

From: Matt <teamredmon@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2020 2:15 PM
To: Bobby Long <blongjcc@gmail.com>; David McClain <DMcClain@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Freedom Resolution

Mr. Long and Mr. McClain

My name is Matt Redmon and I am a resident of Ward 6. I have lived in Jonesboro for 6 years having moved from Kentucky. In those 6 years, this is the first time that I have emailed my City Councilors. Today, I read the Freedom Resolution that is being submitted to the Public Safety Council Committee next week. From what I understand from my reading of the resolution, it offers no plan, no alternatives, and no responsibility. I understand the frustration of being told what to do by people that you don't necessarily think are making the best decisions. But this resolution offers nothing besides complaints. My grandfather used to say don't bring complaints, bring solutions. In a time when Craighead County is near the top of the chart of daily infections from Covid, you should be encouraging your constituents to do MORE not less. Resolutions like this, do nothing but encourage people to not follow the guidelines and recommendations and therefore endangering themselves and others.

I am all for personal freedoms and personal responsibilities but there comes a point when the government has to step in and enforce what is best for everyone.

The only purpose of this legislation is to encourage the citizens of Jonesboro to take the virus less seriously and to ignore public health recommendations and guidance. The city council should be using its power and voice to encourage more of Jonesboro's citizens to take the virus seriously. Please do not vote for this resolution and instead do more to encourage your constituents to take the virus seriously. This resolution, quite frankly, is going to kill a number of your constituents by signalling it's ok for them to do whatever they want regardless of the virus. Please do better for Jonesboro.

Matt Redmon
Special Education Teacher

From: Bobby Long <blongjcc@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2020 5:09 PM
To: Matt <teamredmon@gmail.com>
Cc: David McClain <DMcClain@jonesboro.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Re: Freedom Resolution

Hi Matt,

I appreciate your email and your views and I'm glad you reached out. I would like to offer a little more information. We as a council were poised to enact what we felt was right for our city. However, our governance was overruled by a statewide mandate. It is not designed to offer solutions, it's goal is to make the solutions we feel are necessary possible. Right now, we do not have that choice. As you read, the other part of the resolution is to do away with the policy of perpetually extending the state of emergency WITHOUT our elected legislators having a seat at the table. I would have to disagree that the resolution offers no responsibility, in fact, it's entire purpose is to return accountability and responsibility BACK to the representatives that Jonesboro elected to lead.

You state there are no solutions, just complaints. I, again, would have to disagree. The complaint is that we (the council of Jonesboro) are capable of leading instead of the state leading for us.. Solution: stop mandating and let us decide what is best given our situation. Complaint: We do not agree with the Governors policy of perpetually extending the state of emergency without our elected legislators involvement. Solution: Do not extend another state of emergency without legislative input. They deserve a seat at the table... We elected them as our voice. When that voice is denied, we are denied.

I believe, and this resolution affirms, that our form of representative government works not only when things are going great but works just as well in times of crisis. As a matter of fact, it is in times of crisis, when representation is needed the most. This is not the time to abandon one of the very foundations of not only our State Constitution, but our Nation's Republic. The policy we have witnessed since May of perpetually extending a State of Emergency without legislative input is troubling and should cease. It should concern us tremendously when our leaders willingly and purposefully disregard those whom we have elected to be our voice in government in fear that what they are doing and how they are doing it will be challenged, questioned, or overturned. In essence, we should expect our leaders to embrace the voice of the people, instead of engaging in legislative gymnastics to silence it.

Let me give you an example. Executive Order 20-41 was signed by the Governor which essentially gave the green light to local municipalities to impose mask mandates on its citizens and a sample ordinance was provided. Ironically, this green light to impose citizenry mandates was signed July 3rd 2020; the day before our INDEPENDENCE DAY. Be that as it may, as a council, we listened to our experts, took to heart the comments of our citizens, and considered the needs of our local businesses. At that time, I believe we were poised to ratify a resolution (not an ordinance like the Governor wanted) that we felt was best for Jonesboro even though it looked different than that

template provided by the Governor. However, – We Still Had A Choice – and was going to act accordingly.

Then, less than 2 weeks later, just prior to this important council meeting where we would vote on OUR way to deal with this, our Choice and our ability to Lead our Community was stripped from this Council. The Governor of the Great State of Arkansas issued EO 20-43 which then negated all the work we had done; it silenced all the voices of our people; and in very real ways, shifted the destinies of many of our local business out of the hands they elected locally and into the hands of a select few, by imposing a Statewide mask mandate and outlining the provisions by which this EO would be followed.

Just as a side note, people say, listen to the experts / trust our experts: However, when we do we get conflicting messages. For instance, in a Sept. 19th, 2020 presser: Dr. Ramero (Sec. of Health for the State of Arkansas was talking in support of the 6-foot mandate: He said,

“While this six-foot mandate seems somewhat onerous. It’s important to note we are not seeing transmission in the schools.” He goes on in what seemed to be an effort to validate the 6-foot mandate, and he states this concerning the use of masks, “the mask itself, either having it on if you are infected doesn’t mean that you won’t transmit it and the mask, having it on if you are not infected is **not** a protective measure.”

The government that is closest to the people is the government that is most accountable to the people. This virus has a 99% survival rate. No one is saying it is not serious to those with underlying health conditions. No one is not saying that those who are more vulnerable need to take extra precautions. You mentioned the covid + rate. Just as information, when a person is tested, they look at the Ct or Cycle Threshold number. The lower the number the less cycles it takes to identify the genetic material of the virus. So the lower the number the more viral load a person has. ADH lab has a threshold of 42.. So anything below 42 is positive and anything above it is negative. Quest and LabCorp has cut off of 40. Yet, in a NY Times article, dated 9/19, stated that, "In three sets of testing data that include cycle thresholds, compiled by officials in Massachusetts, New York and Nevada, up to 90 percent of people testing positive carried barely any virus, a review by The Times found." They go on to say, "Tests with thresholds so high may detect not just live virus but also genetic fragments, leftovers from infection that pose no particular risk — akin to finding a hair in a room long after a person has left, Dr. Mina said." And finally, it related that, "Any test with a cycle threshold above 35 is too sensitive, agreed Juliet Morrison, a virologist at the University of California, Riverside. “I’m shocked that people would think that 40 could represent a positive,” she said. A more reasonable cutoff would be 30 to 35, she added. Dr. Mina said he would set the figure at 30, or even less."

What does this mean? It means that we are quarantining large groups of people that should not be quarantined because of exposure to someone that should not have tested

positive because our cut offs for positive results are too high. Fox Meadow school had to go virtual because of the lack of teachers. The teachers were not sick, they just had so many who had to quarantine. Now, I'm not a doctor, but I can read and this possible discrepancy should have an answer.

Sorry for the long email. However, I think you deserve a thorough response from your council member even if it may not be what you want to hear. I will continue to stand for local governance and for our elected representatives to have a seat at the table especially concerning decisions that affect the mandating of over 3.2 million people.
Bobby

From: Matt <teamredmon@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 17, 2020 1:08 PM
To: Bobby Long <blongjcc@gmail.com>
Cc: David McClain <DMcClain@jonesboro.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Re: Freedom Resolution

Mr. Long,

I'm not going to refute your points or argue against them. We agree on several things and disagree on others. For example, I understand your point on quarantining teachers. We are currently quarantining teachers for two weeks after a negative test and despite doctor's orders to return to work. I support the idea that the government closest to the people is equipped to make the decisions of what is best for the community they serve. However, what you are saying is that the city should be able to operate separately from the state. I do not believe that your argument holds up in the case of a pandemic that is spreading across the state. The state government has a responsibility to offer guidance and put in place restrictions. Jonesboro is not a bubble. People enter and leave the city daily from Lake City, Bay, Paragould, Bono, Brookland, etc. It makes no sense for all of those municipalities to have different rules when it comes to a high transmissible disease.

As a leader, you should be willing to do whatever it takes to keep your citizens safe. In this case, that means allowing the state government to make the best decision for all the citizens of Arkansas and not trying to undermine policies that will save people's lives. What I expect from a good leader is to say "I disagree with how this decision was made but it's a good decision and I encourage everyone to follow the guidelines. However, when this is over we can go back to arguing politics and how everything was handled."

I voice my strong opposition to your resolution.

From: blongjcc <blongjcc@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 17, 2020 6:24 PM
To: Matt <teamredmon@gmail.com>
Cc: David McClain <DMcClain@jonesboro.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Re: Freedom Resolution

Hi Matt,

I totally get your point. I understand State government has its place. I also agree that if the whole state was effected in the same way, then maybe a more cookie cutter approach could be taken. That is just not the case.

I hope you can see that I'm not even against state government taking the lead in some things if our WHOLE state government was involved. We are 7 months into this and no elected legislator has had a voice. Our Governor has acted independently without any legislative involvement. ZERO. What is right for Jonesboro may not be right for Ft. Smith, or Blytheville.

This resolution celebrates our city and our ability to make decisions that are best for us. Leadership is not a one size fits all. I also want you to understand that I would not have felt the need to write this resolution if our legislators had been involved in the decisions. That is not the case.

I would like to ask a serious question. How far would government control be too far be in your mind? You say the government should take control and we should just obey. We should do more to save lives. Does that mean you would be in agreement with a total shut down shelter in place, 24/7 curfew action until the first of the year? If so, then that's another days discussion. But if not, then just how far are you willing to go to save lives (as you put it) and what do you suggest be done when that line is crossed?

I will not ever back down from standing up for our city, and our representative government. We are free men and deserve to be led only by those who we have allowed to lead and in the manner we prescribe. The governor is acting on his own and has handed over what used to be the role of our legislators to an unelected sec. Of health whom the governor appointed.

I appreciate the dialog and hope you understand that civil discourse is not only necessary but vital. Thank you for doing so the right way. We might just have to agree to disagree on this but keep one thing in mind; if government does mandate beyond what you feel is appropriate and right, it may be too late.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S8 Active, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

From: donna11154 <donna11154@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 17, 2020 8:46 PM
To: Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>
Subject: SUPPORT THE FREEDOM RESOLUTION

I am asking every City Council member to support the Freedom Resolution to keep our local city government in control and maintain this right.

After the events we have face during the past several months I feel that our local elected leaders should know what is best for our community and be the ones to make important decisions that affect the residents and businesses in Jonesboro.

Your support of this resolution will show that you agree that those we have entrusted and elected to serve our community will work together to keep Jonesboro a great place to live.

Thanks,

Donna Griffin
2200 Rains Street
Jonesboro, Arkansas

Sent from Samsung tablet.

From: Joyce Cook <mysterybuff1961@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 17, 2020 10:04 PM
To: Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Please pass Councilman Long's Freedom Resolution

Dear Jonesboro City Council members:

I am writing to you to ask that you support Councilman Bobby Long's Freedom Resolution. In the last few months events have occurred that have seen local government give over power to the state government.

You all have done a good job with governing Jonesboro, so why give it up to the powers in Little Rock now? Do you not feel comfortable running your own city? Please remember that kids, businesses, and the elderly have suffered terribly during the last few months. Please pass this resolution (as other cities in Arkansas have) and help restore our local control.

Sincerely,

Joyce Cook
Jonesboro

Sent from my iPhone

From: Zachariah Carlson <zachariah.carlson@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 17, 2020 10:06 PM
To: Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: A citizen's response to RES-20:159

Hello,

I've read the text of resolution RES-20:159, proposing to put Jonesboro on the record as calling for the premature end of the Covid-19 related state of emergency, which Governor Asa Hutchison declared in March and was forced to renew throughout the year as administrations at city, state, and federal levels have collectively failed to get the pandemic under control.

