

NOTE: We request your residential address in order to enter your emails into the record. The email comments section is being provided as a courtesy. If you were to attend a City Council meeting in-person, you would be requested to provide your residential address when addressing the City Council. When you send an email, the City Council should receive your email. However, if you are not a resident, your email will not become a part of the record. As a keeper of the record of the City Council for the City of Jonesboro, AR, the City Clerk's office appreciates and respects all viewpoints. Thank you!

-----Original Message-----

From: Sarah Saunders <sarahsaunders04@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 24, 2021 10:57 AM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Subject: IN FAVOR of the swimming pool tax

To whom it may concern:

I am emailing to show my support FOR the tax to fund an aquatics center for the city of Jonesboro. My son is a part of the Jets Aquatics Club and I have seen firsthand how valuable an aquatics center can be to a community. We have traveled to countless cities in Arkansas and the southeast region to swim and spent money at hotels, restaurants, even a tire shop when I had a flat! I will throw whatever support I can behind getting this tax passed to better our community. Please approve this and allow Jonesboro to benefit from this center.

Sincerely,

Sarah Saunders
5209 Koala Dr
Jonesboro, AR 72404

From: Danial Reed <danielnreed@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 24, 2021 11:15 AM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Support 21-046

Jonesboro City Council Members -

I am writing to you to show my support for the tax that would aid in the development of an aquatic/sports facility in Jonesboro.

My child (7 years old) joined the Jonesboro Jets Swim Team in February 2021 and has put in 3-4 practices a week since that time, as well as nearly 10 swim meets. He is a beginner - the level of commitment of these athletes up to the high school level (and even some adults) is impressive. Despite shuffling around to different facilities on any given day and swimming in an outdoor pool at questionable temperatures, these kids have a love for this sport. Only two days ago, our older team athletes were practicing outdoors, before the sun came up, in 54 degree weather. The next day, the Jets hosted an internal meet for the team; between swims, we were bundling our

children in towels and blankets in an attempt to warm them up before the next event they were swimming in (they swam in 4 events total that night). Just within our short time on the team, we have seen many new swimmers join and have heard interest from many others. The potential growth for this organization and the impact it could have on our community is tremendous.

As a beginning swimmer only 8 months in, we have had the opportunity to attend swim meets in Pocahontas, AR, Mountain Home, AR, Little Rock, AR, and Tupelo, MS. We have frequented the facility in Pocahontas specifically, which also profits from an attached water park. Our older swimming groups are going to many other communities, for longer periods of time, in order to compete. These communities are benefitting from our time spent there and the money we are spending on competition/facility fees, food, gas, lodging, and even entertainment. Our team was able to host one meet over the summer for the other league teams. Our facility was an embarrassment to the City of Jonesboro in terms of size, functionality, and cleanliness of indoor amenities. I know we can do better and I am confident that there is support for this type of complex in our community and the tax needed to financially support the development.

In addition to the swimming community, our area is also lacking the facilities needed to properly accommodate other indoor sporting events (basketball, volleyball, etc.). I believe the impact of an aquatic and sports facility in Jonesboro would be tremendous and I strongly encourage you to consider our youth and the future growth of this community. Let's make Jonesboro a place that young families want to live and raise their children in before we lose them to the many other options they have.

Thank you,
Danial Reed
Jonesboro Resident (residing on Westminster Way)

From: Brad Crawley <bcrawley@cbcj.net>
Sent: Friday, September 24, 2021 12:38 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Support 21-046

Good afternoon:

I wanted to email each of you and respectfully ask that you support 21-046 which is a tax that would allow the building of an indoor aquatics facility in Jonesboro. Jonesboro is in desperate need of such a facility. My son has recently joined the Jets Aquatic Club and this has been a big deal for him and a huge confidence booster and a community he loves. We need a facility that will allow them to swim/practice year round and that can host regional and even state swim meets to bring more guests to Jonesboro to stay in our hotels and to spend money at restaurants and retail!

Several cities across the state, some a lot smaller than Jonesboro, have indoor aquatics facilities and it's time for Jonesboro to step up to the plate and provide things like this for the city residents and surrounding areas.

Thank you for your time and please support this tax!

Brad Crawley
4113 Covington Drive
Jonesboro, AR 72404

From: Brooke Weaver <Brooke2206@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 24, 2021 12:38 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: support 21-046

Dear Councilpersons,

I wanted to show my support FOR the tax to fund the aquatic/sports facility. Both my children are members of the Jonesboro Jets Aquatic Team. We would love a place in our town for them to practice/compete. We spend so much money in other towns and states, traveling to swim competitions. I would love to spend the money here in our town, to support Jonesboro. We need this for our community. Not only for my children, but for all the children in Jonesboro. I have lived here my entire life and want to see my town grow and succeed. What better way to do that than to support our children? Thank you for your time!

Sincerely,

Brooke Weaver
3013 Vista Court
Jonesboro, AR 72404

From: Tara Smith <tararec@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, September 24, 2021 12:45 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: support 21-046

Good afternoon. I'm emailing in support of the proposed ordinance 21-046. (For reference, I am a resident of Jonesboro. My address is 5909 Megan Dr.)

My daughter is 17, and has been swimming competitively since she was 9. I wish I could add up the money I've spent in other cities as we've traveled to swim meets all over the state, and out of state. I would love to be giving that revenue to our great city. An community/aquatic center could bring in a great amount of recreational spending from SO many teams, both local and distant.

It isn't super well known, but three of our county's school districts have high school swim teams; Jonesboro, Valley View and Brookland (go Bearcats!). We don't have anywhere to hold our high school meets in our county, so all of our meets are in either Pocahontas or Paragould at their fantastic aquatic centers.

Please consider our kids who love to swim when you vote on this ordinance!!! Attached is a pic of my Maddie who would love to see a pool come to Jonesboro! Also some pics of her swim friends and events.

Thank you for your time and consideration!

Tara Smith

-----Original Message-----

From: Lana Fischer <lsgstf@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 24, 2021 12:46 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Support 21:046

To All Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for taking a moment to hear my opinion regarding the proposed Multi-Plex Sports Facility. I am strongly in support of this ordinance. I have 2 daughters (age 9, 14) that are members of the Jonesboro Jets Swim team. We have been swimming on this year round team for multiple years. I support this team with monthly dues for both my children that comes to about \$250 Fees only. (This does not include extra charges for swim meets that we choose to attend). We very much enjoy being involved with this year round sport and the friendships that encircle it. In the past we have had the opportunity to swim during the winter months at the ASU pool...however, we all know that facility is no longer available (due to massive mold issues that shut us down). Currently, during the winter months we are cramming our children into the St Bernard's faculty that has 4 (narrow) lanes. Please keep in mind...we are not allowed to use all 4 lanes all the time as we have to be considerate of the facility swimming members. There are NO Blocks to practice dives/starts from. There are NO backstroke flags to help children gage pool length when swimming backstroke (therefore they often hit their heads on wall...especially the mittle ones.) They do not have enough lanes to accommodate our growing numbers (great problem to have!).

Because of the above listed challenges, our team attempts to stay in the outside city pool (unheated!!) as long as we can possible stand it. Morning practices from 5:15 AM - 6:20 AM....this morning the outside temperature was 54 degrees. My 14 yr old daughter said when she got out of pool today "everything was numb". But these kids are so devoted to continue to stay at a competitive state/regional/ sectional level...they continue to go to these practices because we have No Other Choice.

Changing subject: let's talk about all the money I spend in facility fees, individual race fees, hotel stays (usually 2-3 nights), eating out every meal during those stays....that's is a lot of \$\$\$ that we are spending in other communities. Recently we visited the facility in Benton...where not only were they hosting our swim meet that weekend (averaging 200-300 ish kids ...might need to double check my facts on those numbers))....they were also hosting a volleyball tournament that was so crowded with players/spectators! No telling what type of revenue they brought in that weekend from all the outside students/parents/grandparents/coaches etc.

Obviously I Support This Facility and I will vote in favor of the special tax to fund this facility if given the opportunity.

However, if all these measures fail...I ask one other thing to be taken into consideration. Please, please, help our swim program improve our current facilities for our children.if we have No Other Choice. Please help us obtain pool heaters...and please help us retrofit the current city pool with a "bubble" so that our children have a fighting chance to continue to represent our city at state meets/regional meets/USA sectional meets. Who knows....maybe we have a Olympic swimmer on our team that just needs the opportunity to develop into their full potential.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Lana Fischer
2008 Village Drive
Jonesboro, AR 72404

-----Original Message-----

From: Jacob E. Weaver <Jacob.Weaver@nicepak.com>
Sent: Friday, September 24, 2021 1:53 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Support 21:046

Dear Councilpersons,

I wanted to show my support FOR the tax to fund the equation/sports facility. We spent so much money in other towns and states, traveling to swim competitions. I would love to spend the money here in our town, too support Jonesboro. We need this for our community. Not only for my children, but for all the children in Jonesboro. I have lived here since 1990 and I want to see my town grow and succeed. What better way to do that than to support our children? Thank you for your time!

3013 Vista Ct.
Jonesboro, AR 72404

Thanks,
Jake Weaver

From: Tracy Pollock <pollock4@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Friday, September 24, 2021 3:12 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: For Ordinance 21-046 Multisport Complex

Dear Aldermen,

I am in favor of a tax to support a multisport complex in Jonesboro. My address is 4305 Mount Carmel, Jonesboro, AR.

I am a mother of 2 daughters that are many years apart in age. Both of my daughters have swum for the Jonesboro Jets for approximately 16 years. Also, one daughter played school, city, and club volleyball. We have traveled to numerous towns to participate in regional, state and national swim meets, and local, regional, and division volleyball tournaments. The volume of families that travel to these competitions is astounding. The cities that host these events benefit from increased restaurant, hotel, shopping, and entertainment revenues while these families are there. A multisport complex would have a big economic impact on Jonesboro.

This type of facility would allow children to be involved in positive and healthy activities year-round. Jonesboro does not have the facilities that allow for large team swim practices or even club-hosted swim meets in the winter. The City Pool is the only pool that allows the entire Jonesboro Jets to practice and host swim meets. Once the weather is too cold, the team has to practice with multiple swimmers sharing lanes at an indoor pool to accommodate the number of swimmers. There are no long course pools in Northeast Arkansas. For our swimmers to participate in the USA Long Course events, we have to travel to Northwest Arkansas or Central Arkansas to just be able to let our kids participate in these events.

The volleyball tournament that we participated in that was hosted in Jonesboro years ago was segregated with games at various schools to attempt to accommodate the number of teams that were playing. Needless to say, this was not a tournament that other teams were eager to participate in.

Also, expanding senior citizens' athletic opportunities that are age-specific and hosting organized events would allow individuals to be active in a safe and weather-controlled environment.

Additionally, providing a modern facility will increase the quality of life that could help retain and recruit residents to Jonesboro.

My youngest daughter is a senior this year. So, I am well aware that she will not have the opportunity to fully enjoy this complex. However, I fully support the passage of a tax for this complex for all of the individuals that would benefit and flourish from having this type of facility. Please help move Jonesboro toward the future and make Jonesboro a great place to live and visit.

Thank you,
Tracy

From: Christina Forrester <cforrester83@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, September 24, 2021 3:58 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Support 21-046

Dear Sirs and Madam,

I am reaching out to you to show my support FOR the proposed taxes to fund a multi-sports complex with aquatic center for the city of Jonesboro and surrounding NEA community. My daughter swims for Jets Aquatic Club, and I have seen firsthand how valuable a facility like this would be to Jonesboro and NEA. We travel year-round to many cities within Arkansas and to many other states at least one weekend a month for swim meets. We spend money on hotels, restaurants, and entertainment while we are there. If Jonesboro were to build a facility like this, it would be a great asset to our community and our youth. This would not only benefit our swimmers, but our other local youth sports teams such as basketball, volleyball and wrestling. All of these are teams that could host tournaments and meets right here in Jonesboro if only they had a facility available to them. This facility not only serves our youth but will aid in attracting many visitors to our city, therefore bringing in additional revenue for the city of Jonesboro. Please cast a YES vote in support of Ordinance 21-046.

Thank you,
Christina Forrester
2804 Ridgemont Rd.
Jonesboro, AR

From: Erin Anenechukwu <mrsuchubilo@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 24, 2021 4:32 PM
To: alderman@jonesboro.org
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Support for Ordinance 21:046

Hello. I urge all of you to support

Ordinance 21:046 for a hotel and prepared food tax to fund better sports/aquatic facilities in Jonesboro. As a mother of 3 young children, we would really appreciate not having to drive to surrounding cities for healthy entertainment for our kids. They deserve nice facilities here at home.

Sincerely,

Erin Uchubilo
2120 Sweet Gum Drive
Jonesboro, AR 72401

From: deltondunn <deltondunn@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 25, 2021 6:14 AM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Subject: "NO" 21:039

Vote "No" on Ordinance 21:039, the DJID property tax"

Delton Dunn

4609 Rockport Dr
Jonesboro AR 72404

From: Steve Schrantz <sschrantz@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 9:45 AM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Support of 21-046 and Aquatics Center

Dear City Council Members:

Thank you for service to the city. My name is Steve Schrantz and I live on Layman Drive in Jonesboro. I am writing in support of 21-046 and an aquatics center. The Jonesboro Jets Swim Team ("the Jets") has been and continues to be the premier swimming club of Northeast Arkansas and the surrounding areas. Swimmers have travelled from the surrounding areas, including Paragould, Hoxie, Blytheville, and Kennett, MO to train as a Jonesboro Jet for at least the past 35+ years.

The Jets began as a summer program at the Jonesboro Elks lodge. We thought we were good until we swam against year round swimmers. After taking a severe beating and knock to our pride, the Jets started a year round swimming program. To get pool time as a 7 year old, we were required to stay up past our bedtime to practice at the A-State pool at 9 pm. We then moved to a pool in a green shed behind the YMCA. The green shed was not the nicest pool, but at least I got an earlier bedtime. In the early 90s, the YMCA built the pool that is now the City Pool.

The Jets grew and trained to be one of the top teams in the state. In 1995, the JHS boys were state champions in swimming and diving. In 1996, the JHS girls won the state championships in swimming and diving. The JHS boys finished runner up in '96 due to not having any divers, but won the swimming portion.

The YMCA pool provided the Jets with an indoor/outdoor pool for hosting swim meets year round. The Jonesboro swim meets would bring in several hundred swimmers from across the state. The Jets annually hosted a three day swim meet with at least 600 swimmers attending. These swimmers came from across the state to swim in Jonesboro. A large majority of these swimmers travelled with their families from Bentonville, Fayetteville, Fort Smith, Little Rock, Conway, Mountain Home, and Searcy to swim at these meets. These swim families needed a hotel room for at least two nights and needed at least 6 meals during their stay in Jonesboro.

Unfortunately, Jonesboro can no longer host those large meets in the current facility. The large swim meets require a 50 meter pool in the summer and a 25 yard pool in the winter. Jonesboro does not have any pools that meet such requirements.

Coach Vic Moore and the Jets have taken steps to increase the number of teams that would travel to Jonesboro. In the past, we mostly competed in Little Rock, Memphis, Fort Smith, Fayetteville, Bentonville, and Searcy. Coach Vic and the Jets have travelled to several meets in Mississippi and Georgia. I believe these teams will reciprocate and travel to Jonesboro to compete with the Jets and the other Arkansas teams if Jonesboro had the facilities.

Jonesboro has a history of swimming. Jonesboro residents have won Olympic gold medals in swimming and have competed against great Olympians such as Janet Evans. Several Jonesboro Jets swimmers have swam and are currently swimming at the collegiate level.

My family and I support a new aquatics center for Jonesboro. Jonesboro's surrounding cities currently have nicer facilities than Jonesboro. Jonesboro has taken steps backwards in the pool scene from when I was growing up, which is rough considering I grew up swimming in a shed behind the YMCA.

