand for. The League of Women Voters provides an online voter guide, [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org), that invites all candidates to tell us about themselves; check it out prior to voting this fall----and then continue to expect leaders to stand for the public good.

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