The one point on RES-20:159 that I would like to specifically respond to is the idea threaded through two clauses:

"...the citizens and businesses of the City of Jonesboro Arkansas have suffered and continue to suffer undue **damage and harm** resulting from the diminishment of personal responsibility and the freedom to **engage in commerce** and live, move, and have our being..."

and

"...the citizens and businesses of the City of Jonesboro Arkansas feel the perpetual extension of a state of emergency by means of the Emergency Services Act is an overreach of the spirit of the law and a **main contributor** to the said damage and harm;"

The damage and harm to the citizens of Jonesboro are actually the same being felt by all Americans - we're losing family members and friends to this disease. They're dying. The pandemic took a while to reach us in force and thank goodness for our rural nature, but we're past 1,000 dead in Arkansas and the case rate and death rate are [expected to continue rising](#) in Craighead county. And you think a main contributor to our pain is that the state mandates are making it less convenient for people to...go shopping? I respectfully disagree.

I understand the frustrations which led to the drafting of RES-20:159, but as a citizen of the city of Jonesboro, I do not support its introduction or passing.

Thanks for your time,

Zachariah Carlson

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

From: Rebekah <rebekah.laurel@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, October 18, 2020 9:15 AM

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

Subject: Public safety committee resolution 20:159

Dear Public Safety Committee,

I strongly oppose RES-20:159. This is absolutely the wrong way to go and is the antithesis of public safety.

Thank you,

Rebekah Evans
3614 Charleston Drive
Jonesboro

Sent from my iPhone

From: blongjcc <blongjcc@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, October 18, 2020 9:42 AM

To: Rebekah <rebekah.laurel@gmail.com>; Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: RE: Public safety committee resolution 20:159

I appreciate your comment.. I do have a question...

What part of the resolution do you disagree with and what part does harm to public safety? Just curious.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S8 Active, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

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

From: Lisa Tedder <lltedder@suddenlink.net>
Sent: Sunday, October 18, 2020 8:51 PM
To: gene.vance@vancecompanies.com
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Freedom resolution

Dear Mr. Vance,

I am asking you to oppose the Freedom Resolution. As you know, my husband and now my future daughter in law work at St. Bernards and have seen first hand what COVID is doing. We are seeing a large uptick right now and certainly don't want things to get worse. No one has lost any "freedom" except those who have died. Please do the right thing and let's follow Governor Hutchison's directives.

Thank you for your time,
Lisa Tedder
Ward 4

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

From: Lisa Tedder <lltedder@suddenlink.net>
Sent: Sunday, October 18, 2020 8:51 PM
To: Charles Frierson <cdfrierson3@hotmail.com>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Freedom resolution

Dear Mr. Frierson,

AS a member of the Public Safety Committee, I am asking you to oppose the Freedom Resolution. As you know, my husband and now my future daughter in law work at St. Bernards and have seen first hand what COVID is doing. We are seeing a large uptick right now and certainly don't want things to get worse. No one has lost any "freedom" except those who have died. Please do the right thing and let's follow Governor Hutchison's directives.

Thank you for your time,
Lisa Tedder
Ward 4

From: Lisa Tedder <lltedder@suddenlink.net>
Sent: Sunday, October 18, 2020 8:37 PM
To: Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Freedom Resolution

Dear City Council members;

I am strongly asking you to **OPPOSE** the Freedom Resolution. We are seeing a rise in cases here in Jonesboro and in Arkansas in general; it is asinine to try to ignore the painfully obvious. I fully support the measures that Governor Hutchison has put in place and feel we could have done more or we would not be seeing the uptick in cases that we are. My husband and daughter in law work at St. Bernards and have seen first hand what COVID is doing. Please do the right thing and throw that rubbish resolution out!

Lisa Tedder
Jonesboro, Ar.

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

From: Barry Tedder <btedder@suddenlink.net>

Sent: Sunday, October 18, 2020 9:04 PM

To: Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Freedom Resolution VOTE NO!

Dear City Councilmen,

I am a physician in Jonesboro and have seen first hand the impact of covid illness in our community. More and more people are dying in our icu daily, often after weeks of being ill on a ventilator with no improvement. The only way to slow down this nightmare is to follow science based guidelines of masking for all and social distancing. Trying to weaken the resolve of our people to ignore this risk will be catastrophic to the health of this community and is irresponsible. Mr. Hutchison is doing his best to balance safety and the economy. If hospitals start getting overwhelmed due to people listening to Mr. Long, then the economy will weaken even more as Covid overwhelms our community. Please vote no to this egregious policy.

Barry Tedder, M.D.

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

From: carey4plus@suddenlink.net <carey4plus@suddenlink.net>

Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 10:13 AM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: RES-20:159

To the Jonesboro City Council-

At a time when COVID-19 cases are rising in our city, county, state, and the world, I am disturbed to hear that a resolution has been proposed which will put our city on record as calling for the governor to end the emergency order regarding this virus.

RES-20:159 flies in the face of the the facts surrounding our current situation. This virus will not go away if we just wish hard enough, as we can see by the rapidly increasing numbers of new cases in our city. People are ill. It is becoming more and more common to hear of friends and neighbors who have tested positive and are experiencing life threatening complications. People are dying. We need to remain vigilant and encourage those who are trying to protect our lives by supporting their directives, not demand that they let us endanger our entire community through a reckless withdrawal of restrictions. A call to the governor to lift restrictions at this point would in NO WAY represent my strongly held beliefs on this subject. Please accurately represent your constituents by refusing to consider RES-20:159.

Thank you.

Corinne Carey

Bunker Hill Road, Jonesboro

From: blongjcc <blongjcc@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 10:17 AM
To: carey4plus@suddenlink.net; Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: RE: RES-20:159

Thank you for your email. Just one clarification. It calls for an end to the policy of perpetual extending the state of emergency without legislative oversight. I'm not against a state of emergency if our legislators are involved in that decision. Right now, that is not the case. Thanks BL.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S8 Active, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

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

From: Mike Downing <MDowning@jonesboro.org>

Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 10:58 AM

To: Mitch Johnson <johnsons3@suddenlink.net>; Bobby Long <blongjcc@gmail.com>; Charles Frierson <cdfrierson3@hotmail.com>; Chris Gibson <cgibson@jonesboro.org>;

chrismooreplumbing@yahoo.com; David McClain <DMcClain@jonesboro.org>; Gene Vance

<GVance@jonesboro.org>; Gene Vance_Contact <gene.vance@vanceconstructionsolutions.com>

Cc: Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Carol Duncan <CDuncan@jonesboro.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>; Harold Perrin <HPerrin@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Comments on Resolution 20:159

TO: Public Safety Committee

Below are emails that were sent to our CouncilComments email address so far commenting on Resolution 20:159 (<http://jonesboro.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=4651013&GUID=5C4E9F18-FF38-400F-9446-15276214D874&Options=&Search=>). They are in order of time received. This does not include emails that were sent to Council members directly.

I am asking every City Council member to support the Freedom Resolution to keep our local city government in control and maintain this right.

After the events we have face during the past several months I feel that our local elected leaders should know what is best for our community and be the ones to make important decisions that affect the residents and businesses in Jonesboro.

Your support of this resolution will show that you agree that those we have entrusted and elected to serve our community will work together to keep Jonesboro a great place to live.

Thanks,

Donna Griffin
2200 Rains Street
Jonesboro, Arkansas

Dear Jonesboro City Council members:

I am writing to you to ask that you support Councilman Bobby Long's Freedom Resolution. In the last few months events have occurred that have seen local government give over power to the state government.

You all have done a good job with governing Jonesboro, so why give it up to the powers in Little Rock now? Do you not feel comfortable running your own city? Please remember that kids, businesses, and the elderly have suffered terribly during the last few months. Please pass this resolution (as other cities in Arkansas have) and help restore our local control.

Sincerely,

Joyce Cook

Hello,

I've read the text of resolution RES-20:159, proposing to put Jonesboro on the record as calling for the premature end of the Covid-19 related state of emergency, which Governor Asa Hutchison declared in March and was forced to renew throughout the year as administrations at city, state, and federal levels have collectively failed to get the pandemic under control.

The one point on RES-20:159 that I would like to specifically respond to is the idea threaded through two clauses:

"...the citizens and businesses of the City of Jonesboro Arkansas have suffered and continue to suffer undue damage and harm resulting from the diminishment of personal responsibility and the freedom to engage in commerce and live, move, and have our being..."

and

"...the citizens and businesses of the City of Jonesboro Arkansas feel the perpetual extension of a state of emergency by means of the Emergency Services Act is an overreach of the spirit of the law and a main contributor to the said damage and harm;"

The damage and harm to the citizens of Jonesboro are actually the same being felt by all Americans - we're losing family members and friends to this disease. They're dying. The pandemic took a while to reach us in force and thank goodness for our rural nature, but we're past 1,000 dead in Arkansas and the case rate and death rate are expected to continue rising in Craighead county. And you think a main contributor to our pain is that the state mandates are making it less convenient for people to...go shopping? I respectfully disagree.

I understand the frustrations which led to the drafting of RES-20:159, but as a citizen of the city of Jonesboro, I do not support its introduction or passing.

Thanks for your time,

Zachariah Carlson

Dear City Council members;

I am strongly asking you to OPPOSE the Freedom Resolution. We are seeing a rise in cases here in Jonesboro and in Arkansas in general; it is asinine to try to ignore the painfully obvious. I fully support the measures that Governor Hutchison has put in place and feel we could have done more or we would not be seeing the uptick in cases that we are. My husband and daughter in law work at St. Bernards and have seen first hand what COVID is doing. Please do the right thing and throw that rubbish resolution out!

Lisa Tedder, Jonesboro, Ar.

Dear City Councilmen,

I am a physician in Jonesboro and have seen first hand the impact of covid illness in our community. More and more people are dying in our icu daily, often after weeks of being ill on a ventilator with no improvement. The only way to slow down this nightmare is to follow science based guidelines of

masking for all and social distancing. Trying to weaken the resolve of our people to ignore this risk will be catastrophic to the health of this community and is irresponsible. Mr. Hutchison is doing his best to balance safety and the economy. If hospitals start getting overwhelmed due to people listening to Mr. Long, then the economy will weaken even more as Covid overwhelms our community. Please vote no to this egregious policy.

Barry Tedder, M.D.

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

From: Suddenlink <bkdeuce@suddenlink.net>

Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 2:11 PM

To: Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Restrictions

I do not agree with the resolution to petition the Governor to lift the safety restrictions concerning the safety of Jonesboro citizens from Covid-19.

Karen Bennett

Jonesboro, AR

Sent from my iPad

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

From: Suddenlink <bkdeuce@suddenlink.net>

Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 2:11 PM

To: Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Restrictions

I do not agree with the resolution to petition the Governor to lift the safety restrictions concerning the safety of Jonesboro citizens from Covid-19.