The kids and residents of Jonesboro could use a new aquatics center with a 50 meter pool. Not only would the facilities generate additional revenue, but the new aquatics center could provide families with facilities to swim year round. Year round swimming provides Jonesboro residents with training, exercise, the ability to teach people how to swim throughout the year, and the facilities required to compete. Swimming provides a great low impact workout that can be used for cross training in other sports.

Please support 21-046 to benefit Jonesboro residents and the kids. I strongly believe that this project could raise additional revenue for Jonesboro and would be a great benefit to this growing city. This is an opportunity for Jonesboro to again take the lead for competitive venues in NEA. We should not allow this opportunity to pass us by.

Thank you again for your assistance. I look forward to your support of new competitive facilities for Jonesboro.

Sincerely,

Steve Schrantz

From: David McAvoy <david.mcavoy2@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 10:07 AM

To: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>; Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; Harold Copenhaver <HCopenhaver@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Sports Center and Revenue Stream

To the members of the City Council, in particular the members of the Finance Committee, I am in strong support of the building of the proposed sports center. Jonesboro is in terrible need of more recreation, activities for children, and draws for our community. As a citizen on a middle class budget, I do not see a little extra spent when my spouse and I eat out or order takeout as any terrible expense to pay for that. Quite the contrary, it seems very little to pay for what will ultimately be an investment in our community that will return business, revenue, and many less tangible but perhaps even more important benefits to Jonesboro.

Please vote in support.

Thank you.

-David McAvoy

1524 Charles Dr. in Jonesboro

From: Pauletta Folden <paulettafolden@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 10:17 AM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Subject: NO TO THE NEW TAXES !

NO NO NO NEW TAXES

Pauletta Folden
2407 Twin Oaks
Jonesboro 72401

From: Joyce Cook <mysterybuff1961@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 1:45 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Vote "NO" on Hamburger, Hotel tax

Dear Jonesboro City Council Members:

There is no reason for our citizens to be further burdened with taxes, especially when the city of Jonesboro has received millions of dollars in COVID cash from the federal government. Also, why do you want to raise taxes on industries that are struggling to survive already? Isn't the record \$30.5 that the city collected in sales tax revenues during the first nine months of the year enough? The taxpayer is not the city's bottomless piggy bank. I urge you to vote down these proposals.

Joyce Cook
2200 Countryview
Jonesboro, AR. 72403

From: donna11154 <donna11154@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 2:27 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Tax proposals - new 2% prepared food tax

I am against any increase or additional taxes being voted on or passed by our elected city council members. Please do not burden the people of Jonesboro with more taxes especially in the midst of the rising inflation which we are seeing. Thank you for voting no.

Donna Griffin
2200 Rains Street
Jonesboro, Arkansas

From: Than Boves <tboves@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 3:52 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Re: Support the Prepared Food Tax!

Dear Jonesboro City Council members - I am writing to urge you to support the proposed legislation that would put a 2% tax on any prepared food in Jonesboro and an additional 1 percent to the tax collected on hotel stays. These funds will then be dedicated to fund a multi-purpose sports complex in Jonesboro which would be amazing to have here. As a resident of Jonesboro that has lived in many other places around the country, I can say that the lack of such a venue is one of the most glaring missing aspects of this community and the construction of such a complex would greatly improve the quality of life here, thus improving the ability of Jonesboro to retain (and attract) people that have other options of where they live. I love the trajectory of this city...let's keep it moving forward!

Thank you for your service,

Than Boves
2204 Oak Hollow Lane
Jonesboro, AR 72401

-----Original Message-----

From: Lindsey Ford <info@downtownjonesboro.com>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 3:52 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Support A&P

I support the Jonesboro A&P tax.

Thanks,
Lindsey Wingo
1218 E Country Club Terrace
Jonesboro, 72401

From: Sam Hummelstein <sam@hummelstein.net>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 6:53 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Subject: A & P Commission

I am writing you to ask you to SUPPORT the prepared food tax proposed by the A & P Commission.

This new source of revenue will be used to enable funding for projects that will help Jonesboro create and retain good paying jobs in our community. I am so tired of seeing young talented individuals and their families leave for other parts of our state and nation that offer amenities we simply can't or won't provide. This is one good step in the right direction for OUR community to build a stronger, more dynamic community that will keep us moving forward.

Thanks,

Sam W. Hummelstein
906 Fairway Dr, Jonesboro, AR 72401

From: Derek McPike <dmcpike@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 12:15 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Prepared Food Tax

Hello All, I wanted to go on record saying I'm in Favor of the PF Tax.

Thanks,

Derek McPike
1907 Catharine Circle, Jonesboro

From: Barry Eggers <barry@bigborebikes.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 1:28 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Subject: New Taxes

To all Aldermen:

I want you all to stop for a minute and think about what you are voting on tonight. A couple years ago Team Jonesboro tried to railroad a tax through in a special election and with only a few days the voters showed you how they felt about a new tax, by defeating it. Now they have positioned themselves to go through the City Council to get their tax through without going to the people. Ladies and gentlemen, I ask you to stop this tax. The voters have shown you that this is not what they want. If you vote this tax in I am sure a lot of you are going to receive a strong message at your next election that this is not what your constituents want.

Sincerely,

Barry Eggers
914 Valhalla Dr
Jonesboro, AR 72401

From: Louis Lancaster <louis.lancaster@suddenlink.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 1:46 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; Ann Williams <AWilliams@jonesboro.org>; Brian Emison <BEmison@jonesboro.org>; Charles Coleman <CColeman@jonesboro.org>; David McClain <DMcClain@jonesboro.org>; Joseph Hafner <JAHafner@jonesboro.org>; John Street <JStreet@jonesboro.org>; Larry J. Bryant <LBryant@jonesboro.org>
Cc: dan.sullivan@senate.ar.gov; jackladyman@gmail.com; info@jakebequette.com
Subject: Hamburger Tax

Please find attached my letter to the Jonesboro City Council concerning the proposed hamburger tax.

Louis Lancaster

Why is it that all government officials feel the need to confiscate other people's money by taxation? Is it possible there is some age-old disease/virus that the CDC has not recognized yet? I am writing about the proposed "2% hamburger tax" and the 1% increase in the hotel tax. I say no.

The State of Arkansas' 6.5% sales and use tax does not apply to all items purchased. The "Reduced Food Tax" is 0.125%. But I bet your proposed taxes don't reflect those of the State.

It appears to me that there is a rush to get this tax increase passed before the O'Biden federal tax increase takes effect and inflation cuts into purchasing power making additional tax increases more unappealing. With inflation eating at everyone's paycheck through higher prices, increases in sales and use taxes are automatic and are in effect a double bite at the pocketbook.

What are the additional taxes to be spent on? Have you said? I'm sure you have already carved it up on pet projects.

The ASU campus is inside the Jonesboro city limits. According to the ASU website the student population is 14,000+. That is a lot of students bringing in money to spend and be taxed. When is enough, enough?

I will share with you a bumper sticker I saw last week. I won't quote it verbatim but you can probably get the idea. "We the People are P. O.'d"

The city is in good financial shape right now despite giving Hersey \$100 million dollars. Is it true that this proposed tax increase can be levied without voter approval? If you want my money, I suggest you ask me for it. Put it on a ballot.

Louis A. Lancaster
2916 Dacus Lane, Jonesboro

From: Robin Martin <ramartincpa@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 29, 2021 3:09 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Subject: NO new taxes

Please vote against all new taxes for our city. Sales tax revenue is increasing. Several city and county agencies already have excess cash on hand. Local government needs to use the money they already have wisely for our citizens!

Thank you,

Robin Martin
5005 Lamb Lane, Jonesboro

From: deltondunn <deltondunn@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 3, 2021 12:14 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Subject: No New Taxes

Hello,

I am voicing my opinion on no New Taxes

Hotel & Hamburger Tax - No

Delton Dunn
4609 Rockport Dr
Jonesboro AR 72404

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 8:40 AM

To: aldermen@jonesboro.or; Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Council Comments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>; mday@craigheadcounty.org; Smith, Brandt <brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>; Dan4945 <dan.sullivanar53@gmail.com>; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; Chris Wessel <cwessel@jonesborosun.com>; jackladyman@gmail.com; news@kjbntv.com; news@kait8.com; KLEK 102.5 F.M. <klek@klekfm.org>; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu
Cc: srandall@jonesborounlimited.com; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com

Subject: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

The link below is Part 4 of 4 in a series of articles that layout why Jonesboro is different. It was researched quickly with only the author's resources, i.e., a computer, the Internet, some tech help from Millennials, and some discussion with a few geezers/geezerettes.

The series is intended to encourage the city council to slam the brakes on the tax and spending that Mayor Copenhaver's administration has accelerated since January 1, 2021, if not by its own counsel, then with counsel from the addressees in this email (and on social media).

In total:

-For this city to increase any taxes without a vote of the electorate of #JonesboroStrong, which defeated a one-cent sales tax in 2019, is poor representative governance.

-Jonesboro is getting a boatload of taxpayer dollars from the various federal programs enacted since March 2020. The county is getting another boatload, and Arkansas as well. The revenue coffers of all three levels of govment are already overflowing, so the federal dollars inbound will only increase the booty. Newer sources of revenue such as medical marijuana will only increase the take (especially if "recreational" marijuana is legalized). None of the uses from these taxpayer windfalls have been presented to the residents, except to "go slowly to spend it to avoid violations".

-While there are restrictions on how federal and state distributions can be used, there is likely flexibility. As an example relevant to the current situation, if "profits" from A&P revenue can be transferred to Parks & Recreation which, then, enables the city to reallocate the Parks and Rec dollars previously budgeted back to the general fund, then it's certain federal and state dollars will likely have similar "flex". The residents have no information on this. Yet, as it did in 2019, the city is wedging in another "special" tax increase vote, then, before state tax increases kicked in; this time before the "helicopter" dollars even arrive?

-To willfully add new tax burdens before the #JonesboroStrong public even knows the impact from yet to be allocated funds smells of rotten governance, especially in the midst of the "forever-C19+" pandemic. In fact it is "heartless" in this city where 50% of the population already struggles to make ends meet each month.

-Regardless of how much any individual's taxes are affected, if these increases take effect, the city's tax collection increases 100%, from three to six cents. This fact does not factor in the DJID millage increase - as unfair as it gets to all but the wealthier.

Please, all elected officials, slam the brakes hard. "Stakeholders", show what can be done in post-2020 Jonesboro (and Craighead County), using the power of our capitalism system of economics. After all, what the founders of "Jonesboro Unlimited" created from damn near scratch, in the heart of world-class agriculture, is today "a company town, of, by, and for the People." Can y'all best a municipality owning a "Sports Shooting Range"? Rather than raising taxes now, let's see whether this city made a revenue enhancing, "profitable" business decision in 2015, worthy of Jonesboro Unlimited and the Existing Industries Association today. Until all levels of Arkansas government and all legislators work together and informed residents know the disposition of the many windfalls ahead and from above, no new taxes.

Thanks to all for your consideration of this solution to a decades long hinderance to Jonesboro achieving more of its natural potential, not jonesing after another's. I'll respond to questions by email here or by text at the number below.

(Full disclosure: Yes, I'm a resident of Arkansas and (as I've been challenged three times) one who can "vote". Also, I'm kin to a local elected official and, no, that elected official is not amongst the geezers/geezerettes mentioned above.)

<https://northeastarkansasteaparty.wordpress.com/2021/09/29/no-taxes-no-sports-complex-jonesborostrong-part-4-of-4-sub-title-amenities-if-you-thats-yall-build-it-we-will-come>

No Taxes, No Sports-Complex, #JonesboroStrong (Sub-title: Amenities? If You – That's Y'all – Build It, We Will Come.) (Part 4 of 4)

(And Sub-subtitle: Or, how #JonesboroStrong Can Help "Team Jonesboro" Get What it Thinks It "Wants"...And, Hopefully, End The "Pining of the Wealthy") “...

northeastarkansasteaparty.wordpress.com

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 7, 2021 9:20 AM
To: Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Council Comments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>; mday@craigheadcounty.org; Smith, Brandt <brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>; Dan4945 <dan.sullivanar53@gmail.com>; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; Chris Wessel <cwessel@jonesborosun.com>; jackladyman@gmail.com; news@kjbntv.com; news@kait8.com; KLEK 102.5 F.M. <klek@klekfm.org>; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu; Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: srandall@jonesborounlimited.com; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com

Subject: Re: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

This is to follow-up to yesterday's email which encouraged the Jonesboro City Council to reject all tax increases. As stated, just the A&P tax raises the local government revenue from three-cents to six cents, a 100% increase. A DJID millage increase will add more.

This occurs in the midst of inflation...despite the United Way's fundraising letter in August stating that 50% of Jonesboro residents living either below the poverty line or struggling to make ends meet at the end of each month?

As the attached graph displays, real personal income in the private sector has been revised lower from 2019 and 2020 until today, with no income growth since October last year. The arrow reflects a significant drop from 2020's "helicopter" relief checks to 2021.

Here is Part 2 of 4, Income/Wealth, to elaborate on how Jonesboro is different.

<https://northeastarkansasteaparty.wordpress.com/2021/09/11/no-taxes-no-sports-complex-jonesborostrong-part-2-of-4>

No Taxes, No Sports-Complex, #JonesboroStrong (Part 2 of 4) – Northeast Arkansas Tea Party

The complaints of the privileged are too often confused with the voice of the masses.”John Kenneth Galbraith (d. 2006), Economist In Part 1 of this series, here, analysis of the urban terrain revealed that the city of Jonesboro is an "island oasis", partly nestled in the hills of Crowley's Ridge, in Craighead County, Arkansas. The...

northeastarkansasteaparty.wordpress.com

Thanks, again, for looking beyond the "bright and shiny" and exploring why increasing taxes on #JonesboroStrong is too risky in the midst of "forever-C19+"?

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 8, 2021 10:20 AM
To: Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Council Comments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>; mday@craigheadcounty.org; Smith, Brandt <brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>; Dan4945 <dan.sullivanar53@gmail.com>; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; Chris Wessel <cwessel@jonesborosun.com>; jackladyman@gmail.com; news@kjbntv.com; news@kait8.com; KLEK 102.5 F.M. <klek@klekfm.org>; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu; Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Cc: srandall@jonesborounlimited.com; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com
Subject: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

It's Friday...yeah, the weekend. Hope all have a good one.

As a short read, y'all may be familiar with the story of the volunteer swim coach who is a strong proponent for taxpayers funding a competition-oriented aquatic facility. At the A&P Meeting on August 17, he stated that his family recently spent ~\$1000-\$1200 for a weekend at a Bentonville, AR swim meet and that he does this 12-15 times a year.

I learned that this guy is a local banker and a proponent of "Team Jonesboro" (TJ) in 2019. I wonder if he and his "peers" in business and civic leadership, those in the "let the taxpayers fund it" camp, considered the option of the Chamber of Commerce members ponying up a "bigger, stronger, faster" multi-sports complex, or some other funding vehicle, after the voters defeated TJ? Given the vast resources of larger regional companies, such as the one his, analysis by those organizations with big-time marketing and competitive analysis resources would be interesting to review.

A rhetorical question is, if not, why not? Could the funding issue have been solved after the special election vote in 2019 if the proponents had concentrated their efforts on other funding options pre-"forever-C19+", rather than doing an end run around the voters once the mayor was in office and his executive staff beefed-up? Was it a lack of creativity or just same ol', same ol' political tactics used after a "slam-dunk" misses the rim? TJ, please show your work against private-funding, because the vote in 2019 was a vote for against growing government.

As a family of five boys who wrestled in schools and clubs 2002-2015 (when youngest graduated high school), We never once laid out \$1000 for a weekend of competition. Two wrestlers achieved #2 in the state three times, so there are many ways to success without "buying" it. God bless anyone who has the resources to spend as they choose, as often as they choose but, as one Jonesboro swimmer commented at the first reading of the ordinance (read by title only), the current program is producing state champions!