Karen Bennett

Jonesboro, AR

Sent from my iPad

From: robbie vanscoy <robbie.vanscoy@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 2:29 PM
To: Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>
Subject:

I am a long time citizen of Jonesboro and a local physician. I am deeply troubled by the council's entertainment of a resolution "In support of restoring freedom, choice, opportunity, and governance back to local and state elected officials". We are currently experiencing an extraordinary circumstance, a public health crisis no one currently living has experienced. We must follow the recommendations of public health officials and this must be supported at all levels of government in order for us to come out of this crisis. We can not recover economically unless this virus is under control. All along, recommendations from public health experts which could have greatly slowed the growth of new cases and saved perhaps 100's of thousands of lives (by the time this is over) have been dismissed as unnecessary intrusions on our "freedoms". Ladies and gentlemen, this virus is serious. Deadly serious. We can not glibly just allow everyone to decide for themselves whether they will comply with efforts aimed at protecting the community and keeping this under control. Medical facilities are overwhelmed. The U.S. has 4% of the world's population, yet we have 25% of the COVID19 cases on the planet and we have one of the highest death rates from this disease in the developed world. Our state, and more specifically our region is seeing disturbing increases in cases and deaths from this illness. Please, I implore you to reject this resolution. We need sound leadership, guided by science and not irrational declarations of "freedoms". Here is the issue, those of us who understand the true nature of this crisis and are trying to follow sound scientific guidance have had OUR freedom trampled upon by those who have chosen to selfishly dismiss this guidance and place us all in greater danger as a result. They have crippled our ability to fully reopen our economy and keep our schools open. Please be patriots, be good citizens, be good leaders of our city and dismiss this resolution out of hand.

From: Renay! <bottle.of.shine@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 3:48 PM

To: gene.vance@vancecompanies.com; Charles Frierson <cdfrierson3@hotmail.com>; chrismooreplumbing@yahoo.com; chris.gibson@arcare.net; David McClain <DMcClain@jonesboro.org>; Bobby Long <blongjcc@gmail.com>; Mitch Johnson <johnsons3@suddenlink.net>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Vote NO on RES-20:159

Hello,

13+ people were arrested over a plot to kidnap and assassinate Governor Gretchen Whitmer in Michigan. One man was arrested over a plot to kidnap and assassinate Brandon Whipple, the mayor of Wichita, Kansas.

RES-20:159 being considered by the Public Safety Committee is an excellent way to radicalize people who don't care about public health against our state and local leadership, because people listen to their electeds. This resolution is actively dangerous, whether it seems like it or not. If anti-government terrorists believe the government of Jonesboro is committed to the idea that Governor Hutchinson is acting in bad faith due to the lack of involvement by the state legislature, what could happen? If anti-government terrorists take a local elected leader at their word that Jonesboro wants to be free of an emergency public health order, would they feel righteous in attacking our state leadership so the leader renewing that public health order could be replaced by someone more prone to listening to conspiracy theories and anti-science rhetoric? Does this resolution create safety for Governor Hutchinson and his staff to continue working on behalf of Arkansans or does it make them a target? Does this resolution create safety for the people who might vote against it, or does it make them a target? We've seen what happens when state legislatures challenge public health orders made by governors and the uncertainty it creates. What could the legislature do that the governor's public health orders aren't already doing, except to create tension in the system and perhaps the courts over whether the public health orders should exist at all? Why would Jonesboro endorse a move to create an environment where the public health orders could be rescinded or weakened? We obviously still need them. People are still getting sick and dying.

This resolution endorses a reality where the executive state leadership gives its control of public health to the state legislature. It could launch us into a situation where they cede wholesale to a virus and allow it to run, even more unimpeded than it already is, through our communities, while they argue amongst themselves about who deserves the most power to decide about public health. Public health and crisis situations require a rapid response—that's why executive orders are useful, and I have seen no evidence offered of Governor Hutchinson misusing the orders beyond public health concerns.

Further, the language in this resolution could empower terrorists because local elected officials want to lament about Jonesboro residents being oppressed by basic public health orders—orders that are obviously not going far enough given the status of our state in the uncontrolled community spread category. Framing ongoing public health orders as state government oppression because the legislature isn't involved in renewing them—many of whom decry

wearing masks as some kind of tyranny— shows incredible privilege and ignorance of actual oppression.

Respectfully, if the state legislature wants more power to do oversight of public health, they have a supermajority and that supermajority shares the party of the governor. Both House and Senate leadership can work with the governor's office on a compromise if they so choose. They do not need the Jonesboro City Council to do their work for them as we face mounting cases and deaths of our own here at home. Let Governor Hutchinson and his staff do their jobs as our state executive team; people overwhelmingly elected Governor Hutchinson to those powers. Ongoing public health orders to stop the spread of a deadly virus while cases continue to rise are not causing "undue damage and harm" just because the state legislature isn't involved and attempting to create that connection undermines public health and trust in government.

Although voting against this resolution comes with potential risk due to our current political environment, please vote no.

Renay Williams
Bunker Hill
Ward 1

Citations:

- <https://www.kansas.com/news/politics-government/article246513655.html>
- https://tulsaworld.com/opinion/columnists/rex-huppke-failed-plot-to-kidnap-michigan-gov-gretchen-whitmer-shows-danger-of-antigovernment-rhetoric/article_cdd3509c-0cb9-11eb-856f-ebf5fbb02408.html

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

From: Mike Downing <MDowning@jonesboro.org>

Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 4:26 PM

To: Mitch Johnson <johnsons3@suddenlink.net>; Bobby Long <blongjcc@gmail.com>; Charles Frierson <cdfrierson3@hotmail.com>; Chris Gibson <cgibson@jonesboro.org>;

chrismooreplumbing@yahoo.com; David McClain <DMcClain@jonesboro.org>; Gene Vance

<GVance@jonesboro.org>; Gene Vance_Contact <gene.vance@vanceconstructionsolutions.com>

Cc: Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Carol Duncan <CDuncan@jonesboro.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>; Harold Perrin <HPerrin@jonesboro.org>

Subject: #2: Comments on Resolution 20:159

TO: Public Safety Committee

More comments (email #2) received on Resolution 20:159:

I do not agree with the resolution to petition the Governor to lift the safety restrictions concerning the safety of Jonesboro citizens from Covid-19.

Karen Bennett

Jonesboro, AR

I am a long time citizen of Jonesboro and a local physician. I am deeply troubled by the council's entertainment of a resolution "In support of restoring freedom, choice, opportunity, and governance back to local and state elected officials". We are currently experiencing an extraordinary circumstance, a public health crisis no one currently living has experienced. We must follow the recommendations of public health officials and this must be supported at all levels of government in order for us to come out of this crisis. We cannot recover economically unless this virus is under control. All along, recommendations from public health experts which could have greatly slowed the growth of new cases and saved perhaps 100's of thousands of lives (by the time this is over) have been dismissed as unnecessary intrusions on our "freedoms". Ladies and gentlemen, this virus is serious. Deadly serious. We can not glibly just allow everyone to decide for themselves whether they will comply with efforts aimed at protecting the community and keeping this under control. Medical facilities are overwhelmed. The U.S. has 4% of the world's population, yet we have 25% of the COVID19 cases on the planet and we have one of the highest death rates from this disease in the developed world. Our state, and more specifically our region is seeing disturbing increases in cases and deaths from this illness. Please, I implore you to reject this resolution. We need sound leadership, guided by science and not irrational declarations of "freedoms". Here is the issue, those of us who understand the true nature of this crisis and are trying to follow sound scientific guidance have had OUR freedom trampled upon by those who have chosen to selfishly dismiss this guidance and place us all in greater danger as a result. They have crippled our ability to fully reopen our economy and keep our schools open. Please be patriots, be good citizens, be good leaders of our city and dismiss this resolution out of hand.

Robbie Vanscoy

From: Iris Stevens <irisstevens@suddenlink.net>
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 8:42 PM
To: Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Re: City Council Mtg. Oct. 20 - Resolution

October 19, 2020

Council Members,

Governor Asa Hutchinson has now extended his emergency orders for **another two months!** This means that:

MORE businesses will go bankrupt;

MORE people will lose their jobs and have to go on government handouts;

MORE students will be jerked in and out of schoolrooms because someone they MIGHT have come in contact with MIGHT have been in contact with another person who MIGHT be positive for the VIRUS;

MORE parents who have schoolchildren will have problems functioning at their jobs when they or their children are sent home multiple times for quarantining;

MORE people will have trouble accessing medical care;

MORE people will experience or have continued problems with substance abuse, suicidal thoughts, isolation from loss of jobs, quarantining from schools and jobs...

ALL of this has already happened and now will continue since Hutchinson's decision to continue Arkansas's non Lockdown Lockdown.

We need leaders in our cities and towns to stand up for the people who are being hurt by the continuing lack of local representation. It is our mayors, our city councils, our county officials who know the local people best and can best represent them, NOT governors or unelected bureaucrats in Little

Rock. We need the leaders in our cities and towns to pass this Freedom Resolution that asks the governor to restore our representative government by ending the perpetual emergency orders given without legislative involvement and to return YOUR ability to govern those cities and towns that elected you.

You **DO** have faith in **YOUR** governance of our city, don't you?

Iris Stevens

irisstevens@suddenlink.net

(870) 219-1917

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

From: Julia Williams <japghw@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 9:19 PM

To: gene.vance@vancecompanies.com; Charles Frierson <cdfrierson3@hotmail.com>;

chrismooreplumbing@yahoo.com; chris.gibson@arcare.net; David McClain <DMcClain@jonesboro.org>;

Bobby Long <blongjcc@gmail.com>; Mitch Johnson <johnsons3@suddenlink.net>; City Clerk
<CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: NO on Res 20-159

Public Safety Committee,

I am FOR Governor Hutchinson using the powers of his office during a pandemic to issue public health orders for AS LONG AS NEEDED to slow the spread of the virus. I have 45 years of experience in nursing and during unprecedented times like this the power of our state leaders to act decisively AND QUICKLY is necessary. Jonesboro should not advocate for weakening the Governor's ability to act by adding additional third parties to decisions that need to be made QUICKLY. This resolution should NOT pass.

Julia Williams

Bunker Hill

From: Brak Young <brakyoung@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 9:55 AM

To: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Resolution 20:159

At a time when our hospitals are full and our area is leading the state in new infections, we need to be doing more, not less, to curb the spread of Covid. Our public safety committee needs to be looking for ways to support and strengthen public health efforts, not weaken their force. The fact that such a resolution was put forward is pur willful ignorance. Covid-19 will not go away just because you are tired of in, and I think I speak for everyone when I say we all are. Pretending that it doesn't exist anymore will only make this crisis last longer. If you vote yes on this resolution, you will have the blood of Jonesboro citizens on your hands.

From: Rebekah Diehl <rebekah.diehl@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 9:57 AM

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

Subject: Opposition to Resolution 20:159

Dear City Councilors,

I am a resident of Jonesboro and write you to express my **STRONG OPPOSITION** to Resolution 20:159. Covid-19 cases continue to increase in Jonesboro and we need strong leadership that considers the health and well-being of our community. This resolution does none of that. We need to be strengthening all public health efforts, not weakening them, especially as our area is leading the state in new cases.

Rebekah Diehl

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

From: Ted Evans <evans.ted433@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 10:01 AM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>; Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>

Subject: resolution 20:159

I oppose Resolution 20:159. As a new resident of Jonesboro and a retired teacher, I would hope that the city would be doing MORE to keep its citizens safe, rather than waste time on resolutions like these.

Sincerely,

Ted Evans

Charleston Drive, Jonesboro

Sent from my iPhone

From: Mike Downing <MDowning@jonesboro.org>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 9:13 AM

To: Mitch Johnson <johnsons3@suddenlink.net>; Bobby Long <blongjcc@gmail.com>; Charles Frierson <cdfrierson3@hotmail.com>; Chris Gibson <cgibson@jonesboro.org>;

chrismooreplumbing@yahoo.com; David McClain <DMcClain@jonesboro.org>; Gene Vance

<GVance@jonesboro.org>; Gene Vance_Contact <gene.vance@vanceconstructionsolutions.com>

Cc: Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Carol Duncan <CDuncan@jonesboro.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>; Harold Perrin <HPerrin@jonesboro.org>

Subject: #3 Comment on Resolution 20:159

Another comment (email #3) received on Resolution 20:159:

Council Members,

Governor Asa Hutchinson has now extended his emergency orders for **another two months!** This means that:

MORE businesses will go bankrupt;

MORE people will lose their jobs and have to go on government handouts;

MORE students will be jerked in and out of schoolrooms because someone they **MIGHT** have come in contact with **MIGHT** have been in contact with another person who **MIGHT** be positive for the **VIRUS**;

MORE parents who have schoolchildren will have problems functioning at their jobs when they or their children are sent home multiple times for quarantining;

MORE people will have trouble accessing medical care;

MORE people will experience or have continued problems with substance abuse, suicidal thoughts, isolation from loss of jobs, quarantining from schools and jobs...

ALL of this has already happened and now will continue since Hutchinson's decision to continue Arkansas's non Lockdown Lockdown.

We need leaders in our cities and towns to stand up for the people who are being hurt by the continuing lack of local representation. It is our mayors, our city councils, our county officials who know the local people best and can best represent them, **NOT** governors or unelected bureaucrats in Little

Rock. We need the leaders in our cities and towns to pass this Freedom Resolution that asks the governor to restore our representative government by ending the perpetual emergency orders given without legislative involvement and to return YOUR ability to govern those cities and towns that elected you.

You **DO** have faith in **YOUR** governance of our city, don't you?

Iris Stevens

irisstevens@suddenlink.net

[\(870\) 219-1917](tel:(870)219-1917)

From: Jamie Stahl <ladybug-boutique@hotmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 10:04 AM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Resolution 20:159

Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns. My family has been lifelong residents of Jonesboro, AR. Both of my parents work in health care at local hospitals who have striven to keep all their employees safe, but both contracted Covid. My 86 grandmother a Jonesboro resident as well stays in her home and has since the beginning of the virus to keep herself safe. My children are enrolled in Jonesboro Public Schools and they have done a phenomenal job of doing their best to keep our kiddos safe. I think it would be a shame for the city/state to allow the mask mandate to be laxed now considering Arkansas is #2 in the US for deaths per capita and we are seeing an influx of cases now. We need to do more, not less to curb the spread of Covid to keep ALL of our residents safe.

Thank you,
Jamie Stahl
3000 Bermuda Drive
72401

From: Linda Evans <llevans4838@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 10:07 AM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>; Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Oppose Resolution 20-159

Dear Council Members,

My husband and I recently moved to Jonesboro, and I was disheartened to learn that the Public Safety Committee is considering this resolution. Northeast Arkansas leads the state in new Covid infections, and I hope our Public Safety Committee would be looking for ways to reinforce public health measures that keep us all safer, rather than undermining them. I strongly oppose this resolution.

Respectfully,

Linda Evans

Jonesboro, AR

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

From: Susan Harris <susanharris47@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 10:08 AM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Opposition to Resolution 20:159

At a time when our hospitals are full and our area is leading the state in new infections, we need to be doing more, not less, to curb the spread of Covid. Our public safety committee needs to be looking for ways to support and strengthen public health efforts. Please vote NO!

Susan Harris

2508Hidden Hill Cir

72404

From: Sophie H. <shedge94@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 10:11 AM
To: alderman@jonesboro.org; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Opposition to Resolution 20:159

Jonesboro Aldermen:

I am writing to you today to let you know I am in opposition to Resolution 20:159 in relation to ending the governor's state of emergency. At this time, we are worse off than we were when we started this state of emergency and are leading the state in new infections. Please make the health and safety of your citizens your first priority.

Sincerely,
Sophie Hedge
4000 Cypress Moss Cv.
Ward 6

From: Alyssa Edens <aedens@harding.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 10:21 AM
To: alderman@jonesboro.org; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Resolution 20:159

Jonesboro City Council,

As a concerned resident and health care worker in Jonesboro, I am writing to share my opposition to Resolution 20:159. Not only does it send the wrong message to our community, that Covid is not a serious concern, nor threat, to our community, but it is insulting to the many fighting for their lives and those working tirelessly in our medical centers today. It is asinine to do less and weaken our efforts towards stopping the spread of Covid-19. Our hospitals are full and lack the staffing to care for the increases we are seeing. This should be of great concern to those who represent and serve our community. To end the state of emergency, would show you are out of touch with science and the number of cases in Craighead county, which is the 2nd highest in the state. Our public safety committee needs to be looking for ways to support and strengthen public health efforts, not weaken or diminish their force.

Sincerely,
Alyssa Edens
2201 Twin Oaks Ave

From: Alexandra Guedea <alexandra.guedea@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 10:25 AM

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

Subject: Covid-19 Public Safety Committee Meeting

Hello,

My name is Alexandra Guedea of Ward 1. I STRONGLY believe that we should be trying to tackle this virus than throwing up a white flag to it.

This virus has personally affected me in many ways. Especially recently after my Mom, Step Dad and younger sister have all tested positive. My Step Dad is a critical case in Saint Bernard's Hospital. This virus can be debilitating. The day he went to get screened at the hospital he was not able to get out of bed, he could not breathe. My step dad is a physical therapist. They have him on so many different treatments. And they traced it back to a patient of his who was asymptomatic.

Let me paint you a picture of the covid unit at Saint Bernard's. It's FULL of patients right now. No families can go in and see any of these people who could be dying. They have 1 doctor and two nurses that they keep in there and only switch out every so often. They have their hands full. And our cases keep going up and you want to consider spreading this team thin?

My Mom is only a week behind on her symptoms. She has been diagnosed with lupus, fibromyalgia and has had to have her spleen removed this year which is so important in fighting diseases like this.

I would be lying to you if I said that I was not worried for my family. She keeps getting worse.

What happens to my 10 year old sister if both my parents have to be hospitalized? Or worse, my 10 year old sister loses both of her parents.

How can you look at everything that is going on in our country right now and seriously consider laying off the restrictions that honestly HAVE NOT BEEN ENFORCED TO BEGIN WITH.

As somebody who works around a high volume of customers everyday, my job has become harder because of people who don't wear masks coming into the establishment that I work at. Our business has to quarantine everyone who worked with an employee that tested positive. My high volume store functions off of not even a bare bones team of people. Thank god my company pays for those who have to quarantine though. Because I have so many friends and family who work elsewhere and have no way to pay bills when they either get the virus or have to quarantine because these businesses in town don't want to pay those employees.

I have many teacher friends who all haven't been able to see their families because they are exposed to it everyday. Some are mourning their fellow teachers, and others are mourning teachers they had previously who have died from this.

We need to be cracking down on this. I'm sick of learning of new deaths on the daily of community members, and everyone on social media says "oh, prayers they were such up-standing people". Meanwhile this comes from all the same people who refuse to love thy neighbor by wearing the one thing that helps slow down this spread. Does it work 100%? NO but I guarantee that we wouldn't be setting records if people actually took this seriously.

Bottom line, THIS ISN'T POLITICS, THIS ISN'T COMMUNISM. IT'S COMMON HUMAN DECENCY. We all need to step up and do better. This world is already so nasty to one another. But people are so ready to throw in the white flag and say "It is what it is." We can do so much more and be so much better.

Alexandra Guedea
1602 Auburn PL
72401 Jonesboro AR
Ward 1

From: Mark Lamm <mark.a.lamm@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 10:27 AM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject:

Good morning,

I am writing to indicate my opposition Resolution 20:159. Craighead County has had over 4,000 confirmed COVID cases so far and dozens of deaths. We're adjacent to some of the most afflicted (per capita) counties in the country. Rolling back protections and preventative measures at this moment would be irresponsible. This pandemic is far from over and Arkansas has catastrophically failed at leveling the curve. I implore you to follow the best guidance from infectious disease physicians and public health analysts. Don't go gambling with our lives.

<https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/data/new-cases-50-states/arkansas>

Sincerely,

Mark Lamm
Constituent, Ward 4
1505 Merrywood Dr.
Jonesboro, AR 72401

From: Danny Rainwater <drainwater@lamar.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 10:29 AM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Resolution 20:159

Good Morning,

I would like to formally express my **OPPOSITION** to Resolution 20:159.

Jonesboro and Craighead County are in the midst of the COVID 19 pandemic. Our hospitals are full and Craighead County/Jonesboro is a state leader of new infections with numbers climbing daily.

Our Public Safety committee should be looking for ways to quell these numbers as well as strengthening public health efforts and education with regard to COVID 19.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Danny Rainwater

DANNY RAINWATER // ASST. GENERAL MANAGER

Lamar Advertising Company of Northeast Arkansas
Office: 870.935.4603 // Mobile: 870.761.8001
lamar.com

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

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 10:39 AM

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

Subject: Covid-19 emergency measures

I am writing expressing my opposition to the resolution being heard today in the public safety committee calling on the state to repeal what few emergency measures it has put in place to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic. As infection and death rates rise, our city should be calling on more leadership from the state to save lives, not less.

Please vote no.

Thank you.

-David McAvoy
1524 Charles Dr., Jonesboro AR 72405

From: Haley Thomas <haleyphomas@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 11:04 AM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Opposition to Resolution 20:159

Jonesboro Aldermen,

I want to express my staunch opposition to resolution 20:159. Craighead County is one of the leading areas of the state with new COVID-19 infections. This is a deadly virus. I know firsthand as I have lost my aunt ,at the young age of 62, to it. Our hospitals are filling up and our resources are limited. We should be doing more not less to curb the spread of this disease. Our public safety committee needs to be looking for ways to support and strengthen our public health efforts, not weaken their force. Thank you for your time and service.

Sincerely,

Haley Thomas
2208 Oak Hollow Ln
Jonesboro, AR 72401
870-897-3310

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

From: Kathy Holler <kathyeholler@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 10:58 AM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Resolution 20:159

I am OPPOSED to Resolution 10:159. Please do NOT enact this!

Thanks

Kathy Holler

Sent from my iPhone

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

From: Patsy White <paty.white55@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 10:59 AM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: State of emergency

Please continue the state of emergency regarding Covid.
VOTE NO!!

Sent from my iPhone

From: Macy Walker <lynnmacy1999@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 10:59 AM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Freedom Restoration Resolution

Dear Alderman of Jonesboro,

I am writing to you as a concerned student of Arkansas State University, calling Jonesboro my second home. I strongly oppose the resolution "IN SUPPORT OF RESTORING FREEDOM, CHOICE, OPPORTUNITY, AND GOVERNANCE BACK TO LOCAL AND STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS."

As a student, I watch my peers worry about their families, jobs, classes, and the ability to return to A-State safely. We desperately need the precautions you are trying to rid us of to attempt to live a normal life. As the daughter of a nurse, I have seen the most horrid, ugly side of the pandemic. I worry that without these precautions, Jonesboro will turn into a super spreader of Covid-19. The current state of emergency is not implying the municipal government is incapable of governing, but rather, the safety of its citizens matters.

I strongly encourage you to reconsider this resolution, and deny its passing.

Macy Walker
Political Science and Philosophy Student at Arkansas State University

From: Loren Ivener <loreniv@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 11:01 AM

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

Subject: Continue COVID-19 protective measures

Please CONTINUE Covid-19 protective measures. We do NOT want more illness and death! If anything, protective measures should be strengthened, not weakened or eliminated.

Thank you.