The student said there were approximately 125 swimmers in the program and that practice facilities - outdoor facilities, specifically - did not meet the needs for the current situation nor the capability to accept more swimmers. Frankly, kid, even 200 swimmers is not any publicly-funded solution. In fact, it's more like "adversity breeds toughness"...congratulations, state champs!

By the way, to the banker, the kid, Team Jonesboro, the chamber of commerce, and city government, I mistakenly thought there were only two country clubs in town, Jonesboro and Ridgepointe, but there's also Sage Meadows...in addition to the city pool? Dang, ain't that some largesse of resources to be maximized to continue to produce state champs?

Country club members, if your club doesn't accommodate non-member swimmers for practices, lean on it to do so. If there's rules and regulations prohibiting non-members from using the pools, find a price that encourages the "Existing Swimming Pools Association of Jonesboro" to modify the rules. Pay it forward for the good of the children and in the spirit of good governance. For cryin' out loud, the kid said the practices are at dawn; increase your club's coffers by maximizing your assets, not only during off hours but also outside the pool's "season"! Your golfers, tennis players, clubhouse customers will surely reap the benefits of increased revenue.

As another rhetorical question, given all of the above, how is this possibly unseemly play for privateer profits (keeping out the public from the club pools) via public risks (during the "forever-C19+" inflationary panic of these times), anything more than a local act of "never let a crisis go to waste", i.e., the working residents are too focused on getting by each month to pay attention to this govment's attempt(s) to increase its pirate's booty by over 100%?

City council, where is the representative government of that 50%-plus in poverty or "struggling" at work? There are likely many more residents who are earning above the "ALICE"-survival income threshold but are still struggling, right? When does your oath of office kick-in for the "greater good" of a lower cost-of-living, lower taxed, quality-of-life taht is already the "Gem of the Delta"?

Again, have a good weekend,

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue,, 72401

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>

Sent: Monday, October 11, 2021 10:14 AM

To: Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Council Comments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>; mday@craigheadcounty.org; Smith, Brandt <brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>; Dan4945 <dan.sullivanar53@gmail.com>; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; Chris Wessel <cwessel@jonesborosun.com>; jackladyman@gmail.com; news@kjbntv.com; news@kait8.com; KLEK 102.5 F.M. <klek@klekfm.org>; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu; Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org

Cc: srandall@jonesborounlimited.com; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com;
slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com

Subject: Re: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

Hope all is well and all had a good weekend.

The attached explains the effect of what the 3 tax proposals do to those 50%+ struggling in Jonesboro:

"A" & "B" are "Team Jonesboro"-types throughout the history of Jonesboro, both civic members and elected officials who have built 3 country clubs since 1909 but only one public swimming pool, and could not keep a YMCA afloat;

"X" is primarily the swimmers but also the volleyball children of the wealthier, families who can afford the rigors of travel team athletics but would like to not have to travel so frequently;

"C" is working and struggling #JonesboroStrong.

C is too busy making ends meet each month to consider how A&B are making "C-lives" more difficult by increasing taxes, while making their own "A&B-lives" easier, at C's much greater costs proportionally.

The great majority of C cannot afford the expense nor rigors of travel team sports but, as the quote states, C "always pays".

Please encourage the Jonesboro City Council to vote "No" on all tax increases. Demand that the mayor show his work for what he once referred to as "Plan Jonesboro".

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 12, 2021 11:19 AM

To: Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Council Comments

<CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>; mday@craigheadcounty.org; Smith, Brandt

<brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>; Dan4945 <dan.sullivanar53@gmail.com>;

charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; Chris Wessel

<cwessel@jonesborosun.com>; jackladyman@gmail.com; news@kjbntv.com;

news@kait8.com; KLEK 102.5 F.M. <klek@klekfm.org>;

quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu; Aldermen

<Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; dwight.tosh@arkansashouse.org

Cc: srandall@jonesborounlimited.com; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com;

slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com; gjared@talkbusiness.net

Subject: Re: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

Good morning,

In Part 1 of 4, "noTaxes, No Sports_Complex, #JonesboroStrong", I laid out an analysis of why Jonesboro's location makes it a poor comparison to the cities and towns that former "Team

Jonesboro" liked to compare it, LR, Fayetteville, Fort Smith, Springdale, Conway, and, now Cabot. Benton is added for good measure (pro-tip: Benton's vaunted "River Center" is not amongst the top-10 things to do on "trip advisor dot com").

Then, in Part 2 of 4, I offered this analysis how income and wealth compares:

<https://northeastarkansasteaparty.wordpress.com/2021/09/11/no-taxes-no-sports-complex-jonesborostrong-part-2-of-4/>

No Taxes, No Sports-Complex, #JonesboroStrong (Part 2 of 4) – Northeast Arkansas Tea Party

The complaints of the privileged are too often confused with the voice of the masses.”John Kenneth Galbraith (d. 2006), Economist In Part 1 of this series, here, analysis of the urban terrain revealed that the city of Jonesboro is an "island oasis", partly nestled in the hills of Crowley's Ridge, in Craighead County, Arkansas. The...

northeastarkansasteaparty.wordpress.com

The attachments to this email reflect the single most valuable "quality of life" measurement for working #JonesboroStrong - a lower cost-of-living and lower tax environment in which to live and to raise families. All are sourced from www.bestplaces.net, so check my work.

Best Places to Live | Compare cost of living, crime, cities, schools and more. Sperling's BestPlaces

Best Places to Live Tools. Cost Of Living - Find out what your salary should be if you moved to a new place. Schools - What are the Best Schools Near You? Crime Rates - What Places Have Low Crime Rates? Cities - Compare Economy, Cost of Living, Schools, Crime and More... Climate - Snow, Rain, Sun... Create Top Lists & Rankings

www.bestplaces.net

If the comparisons are inaccurate, I call for the city and Contact Our Team | Jonesboro Unlimited (JU) publish more accurate figures - make the case. Big bucks were recently spent on JU's second five-year plan, so there ought to be reams of data available, right? Aren't a majority of wealthier residents the executive's and manager's families throughout the industrial park, while those "start-ups" JU is seeking to attract would prefer and appreciate "making ends meet each month", similar to the 50+% of #JonesboroStrong who struggle each month...to make ends meet?

Contact Our Team | Jonesboro Unlimited

1709 E. Nettleton Ave | P.O. Box 789 Jonesboro, Arkansas 72403 (870) 336-9080

www.jonesborounlimited.com

As presented in Part 4 of 4, JU sings the praises of #JonesboroStrong for businesses it recruits to set up shop here, applauding lower costs, great people, along with other accolades. As past-JUs built the solutions on which the Jonesboro economy thrives today, let the current JU encourage local businesses and those in the "Existing Industries Association" to analyze the "amenities"

sought through tax increases and, if feasible, let the private sector build amenities to its heart's content - "stakeholder capitalism".

Why does the city government want to destroy the single-most significant advantage that JU promotes first? Raising tax collection over 100% (3-cent hotel tax until Jan 1, 2022, then 6-cents, plus other increases at cash registers downtown after 2-mill increase) is an out-of-control, spendthrift administration that has already added \$5M+ beyond its approved budget, with ~\$30M in "Reserves/Excess Reserves". Let the city use \$35K-\$50K on hand for its "feasibility study" before raising any tax.

Moreover, regardless of "forever-C19+" Arkansas and America, inflation and sales taxes are the two most regressive drains on the 'less-than-wealthier' wallets and purses laying on kitchen tables. The city is attacking the most vulnerable residents for its want of a competition swimming pool and other sports travel venue, because those with the wherewithal for travel team competition would like to stay home occasionally on weekends. If I'm wrong, let any addressee respond, but let the city council demand accountability from the Copenhaver administration - including a plan.

Let the addressees in public office and civic leaders make Jonesboro THE example in Arkansas and America of an admittedly, "company town - of by, and for the People". Vote "No" on all tax increases until this government shows its work...why won't it?

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 10:57 AM

To: Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Council Comments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>; mday@craigheadcounty.org; Smith, Brandt <brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>; Dan4945 <dan.sullivanar53@gmail.com>; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; Chris Wessel <cwessel@jonesborosun.com>; jackladyman@gmail.com; news@kjbntv.com; news@kait8.com; KLEK 102.5 F.M. <klek@klekfm.org>;

quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu; Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; dwight.tosh@arkansashouse.org

Cc: srandall@jonesborounlimited.com; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com; gjared@talkbusiness.net

Subject: Re: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

Recently, two items in the Jonesboro Sun deserve not only rebuttal, but condemnation. The first was the editorial on October 2, in which Chris Wessel blithely supported the tax increases currently before the Jonesboro City Council. While acknowledging that sales taxes are most damaging to lower income families, he did so without mentioning the record high inflation - a double whammy. He did not claim that inflation could be temporary because it isn't in this " ...never going back to a 2019 economy", per Federal Reserve Bank Chairman Jerome Powell.

Neither he nor Jerry Morgan, Jonesboro A&P Chairman, in "Conway doing what Jonesboro hopes to do", highlight that all that Jonesboro is attempting is in post-2020, forever-Covid America. The fundamental flaw in their logic is that Conway and the others started chasing sports complex-like amenities well before the Covid-19 emergency of March 2020. Those locales have sunk costs while Jonesboro has the flexibility of a "wait-and-see" approach in these new times. Doubt it? Ask the healthcare heroes and heroines of 2020 who are getting fired in 2021 if they'd prefer a lower-COL.

As another example, in 2017, Benton published a "Planning Studies Report" and recently surveyed for "Benton Vision 2040"; all the while, nothing from the Jonesboro City government. How the Jonesboro city council enables such a lack of concern with the public's money is jaw-dropping, that is until reading Part 3 of 4 in the series of articles, "No Taxes, No Sports-Complex, #JonesboroStrong".

Note that the Benton River Center closed until mid-May 2020. Who's to say some future virus-strain or other catastrophic event won't close it again, for a longer stretch? Also, Benton has at least a 24-person staff pictured in its brochure, a huge expense for the breadth and depth of the city's offerings.

More? Benton is already 5.6% more expensive than Jonesboro. Okay, one more: While Benton scored #33 "Best Place to Live" in Money Magazine, Jonesboro Unlimited reported in 2018 that Jonesboro was #1 in the South for economic strength. Somewhere, I read Jonesboro recently scored #5 for working families.

I challenge Mr. Morgan, Mr. Wessel, and Jonesboro Unlimited to list examples of companies "lost" to another location due to amenities. The executives making those decisions are likely not moving here and those that do can choose from three country clubs here. Or, Jonesboro Unlimited can sponsor the local swimmers and fund the travel costs. Perhaps the GM at the Embassy Suites can work a discounted price? Meanwhile, the residents and visitors in Jonesboro can focus on adjusting to "forever-Covid" America.

In closing, both Wessel and Morgan make "let them eat cake" arguments, i.e., the 50+% who struggle in Jonesboro to make ends meet each month can just pay more, to struggle more. Whether anything ever gets funded or built, life in Jonesboro becomes more expensive on Jan 1, 2022, when higher taxes kick-in.

City council, vote "No" to all tax increases, especially these which increase the tax take over 100% on Jan 1, 2022 - from 3 to 6-cents A&P, plus the "trickle-down" to the cash registers from the "2-mill" increase of the Downtown Jonesboro Improvement District.

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>

Sent: Friday, October 15, 2021 12:10 PM

To: Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>;

Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Re: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

Info on federal spending and inflation's effects on all Americans but worse on the most vulnerable, and worst for GenX, Millennials, GenZ.

In the midst of "forever-C19+" the Silents and Boomers are failing at leaving youngers a better country. Arkansas has slid from 11th to 5th worst state for taxes.

<https://conduitnews.com/more-taxes-and-the-games-they-play/>

Please, don't make it worse. Vote "No" on all tax increases.

Have a good weekend.

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 15, 2021 12:39 PM
To: mday@craigheadcounty.org; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; news@kjbntv.com; news@kait8.com; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu; Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com; gjared@talkbusiness.net; jackladyman@gmail.com; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; Conduit for Action <info@conduitforaction.org>; Conduit News Team info@conduitnews.com
Subject: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

A public thanks to KLEK for allowing me to inform its audience yesterday.

Today, info on federal spending and inflation's effects on all Americans, but worse on the most vulnerable, and worst still for GenX, Millennials, GenZ.

In the midst of "forever-C19+" the Silents and Boomers are failing at leaving youngers a better country. Arkansas has slid from 11th to 5th worst state for taxes.

<https://conduitnews.com/more-taxes-and-the-games-they-play/>

Please, don't make it worse for the 50% of ALICE workers and those in poverty.

<https://www.uwnea.org/2021-campaign>

Vote "No" on all tax increases.

Use funds on hand for any feasibility study. With Jonesboro United, the chamber of commerce, the Existing Industries Association, ASU's "No Boundary Thinking" department, local elected-officials, and interested residents can improve the quality of life for all.

Have a good weekend.

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 16, 2021 3:01 PM
To: mday@craigheadcounty.org; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; news@kjbntv.com; news@kait8.com; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu; Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com; gjared@talkbusiness.net; jackladyman@gmail.com; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; Conduit for Action <info@conduitforaction.org>; Conduit News Team <info@conduitnews.com>; Bill Campbell BCampbell@jonesboro.org
Subject: Re: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

Don't know if the A&P Commission honchos Welcome Centers but the one on I-30E, Texarkana did not have anything for Jonesboro, zip...not even a brochure for Embassy Suites.

We also got poor results at the Welcome Center in Helena a few months ago. I don't recall Blytheville's.

Worse, We are no longer "NEA" but the "Upper Delta". Funny, that NWA, SWA and Central kept theirs.

As demonstrated repeatedly over the course of this ongoing analysis, Jonesboro gets no respect.

Before raising taxes for no good reason, who has done the analysis of attracting visitors to Jonesboro? Where's the report of the results for the public?

State Senator Dan Sullivan has ideas for leveling the playing field before taking more from Our wallets and purses in taxes.

Have a good weekend,

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 17, 2021 11:31 AM
To: mday@craigheadcounty.org; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; news@kjbntv.com; news@kait8.com; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu; Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com; gjared@talkbusiness.net; jackladyman@gmail.com; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; Conduit for Action <info@conduitforaction.org>; Conduit News Team <info@conduitnews.com>; Bill Campbell BCampbell@jonesboro.org
Subject: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

Suspect security of a website enticing people to come to Jonesboro?<http://www.tourjonesboro.com>

Highlighting earthquakes in the description of Crowley's Ridge as a "fun fact" must certainly bring them in. Miss the reference? Read the history: <http://www.tourjonesboro.com/history.html>

Missing the overview and attractiveness of Parks and Recreation to visitors.

<https://www.jonesboro.org/Facilities>

Here's the search results on the AGFC.com website. Is the A&P Commission responsible for coordinating updates...for the recently opened Shooting Sports Range perhaps?

https://cse.google.com/cse?cx=014071632686314930579%3A9_y3phpcvj4&q=jonesboro&oq=jonesboro&gs_l=partner-generic.12...33517.37782.0.39346.9.9.0.0.0.141.950.5j4.9.0.csems%2Cnr1%3D13...0.4265j3041485j9...1j4.34.partner-generic..7.2.243.83m65sezSKU

Youth sports: most links to city page for residents. How does that promote Jonesboro to outsiders?

'nuff for a Sunday.

If yesterday's post from the Welcome Center at Texarkana and today's are indicative of the efforts to promote Jonesboro...

then vote "No" on all tax increases - it's not the residents who failed this surface scrub of A&P efforts, it's the city.