Loren Ivener
313/Watertree Drive
Jonesboro 72401

--

Loren

From: Abbeigh George <abbeigh.george@jonesboroschools.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 11:04 AM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Regarding Resolution 20:159

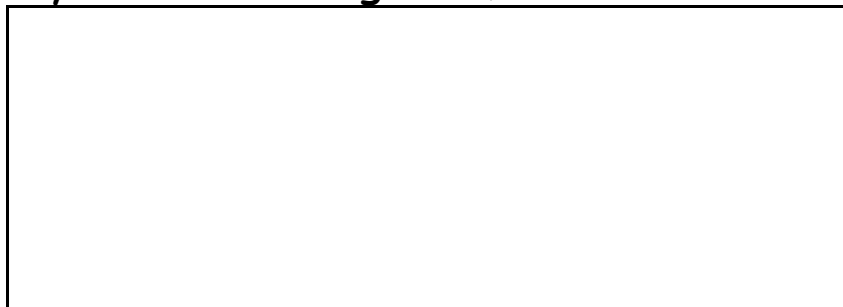
To whom it may concern,

I would like to express full opposition to the notion of requesting the Governor to end the State of Emergency in Arkansas due to COVID-19. It is quite clear that COVID-19 is NOT getting better, but actually getting much, much worse and is putting a strain on our local health professionals. Now is NOT the time to let our guard down. As a local school teacher, I cannot imagine what life would be like in the school system if we disbanded all of our efforts to keep our children safe from this virus. We have had plenty of students test positive thus far even with our precautionary measures in place and exponentially more that have had to quarantine due to possible exposure. Our city/county is already wildly NOT following the Governor's guidelines regarding the mask ordinance which is why our hospitals are beginning to overflow.

Please, aldermen, deeply consider this motion before passing it on. COVID-19 may not have affected you yet,

but it has affected thousands of people around the state with thousands upon thousands of people grieving loved ones lost or permanently changed by this virus. This is your time to truly represent our city well as citizens of Arkansas who are desperate to protect their neighbors; not citizens who are desperate to contaminate others against their will and stop being "inconvenienced." Our mayor himself is highly vulnerable to the many illnesses that the State of Emergency in Arkansas is helping to prevent the spread of, beyond COVID-19. Please do your duty to keep our citizens out of harm's way.

My sincerest regards,



Mrs. George's Website: [CLICK HERE](#)

From: Susan Rainwater <sdrainwater66@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 11:07 AM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Resolution 20:159

Good morning,

I want to take a few moments to voice my opinion on Resolution 20:159. I want it to be a matter of record that I wholeheartedly oppose this resolution. As a citizen of Craighead County, I have become more worried about the rise in COVID cases recently in our county and have many family members who are at a higher risk than normal because it appears the majority of folks in the public (stores, etc) have decided there isn't a real need for protection for themselves or those around them recently. I ask respectfully on behalf of myself, my family members and my friends who aren't able to defend themselves well enough from this pandemic short of not leaving their homes at all.

Thank you for your time.

Susan Rainwater

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

From: Shannon May <shannonbmay@hotmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 11:21 AM

To: alderman@jonesboro.org

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Resolution 20:159

I am strongly opposed to ending the state of emergency. This resolution provides support that is needed for everyone. As flu season is upon us it would be incredibly short sighted to end this now.

Sincerely,
Shannon May

Sent from my iPhone

From: Virginia Miller <gingergl1975@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 11:22 AM

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

Subject: Resolution 20:159

I strongly urge you not to approve this resolution. Our city and county have record numbers of COVID-19 infections and our hospitals are being stretched to the limits. We as a community need to be doing more to stop the spread of this virus.

Sincerely,

Virginia Miller
2208 Crescendo Dr.
Jonesboro, AR.

From: Tracy Woodruff <tracywoodruff07@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 11:25 AM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Mask Ordinance/State of Emergency

Dear Council Members,

My name is Tracy Woodruff. I am writing today to express my opposition to Resolution 20:159. Even though we may be tiring of the pandemic, the pandemic still rages on. Craighead County is seeing the highest numbers of Covid positive patients yet. The UAMS models indicate that this will only increase as winter progresses. Wearing a mask is a simple measure we can take to help prevent the spread of this disease. As an educator in a school in Jonesboro, I truly believe that the wearing of masks and social distancing has helped to curb the spread of Covid inside our classrooms. Ending the emergency mandate now, during the height of our emergency is not a prudent move on the part of Jonesboro. We should be encouraging the proper use of masks and social distancing, rather than discouraging it.

Tracy Woodruff

From: Gail Hudson <ghud@astate.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 11:39 AM
To: alderman@jonesboro.org; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Resolution 20:159

Now is not the time to end the state of emergency. Just wear a mask until the numbers and the availability of a vaccine makes it unnecessary.

Regards,

Gail Hudson



Gail Hudson, Ph.D.

Professor of Marketing and Director of Internships
Management and Marketing
419A

P.O. Box 59 | State University, AR 72467

p: (870) 972-3430 | f: (870) 972-3833

Arkansas State educates leaders, enhances intellectual growth, and enriches lives.

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

From: Missy <missy927@suddenlink.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 11:42 AM
To: alderman@jonesboro.org
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Resolution 20:159

I am so opposed to this resolution. When we should be doing everything possible to slow this pandemic down somebody is proposing to end the state of emergency? That is ridiculous thinking!

Vote NO to this resolution.

Thank you,
Melissa Baldwin

Sent from my iPad

From: Juliana Crawley <julianacrawley@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 11:44 AM
To: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Opposition

I would like to express my opposition to Resolution 20:159. Thank you for your time.

Juliana Crawley
[Crawley Law Firm](#)
w: 870.972.1150
f: 870.972.1787

From: Audrey Ganong <audreyganong@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 11:48 AM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Enforce mask wearing!

I am sickened by all the people who are not wearing masks to public places. I will shop online until I feel safe. I'm not going to the dentist or doctor if I don't have to. I have not eaten out since March! Jonesboro is not a safe place to eat or shop and **you** can do something about it. This has made me reconsider working the polls because voters are not required to wear masks! Both of our hospitals are full of covid patients. People are dying. Voters and families of voters are dying! People who don't believe in wearing masks are like petulant children! Please help. Stand up for what is right. -Audrey Ganong

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

From: Pat Gleghorn <pat_gleghorn@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 11:49 AM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Resolution #20-159 (or An Attempt To Have Jonesboro Secede From The Arkansas Union)

I am requesting that Jonesboro City Council and all Jonesboro citizens of sound mind dismiss this asinine attempt to abandon good sense by passing this resolution to no longer follow the Arkansas Governor's State of Emergency guidelines. This will further endanger the very existence of more citizens by not holding steady until Covid 19 is defeated by vaccines and proven medical treatments.

I, for one, wouldn't mind more stringent guidelines, as too many people still won't wear masks.

If some council members would actually pay attention to trusted, proven medical advice, maybe Arkansas wouldn't be in the National news for having the largest hospitalizations for Covid 19 cases to date.

Thank you for reading this, and hopeful that common sense will prevail.

Patricia Gleghorn, registered voter

1614 S. Church St

72401

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

From: James Carvell <jcarvell@hotmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 11:51 AM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: COVID 19 Danger

Good morning,

I'm emailing to urge you all to uphold the mask ordinance in Jonesboro. We need to continue protective measures. Especially when you take into consideration that Arkansas is rated number 2 in COVID-19 deaths in the country. That is not per capita, that is number 2, over-all. With the number of infected and dead climbing every day, now is not the time to remove safety measures. By removing these ordinances, you will be risking the lives of a lot of people. The resolution that is being proposed today talks about restoring freedom. We do have a lot of freedoms in this country, but we also have a responsibility to our fellow community members and humans in general. Please do not bow down to this political grandstanding from people who would obviously let more and more people die rather than be slightly inconvenienced by a mask. When comfort outweighs life, we have all lost. If we're not all in this together, we all lose together.

Thank you,

James Carvell

Lifelong Jonesboro resident

From: Corey Straub <corey.scott.straub@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 11:53 AM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: I oppose Resolution 20:159

This resolution would have the city call on the governor to end the state of emergency regarding Covid-19. At a time when our hospitals are full and our area is leading the state in new infections, we need to be doing more, not less, to curb the spread of Covid. Our public safety committee needs to be looking for ways to support and strengthen public health efforts, not weaken their force.

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

From: Missy <missy927@suddenlink.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 11:56 AM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Resolution 20:159

I am so opposed to this resolution. When we should be doing everything possible to slow this pandemic down somebody is proposing to end the state of emergency? That is ridiculous thinking!

Vote NO to this resolution.

Thank you,
Melissa Baldwin

Sent from my iPad

Sent from my iPad

From: Abby Wilson <abby.wilson@jonesboroschools.net>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:01 PM

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

Subject: Covid resolution

I do NOT support the resolution to end our state of emergency. Our numbers are still too high and we need to continue to take every precaution necessary to keep our community safe.

Abby Wilson

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

From: Amber Carvell <ambercarvell@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:01 PM

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

Subject: NO to cancelling mask ordinance

Good afternoon,

I'm emailing to urge you all to uphold the mask ordinance in Jonesboro. We need to continue protective measures. Especially considering that Arkansas is rated number 2 in COVID-19 deaths in the country. That is not per capita, that is number 2, over-all.

I had planned to vote this afternoon, but I will wait to hear the results of this proposal to see how it influences my choices. I will not support politicians and community leaders who don't support basic science.

Thank you,

Amber Carvell

Lifelong Jonesboro resident

From: Kristin Addison-Brown <kristinaddisonbrown@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:05 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Opposition to Resolution 20:159

Good afternoon. I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed Resolution 20:159. As a scientist and healthcare provider in Jonesboro, it is my opinion that the proposal is short-sighted, ignorant (i.e., ill-informed and entirely opposed to science), and frankly a slap in the face to those who are working to contain and treat COVID19 and to anyone who has been affected by it (which, at 6+ months in, is *everyone*), particularly those who have lost loved ones and those who are continuing to struggle with long-term effects of the virus. This is even more unconscionable as one considers that Craighead County is a current hot spot in our state. The consideration of utilizing the First National Bank arena for hospital overflow is a looming reality, as our local hospitals are as we speak transferring patients to others due to lack of available beds. Part of your collective job as our local leaders is to keep us safe. That includes leadership by example. I understand that the resolution will not directly enforce anything, but it will most certainly send a dangerous message to Jonesboro residents, business owners, and visitors. Further, it seems like an entire waste of the council's (and, by extension, Jonesboro's) time and is clearly little more than overt political pandering. In the middle of a life-threatening pandemic that is killing and harming OUR residents, literally no one has time for that. Can we please focus on actually keeping Jonesboro safe and healthy? Please vote no and move on with more important things. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Dr. Kristin Addison-Brown

--

Kristin J. Addison-Brown, PhD, ABPP-CN
Board Certified in Clinical Neuropsychology
Owner, NEA Neuropsychology, PLLC
304 Southwest Square
Jonesboro, Arkansas 72401
Ph: 870-203-6085
Fax: 870-203-6083
neaneuropsychology.com

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

From: Erin.stegall <erin.stegall@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:17 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Resolution of 20:159

Alderman,

I am emailing to express opposition to Resolution 20:159. This resolution would have the city call on the governor to end the state of emergency regarding Covid-19. At a time when our hospitals are full and our area is leading the state in new infections, we need to be doing more, not less, to curb the spread of Covid. Our public safety committee needs to be looking for ways to support and strengthen public health efforts, not weaken the force. As a registered nurse at a local hospital I am opposition of Resolution 20:159.

Regards,

Erin Stegall

From: Mark Zimmer <marnanz@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:20 PM

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

Subject: Covid-19

With the infection rate remaining high, now is not the time to reduce or eliminate the protective measures currently in place. Please follow the recommendations of the medical experts and scientists instead of those who know nothing about either.

Thank you,

Mark Zimmer

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

From: Toni Inboden <twinboden1959@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:20 PM

To: alderman@jonesboro.org

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: State of emergency

Please vote no on the Covid resolution.

Wearing masks will save lives!

Sent from my iPhone

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

From: Kati Walker <kawalker1976@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:22 PM

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

Subject: Freedoms restoration resolution

Dear Aldermen of Jonesboro,

I am very disappointed that anyone is considering a resolution to end Covid mask requirements. As a health care worker that has seen firsthand the devastation COVID 19 can cause to healthy people, I am appalled. If the numbers rise, the hospitals will not have the rooms or the staff to care for the patients. When a decision has to be made, is it your elderly mother with diabetes that gets denied the ventilator that will keep her alive? Or will it be the 40year old with chronic kidney disease on dialysis? Or the 50 year old without insurance? Just take a moment to choose which loved one you don't mind losing. COVID-19 is not political, it is a virus. It is not a myth, if you are one that had mild symptoms or weren't infected, ask someone who was intubated, I'm sure they would say that the simple cloth or disposable mask is much better than that tube they endured for days or weeks.

My daughter attends AState and I fear the outcome this resolution will have on the university. If numbers climb, the university will be forced to return to online classes, students will return home and the Jonesboro economy will suffer ill effects.

I fear for our youth, I fear for our elderly, I fear for the immune compromised cancer patient, I fear for my fellow healthcare workers. Does the community not care about its neighbors? Will the next resolution be to stop the requirement to wear shirts, pants and shoes? Does wearing a mask impose such a violation of your rights, when not wearing one can cause death?

Sent from my iPhone

From: Danielle Addison <danielle.addison@hotmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:29 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Resolution 20:159

Hello, I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed Resolution 20:159. As a nurse working with covid patients in Little Rock since March, and a native of jonesboro, I am begging for this to not pass. I also have a newborn and am currently working to move back to Jonesboro. People are dying. This is serious. The long term effects alone, such as stroke, heart attack, and respiratory difficulties, should be enough for this to be taken seriously. Craighead county is also a current hotspot and I can count at least 10 people who I personally know that are currently suffering from covid (mostly healthcare providers). After speaking with fellow nurses in jonesboro, people are dying daily in the ICU. The number may not be in the 100s but are those daily few not enough for us to be safe and take precaution? We do NOT want to use other businesses for hospital overflow causing more death. PLEASE put your pride away and help keep this community safe.

Sincerely,

A concerned citizen and healthcare provider

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Hannah Chambers <hchambers@legacyinsurancecar.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:35 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Opposition to Resolution 20:159

I am reaching out as a life-long citizen of Jonesboro, AR to express my opposition to Resolution 20:159. I work in the public every day, in a fairly small space as an insurance agent. I have customers in my office frequently, a space so small, a 6ft separation is nearly impossible. We need to remain in a State of Emergency with Covid-19. Case numbers will only rise as the temperatures continue to fall. My only sister is a front-line work at NEA Baptist where she's been a RN for over 15 years. We have elderly parents, with pre-existing conditions that would make contracting Covid-19 deadly. If she is infected at work, there is no one else to take care of our parents but me. I am imploring you to look for ways to support and strengthen public health efforts, not weaken their force. I spent the weekend in Memphis, TN and they have contact tracing measures in place at EVERY establishment you enter. It's just a name and a contact number so they can reach out for potential exposure. Not once have I been given the opportunity to be contacted in Arkansas. We have to do better, or we will lose more of our people.



LEGACY
INSURANCE

Hannah Chambers
Agent
1901 E Nettleton Ave
Jonesboro, AR 72401
870.935.7554
hchambers@legacyinsurancecar.com

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

From: Adrian Everett <adrian.everett88@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:43 PM

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

Subject: Resolution 20:159

Greetings Council,

I have personally been affected by the COVID-19 virus through sister in law being extremely sick and testing positive along with close family friends that have lost love ones young and old. I am TOTALLY AGAINST the idea of relaxing the state mandates here in the Jonesboro area. I understand that it is causing certain businesses to do more. But this is a really interesting time period that EVERYONE is having to do more to survive. So please vote AGAINST this idea because the virus numbers are already high in this area and if this passes; I truly think they will increase even more.

Thanks,

Adrian Everett

A concerned citizen of Jonesboro

Sent from my iPhone

From: Robin Yates <yatesrobin@hotmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:44 PM

To: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Fwd: Resolution 20:159.....How can anyone propose such a resolution? All of us know someone who is now or has been extremely ill with Covid-19! People are fighting for their lives and quarantining for safety from Covid -19.

please vote NO for this resolution!!

Robin M. Yates
Jonesboro

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Robin Yates <yatesrobin@hotmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:39:58 PM

To: alderman@jonesboro.org <alderman@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Resolution 20:159.....How can anyone propose such a resolution? All of us know someone who is now or has been extremely ill with Covid-19! People are fighting for their lives and quarantining for safety from Covid -19.

Please vote NO for this resolution!!

Robin Martin Yates
Jonesboro

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Kimberly Owens <TrejoKJW@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:46 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Resolution 20:159

Good Afternoon,

I see this is on the agenda for this evening's meeting. I would ask what would you do if it is lifted? Our cases of COVID-19 are increasing and people are continuing to believe it's not necessary to wear masks and distance. Are you going to put in more strict measures than what the state will? Or are you going to lift everything so "business can get back to normal"? We are not out of the woods and we do not need to put business in front of people's health or lives.

Thanks
Kimberly Owens
1604 Whitehaven Ct
Jonesboro, AR 72401

From: Kaitlyn McLendon <kaitmclendon@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:47 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Opposition to Resolution 20:159

Good Afternoon,

I am writing to express my opposition to Resolution 20:159. Lifting the state of emergency for Covid-19 is reckless considering our area is leading the state in new infections. We should be doing everything we can to keep our community safe.

Sincerely,
Kaitlyn McLendon
2002 Fox Meadow Lane
Ward 5

From: denyc yarbrough <qnangelcat@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:51 PM

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

Subject: Resolution 20:159

Hello my elected representatives,

I wanted to let you know I strongly oppose the Resolution 20:159 that would call for the governor to end the state of emergency. The COVID-19 pandemic is NOT OVER! Far from being over. Currently Craighead county is nearing the top of the counties in Arkansas with increased cases. It is counterintuitive for the good of Jonesboro as a city and a danger to its residents to back this resolution. Please do the right thing and do not approve this.

There are multiple people in my immediate family, living in the same home, who are at high risk for a bad outcome should they contract COVID. My 70 year old mother has Alztimer's Dementia, diabetes and several risk factors, as well as my husband who has asthma, high blood pressure and is pre-diabetic. I have two children, a 10th and 6th grader, that are now in JPS Virtual Academy. They decided that they didn't want the added risk of them bringing home the virus from going to in person schooling. Please vote and push for more testing, contract tracing and education of the virus and it's known complications. We MUST get this under control. We must first start with our own community. Let us become the example of what to do across Arkansas and the United States.

Warm regards from a concerned citizen,

Mrs. Denyc(Denise) L Yarbrough
604 Sequoia Dr
Jonesboro, AR 72401

From: Rachel Klasky <rachel.klasky@jonesboroschools.net>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 1:01 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Oppose Resolution 20:159

Dear Aldermen,

As a parent, teacher, and concerned citizen of Jonesboro, I oppose the resolution allowing the lifting of restrictions for face masks in our city. Cases continue to rise in the community and in school buildings. What kind of message will ending restrictions send to the people of Jonesboro? Please DO NOT pass this resolution.

Sincerely,
Rachel Klasky

Rachel Klasky
Third Grade Teacher
International Studies Magnet School
1218 Cobb St.
Jonesboro, AR 72401
(870) 933-5823

From: Luna Acosta <lunaunnold@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 1:09 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Opposition to Resolution 20:159

Dear City of Jonesboro Leaders,

As a citizen of Jonesboro, I ask that you please reconsider and oppose moving forward Resolution 20:159 which calls on our governor to end Covid-19 related restrictions.

My family is doing what we can to maintain a sense of normalcy for our young children. The Covid-19 related restrictions allow us to feel comfortable doing so and still participate in activities outside our home in a limited way, as our immediate family includes members at increased risk for severe disease.

I fear that if such a resolution were to pass and the governor move to end the restrictions, our family would have return to our lifestyle from earlier in the year where we were essentially shut-ins to limit our risk of exposure. The rising Covid-19 cases in our community are alarming, and many people already aren't following the basic public health recommendations (due in part to politicization of the issue such as this Resolution) which continues to perpetuate the spread of this virus.

Not putting others at unnecessary risk is such a fundamental part of society and the restrictions do just that - help reduce the risk for all that are participating members of our community.

Very respectfully,
Luna Acosta

2216 Indian Trails St, Jonesboro, AR 72401

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

From: Olivia Evans <olivia.jonesborobdc@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 1:15 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Resolution 20:159 Opposition

To whom it may concern,

My name is Olivia Evans and I am a longtime resident of Jonesboro, AR. I am writing to express my opposition of resolving the state of emergency in our area.

I, like many citizens of our county, am extremely concerned, as our numbers are higher than they ever been. I am concerned because our citizens are now contracting the virus faster than ever before, and we have lost many upstanding, loved, members of our community in the last week.

I personally know 5 people who were diagnosed in the last week, 2 of which were hospitalized. We are NOWHERE near the end of this pandemic, we are still in the middle of it.

We need to push our citizens harder to maintain masks and social distancing. Public grocery stores such as Wal-Mart and Kroger have loosened their restrictions. Gas stations do not enforce customers wearing masks. These are the actions that we should be watching closer, as they are responsible for the spike in statistics we are experiencing. This could become catastrophic if we allow it to.

Please read this message with a concerned and focused mind. These people that are dying are members of this community, and choose to live here because it is a safe and supportive place. Do not let these people die in vain.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Olivia Evans

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

From: Olivia Evans <olivia.jonesborobdc@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 1:16 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Resolution 20:159 Opposition

To whom it may concern,

My name is Olivia Evans and I am a longtime resident of Jonesboro, AR. I am writing to express my opposition of resolving the state of emergency in our area.

I, like many citizens of our county, am extremely concerned, as our numbers are higher than they ever been. I am concerned because our citizens are now contracting the virus faster than ever before, and we have lost many upstanding, loved, members of our community in the last week.

I personally know 5 people who were diagnosed in the last week, 2 of which were hospitalized. We are NOWHERE near the end of this pandemic, we are still in the middle of it.

We need to push our citizens harder to maintain masks and social distancing. Public grocery stores such as Wal-Mart and Kroger have loosened their restrictions. Gas stations do not enforce customers wearing masks. These are the actions that we should be watching closer, as they are responsible for the spike in statistics we are experiencing. This could become catastrophic if we allow it to.