Back at it Monday,

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>

Sent: Monday, October 18, 2021 3:12 PM

To: mday@craigheadcounty.org; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; news@kjbntv.com; news@kait8.com; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu; Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com; gjared@talkbusiness.net; jackladyman@gmail.com; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; Conduit for Action <info@conduitforaction.org>; Conduit News Team <info@conduitnews.com>; Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Dan4945 <dan.sullivanar53@gmail.com>; Smith, Brandt <brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>; dwight.tosh@arkansashouse.org
Subject: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

Hope all had a good weekend

Looks like Outlook is limiting distribution due to the length of the email thread. Please, share liberally. Today's share are in the comments to the Morgan and Fielder interview on KLEK.

<https://fb.watch/8Jz99U9XDH/>

Community Conversations 10-18-21

Community Conversations with Jerry Morgan and Tom Fielder concerning the A&P Tax. This live stream is made possible by First Community Bank Where...

fb.watch

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2021 1:25 PM
To: mday@craigheadcounty.org; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; news@kjbntv.com; news@kait8.com; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu; Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com; gjared@talkbusiness.net; jackladyman@gmail.com; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; Conduit for Action <info@conduitforaction.org>; Conduit News Team <info@conduitnews.com>; Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Dan4945 <dan.sullivanar53@gmail.com>; Smith, Brandt <brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>; dwight.tosh@arkansashouse.org
Subject: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

In the military, We used the acronym "GOBI" to reference some seemingly nonsensical aspect of soldiering that higher headquarters imposed. From somewhere far removed, a "general officer bright idea" directed a change that only they had enough information to "fix", like change "A" to "a", etc.

Here's a short video from the distant past that made sense to ASU at the time, yet today, Jonesboro is spending \$K-\$M of taxpayer dollars to "reconnect" with the campus?

Vote "No" on all tax increases until Mayor Copenhagen presents his version of "Jonesboro Vision 2030" or "Operation Jonesboro". (Councilman Hafner knows yet says nothing.)

Fyi, lil 'ol Benton, AR is working its "Vision 2040".

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2021 9:23 AM
To: mday@craigheadcounty.org; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; news@kjbntv.com; news@kait8.com; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu; Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com; gjared@talkbusiness.net; jackladyman@gmail.com; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; Conduit for Action <info@conduitforaction.org>; Conduit News Team <info@conduitnews.com>; Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Dan4945 <dan.sullivanar53@gmail.com>; Smith, Brandt <brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>; dwight.tosh@arkansashouse.org
Subject: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

Whereas, with the historical success of those 100 businessmen who, according to former councilman Gene Vance, ponied up \$100 each to create "Jonesboro Unlimited" and, thus, the industrial powerhouse of #JonesboroStrong today; and,

Whereas, Councilman Moore said that he has read the daily emails I've sent these past weeks; and,

Whereas, in retrospect, he and, more so, Councilman Gibson's challenge to my math were made in good faith and were accurate as to the ordinances currently before the city council; and,

Whereas, my math was accurate in the context of the vote in the August 30, 2021 A&P Commission Meeting (and possibly the reading at the Finance Committee Meeting) which voted to request a new 2-cent prepared food tax and to plus--up the hotel tax by 1-cent, for an increase of A&P Commission taxes from 3- to 6-cents; and,

Whereas, regardless of the amount of taxes increased, it is the increase in government that the ordinances and city council votes represent; and,

Whereas, Mr. Morgan's FAQ-briefing acknowledged my math and offered no options to "tax the public on behalf of the swimming community" - state champions of Arkansas without a multi-million dollar facility; and,

Whereas, the city has the funds on hand to fund a "feasibility study" while researching options other than the taxpayers; and,

Whereas, in doing so, younger residents and all Arkansans can note and rediscover the creativity of elder American generations to apply the power of the private sector to improve the lives of younger generations;

Therefore, I again offer the "Jonesboro United" solution, Part 4 of 4 on why higher taxes are the wrong answer in Jonesboro, to wit: We are unique, the Gem of the Delta, the Capital of the Free State of Northeast Arkansas (now, the Upper Delta?). As this public-private-partnership has proven for decades, Jonesboro is unique. As such, let's start acting like it with "No Boundaries Thinking", eh Chancellor Damphousse?

<https://www.facebook.com/100072096893559/posts/119228313823731/?app=fbl>

As I said to the council and for all addressees, I'll answer any questions at any time.

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, October 21, 2021 10:09 AM

To: mday@craigheadcounty.org; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; news@kjbntv.com; news@kait8.com; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu;

Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com;

slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com; gjared@talkbusiness.net;

jackladyman@gmail.com; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; Conduit for Action

<info@conduitforaction.org>; Conduit News Team <info@conduitnews.com>; Bill Campbell

<BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Dan4945 <dan.sullivanar53@gmail.com>; Smith, Brandt

<brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>; dwight.tosh@arkansashouse.org

Subject: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

In essence, "amenities by another means" is an attempt to level the playing field, on behalf of roughly 50-years of middle- & lower-income, non-country club, #JonesboroStrong residents. As I read at the city council meeting on Tuesday, October 19, 2021: "For decades, most residents got by with one public swimming pool and could not keep a YMCA afloat, while private swimming pools increased from one to three country clubs. Today, those who can afford to swim and compete anywhere want the working residents to pay higher taxes so they don't have to travel so often."

The bottom-line is that those who are for the raising the A&P tax have "had their cake" for generations, i.e., private swimming pools at the three country clubs. But, despite somehow achieving a state championship with available practice facilities, they want to "eat more". By having taxpayers fund a competitive aquatics center, they won't have to travel quite so often and, when not practicing or competing in the "home" pool, they can retreat to those at their private clubs.

City council, don't let this tax increase move forward without first analyzing options to tax increases. With a 1-2 day working session hosted by the ASU "No Boundaries Thinking" Center, all stakeholders in the public and private sectors can determine a better way ahead. Most important are the "stakeholder capitalism" companies in the "Existing Industries Association" of "Jonesboro Unlimited", as well as the rest of the Chamber of Commerce. From the international and national "industrials" to local "big dawgs" to the "mom and pop" companies still recovering from 2020, this is the nexus of the economic strength in Jonesboro since those first days of "Jonesboro Unlimited".

Center for No Boundary Thinking Approved at A-State (astate.edu)

Center for No Boundary Thinking Approved at A-State

A proposal to establish the Center for No-Boundary Thinking (CNBT) at Arkansas State University was approved today by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The center builds upon research begun nearly a decade ago by Dr. Xiuzhen Huang, professor of computer science and a prolific researcher in the interdisciplinary area of bioinformatics.

www.astate.edu

Today, Jonesboro is a "company town of, by, and for the People". With private sector buy-in, the "heavy-hitters" will enable and accelerate all fiscal and project timeline concerns and allow "forever-Covid" constraints to evaporate (please don't negatively impact CW&L). Here, stakeholder capitalism replaces shareholder capitalism, with the private sector going the distance to improve the community in which they thrive, from a lower cost of doing business.

The elected officials from state, county, and city will facilitate the processes as necessary, as will all not-for-profits and non-profits. The results will validate and improve on that long-ago vision of the "Jonesboro Unlimited" which built the city into the "jobs for all" powerhouse. "Jonesboro Unlimited 2.0", add "leisure for all" to the scorecard of the future.

Who benefits the most? For one, "Jonesboro Unlimited". As Mark Young briefed to the Rotary Club of Jonesboro on "Momentum Jonesboro 2.0" (its second five-year plan), while Jonesboro is #2 overall in the nation of peer municipalities, shining on "infrastructure", "cost of doing business", and "economic momentum", it is average on "talent attraction" and "quality of place", and weak on "entrepreneurship" and "prosperity".

<https://youtu.be/9kByPFcZaiI>

Momentum Jonesboro 2.0 Jonesboro Unlimited 9/7/21 with Mark Young, President

Our September 7, 2021 program was presented by Mark Young, President, Jonesboro Unlimited & Jonesboro Regional Chamber of Commerce Jonesboro Unlimited (JU) re...

youtu.be

Others who will benefit are those very heavy-hitters who want nothing more than a legacy of world-class business performance and, also, a first- of-its-kind "stakeholder capitalism" achievement, of turning an assignment that is apparently seen by too many of the wealthier residents as "wanting of cache", into a top-3, most sought after assignment. Shoot, future executives may even accept a lesser compensation package due to the low cost of living their families enjoy, right?

Screw the same ol', same ol', tax and spend. 50% of residents are either living in poverty or struggling to make ends meet at the end of each month (source: United Way of NEA), an objective validation of Jonesboro's low-score on "prosperity" mentioned previously. So, council members, don't make it harder for the less wealthy through higher taxes on January 1, 2022.

Give partner ASU a chance to show what "No Boundaries Thinking" is all about. Elected officials, convince all stakeholders that its a worthy legacy of those who stood-up "Jonesboro Unlimited". As they themselves risked, those historic "ghosts" know that this is a real chance to reinvigorate the American spirit of innovation, creativity, and improve each resident's stretch for their "American Dream".

In the meantime, the city can pony-up the cost of a feasibility study from the \$Ms in "Excess Reserves"...it's Our money, so don't waste it.

We don't have the Waltons or the guvner to grease the way ahead. As it's always been, We have "Jonesboro Unlimited" and #JonesboroStrong.

Since September 12, 2021, I've been coming at this "No Increase In Taxes" issue hard because, if other than taxpayer funding can be achieved, all constituents can "have their cake (indoor sports and aquatics complex) and eat it, too"; that is, except for Ft. Smith, the lowest cost-of-living, lowest taxed, most affordable of the top-5 cities in Arkansas (source: www.bestplaces.net).

Back to Mark Young's scorecard:

- "Infrastructure"? Check. "Cost of Doing Business"? Check. "Economic momentum"? Check.

- With stakeholder capitalist partnerships: "Talent acquisition"...beat candidates off with a stick. "Quality of place"...who's going to gripe about "more", achieved by private sector successes?

- "Entrepreneurship"... Break tired paradigms with cutting edge "Red Wolves" analysis. And, most importantly, "Prosperity". At the risk of repeating myself: all constituents can "have their cake (indoor sports and aquatics complex) and eat it, too" - that is, rise to the lowest cost-of-living, lowest taxed, most affordable of the top-5 cities in Arkansas - which is the truest "quality of life" factor for the most #JonesboroStrong residents.

Let's get Jonesboro to #1.

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 22, 2021 9:31 AM
To: mday@craigheadcounty.org; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; news@kjbntv.com; news@kait8.com; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu; Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com; gjared@talkbusiness.net; jackladyman@gmail.com; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; Conduit for Action <info@conduitforaction.org>; Conduit News Team <info@conduitnews.com>; Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Dan4945 <dan.sullivanar53@gmail.com>; Smith, Brandt <brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>; dwight.tosh@arkansashouse.org
Subject: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

I didn't work with "Skunk" in DoD but I did play the helloutta Steely Dan records & still crank the volume on the radio.

This short clip (starts at 00:51:00 through "Dan Ackroyd" & "the kids" [Mayor Copenhaver's "Youth Council"?) is pre-"forever-Covid-19+". His concluding points apply more so today and speak to what could be accomplished with a first-of-its-kind, private-public partnership and "No Boundaries Thinking" - not in "Central" and not in "NWA", but here in "NEA" (which the state now refers to as the "Upper Delta"). The first step is to consider the value of other than "tax and spend" options that will not only improve the results, but do so on behalf of constituents who "need" the most consideration from the government closest to Us all.

(Full disclosure: As listed in my LinkedIn profile below, my last military duty assignment was Chief, Intelligence Fusion, US Army Directed Studies Office (ADSO). As the US Army's "Red Team", we applied "asymmetry" in our analysis. Also, I am very knowledgeable about the "OODA Loop" Baxter refers to; it saved me - twice.)

City council, please vote "no" on all tax increases - doing so improves the lives of all Jonesboro residents but, especially, those 50% who struggle to make ends meet at the end of each month. We already know that:

- Jonesboro has the revenue on hand to fund the "feasibility study" without new taxes ("loan" \$35-\$50K to A&P Commission?);

- There has been no answer on what happens to tax collection and revenues if no Aquatics center and/or sports-complex;

-The A&P plan is to tax and spend by ceding everything to a consultancy in the business of giving the customer what it wants (think "Johansen Study", under the guise of "fair market wages" to raise the cost of government).

ASU will likely give a better consultancy deal to its city partner and provide fresh, creative, and sounder conclusions. It has "neighborhood" skin-in-the-game to get it right-er and to prove the moniker, "No Boundaries Thinking". (Hey, I didn't hang the shingle.)

Lastly, the A&P plan has no Plan B for the city council to consider, a sure sign of ulterior motives. 21st century #JonesboroStrong can do better. "Wolves Up!"

A good weekend to all,

<https://youtu.be/YZKefHuiiOo?t=3060>

Jeff "Skunk" Baxter - ASYMMETRICAL THINKING IN A CONVENTIONAL WORLD.

<http://www.innotown.com> Like InnoTown on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/InnoTown> Subscribe to our channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/InnoTown> InnoTown@20...

youtu.be

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock

<http://www.linkedin.com/in/weino7>

Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, October 23, 2021 11:36 AM

To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org

Cc: mday@craigheadcounty.org; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; news@kjbntv.com;

news@kait8.com; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu;

crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com;

donnah@jonesborounlimited.com; gjared@talkbusiness.net; jackladyman@gmail.com;

charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; Conduit for Action <info@conduitforaction.org>; Conduit

News Team <info@conduitnews.com>; Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Dan4945

<dan.sullivanar53@gmail.com>; Smith, Brandt <brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>;

dwight.tosh@arkansashouse.org

Subject: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

(If any are interested in discussing the tax issues over an Oktoberfest, the church on Rains at Highland is celebrating 4-8 pm today.)

5th worst taxation in the nation, 4th lowest average income: <https://conduitnews.com/more-taxes-and-the-games-they-play/?s=03>

Taxes, More Taxes, and the Games They Play – Conduit News Arkansas

Arkansas taxes are high! Only five states are ranked worse than Arkansas.

conduitnews.com

Attachment comments:

(Inflation screenshot) First, the pandemic, now, the wallets and purses of struggling families?

(De-valuation of what's left) Halved by 2034?

(Texarkana Welcome Center) Not only nothin' about Jonesboro (except for "Sissy's Log Cabin") but, in Big Arkansas' eyes, We're no longer "NEA"?

(A&P website's suspect) That'll keep folks from learning about Us.

(Coach Jones) While I agree that ASU gut-checked against Louisiana, Coach demurs and then uses the "state's" perception of ASU, Jonesboro, and NEA as an out, as an excuse?

Council members, please vote "No' on tax increases. There's too much housekeeping and housecleaning to address before more tax and spending - throwing \$Ms at what's not-the-root-cause-of-the-problem!

What's needed is a gut-check in the mirror by them that would lay claim to having done all they could, while brochure shelves sit empty, while web-sites promote a lack-of-care, and while high-profile personalities "diss" the home team's hometown.

Enjoy the weekend,

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Pauletta Folden <paulettafolden@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 23, 2021 3:54 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: NO to the A an P Tax at this time

I think it is too much for right now and Till Biden is out of Office and our Economy is fixed from his Stupidity, I would want to wait till we are a GREAT COUNTRY AGAIN!

Pauletta Folden 2407 Twin Oaks Ave., Jonesboro

From: Andrew Stricklin <andrew.stricklin@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 23, 2021 3:54 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Oppose Sales Tax Increase

Councilmember-

I'm writing you today to share my stance sales tax or any kind of tax increase should be presented to the voter on a ballot and not done by city council or the A&P without the vote of the people.

This communication is spurred on by the proposed 2% sales tax that's being discussed on all prepared food to go towards a sports complex.

I have hose any action that you might take that implements this sales tax without directly hearing from a vote of the people.

Thank you for your time!

Andrew Stricklin
2026 West Nettleton Avenue #2, Jonesboro

From: Whitney Williams <rwwilliams1953@live.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 23, 2021 4:22 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: New Taxes

DATE: October 23, 2021

TO: Members of the Jonesboro City Council (Mr. David McClain; Mr. Joe Hafner; Dr. Charles Coleman; Mr. L. J. Bryant; Mr. Charles Frierson; Mr. Chris Gibson; Mr. Mitch Johnson; Mr. Bobby Long; Mr. Chris Moore; Mr. John Street; Mr. Brian Emison; Ms. Ann Williams)

From: Whitney Williams, Ph.D

RE: OPPOSE the Advertising and Promotion Taxes promotion.

Thank you for your services to the citizens of the City of Jonesboro.

I am strongly opposed to the approval and passing of the “Advertising and Promotion Taxes” without any type of feasibility studies. My opposition is for the following reason:

There has NOT been a real nor informative feasibility study that I have seen. My concern is that I have NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE SPECIFIC “STUFF” that this tax would hit me with. In this context, I do NOT know which groups are going to benefit from this tax NOR does it appear to me that the “Advertising and Promotion Committee” are operating in my best interest because of this lack of information.

REPEATING. . . . I am very strongly opposed to this tax and respectfully request that you also oppose and vote against it.

FACT: Jonesboro has an 8.5% tax and adding 2% would increase it to 10.5%. That will “hit” many citizens in Jonesboro with an extra financial burden that will be tough on them.

I am a resident of Jonesboro at 1706 High Ridge Lane (72404)

From: Veryl Hodges <hodgesvk@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 23, 2021 6:45 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Hamburger tax

I am strongly opposed to this tax which is unfair to the majority of the people in Jonesboro who can ill afford more taxes with inflation going up to levels not seen in several years. Please vote NO on this tax.

Veryl Hodges
2603 Nix Lane, Jonesboro 72404

From: Mona Baker <makbarbaker@msn.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 24, 2021 6:36 AM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Proposed A & P "Tax"

Aldermen,

As a resident of Jonesboro, Arkansas, I am informing you that I AM NOT in favor of this prepared food and Hotel/Motel "tax". My name is Mona Baker and I live at 1120 Medallion Cove, Jonesboro, AR 72404.

Thank you,
Mona Baker

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 24, 2021 11:30 AM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Cc: mday@craigheadcounty.org; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; news@kjbntv.com; news@kait8.com; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com; gjared@talkbusiness.net; jackladyman@gmail.com; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; Conduit for Action <info@conduitforaction.org>; Conduit News Team <info@conduitnews.com>; Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Dan4945 <dan.sullivanar53@gmail.com>; Smith, Brandt <brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>; dwight.tosh@arkansashouse.org; KLEK 102.5 F.M. klek@klekfm.org
Subject: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

Council members,

The "snow job" We, your constituents, are getting from the proponents for the "amenities" issue in Jonesboro is unconscionable, a long and elaborate misrepresentation, a deception, and a violation of the public's trust. The city council is presented only one "do first" - to tax. There is no option, which in one council member's words recently is, in essence, the figuratively pointing of a gun at the residents of #JonesboroStrong to "pay the tax or don't eat any prepared food in this city". That is not a reasonable nor practical, nor a civil "choice" for the people you represent.

Is the Fort Smith, AR, city government more concerned about proper stewardship of the public's needs than Ours'? Does proper stewardship include the least risky option to determine if a project is feasible? Why haven't #JonesboroStrong residents been provided, through their elected representatives, a less risky option...or any option to "tax"?

The first 4:05 minutes in the link below is on a Fort Smith indoor sports-complex story, from a Talk Business and Politics reporter on May 28, 2021. It's stunning how different it sounds when compared to what We've heard in Jonesboro since August 17, 2021, when the issue resurfaced in the A&P Commission meeting.

The Fort Smith A&P Commission is looking at a 150,000 sf, \$40,000,000 facility (no "aquatics" mentioned).

Fort Smith will contract a \$30,000 feasibility study (12-14 weeks) first:

+\$7,500 from the city;

+\$7,500 from A&P Commission;

+\$15,000 match from Big Arkansas.

Quote-ish, "I always am a little cynical about these studies. Sometimes, I wonder if they're more a study about if it's truly feasible, or a study on how to build a case to sell such a facility to the public, because....even though they talk about some sponsorships...that's still a pretty big price tag for the Fort Smith area." <https://www.kuaf.com/post/new-sports-arena-fort-smith#stream/0>

The differences between the municipalities is stark. Whereas Fort Smith follows the path of "public trust", Jonesboro only wants the tax dollars.

Please vote "No" on all tax increases:

-The "Hamburger Tax" is as described above;

-The DJID already has the authority to charge fees for members who don't comply with its requirements;

-The pending "hotel tax" is an unwelcome, unnecessarily nit-picking burden on guests to Our city..."community", Mayor Copenhagen?

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Christina Forrester <cforrester83@yahoo.com>

Sent: Sunday, October 24, 2021 12:10 PM

To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org

Cc: City Clerk CityClerk@jonesboro.org

Subject: Vote YES - ORD 21-046

My name is Christina Forrester. I live at 2804 Ridgemont Road in Jonesboro. I am asking you to VOTE YES on ordinance 21-046 coming up for its final reading and a vote. I am currently a swim mom, as my daughter swims for Jets Aquatic Club. However, over the past 18+ years, we have been a multi-sports family as my boys participated in wrestling, soccer, basketball, football and baseball through school and various leagues for many years. I have witnessed the positive outcomes of what the A&P taxes can do as my youngest son played baseball at Joe Mack before the improvements and my nephew played after improvements. Due to improvements there, the

city of Jonesboro has been able to attract larger tournaments including the Cal Ripken World Series. The sports facility and aquatic center this new tax would support is not about our swim and sports families saving money on travel. It's about providing better opportunities for the youth in our city and surrounding areas. It's about drawing visitors and revenue to our community. Even more, it's about attracting families to our city! We have so many young adults graduating and leaving this area for better opportunities. We must do what it takes to continue to improve our community and encourage our young people to WANT to stay here; to have a place where they WANT to settle down and grow their families. As it stands, other communities are attracting them away from here. They go there and invest in those cities and industries. VOTE YES on this new ordinance. There is more at stake here than just a sports facility.

Thank you,
Christina Forrester

From: Laurie Fielder <laf.2500@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 24, 2021 1:53 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Vote Yes

Please Vote Yes on the prepared food tax for the future of our city.
Thank you,

Laurie Fielder
1002 Rolling Forest Drive
Jonesboro, AR 72404

From: Rachel Johnson <r.johnson@kidspotnea.com>
Sent: Monday, October 25, 2021 10:33 AM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: My vote counts

Dear Aldermen,

MY VOTE IS YES!!!!!!!!!! I support the hamburger tax. I want a multipurpose facility in Jonesboro!!!

Thank you

Rachel Johnson
320 Savannah Drive
Jonesboro, AR 72404

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 25, 2021 11:01 AM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Cc: mday@craigheadcounty.org; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; news@kjbntv.com; news@kait8.com; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com;

dannah@jonesborounlimited.com; gjared@talkbusiness.net; jackladyman@gmail.com; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; Conduit for Action <info@conduitforaction.org>; Conduit News Team <info@conduitnews.com>; Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Dan4945 <dan.sullivanar53@gmail.com>; Smith, Brandt <brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>; dwight.tosh@arkansashouse.org; KLEK 102.5 F.M. klek@klekfm.org
Subject: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

Council members,

Please vote "Nay" to all proposed tax increases before the council.

From the link below: "In short, earnings grew because the decline in full-time, year-round workers was concentrated among workers with lower earnings and workers in low-wage industries and occupations." (Note that government workers are not listed on the second chart.)

<https://www.census.gov/america-counts/job-losses>

Fewer Low-Wage Full-Time, Year-Round Workers During COVID-19 Causes Increase in Median Earnings Among Those Still Employed

How could earnings for full-time, year-round workers go up while earnings fell for all workers? There were fewer low-wage full-time, year-round workers.

www.census.gov

Any increase in taxes hurts the 50% of families who struggle to make ends meet at the end of each month, perhaps including "lower earning workers" on the city's payroll. However, those public employees have the advantage of "guaranteed" employment, which the great majority of private sector "workers in low-wage industries and occupations" don't have.

As they say, a "one picture is worth 1,000 words."

If your constituency is ~82,000 #JonesboroStrong, of which ~600 are on the city's payroll with the premium it brings, then a "Nay" vote is the truest on the behalf of the greatest majority of the workers and families that you represent.

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Margo <margofarris1964@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 25, 2021 1:28 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Proposed 2% tax

I strongly oppose this. It is not the American way for an elected official to impose extra tax on people without a vote. We the people elect officials to be the voice for us. If I am not mistaken, we voted last November on a similar proposal that was voted down. You want to increase the tax and impose against the will of the people who voted you in. If I have learned anything from the

November 2020 election, it is that government starts at the city level. I will be checking how my councilman votes on this subject. I am not saying I am against the proposal but I am saying that I am against the way you are trying to get it approved.

Margo Farris
1305 Layman, Jonesboro, Ar

From: Stephanie Neely <ks_neely@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 25, 2021 3:05 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: ORD-21:046

Jonesboro City Council,

I am asking for your support for the Jonesboro Sports Complex. If so many smaller communities around us can build and support a sports complex we should be able to do the same. As a retired educator with 40 years experience I promise it is better to make an investment in the lives of our youth early by providing them with positive activities to do. PLEASE do not let people with negative attitudes keep this council from standing up for our kids. They truly are our future!

Sincerely,

Stephanie Neely
3309 Dan Ave.
Jonesboro, AR 72401

From: Tracy McAllister Owens <therecoveryroomjonesboro@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 10:06 AM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: AP Tax

Good morning,

I am writing to leave my comments as a restaurant owner and citizen of this city on the proposed prepared food tax. and as well the additional hotel tax.

In full disclosure, I sit as a commissioner for the AP. So you know I am completely FOR this prepared food tax.

As a Commissioner, I was amazed at the amount of money the AP has to work with to promote Jonesboro compared to other cities with a prepared food tax.

Every year, we turn away deserving groups who request money to put their tournament on, improve their field, etc. And every year, we struggle with who gets the limited amount of funds.

I know asking for a tax is not easy. It was not an easy decision for the AP, either. But, when weighed against the opportunity for growth and economic impact, I think it is a small price to pay and it has been worth asking for.

Youth sports tourism is the fastest growing segment of travel at >45 Million annually.

The average family spends \$800 a weekend on a sports travel event.

AP has hired a Director dedicated to recruit teams to our current venues so that we can ensure a steady stream of events to the area. We just need a venue large enough and diverse enough to hold them.

Having teams here from other states/cities can be used for recruiting people to this area long term. But, we have to have something for them to see before they will come here.

I remember a comment from one of my fellow commissioners saying that without good people and families coming to fill the hotels, they are filled by less than desirable people engaging in illegal activities. Lets fill Jonesboro hotels and restaurants with good families supporting their children in wholesome activities.

Again, I recognize the difficulty in imposing a tax. But I do believe that the economic impact outweighs the tax burden. I know the TEA party people would like a feasibility study and are quick to point out the negative. THE study would tell us specifics about size, place, facilities, yes. However, looking at the cities with these types of facilities we can already project the economic impact. When Jonesboro has events, my restaurant fills up. And that translates to more volume and more wages for the people who work for me. They take that money and spend it here at home.

Last few points:

People who receive SNAP benefits will not be impacted at the grocery bc they are not taxed on their benefits.

The CDC did a four year study to determine who is eating out. It is not people with the least amount of money. The majority of people eating in restaurants are business people at lunch and people who live 330% above the poverty line.

I thank you for your time. I know your job is heavy.

Tracy McAllister Owens
The Recovery Room Restaurant
223 S. Main, Jonesboro, Ar

Correspondence Address:
2400 Paula Drive, Jonesboro, Ar 72404

From: MELINDA KNIGHT <melinda.knight@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 4:17 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Sales Tax

I oppose the A & P sales tax on prepared foods. I also oppose elected officials imposing this tax without registered voters in our city being allowed to vote on it.

Melinda Knight
1100 Marjorie Dr.
Jonesboro, AR 72401

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 4:22 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Cc: mday@craigheadcounty.org; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; KJNB Fox and CBS <news@kjnbvtv.com>; KAIT Region 8 <news@kait8.com>; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com; gjared@talkbusiness.net; jackladyman@gmail.com; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; Conduit for Action <info@conduitforaction.org>; Conduit News Team <info@conduitnews.com>; Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Dan4945 <dan.sullivanar53@gmail.com>; Smith, Brandt <brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>; dwight.tosh@arkansashouse.org; KLEK 102.5 F.M. klek@klekfm.org
Subject: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

"The complaints of the privileged are too often confused with the voice of the masses."

John Kenneth Galbraith (d. 2006) Economist

Ms. Stevens does an admirable job of addressing the "hamburger tax" issue and answers all questions. Why hasn't the city council demanded that A&P do the same? Options to "tax first" and the option of funding the feasibility study with funds on hand, are just two.

<https://fb.watch/8U84I6jDXZ/>

KLEK 102.5 FM - Community Conversations 10-26-21 | Facebook

Community Conversations with Iris Stevens discussing proposed A and P Tax. This live stream is made possible by First Community Bank Where “Community is...

fb.watch

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Chenoa Summers <chenoasummers314@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 9:22 PM
To: Harold Copenhaver <HCopenhaver@jonesboro.org>; Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Please Support Ord-21:046

Hello,

I wanted to urge you to support Ord-21:046. This will benefit our city greatly. Hotel owners are behind it. Community leaders support it. Unless you support the idea that sales taxes are

regressive and taxes should come from a progressive ladder of income, please support this ordinance's third reading and vote yes.

Thanks,
Chenoa Summers
Beaver Run Lane

From: Christy Thompson-Dunn <cdunn0507@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 7:37 AM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: No to tax increases

I do not want taxes increased to fund a sports complex. The current inflation is affecting Jonesboro citizens negatively. People do not need to pay more in taxes at this time.

Christy Dunn
4609 Rockport Drive
Jonesboro, Ar 72404

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 10:42 AM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Cc: mday@craigheadcounty.org; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; KJNB Fox and CBS <news@kjnbvtv.com>; KAIT Region 8 <news@kait8.com>; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com; gjared@talkbusiness.net; jackladyman@gmail.com; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; Conduit for Action <info@conduitforaction.org>; Conduit News Team <info@conduitnews.com>; Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Dan4945 <dan.sullivanar53@gmail.com>; Smith, Brandt <brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>; dwight.tosh@arkansashouse.org; KLEK 102.5 F.M. klek@klekfm.org
Subject: Re: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

(All of this is from the Jonesboro Sun. It is not a trivial matter for elected representatives to vote in a way that hurts the ability of those working hard to better take care for all that is theirs, when there are less costly ways to, not only attain "luxury" (less travel team weekends away from home) but also to avoid unfair and unnecessary "damage" to whatever is important to those struggling. How about not imposing more "straw" on those Americans?)

Excepting KLEK FM 102.5, where's the interviews and/or investigations from the rest of local media? Doubt it? Re-read Sunday, October 24th's post about Fort Smith self-funding its feasibility study for an indoor sports-complex:

What happened as a result of Jonesboro Sun headlines in August 2019, such as "City pay hikes, pensions drain reserve funds" and "JFD costs climb 29% in 5 years". Both analyses ran prior to the special election on September 10th, in which the electorate voted down the 1% sales tax. We

know how catastrophic that defeat was for Jonesboro; as predicted by "Team Jonesboro", today the city is a "graveyard". Despite sitting atop ~\$30 in total Reserves, despite millions of more dollars from sales tax revenue and from the "helicopter money" super-overcharges on our great-grandkids' and Mayor Copenhaver's grandkids' federal credit card, the city still cries poor, deficient, wanting...with banks and restaurants squeezing into "infill" throughout the city.