Please read this message with a concerned and focused mind. These people that are dying are members of this community, and chose to live here because it is a safe and supportive place. Do not let any more of our people die in vain.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Olivia Evans

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

From: Amanda Gryffin <amandagryffin@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 1:17 PM

To: alderman@jonesboro.org

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Resolution 20:159

Dear Jonesboro City Council,

I write today to express my opposition for Resolution 20:159, a call for the governor of Arkansas to lift the state of emergency regarding COVID19. As a business owner, I believe the governor's actions are meant to protect the economy by mitigating the spread of this disease. I believe if everyone would take stock of just how effective cooperation is in times like these, we would see this state of emergency lifted without interference from a city government. The call of our citizens to do the right thing should be enough, but we have too many people who would rather argue about the circumstances than help with the solution.

Our local news outlet reported moments ago that the White House Task Force has deemed Northeast Arkansas a "red zone", and specifically, Jonesboro is named as a "metro hot spot". I fully believe this information combined with the civic duty of your office leaves you no choice but to oppose Resolution 20:159. Do right by the citizens of this city and those who work here. Do not become the problem.

Sincerely,

Amanda Gryffin
870-245-8073

Sent from my iPhone

From: Amanda Gryffin <amandagryffin@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 1:20 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Resolution 20:159

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Amanda Gryffin <amandagryffin@gmail.com>
Date: October 20, 2020 at 1:16:32 PM CDT
To: alderman@jonesboro.org
Cc: cityclerk@jonesboro.org
Subject: **Resolution 20:159**

Dear Jonesboro City Council,

I write today to express my opposition for Resolution 20:159, a call for the governor of Arkansas to lift the state of emergency regarding COVID19. As a business owner, I believe the governor's actions are meant to protect the economy by mitigating the spread of this disease. I believe if everyone would take stock of just how effective cooperation is in times like these, we would see this state of emergency lifted without interference from a city government. The call of our citizens to do the right thing should be enough, but we have too many people who would rather argue about the circumstances than help with the solution.

Our local news outlet reported moments ago that the White House Task Force has deemed Northeast Arkansas a "red zone", and specifically, Jonesboro is named as a "metro hot spot". I fully believe this information combined with the civic duty of your office leaves you no choice but to oppose Resolution 20:159. Do right by the citizens of this city and those who work here. Do not become the problem.

Sincerely,

Amanda Gryffin
870-245-8073

Sent from my iPhone

From: Cara Sullivan <carasullivan1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 1:22 PM
To: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Cc: Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Covid-19 Protocol and Safety

Dear City Council Members,

I am adamantly opposed to any measure or action by Jonesboro City Council to call for the Governor to end the emergency order, including the wearing of masks and social distancing protocol, which help us mitigate the spread of Covid-19. Doing so would send a message to the public that the virus is not a serious matter. I expect more from my council members—the fact that this idea is even being proposed is a huge embarrassment to our city.

We live in extremely stressful times, and as Jonesboro's families try to protect their loved ones from illness, we need and expect the city to have our backs. We need encouragement, and bolstering to get through this long slog safely, not the maligning of good sense safety measures. We know for a fact that Coronavirus travels on droplets expelled from people who sneeze, cough, or while talking. We know that masks can prevent droplets from entering our airways. The wearing of masks to limit the spread is what is called a "no-brainer." Gathering outdoors, with proper distance, in low numbers is also a good way to mitigate the spread. Our numbers are going up in Craighead County—does this seem like a good time to throw in the towel? Are we that weak?

Thank you for your time.

Cara Sullivan

Sent from my iPhone

From: Mike Downing <MDowning@jonesboro.org>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 1:29 PM

To: Mitch Johnson <johnsons3@suddenlink.net>; Bobby Long <blongjcc@gmail.com>; Charles Frierson <cdfrierson3@hotmail.com>; Chris Gibson <cgibson@jonesboro.org>; chrismooreplumbing@yahoo.com; David McClain <DMcClain@jonesboro.org>; Gene Vance <GVance@jonesboro.org>; Gene Vance_Contact <gene.vance@vanceconstructionsolutions.com>

Cc: Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Carol Duncan <CDuncan@jonesboro.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>; Harold Perrin <HPerrin@jonesboro.org>

Subject: #4 Comment on Resolution 20:159

Another comment (email #4) received on Resolution 20:159:

Dear City Council Members,

I am adamantly opposed to any measure or action by Jonesboro City Council to call for the Governor to end the emergency order, including the wearing of masks and social distancing protocol, which help us mitigate the spread of Covid-19. Doing so would send a message to the public that the virus is not a serious matter. I expect more from my council members—the fact that this idea is even being proposed is a huge embarrassment to our city.

We live in extremely stressful times, and as Jonesboro's families try to protect their loved ones from illness, we need and expect the city to have our backs. We need encouragement, and bolstering to get through this long slog safely, not the maligning of good sense safety measures. We know for a fact that Coronavirus travels on droplets expelled from people who sneeze, cough, or while talking. We know that masks can prevent droplets from entering our airways. The wearing of masks to limit the spread is what is called a "no-brainer." Gathering outdoors, with proper distance, in low numbers is also a good way to mitigate the spread. Our numbers are going up in Craighead County—does this seem like a good time to throw in the towel? Are we that weak?

Thank you for your time.

Cara Sullivan

From: Lauren Cameron <laurenjanecameron@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 1:31 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Oppose Resolution 20:159

I would like to express my opposition to Resolution 20:159. Let us all help curb the spread of Covid!

Thank you for your time and consideration regarding this matter.

Lauren Cameron

Registered voter

From: paul vellozo <vellozo.p@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 1:32 PM
To: Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Covid

----- Forwarded message -----

From: paul vellozo <vellozo.p@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Oct 20, 2020 at 1:13 PM
Subject: Covid
To: Aldermen@jonesboro.org <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Dear aldermen. In case there is any doubt, I would like to reiterate. There is no usefulness, none at all, to these kind of grandstanding resolutions. Covid is devastating our elderly population. We need more restrictions not less till the danger is passed and we have an effective vaccine and drug for Covid. At present there is none. We need the city council to stand with our healthcare providers, none of whom think masks are useless or unnecessary. Please encourage the community to use masks, social distancing and avoid unnecessary movement outside our homes. Encourage people to get the flu shot. Please provide funding for rapid testing, and unemployment benefits and support for the uninsured. I'm sure most of you understand and agree. Please talk some sense into the uninformed on the council. Thanks

Paul Vellozo, MD
Jonesboro

From: Kristen Saddler <kristiesaddler@kpcnetwork.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 1:39 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: opposition to Resolution 20:159

Please do not lift the state of emergency. With cold weather and holidays coming up, it is only going to get worse. We need to be doing more (not less) to make more people aware of how dangerous it is right now. So many are desensitized or just don't care anymore. I see more and more people without masks, and not taking this seriously. Please before more loved ones are lost or sick, take the steps necessary to slow the spread. This is about more than filling up restaurants or the inconvenience of wearing a mask. If we care about protecting life, WE NEED TO PROTECT EACH OTHER.

Kristen Saddler
BDC Manager
870-336-3727

From: Courtney Foreman <courtney.foreman@smail.astate.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 1:39 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Freedom Restoration Resolution

Dear Alderman of Jonesboro,

I am contacting you as a concerned student of Arkansas State University. I oppose the solution "IN SUPPORT OF RESTORING FREEDOM, CHOICE, OPPORTUNITY, AND GOVERNANCE BACK TO LOCAL AND STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS."

Being an on-campus student I come into contact with multiple students and teachers daily. It makes me, personally, feel safer knowing we have a mask mandate. Masks have proven to limit the spread of germs given covid-19 is spread through the air. I know a lot of my fellow students have expressed similar concerns about being worried about themselves and their families being exposed to the virus and wanting to feel safe on campus.

I am also a part-time employee at Olive Garden. Removing the mask mandate would undoubtedly make so many people with jobs such as mine where contact is inevitable feel unsafe. Removing this mandate would increase the number of cases and deaths for sure. There isn't a doubt in my mind that this resolution would only worsen the covid-19 situation in Arkansas.

Thank you for your time,

Courtney Foreman
Psychology Major at Arkansas State University

--

Courtney Foreman

From: Abigail Ganong <abbyganong@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 1:44 PM

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

Subject: Enforce mask wearing

Please continue to enforce mask wearing!

Thank you

Abigail r ganong

From: Mike Downing <MDowning@jonesboro.org>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 1:45 PM

To: Mitch Johnson <johnsons3@suddenlink.net>; Bobby Long <blongjcc@gmail.com>; Charles Frierson <cdfrierson3@hotmail.com>; Chris Gibson <cgibson@jonesboro.org>; chrismooreplumbing@yahoo.com; David McClain <DMcClain@jonesboro.org>; Gene Vance <GVance@jonesboro.org>; Gene Vance_Contact <gene.vance@vanceconstructionsolutions.com>

Cc: Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Carol Duncan <CDuncan@jonesboro.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>; Harold Perrin <HPerrin@jonesboro.org>

Subject: #5 Comment on Resolution 20:159

Another comment (email #5) received on Resolution 20:159:

Dear aldermen. In case there is any doubt, I would like to reiterate. There is no usefulness, none at all, to these kind of grandstanding resolutions. Covid is devastating our elderly population. We need more restrictions not less till the danger is passed and we have an effective vaccine and drug for Covid. At present there is none. We need the city council to stand with our healthcare providers, none of whom think masks are useless or unnecessary. Please encourage the community to use masks, social distancing and avoid unnecessary movement outside our homes. Encourage people to get the flu shot. Please provide funding for rapid testing, and unemployment benefits and support for the uninsured. I'm sure most of you understand and agree. Please talk some sense into the uninformed on the council. Thanks

Paul Vellozo, MD
Jonesboro

From: Donna Lackey <donnalackey101@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 1:49 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: resolution 20:159

We oppose this resolution. Economy (money) cannot buy health and safety.

Healthy communities that feel safe and work makes the economy grow by encouraging entrepreneurship and new business which in turn grows the community which in turn grows the economy.

Please vote NO

Respectfully

*Tommy and Donna Lackey
1003 West Matthews Ave
Jonesboro, AR 72401*

From: Heather Bels <heatherbels19@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 1:53 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>; Harold Perrin <HPerrin@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Opposition to Freedom Resolution

Good afternoon

I am writing to let you know that I am strongly opposed to the "Freedom Resolution" to allow the City of Jonesboro to end the state of emergency and mask mandate. We are in the midst of a fall/winter surge in coronavirus cases that will only get worse if we stop doing the few things that we have available to use to staunch the flow of new cases. The local hospitals are filling up with new patients, they are short-staffed because of healthcare workers who are testing positive for the virus and recently Craighead County has been in one of the fastest growing areas in Arkansas for new cases.

There has been a lot of confusion and back and forth over how to proceed against this virus because it's new and we had to study and learn about it. The most recent research shows that masks WORK. Not only do they keep the virus from spreading, but they also appear to provide some protection to the wearer. If we remove the mask mandate and people remove their masks and start congregating just as we are all going inside for the winter and holiday months we are going to have an explosion of new cases and people will die because of it.

Thank you

Heather Bels
1310 White Oak Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401
870-897-5247

From: EJStoehr <ejstoehr@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 1:54 PM
To: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Resolution 20:159

At a time when our hospitals are full and our area is leading the state in new infections, we need to be doing more, not less, to curb the spread of Covid. Our public safety committee needs to be looking for ways to support and strengthen public health efforts, not weaken their force. It is for these reasons I am against Resolution 20:159.

From: Diane Moyer <moyerdr0226@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 1:54 PM
To: Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Freedom Resolution

Hi! As a citizen and resident of Jonesboro, I believe we should pass and send the freedom resolution to the governor.