Then, as now, the Sun editorialized in support of a tax without having any transparency from the administration on the city's financial condition. Today, we have no clue on the mayor's plan for Jonesboro, other than to piecemeal multi-million-dollar spending plans for amenities, while we #JonesboroStrong wonder whatever happened to the two firehouses needed to maintain our pristine fire insurance rating? Sun?

Then, the Sun claimed, "[I]t may be the last chance for our community to adequately fund public safety needs and quality-of-life projects Jonesboro so desperately needs." The Sun, the Perrin administration, and Team Jonesboro were tone-deaf to the needs and wants of #JonesboroStrong, which was to take care of public safety and other "needs" and leave amenities to the private sector.

What is different now is the increased arrogance of the pro-taxers. Mayor Copenhaver has one Team Jonesboro in his executive suite, with another still serving as the volunteer A&P Commissioner. Today, there's not even whispers of public safety needs.

More than one pro-taxer, including some elected officials, have said or written that, if anyone doesn't want to pay the tax, then don't eat out. Single and working parents don't have the luxury to live the life of luxury of some pro-taxers, those with food-tasters to 1) prevent "early implementation of succession plans" at home, and/or to 2) avoid nefarious eatery workers who slide boogers into the entrees of those who send their filet mignon back to the kitchen (hyperbolic sarcasm, perhaps?).

In reality, the "working poor" are likely too busy at getting done what needs to get done on behalf of their family in "Covid-America" and the employer(s) in "Covid-America" to attend to civic matters, even when those matters make their lives harder. City council matters often conflict with "clocked-in" or "too damn tired" or "it doesn't make any difference".

The Fort Smith comparison belies the "first, tax" ultimatum before the city council, which must vote down this ploy. By the way, the executive suite is getting these "dailies", right "BC"?

PressReader.com - Digital Newspaper & Magazine Subscriptions

Fort Smith sports facility study to seek stakeholder input - PressReader

PressReader. Catalog; For You; Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette. Fort Smith sports facility study to seek stakeholder input 2021-10-10 - THOMAS SACCENTE Thomas Saccente can be reached by email at tsaccente@nwadg.com. . FORT SMITH — A consultant hired by the city plans to talk to local leaders next month about a proposed indoor sports complex.

www.pressreader.com

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Christy Appleton <christy.appleton@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 4:39 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: In support of tax on prepared foods

Please vote for the tax on prepared foods. Our city must keep moving forward, and we desperately need this income to build a multi-sports complex for our community. Our city leaders have always wanted to keep improving the city, and we have benefitted from their wisdom, vision, and courage to make decisions to make that happen. Please continue this long legacy by voting "Yes" on the Prepared Food Tax.

Thank you.

Christy Appleton
2505 Rosewood Circle
Jonesboro, AR 72401

From: Lynn Jones <nanacljones@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 7:17 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Tax Opposition

Dear Aldermen,

I am writing this email to let you know I totally oppose this tax. This is not the time to raise any taxes with our economy like it is. And it certainly shouldn't be done without the people allowed to vote on it.

4020 Chapel Hill Dr.
Jonesboro, AR 72404

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 28, 2021 9:56 AM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Cc: mday@craigheadcounty.org; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; KJNB Fox and CBS <news@kjnbvtv.com>; KAIT Region 8 <news@kait8.com>; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com; gjared@talkbusiness.net; jackladyman@gmail.com; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; Conduit for Action <info@conduitforaction.org>; Conduit News Team <info@conduitnews.com>; Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Dan4945 <dan.sullivanar53@gmail.com>; Smith, Brandt <brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>; dwight.tosh@arkansashouse.org; KLEK 102.5 F.M. klek@klekfm.org
Subject: Re: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

Whereas, the Jonesboro Advertising and Promotions (A&P) Commission claims that Jonesboro, Arkansas, must "first, tax", in order to then commission a ~\$50,000 feasibility study for an indoor sports-complex; and,

Whereas, Fort Smith, Arkansas, recently self-funded and commissioned a feasibility study for a ~150,000 square foot indoor sports-complex (no aquatics mentioned in news) for only ~\$30,000 (\$7,500 A&P, \$7,500 city, \$15,000 state grant), the study of which is scheduled to begin in November 2021; and,

Whereas, the Jonesboro city government currently has ~\$30,000,000 in "Reserves", i.e., it has the funds on hand with which to self-fund a feasibility study in a similar manner that is in the best interests of and is the least burdensome option to its constituents, as Fort Smith is demonstrating; and,

Whereas, the example of Fort Smith stands in stark contrast to Jonesboro A&P's "tax first" claim which, as such, is an unnecessary and unfair tax burden on everyone still in the midst of "Covid-19" and/or still recovering since March 2020; and,

Whereas, the 2020-Community-Profile---Jonesboro includes a 22.1% poverty rate; and,

Whereas, the United Way of Northeast Arkansas documents that 30% of its service area includes employed workers who struggle to make ends meet at the end of each month, also known as "ALICE" (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed); and,

Whereas, lower income workers who may oppose the tax do not have the luxury to, as some proponents of the tax profess, "not eat out", i.e., to prepare 100% of the family's meals at home; and,

Whereas, all unnecessary depletion of income by the government, such as the "prepared food tax" that the A&P Commission intends for the Jonesboro City Council to force on everyone - including workers who must balance the 24/7 demands of family care in "Covid-America" with the job constraints required by employers in "Covid-America" - is an unfair "straw" added to the burdens of the most vulnerable constituents of the Jonesboro City Council, and,

Whereas, this ordinance does not include the language often used in ordinances adopted by the Jonesboro City Council, that its adoption is for the "safety, health, and welfare" of the residents; then,

It is clear that this ordinance is not intended as being in the best interests of the residents and is intended simply to extract precious income from the residents, in order to expand the tax coffers of the A&P Commission and, therefore, must be unanimously voted down by the Jonesboro City Council.

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Mitch Mahan <mmahan62@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 28, 2021 1:16 PM

To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Don't hold the city back - Vote For

Please don't let anti-tax tea party members keep you from voting for the proposed "hamburger tax" for the betterment of Jonesboro.

Jonesboro needs to be able to build a sports complex for our kids and future generations. The additional revenue is a necessary evil for the continued development of this city. While no one is for raising taxes, a tax like the one that has been proposed will benefit us all in the long run.

I am FOR this tax and I hope you will vote in favor.

Sincerely,

Mitchell D Mahan
2403 Paula Drive
Jonesboro, AR 72404

From: Pamela Hawkins <ladyhawk5623@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 29, 2021 6:48 AM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: The A & P 2% sales tax

I strongly oppose this sales tax. Jonesboro already pays one of the highest rates of sales tax in the state. Restaurants are already hurting from the pandemic and people are still struggling as well. And with inflation escalating, families are struggling to put food on the table let alone go out to eat. But you want to raise our taxes even more?! As a senior citizen on a fixed income, the cost of living increase that I will receive from Social Security for this next year won't even cover the price of inflation let alone your 2% tax rate increase. There are a lot more pressing problems that need to be addressed in this city other than a sports complex, such as basic infrastructure (streets, drainage, fire stations to keep our rating for insurance, etc). As our elected leaders, it is your job to manage our taxes to pay for our most basic needs (police, fire, roads, sewer, drainage). The city still owes me for soil that was dug out of my yard 15 years ago when a new sidewalk was put in and I've been trying to get the city to fix the drainage grate that is about to fall in at the corner of my property for 10 years. I live at 301 S McClure St, Jonesboro, Ar 72401 and I would really like to have these issues resolved before you try to tax me further.

Sincerely, Pamela Hawkins

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 29, 2021 11:21 AM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Cc: mday@craigheadcounty.org; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; KJNB Fox and CBS <news@kjnbvtv.com>; KAIT Region 8 <news@kait8.com>; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com; gjared@talkbusiness.net; jackladyman@gmail.com; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; Conduit for Action <info@conduitforaction.org>; Conduit

News Team <info@conduitnews.com>; Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Dan4945 <dan.sullivanar53@gmail.com>; Smith, Brandt <brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>; dwight.tosh@arkansashouse.org; KLEK 102.5 F.M. klek@klekfm.org
Subject: Re: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

Council members, vote "No" on the "Hamburger Tax" and the "Hotel Tax" (and the "DJID Tax", too, to wake up those who would increase a tax that will increase the cost of "downtown", while spending millions of dollars on a "Downtown-ASU Re-connector", to attract students who can't afford the tabs downtown.)

Before penalizing 100% of #JonesboroStrong residents and 100% of visitors who, through no fault of their own, will with increased taxes, bear the brunt of years(?) of contradictory, poorly managed and poorly executed advertising and promotions messaging by the city. Rejecting higher taxes tells the administration to police up its obvious shortfalls in its marketing efforts to whomever, whatever and from wherever it seeks to attract visitors here.

If the government and private entities that claim to lead (rather than "serve") Jonesboro were consistent with "Why Jonesboro", this mayor's ploy for a new "Hamburger Tax" would be more defensible. If the residents living here in Jonesboro received the same consideration of their "needs" to thrive as do the commercial entities that the city seeks to attract, evidence would surface on the real sources of the so-called problems that the city claims, do actually exist. But because the problem is in the mirror of its own making, Mayor Copenhaver is asking the city council to punish the people, with unfair ordinances.

As quoted below, A&P Commissioner Jerry Morgan's publicly funded A&P pronouncement contradicts the message of the private, "Jonesboro Regional Chamber of Commerce" and its "Jonesboro Unlimited". In the October 8, 2021, Jonesboro Sun article, "Planning for the Conway complex began in 2018",

"In addition to Conway, Morgan said plans will soon be announced for a similar project in West Memphis. He said Jonesboro is competing with those cities and others for new economic development. When businesses and professionals look at which city they want to locate in, especially those with children, they look at what those cities have to offer," Morgan said. "They don't look for the city with the lowest tax rate." Conway doing what Jonesboro hopes to do | News | jonesborosun.com

As pointed out before to the 15-20 addressees in this email thread, the truthfulness of his quote is nowhere to be found, except as anecdotal examples from "prop-taxers" within city government or an arm of it, as is the A&P Commission, or private sector individuals and companies, such as the GM of the Embassy Suites. Jonesboro Unlimited "recruits" for "Why Jonesboro".

If Morgan's statement was true, why do so many continue to move here? While some may quibble that "low cost-of-living" is different than "lowest taxes", the concern with "low expenses" is found throughout the web:

Here: Jonesboro Unlimited website (screenshot)

Here: Jonesboro Unlimited website (screenshot)

Here: Jonesboro Unlimited website (screenshot)

Here, Jonesboro is more affordable and much less crowded than NWA: Northwest Arkansas continues pandemic recovery, affordability issue highlighted in annual report - Talk Business & Politics

Meanwhile, while Mr. Morgan's A&P website sings the praises of quality of life in Jonesboro, anyone see any "cautions" that may preclude interested "searchers" from clicking for more information? Tour Jonesboro – Home (A&P website screenshot)

How about the mayor's "welcome"? (City of Jonesboro website screenshot)

How about poor representation at and city's attention to 13 "Welcome Centers" throughout Arkansas? (Picture of Welcome Center)

"Upper Delta", Big Arkansas, and nothing about Jonesboro at Texarkana's?

Spoiler alert: Big Arkansas isn't a friend of Jonesboro! (Screenshot for Arkansas.com)

Here is the graphic of what City Hall is attempting. This is a pic outside the Council chambers on Sep 28, 2021, around 3:45 pm, while awaiting the city to unlock the doors for the Finance Committee Meeting that recommended the "Hamburger Tax" to the city council. (no picture)

Whereas government workers have not missed a paycheck since March 2020, private sector employees were not so lucky: (no picture)

Council members, Vote, "No". This mayor, this A&P Commission, have failed to make the case that "first, tax" is the choice of last resort, when its own performance proves otherwise.

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 30, 2021 9:00 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Cc: mday@craigheadcounty.org; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; KJNB Fox and CBS <news@kjnbvtv.com>; KAIT Region 8 <news@kait8.com>; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com; gjared@talkbusiness.net; jackladyman@gmail.com; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; Conduit for Action <info@conduitforaction.org>; Conduit News Team <info@conduitnews.com>; Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Dan4945 <dan.sullivanr53@gmail.com>; Smith, Brandt <brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>; dwight.tosh@arkansashouse.org; KLEK 102.5 F.M. klek@klekfm.org
Subject: Re: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

Notice that there was no pic at the end of yesterday's post? My bad. It would have been one of the following:

Picture of overflowing trashcan

Screenshot of picture of overflowing trashcan with wording

Screenshot of picture of overflowing trashcan with different wording

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 31, 2021 12:22 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Cc: mday@craigheadcounty.org; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; KJNB Fox and CBS <news@kjnbvtv.com>; KAIT Region 8 <news@kait8.com>; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com; gjared@talkbusiness.net; jackladyman@gmail.com; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; Conduit for Action <info@conduitforaction.org>; Conduit News Team <info@conduitnews.com>; Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Dan4945 <dan.sullivanar53@gmail.com>; Smith, Brandt <brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>; dwight.tosh@arkansashouse.org; KLEK 102.5 F.M. klek@klekfm.org
Subject: Re: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

Mea culpa..."uncle".

As the Jonesboro Sun succinctly called me out, I "conflated" the millage ordinance with the A&P ordinance(s) and created a "fog" of "wtf is he saying?!" During the city council meeting on October 19, the rationale I made for not raising any tax was not clear and, from Councilman Gibson to the other councilmembers, y'all did an admirable job asking questions and dissembling what still amounts to a 100% increase in the A&P collections.

It was Councilman Moore's comments that prove the lie to what Mayor Copenhaver is seeking with these ordinances - to raise taxes. To paraphrase, Councilman Moore made two points: 1) if the millage is increased and you don't want to pay higher cost at the cash register, then "eat somewhere else"; and, 2) If you live in a house and your millage goes up, you have no choice but to pay it...taxes are enforced at the point of a gun."

Both the millage increase and A&P ordinances have an identical affect at the cash register. Working parents, the working poor, even those in poverty, 1) do not have a choice to cook all meals at home as, not only does Councilman Moore's comment imply, but as some other pro-taxers have also stated publicly. "Cooking all meals at home" is neither a practical nor humane option and, while it may sound like a choice, it isn't. So, at its practical "root cause effect", any increase in these taxes is being enforced, as Councilman Moore said, "at the point of a gun."

As for the "lie", these ordinances to raise taxes are, in fact, just that and only that. While wrapped in this administration's "bright and shiny" bauble of whatever amenities it claims to want - it doesn't matter. If this was not a fact, the mayor would have notified the city council that there is

a better, more humane, option for conducting a feasibility study; humane, in that, it will cost the "community" a taxpayers' pittance compared to the \$250,000 that the A&P commission claims that its coffers would expand each and every month with increased taxes.

If this was about anything other than increased taxes, the mayor would invoke his business development expertise on behalf of his "clients", the residents of #JonesboroStrong, to bring in the feasibility study at \$30,000 with - get this Mr. and Ms. Councilmember - half of that expense being picked up by other taxpayers throughout Arkansas in the form of a \$15,000 state grant! No, it's true. Our sister Arkansas city, Fort Smith, starts its "no more than \$30,000" feasibility study within two weeks and, as an even better deal for its residents (and our community if this "best practice" is followed here) than that 50% "discounted" rate, the remaining \$15,000 is split: \$7,500 from the city's coffers and \$7,500 from the Fort Smith A&P's coffers which, get this and I kid you not, is funded not only by residents but also by visitors to Fort Smith, Arkansas.

But, whereas Saturday's Jonesboro Sun reported that y'all will address these tax ordinances at the meeting on Tuesday, Nov 2, and, whereas Mayor Copenhaver has known about the Fort Smith option for more than a week - more than enough time to inform the public of his "find" (the link below is from April 2021) - then, he is acting solely as a "tax and spend" politician. In post-2020, "forever-Covid 19+ America", with a national and state government that shutdown the private sector's "mom & pop's" economy - and could do so again - the mayor and his administration prove themselves least humane towards the community in which they were hired to serve.

The same applies to you council members. Any "Yea" vote, despite the baubles, is the least humane in a community in which, as both the United Way of Northeast Arkansas and the US Census document, is populated by friends and neighbors who are at least 50% in poverty or struggling to make ends meet each month - the "working poor". "Nays" to tax increases serve all of your constituents as being the most respectful of those you serve in the uncertain times in which you serve us but, more so, "Nay" votes best serve them that need them most.

Once again: Fort Smith sports complex study funds approved by commission (swtimes.com)

Fort Smith sports complex study funds approved by commission - Southwest Times Record

"We won't even be commissioning this study until July, when hopefully we get approval from the state on matching funds," said Jacobsen. Jacobsen has estimated an indoor sports facility could operate year-round and bring in up to 1,000-1,200 people at a time. These people would then spend money in the city, he argued.

www.swtimes.com

Kudos to Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Leslie Linsman <leslielinsman@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 11:13 AM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: ORD-21:046

Good morning,

My name is Leslie Linsman and I reside at 4000 Chapel Hill Drive in Jonesboro.

I am writing in support of ORD-21:046!!

My daughter is 10 years old and started the swim team this summer and has loved it so much that she asked to be able to continue swim year round. The kids were swimming in the outdoor pool until a few weeks ago, however it became too cold and now we have had to transition into indoor at St. Bernard's Health and Wellness center. SBHW is a very nice facility but the pool is nowhere near large enough to get all of kids the practice they need. We have had to schedule time whenever it is available to us to be able to practice. A sports complex with an indoor aquatics facility would make a world of difference for our ever growing Jets swim team. We would be able to host swim meets at anytime and our kids would have access to the room they needed to practice.

Our daughter plays multiple sports for which we travel for-when we go to other towns we spend hundreds of dollars on hotels, restaurants, concessions stands. This is all money would be spent in Jonesboro if we had a facility where others would be able to come for swim meets, all kinds of tournaments, etc. Voting yes for ORD-21:046 would be investing in our community and our children.

Thank you for your time!

Leslie Linsman

From: Asad Khan <asad337@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 12:02 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>; Harold Copenhaver HCopenhaver@jonesboro.org
Subject: Vote YES Ord 21:046

Dear City Councilors,

Please support Ord 21:046, which will support much-needed infrastructure for our city's students and families. Our city is missing out on opportunities for both our local families and for economic development.

As a physician who works for the mental and emotional health of our children and youth, it will more than pay for itself in terms of a healthier and safer community.

Asad Khan, MD
Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist
(Residential) Charleston Dr, Jonesboro

From: shannondesign@suddenlink.net <shannondesign@suddenlink.net>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 12:25 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: YES< YES : In support of Ordinance 21-046

Good afternoon,

Please vote yes and approve the additional 2% on prepared food as a tax. I am aware that 2 readings have taken place and the 3rd will be read Tuesday, Nov. 2.

We understand that the revenue generation from this tax will be used to build a Multi-Sports Complex with basketball, volleyball courts and a 8 lane swimming facility, all of which can be used for both recreation and competition. Certainly, the facility would not be limited to those 3 sports. Cheer, dance, pickleball, walking track possibly.

My family follows the Jets Swim Team. At present they do not have an adequate facility to practice in the cooler months, as ASU has closed their pool permanently. In recent years there have been several Jets who have earned a full scholarship based on their swimming ability. We have a large group in Jets but there is another Jonesboro team as well. When we travel to smaller towns that have great swimming facilities, we do not understand why Jonesboro is lagging behind.

Thank you for giving this your upmost consideration,

Claudia Cathcart Shannon
1408 Twin Oaks (residence)

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 3:04 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Cc: mday@craigheadcounty.org; myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; KJNB Fox and CBS <news@kjnbvtv.com>; KAIT Region 8 <news@kait8.com>; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com; gjared@talkbusiness.net; jackladyman@gmail.com; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; Conduit for Action <info@conduitforaction.org>; Conduit News Team <info@conduitnews.com>; Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Dan4945 <dan.sullivanar53@gmail.com>; Smith, Brandt <brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>; dwight.tosh@arkansashouse.org; KLEK 102.5 F.M. klek@klekfm.org
Subject: "Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.

Council members, et al,

Many of those listed in the "Jonesboro City Guide 2021" did not have a Facebook Messaging option and/or easy email address.

Mr. Young, I'd appreciate you forwarding the link below to the Chamber of Commerce membership. While the article is oriented on the "bigs", at this point all should be aware that Fort

Smith is the example to follow as a "best practice" and the "win-win". Fort Smith begins its feasibility study for an indoor sports-complex around Veterans Day, at a cost of \$30,000, not the \$50,000 touted by the Jonesboro A&P Commission, or even the \$35,000 if the state grant is approved for here.

Perhaps Fort Smith will permit representatives from the Jonesboro A&P Commission to attend?

Thanks,

An Open Letter to "Employers of 100 or More Employees", Jonesboro City Guide 2021 – Northeast Arkansas Tea Party (wordpress.com)

An Open Letter to "Employers of 100 or More Employees", Jonesboro City Guide 2021

CEOs, Presidents, and equivalent HMFICs, Congratulations on being listed in the "Jonesboro City Guide 2021", in the "Major Employers Guide" of "100 or More Employ...

northeastarkansasteaparty.wordpress.com

Kudos to Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Justin Parkey <justin.parkey@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 3:54 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: SUPPORT THE PREPARED FOOD TAX & SPORTS COMPLEX

Please support the prepared food tax and the sports complex! This will be a giant leap forward for Jonesboro.

Justin Parkey
[2528 Rosewood Cir.](http://2528RosewoodCir.com) Jonesboro, AR 72401

From: Belinda Ferguson <baferguson1@suddenlink.net>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 4:36 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: A&P Vote

I am asking you to vote in favor of the A&P prepared food tax to fund the sports complex. you are in favor of the sports complex. Jonesboro needs this! Thanks, Dave & Belinda Ferguson

[2200 Byrnewood Drive,](http://2200ByrnewoodDrive.com) Jonesboro

From: Mickey Deel <deel.mickey@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 4:40 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Prepared Food Tax

Dear sir or Madam

My name is Mickey Deel. I am emailing to express my support of the prepared food tax that would support the sports complex.

Respectfully

M Deel

1304 Layman Dr

From: Meridith Pierce <marketing@foajonesboro.org>

Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 4:48 PM

To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org

Subject: Support of hamburger tax

Meridith Pierce

2908 Turtle Creek Rd

FOR tax increase

From: Naziroddin Kazi <naziroddin@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 5:06 PM

To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org

Subject: Sports complex

I Naz Kazi of 3000 woods st. Jonesboro Arkansas. I support the 2 percent tax for the A&P commission toward a Sport Complex for the citizens and visitors of Jonesboro.

I greatly appreciate the progress toward Quality of Life project that Jonesboro and the A&P support.

Thank you

Naz Kazi

From: Tony Slieman <tslieman@hotmail.com>

Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 5:07 PM

To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org

Subject: Sports complex

Dear council members,

Just sending this email to state that I M in favor of the tax increase to fund the sports complex.

Best,

Tony A. Slieman

4006 Brandywine Dr.

From: Robert Jones <rjones@wcjfirm.com>

Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 5:11 PM

To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org

Subject: In Support of A&P Proposal

Honorable City Council Members:

I wish to relay my vigorous support of the A&P Proposal to implement a prepared food tax in order to fund greatly needed improvements to our City, specifically the sports complex.

Sincerely,

Robert S. Jones

1100 S. MAIN STREET, JONESBORO, AR 72401

From: Ryan Heringer <Ryan@soundconcepts.info>

Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 5:19 PM

To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org

Subject: Please approve

I'm in support & in favor of the A&P prepared food tax to fund the sports complex.

Ryan Heringer

2924 Longview Drive, Jonesboro, Ar 72401

From: Heide Carlisle <heidecarlisle@me.com>

Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 5:21 PM

To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org

Subject: Hamburger tax

I support and hope you will vote for the hamburger tax.

Heide Carlisle, 1415 Hidden Cove, Jonesboro AR 72401

From: Jon Wilbanks <jswilbanks@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 5:32 PM

To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org

Subject: A & P Food tax

Aldermen,

I am writing to express my opinion on the upcoming A&P Prepared Food Tax. In short, I am 100% for it. It's past time for our town to have amenities other towns have. Like it or not, quality of life for the younger generation will be what keeps our city growing.

Thank you for considering a vote in favor of this tax.

Sincerely,

Jon Wilbanks

2205 Wineland St, Jonesboro, AR. 72404

From: Zen Kazi <surefresh16@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 5:47 PM

To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Sports Complex

I Zen Kazi of 3000 Wood st. Jonesboro Arkansas and a student at Annie Camp Junior high.

I support the 2 percent tax for the A&P commission toward a Sports Complex for the citizens and visitors of Jonesboro. I greatly appreciate the progress toward the Quality of Life project that Jonesboro and the A&P support. They have been working very hard to get this out there and are very determined to get this into Jonesboro. I would, and as everyone else would like to see this happen.

Thank you,
Zen Kazi

From: B0tname <weretou26@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 5:59 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Sports Complex

I Zayyaan Kazi of 3000 Wood St, Jonesboro, AR, support the 2 percent tax for the A&P commission toward a Sport Complex for the citizens and visitors of Jonesboro

I greatly appreciate the progress toward Quality of Life project that Jonesboro and the A&P support.

Thank you,
Zayyaan Kazi

From: Robin Yates <yatesrobin@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 6:42 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: sports complex

I am strongly in favor of our new sports complex!!

Robin Martin Yates
608 Melton Circle, Jonesboro, Ar.72401

From: LORETTA FULTON <lfulton@astate.edu>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 6:55 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Sports complex

Please consider the Sports Complex.

We need more things for the youth of the area.

Thanks

Loretta Fulton
2400 Duncan Road, Jonesboro, AR 72401

From: Alyssa Edens <aedens@harding.edu>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:23 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Ap prepared food tax

I support the AP prepared food tax.

Thank you,

Alyssa Edens
2201 Twin Oaks Ave

From: Shelle Morgan <shellemorgan@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:35 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Jonesboro Sports Complex

As a Jonesboro resident and tax payer, I am in favor of the proposed Sports Complex for the city. Though my children are no longer participating in youth sports programs, I would have loved to stay closer to home during our decade of travel ball. Those memories and lessons learned during our time playing football, soccer, baseball, and basketball have been priceless.

Shelle Morgan
1009 Country Manor Circle, Jonesboro, AR 72404

From: GARY VANDERBILT <glvanderbilt@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 8:24 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Sales Tax

I oppose the 2% Sales Tax on all prepared foods.

I think the taxpayers should be able to vote on any sales tax increase.

I support a feasibility study first to see if a sports complex is beneficial to our area.

I ask you to vote no on the 2% Sales Tax.

Thank you,

Pat Vanderbilt
1805 Westwood Drive, Jonesboro

From: GARY VANDERBILT <glvanderbilt@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 8:40 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Sales Tax

I'm opposed to the 2% Sales Tax on all prepared food!

The taxpayers should be able to decide on any sales tax increase, not the City Council!

I support a city funded feasibility study first, to see if a sports complex is beneficial to all our citizens before any tax increase.

I understand some on our City Council are beholden to Team Jonesboro!

This is taxation without representation. If you want money from my pocket, ask me first!

I humbly ask you to vote NO on the 2% Sales Tax.

Thank you,

Gary L. Vanderbilt
1805 Westwood Dr., Jonesboro

From: Callie Poole <cappoole@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 9:27 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: AP prepared food tax

I support the AP prepared food tax.

Callie Poole
2201 Twin Oaks Ave, Jonesboro, AR 72401

From: CJandKV Watson <cjkvwatson@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 9:52 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Hamburger Tax

I am in favor of this tax.

Keith Watson
207 Hillpoint Cove, Jonesboro

From: Barbara Ford <babasgirlzandwill@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 10:07 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Sports complex

I am all for the proposed sports complex. Please vote for it. I'd love to see our city build this. I think it could be a great asset for the whole city.

Barbara Cameron Ford
504 West Elm Avenue, Jonesboro

From: lawrence billing <patriciab461@att.net>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 10:08 PM

To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Taxation without representation

As citizens of this wonderful city, with 7 grandchildren and 1 great grand who also live here and several engage in a sport, we would like to see a feasibility study done first before investing all this money in a sports complex and increasing our taxes. Then we should be allowed to vote on raising those taxes. How this is being handled feels like a dictatorship.

Sincerely,
Lawrence and Patricia Billing, Sr.
613 Fox Run Dr,
Jonesboro, AR. 72404

From: fat city steak and grillhouse <fatcitysteakandgrillhouse@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 6:54 AM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: YES - Ordinance 21-046

Dear City Council Members,

I wanted to take a moment and say thank you for your consideration of Ordinance 21-046. The matter before you of which you will be voting is in my opinion one of the most significant, life changing and if passed historical events that our City has had the opportunity to undertake.

That being said, allow me to provide full disclosure. I am a member of the A & P Commission and a 31 year Restaurant Owner.

I am fully aware that this tax as with any tax should be considered cautiously and diligently. As a business owner I am faced every day with decisions that will keep my business viable and relevant. Our City is no different, if we want our City to remain viable and relevant for years to come it is important we take advantage of opportunities. This is one of those times.

I would never trivialize anything that impacts my customers costs. The benefits in this case far outweigh any negative impact. Statistics I have seen have shown this 2% opportunity will impact most households making under \$50,000.00 by \$2.30 per month on average.

In looking at my Credit Card Report from Heartland Customer Intelligence (cards accepted 10/2020 - 08/2021) approximately 33% of my customers are Non-Jonesboro residents while approximately 39% of this 2% opportunity will be paid by Non-Jonesboro residents at my competitors restaurants.

This 2% opportunity represents an investment in our City and will provide opportunities for our children and all citizens of Jonesboro that will be priceless for generations to come.

Best Regards,

Tom Fielder
1002 Rolling Forest Dr., Jonesboro, AR 72404

From: Carol White <mrsclwhite@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:01 AM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Re: Hamburger tax

As a 45 plus year resident of Jonesboro, I am asking you sincerely to vote against this new tax that is being proposed. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Carol White
5001 Nicole Cove, Jonesboro, Arkansas 72405

From: Steve Ewart <sde63@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:31 AM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: I am requesting that you give your strong support to the “Hamburger Tax” proposal that is before you on Third Reading this afternoon.

I am requesting that you give your strong support to the “Hamburger Tax” proposal that is before you on Third Reading this afternoon.

I note that

1. This proposal is being supported and presented by the Jonesboro Advertising and Promotions Commission.
2. The funds raised from this tax would be dedicated to fund a multi-purpose sports complex in Jonesboro.

In our state and region, Jonesboro is woefully behind scores of other cities our size (and quite a few cities that are even smaller in population) in providing such a facility for the use of our citizens AND to help make Jonesboro more of a “destination city” for folks in the Mid-South and lower Mid-West.

Becky and I travel quite a bit and when our travels have us dining or staying in a hotel/motel in another city, we note that generally the places where we dine and the hotels in which we stay generally collect taxes dedicated to providing Quality of Life facilities and infrastrucre. Of all of these cities, it seems that it is only in Jonesboro where such is not a tax collected.

Having overwhelming support for this measure would make a VERY STRONG statement to

- Jonesboro residents that ours is a city that has the wisdom to set aside a small portion of the revenue generated from the sale of one portion of our discretionary spending (prepared food) to develop the capital needed to improve Jonesboro’s quality of life AND to make our city more appealing
- o To those who are looking for a city to move to

o As a destination city for those looking for recreational experiences for themselves and their family

- Outside individuals and entities who are looking for forward thinking cities that would be good locations for their investment capital

As I wrote in the opening sentence of this email, I am requesting that you give your strong support to the “Hamburger Tax” proposal that is before you on Third Reading this afternoon.

Respectfully,

Steve Ewart

212 Windover Road, Jonesboro, AR 72401

From: Cari White <carikaut5960@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:07 AM

To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org

Cc: tracy.owens@nyit.edu; jerry.morgan@fnbank.net; Renee Golas RGolas@jonesboro.org

Subject: A & P Proposed Prepared Food Tax

Dear All,

I encourage you to pass this much needed source of revenue for the continued success of our city. This will insure that we will be able to build facilities that will draw visitors to our city and create a funding source for much needed quality of life projects.

The economic development impact of a prepared food tax can be seen all over our state.

Thanks for all you do!

Cari White

3415 Bolt Blvd.

From: Than Boves <tboves@hotmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:42 AM

To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org

Subject: Again...Support the Prepared Food Tax!

Dear Jonesboro City Council members - I am writing, again, to urge you to support the proposed legislation that would put a 2% tax on any prepared food in Jonesboro, and an additional 1 percent to the tax collected on hotel stays. These funds will be dedicated to fund a multi-purpose sports complex in Jonesboro which would be amazing to have here. As a resident of Jonesboro that has lived in many other places around the country, I can say that the lack of such a venue is one of the most glaring aspects missing from this community and the construction of such a complex would greatly improve the quality of life here, thus improving the ability of Jonesboro to retain (and attract) people that have other options of where they live. I love the trajectory of this city...let's keep it moving forward!

Thank you for your service,

Than Boves
2204 Oak Hollow Lane, Jonesboro, AR 72401

From: Susan Hanrahan <hanrahan1953@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:50 AM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: tonight's vote

This is Susan Hanrahan. I absolutely appreciate your servcie on the City Council.

I am very much in support of the prepared food tax and sports complex that you will be voting on tonight.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of measures that will advance our city.

Susan Hanrahan
4901 Outback Cove, Jonesboro, AR 72404

From: Susan Harris <susanharris47@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:16 AM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Cc: City Clerk CityClerk@jonesboro.org
Subject: Vote yes

Please support progress for our community. The residents overwhelmingly support a sports complex for Jonesboro. Vote yes on prepared food tax.

Susan Harris
2508 Hidden Hill Cir

From: Charles Harris <chasrharris@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:21 AM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>; Harold Copenhaver HCopenhaver@jonesboro.org
Subject: Hamburger tax

Vote YES

Charles Harris
2508 Hidden Hill Cr

From: brandon brewer <brewer79@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:03 AM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Sports Complex

I am in favor of a sports Complex for Jonesboro. Thank you.

Brandon Brewer
814 Fernwood Dr, Jonesboro, AR 72401

From: James McLeod <mcleod.j.w@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:11 AM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: A&P Prepared Food Tax

Council,

My name is Jay McLeod and my address is 2404 Autumn Drive, Jonesboro, AR 72404. I'm submitting this email to be included with those in favor of the proposed A&P prepared food tax.

While not as vocal as others in the community, I have long been an advocate of quality of life improvements such as the proposed sports complex that will be built if this tax is passed. I consider myself a fiscal conservative when it comes to most taxation, especially at the federal level. However, at the state and local level I am very much in favor of taxes such as these because those funds are put back into the communities from which the tax dollars flow. The current proposed tax is a perfect example. Jonesboro families will be able to directly benefit from their investment, and visitors to the City will help pay for the investment by spending their money at local restaurants.

I have been a resident of Jonesboro for 11 years but lived in several cities prior to moving here. I have seen the positive impact these types of investments can bring to a community, and Jonesboro is in severe need of this exact type of project. Jonesboro has fallen behind its contemporaries because there has not been a commitment to quality of life improvements that families in 2021 expect in the places they live. Communities surrounding Jonesboro (and communities around the country) with population decline suffer from inadequate quality of life features that attract and retain residents. Due to the workplace changes brought on by COVID-19, these population shifts will only accelerate as more and more Americans can work from anywhere with an internet connection. If we don't take concerted action as a City to meet the demands of families in this new work/play environment, we will be in the "declining" column when the next census is published.

Other similar tax proposals have failed, and I sincerely hope the City Council will not view this as a "tax" but as an investment in the future of the City and its residents. Giving residents recreational facilities like the proposed sports complex is critical to ensuring the prosperity of the City. I urge all of you to vote "yes" on the proposed tax and make your commitment to quality of life in Jonesboro.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jay McLeod

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:33 AM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Cc: myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; KJNB Fox and CBS <news@kjnbvtv.com>; KAIT

Region 8 <news@kait8.com>; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org;
chancellor@astate.edu; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com;
donna@jonesborounlimited.com; gjared@talkbusiness.net; jackladyman@gmail.com;
charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; Conduit for Action <info@conduitforaction.org>; Conduit
News Team <info@conduitnews.com>; Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Dan4945
<dan.sullivanar53@gmail.com>; Smith, Brandt <brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>;
dwight.tosh@arkansashouse.org; KLEK 102.5 F.M. <klek@klekfm.org>;
mday@craigheadcounty.org; Chris Wessel <cwessel@jonesborosun.com>; Council Coments
<CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>; jonmilligan@ymail.com
Subject: Vote "No" on "Hamburger Tax" ("Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.)

Jonesboro City Council Members,

Here is the option that best protects the "health, safety, and welfare" of those you were elected to represent, the "better practice", the "win-win": First, the feasibility study, then decide how to pay for the results of that study.

In the next few days, Fort Smith, AR, begins its feasibility study for an indoor sports-complex, funded by "no more than \$30,000", as follows:

- Fort Smith A&P contributed \$7,500; and,
- Fort Smith city government contributed \$7,500; and,
- Arkansas matched Fort Smith's with a \$15,000 grant.

To quote from the article: "Jacobsen said his research has shown that a 150,000-square-foot facility would cost about \$40 million. He said he has no idea how that will be paid or whether the facility should be private or publicly funded, private owned or city owned, and if city owned whether a management company should run it. Those things, he said, are topics for the feasibility study."

<https://talkbusiness.net/2021/05/study-may-soon-begin-on-feasibility-of-fort-smith-indoor-sports-facility>

As for the ordinance you are voting on this evening, just one-year ago, on October 29, 2020, the Jonesboro Sun headline read, "Mayoral candidates cool to tax increases".

The article opened with, "Voters have rejected temporary sales tax proposals for infrastructure improvements in Jonesboro twice in recent years, and the three candidates for mayor agree they hope they can tackle at least some of their priorities without a tax increase." After establishing that all three candidates prioritized "public safety" - the needs of the Fire and Police Chiefs - and listing options other than increasing taxes to fund large construction projects, then candidate "Copenhaver said all of those possibilities are viable options. 'I think it's more important that myself as mayor be able to bring (ideas) to the people so we know what options are best for our city at that time,' Copenhaver said."

Mayoral candidates cool to tax increases | News | jonesborosun.com

Copenhaver's declarative statement reads like a reasonable campaign promise, yet one he has failed to keep, as he has allowed this ordinance to persist, despite being well aware of the Fort Smith option for at least the last one- to two-weeks, soon after the last city council meeting. That is when I found the Fort Smith article, which is from May 2021, and when I shared it with this council, the mayor and most elected leaders and many civic leaders, including more than a few media outlets. In doing so, information about the Fort Smith option was readily available to Mr. Morgan over the last five months and, more recently, to Mayor Copenhaver.

This failure to share any options other than taxation with "the people so we know what options are best for our city at that time", not only broke a campaign promise but also, knowingly established a condition that Councilman Moore used to remind this resident that "taxes are enforced at the point of a gun". With Councilman Moore's statement in mind, a "yea" vote for this "Hamburger Tax" is the moral equivalent of a vote for the theft of the public's funds.

Vote "No" and still have the Fort Smith option with which to protect "the safety, health, and welfare" of your constituents, that is to protect the welfare of the people from unnecessary, unjust, and unfair abuse of the voters who have "...twice rejected temporary sales tax proposals..." from this permanent tax increase, not only promoted by this administration, but also with the knowledge that it's using this city council to do its "dirty deed".

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: marla grissom <grissommarla@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 12:08 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Sales Tax

I'm opposed to the 2% Sales Tax on all prepared food!

The taxpayers should be able to decide on any sales tax increase, not the City Council!

I support a city funded feasibility study first, to see if a sports complex is beneficial to all our citizens before any tax increase.

I understand some on our City Council are beholden to Team Jonesboro!

This is taxation without representation. If you want money from my pocket, ask me first!

I humbly ask you to vote NO on the 2% Sales Tax.

Thank you,

Marla Grissom
1012 W. Lawson, Jonesboro, AR 72404

From: Smith, Brandt <brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 12:27 PM

To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Tax issue

Dear City Council Members,

I want to express my opinion as a Jonesboro community member regarding the new tax being considered. I personally would think a feasibility study first and a further comment period would best serve our constituents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Rep. Brandt Smith
3501 Ridgeway Cr, Jonesboro, AR 72404

From: Donna Lackey <donnalackey101@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 12:43 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: "hamburger tax"

Jonesboro City Council members

Vote YES for the "hamburger tax"

Tommy & Donna Lackey
1003 West Matthews Ave, Jonesboro AR

From: Kim Edens <Kim@elitepp.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 3:49 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Support the Sports Complex

I am in favor of the prepared food tax to fund the Sports Complex.

Thank you,

Kim Edens
3902 Coral Cove, Jonesboro, AR

From: steve floyd <steve082072@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:03 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Tax

Jonesboro Alderman,

I am writing you to inform you that I highly oppose the restaurant sales tax. There should be a feasibility study and then a public vote. If your going to charge me a tax I should get to vote on it. Thank you for your time in this matter.

Thank You,

Steve Floyd

5421 Southwest Drive, Jonesboro, AR 72404

From: Brian Johnson <beejo1972@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 5:09 PM

To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org

Subject: Taxes

No new taxes without a vote by the electorate.

Brian Johnson

2710 White Cir, Jonesboro, AR 72404

From: Hard L <weino7@hotmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 7:23 PM

To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org

Cc: myoung@jonesborounlimited.com; KJNB Fox and CBS <news@kjbntv.com>; KAIT Region 8 <news@kait8.com>; quorumcourtmembers@craigheadcounty.org; chancellor@astate.edu; crickert@jonesborounlimited.com; slamm@jonesborounlimited.com; donnah@jonesborounlimited.com; gjared@talkbusiness.net; jackladyman@gmail.com; charles.landrum@mail.house.gov; Conduit for Action <info@conduitforaction.org>; Conduit News Team <info@conduitnews.com>; Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Dan4945 <dan.sullivanar53@gmail.com>; Smith, Brandt <brandt.smith@arkansashouse.org>; dwight.tosh@arkansashouse.org; KLEK 102.5 F.M. <klek@klekfm.org>; mday@craigheadcounty.org; Chris Wessel <cwessel@jonesborosun.com>; Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>; jonmilligan@ymail.com
Subject: Vote "No" on "Hamburger Tax" ("Why Jonesboro"...Is Unique.)

Council members, if it is not your responsibility to overwatch mayoral administrations on our behalf except for, according to Councilman Frierson, issues within your scope of duties regarding the budget and managing city properties, by seeking information and by discussing concerns publicly; and, if it is, then, our task to provide you information that, in the case of these A&P taxes, offer a better option to the mayor's decision to "increase taxes", which is the most harmful to all residents; then, the option that I provided you after the last city council meeting on October 19th meets both requirements for rejecting this "tax first" ordinance.

That much better option is underway in Fort Smith, AR, and reported on since April 2021. Both the Fort Smith A&P Commission and city government are paying \$7,500 which, along with a matching grant of \$15,000 from the state, will fund a "no more than \$30,000" feasibility study for an indoor sports-complex. That study begins before November 11, Veterans Day.

Fort Smith residents are paying for the same product that Mayor Copenhaver seeks, yet this administration wants your vote to increase taxes to get what Fort Smith residents get for "taxpayer chump change", \$30,000 vs. the \$250,000 that Our A&P Commission estimates it will permanently "rake-in" each month.

Vote "No" on this ordinance. City coffers overflow with the revenue to model Fort Smith's "better practice" which, unlike the ordinance before you, best protects the "safety, health, & welfare" of the constituents you represent, even more so the "welfare" of the 50% who struggle to make ends meet at the end of each month, according to the local United Way.

Too many have stated that, "If you don't want to pay the tax, then don't eat out." Working parents do not have the luxury to shop for and then prepare all meals at home and, frankly, that statement is the "heartless" position that any "Yay" vote represents. Now armed with the knowledge of a much less harmful option, an option of "win-win", reject this ordinance that purposefully empties wallets and purses. As Councilman Moore said, "all taxes are enforced at the point of a gun" and, because the administration did not offer up the Fort Smith option, or any other that may be available, then "only tax" is, in fact, theft of private property.

Simply amend the ordinance and pony up the \$15,000. That will reduce the stress on the A&P Commission's account balance, since it must rebate the Embassy Suites roughly \$15,000 per month. That is the amount Mr. Morgan has estimated as the roughly 20% of A&P's monthly "take" owed from the current "Hotel Tax".

While We all survived since March 2020, many have not fully recovered, and who knows what's in store. As examples, the OBiden administration wants higher taxes, including subjecting US corporations to a new global tax regime, right Jonesboro Unlimited? This is not only a surrender of Our national sovereignty, but it also portends changes to "shareholder capitalism" and, with that, investments and retirement accounts are at great risk. Another example is the immigrants overwhelming our southern border while federal law enforcement has been ordered to "standdown" from performing its sworn duties to protect and defend.

All that and more threaten us all in "forever-Covid 19+ America", with all its variants and jabs. Your "No" vote best protects the residents enduring during historically uncertain times over the last 21 months. With the March 27, 2020 tornado, then Mayor Perrin and Craighead County Judge Day resolved that all of #JonesboroStrong would receive help and that those hurting most would get the most assistance. Since then, only the mayor has changed, but many still struggle.

Please invoke the "oath of office" that each of you have taken. Within the city borders of Jonesboro, that oath equates to the one military servicemembers embrace to serve America. That oath is what the upcoming Veterans Day represents, not only to veterans, but also to servicemembers currently serving - as you are - serving this community.

Vote "No", then adopt the Fort Smith option, or adopt it here now. Demonstrate the most exemplary act of honorable public service in this chamber, now, to protect the "safety, health, and welfare" of #JonesboroStrong.

Howard L. "Hard L" Weinstock
Wilkins Avenue 72401

From: Kelly Damphousse <kdamp@mac.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:08 PM
To: Aldermen Aldermen@jonesboro.org
Subject: Please vote yes

Dear Members of the Jonesboro City Council:

My name is Kelly Damphousse, and I live at 1503 East Nettleton in Jonesboro. As a private citizen and not as a representative of my employer, I want to voice my support for the new so-called "prepared food tax" and the increase to the current hotel tax.

I believe that the city is well-positioned and well-led to take advantage of the increased revenue created by these modest increases. The end result is that Jonesboro's quality of life will be improved - especially for the young people who live here.

It is very unlikely that I would personally ever use any of the amenities that are being considered, but I happily will pay additional taxes to improve the lot of those who would use it - including, and perhaps especially, young families, K-12 and college-aged students, and thousands of future guests who will attend events in the facilities.

I also believe the proposed multipurpose athletics facility is not only long overdue, but that it will produce inestimable economic and social benefits for our hometown.

Finally, I am convinced that improved infrastructure and enhanced employment opportunities created by the proposed amenities will help us recruit more permanent and temporary residents to Jonesboro, thereby expanding the already strong economic viability of our community.

I ask you to vote yes on these issues.

Respectfully,

Kelly

Kelly Damphousse