It isn't about masks or ridiculous amounts of testing. It is about the right of the people to be led by their elected representatives. The governor does not have the authority to refuse the legislative branch involvement. That is the whole point of the branches of government. Checks and balances.

There was a state of emergency. But there isn't still. We are not facing vast shortages of equipment or hospital space. We have more knowledge and more tools to fight this virus. It is time to educate with actual, factual information and let people decide what is best for them.

The decisions on whether or not to mask or honor other "directives" should be made individually or on a very local level. We live in a democratic republic. The voice of the people should be heard.

Thank you,
Diane Moyer
3507 Lake Pointe Dr

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

From: Lori Poston <laposton89@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 1:57 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Extreme opposition to Resolution 20:159

I am writing to you my extreme opposition to this resolution. I work in community mental health, we serve the most vulnerable in our community. Our city/county officials must seek ways to do MORE to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Attacking our governor for his efforts to protect the citizens of Arkansas is a waste of time, when we should be working together to find ways to better educate our citizens of the steps they can take to help prevent the spread.

When Northeast Arkansas is one of hottest areas in the nation for the spread of COVID-19, why in the world would we consider DECREASING our efforts at prevention?

Thank you for your consideration

Lori Poston

Sent from Lori's iPad

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

From: Maarten Bels <maartenbels@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 1:57 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>; Harold Perrin <HPerrin@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Re: RES-20:159

To Whom It May Concern:

I write to express my strongest objections and, frankly, disgust at the proposed resolution by Bobby Long to lift the current Covid restrictions in Jonesboro.

I proudly work at St. Bernards Medical Center, and I welcome Mr. Long and his ilk to come spend some time at our facility and see how in the past few weeks the hospital has had to expand the number of Covid units to accommodate the influx of patients in need.

This is literally the worst time to lift restrictions as flu season approaches, people will be spending more time inside as it gets cold outside, and overseas many countries are tightening restrictions or even going into a second lockdown, such as Israel.

Masks have increasingly been proven to help slow the spread of the virus, and this is widely accepted outside of certain narrow American political circles.

Perhaps it would behoove Mr. Long to ponder his apparent preference of libertarian self-interest over Christ-like love of our neighbors.

Sincerely,

Maarten Bels
1310 White Oak St
Jonesboro, AR

Sent from my iPhone

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

From: Liane Neshat <lianeneshat@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 1:59 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Opposition to Resolution 20:159

To whom it may concern:

I fervently oppose Resolution 20:159.

It is illogical to even think of reducing measures to halt the spread of Covid-19.

Jonesboro and Craighead County are in the midst of an increase in positive cases and hospitalizations.

There is not ONE reason this should be passed.

Respectfully,

Liane Neshat

Sent from my iPhone

From: juliewinberry <juliewinberry@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 2:05 PM

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

Subject: Resolution 20:159

I strongly object to the repeal of this. Covid numbers and deaths continue to increase, our schools barely hanging on. Region 8 has already had teacher death, going backwards will only increase the threat.

Be mindful, be balanced, be in prayer.

But DO NOT REPEAL THE STATE OF EMERGENCY.

Thank you,

Julie Winberry

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S7 active, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

From: Daya Shipman <dayashipman@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 2:13 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; Mitch Johnson <johnsons3@suddenlink.net>;
chris.gibson@arcare.net; David McClain <DMcClain@jonesboro.org>;
gene.vance@vancecompanies.com; chrismooreplumbing@yahoo.com
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>; Harold Perrin <HPerrin@jonesboro.org>
Subject: OPPOSITION TO RES-20:159

For a multitude of scientific & public health reasons I should not even have to delineate in this email, I am vehemently opposed to RES-20:159.

Sincerely,

Daya S. Shipman

--

This email may contain privileged & confidential information. Any forwarding or re-disclosure of sensitive information contained herein without the express written permission of the author may be considered a privacy violation.

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

From: Lois Travis <lois@astate.edu>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 2:18 PM

To: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Mask wearing

PLEASE ENFORCE MASK WEARING! That and the social distancing as well.

Thanks,

Lois Travis

Sent from my iPad

From: Ashleigh Givens <ashleigh.givens@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 2:29 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Covid Safety Measures

To our City Council:

Let me ask you to please consider extending the local safety measures that our schools, businesses, and churches are currently upholding, regardless of what orders come down from Little Rock. I have school aged children and get daily emails from our school about new Covid cases. Currently, with masking and distancing guidelines, the numbers of students and staff quarantined has been low. But removing these expectations will cause our schools to be unsafe for kids and teachers alike! Even with school guidelines in place, the community has to mitigate spread. Our hospitals are already stretched to care for patients, even before the onset of flu season. Jonesboro has always been a city who takes care of its own--let's not let our differing political views or fatigue in upholding these precautions stop us from taking care of each other now.

Thank you for your consideration,
Ashleigh Givens

From: Donna White <Donna.White@valleyviewschools.net>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 2:30 PM

To: alderman@jonesboro.org

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Resolution 20:159

Please do not pass this resolution. Our community is worse now as far as covid numbers are concerned than we have been at any other time. This is the worst time to do this as activities are all moving indoors. Five teachers/teacher family members have died in this area in the last month!. Please keep everyone safe!

Sincerely,

Donna White

From: Donna White <Donna.White@valleyviewschools.net>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 2:33 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Resolution 20:159

Please do not pass this resolution. Our community is worse now as far as covid numbers are concerned than we have been at any other time. This is the worst time to do this as activities are all moving indoors. Five teachers/teacher family members have died in this area in the last month!. Please keep everyone safe!

Sincerely,

Donna White

From: Mike Downing <MDowning@jonesboro.org>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 2:41 PM

To: Mitch Johnson <johnsons3@suddenlink.net>; Bobby Long <blongjcc@gmail.com>; Charles Frierson <cdfrierson3@hotmail.com>; Chris Gibson <cgibson@jonesboro.org>; chrismooreplumbing@yahoo.com; David McClain <DMcClain@jonesboro.org>; Gene Vance <GVance@jonesboro.org>; Gene Vance_Contact <gene.vance@vanceconstructionsolutions.com>

Cc: Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Carol Duncan <CDuncan@jonesboro.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>; Harold Perrin <HPerrin@jonesboro.org>

Subject: #6 Comment on Resolution 20:159

More comments (email #6) received on Resolution 20:159:

Hi! As a citizen and resident of Jonesboro, I believe we should pass and send the freedom resolution to the governor.

It isn't about masks or ridiculous amounts of testing. It is about the right of the people to be led by their elected representatives. The governor does not have the authority to refuse the legislative branch involvement. That is the whole point of the branches of government. Checks and balances.

There was a state of emergency. But there isn't still. We are not facing vast shortages of equipment or hospital space. We have more knowledge and more tools to fight this virus. It is time to educate with actual, factual information and let people decide what is best for them.

The decisions on whether or not to mask or honor other "directives" should be made individually or on a very local level. We live in a democratic republic. The voice of the people should be heard.

Thank you,
Diane Moyer
3507 Lake Pointe Dr

Re: The proposed resolution titled to be for "Restoring freedom, choices, opportunity, and governance back to local and state elected officials"

This proposal fails to understand or recognize the very unusual and deadly nature of the virus responsible for the exercise of the Emergency Services Act by the Governor. It is again predicted to rise again to a very high amount of infections, with more positive infections, more deaths, and more assisted breathing hospitalizations (almost as bad as death).

Even a brief review of worldwide cases would show that control success can only come for more widespread, nationwide controls, not less. To send controls down to the city, or even county, level is just wrong. And this resolution is submitted at a time when Craighead County is having the second largest new cases in the state.

So, as a Council member, I reject the idea that the Council should be faced with the duty of deciding what is best to control the virus for our city citizens. This should be state wide, if not nation wide.



Charles Frierson
Ward 1, Position 1

October 16, 2020

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

From: Emily Allen <emilyeallen@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 2:43 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Please continue State of Emergency and mask requirement

Hello,

I'm writing in support to continue the state of Emergency regarding Covid. Our covid case numbers are continuing to rise and getting rid of the mask requirement would only increase our covid numbers at a faster rate.

Please continue the protective measures to keep our community safe.

Thank you.

Emily Allen

From: Sean M Allen <seanmichaelallen@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 2:47 PM

To: alderman@jonesboro.org

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: RE: Mask Requirements

As a Father with underlying health issues and being a citizen of Jonesboro; I, along with my wife and three children, bequest that you enforce a mandate to wear masks in all public places, at the very least **require** these protective measures . Hospitals and schools are trying to suppress the contagion that is COVID-19. The public should do its part to do the same. Inconvenience arguments of wearing a mask are illogical and are not within the guidelines of all experts (CDC, WHO, FEMA, Surgeon General, etc.). This should be a "no-brainer" but I would like my voice heard pertaining to public health. Please count 5 votes in favor of continuing mask wearing requirements. My children are 3, 6 and 10.

Sincerely,

Sean M Allen
1602 Castle Drive
Jonesboro, AR 72401

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

From: Susan Harris <susanharris47@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 2:48 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: KAIT: White House Task Force: Much of Northeast Arkansas in COVID-19 "red zone"

I thought you might like this story from KAIT.

White House Task Force: Much of Northeast Arkansas in COVID-19 "red zone"

<https://www.kait8.com/2020/10/20/white-house-task-force-much-northeast-arkansas-covid-red-zone/>

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

From: Deborah Johnson <dsj04487@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 2:49 PM

To: Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: RES-20:159

Dear City Council,

I have been a resident of Jonesboro for 26 years, and appreciate the people living here and their spirit of freedom; however, I am very disappointed that anyone on the City Council thinks that Resolution 20:159 is a good idea! Jonesboro and the surrounding County are spiking in our cases of the Coronavirus, and it is extremely irresponsible to be advocating anything that might be considered to be permission to take this virus less seriously. We ALREADY have too many citizens who, for whatever inexplicable reason, think that wearing masks and taking precautions as a community and a state are egregiously limiting their individual freedoms. We all saw the governor struggle against requiring Arkansans to wear masks and limiting business openings, and when people didn't show enough good sense to do it on their own, he finally mandated it. Instead of attacking these mandates as restrictions of freedom, how about promoting them as badges of good citizenship? If more of us would wear our masks and social distance properly, more businesses could be open, thus allowing our community to thrive even during these times. Please DO NOT SUPPORT RES-20:159! It is irresponsible and does not help our city!

Deborah Johnson

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

From: James Barr <jamesbarr1968@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 2:40 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Resolution 20:159

I am sending this email to state my opposition to the proposed resolution 20:159. I urge all councilmen and women to vote NO to the passage of this resolution.

James Barr

Sent from my iPhone

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

From: Jessica Nixon <nixonj85@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 2:54 PM

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

Subject: No To Resolution 20:159

I am adamantly opposed to resolution 20:159. It is in the best interest of our community to let scientists and medical professionals tell us when it is safe to end our state of emergency, not city government or career politicians.

Thank you for the consideration,

-Jessica Odom

From: Walter Acosta <acosta.walter@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 2:54 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Opposition to Resolution 20:159

Dear City of Jonesboro Leaders,

As a citizen of Jonesboro, and a scientist I ask that you please reconsider and oppose moving forward Resolution 20:159 which calls on our governor to end Covid-19 related restrictions.

I am a scientist and currently working on therapies to treat covid-19 infections. As a researcher I am aware of the infection mechanisms and the physiological effects of SARS-CoV-2 .

Covid 19 is not only a highly deadly virus, but "recovered" patients will suffer from damages in their vital organs that are now being constantly reported and scientists are still in the process of understanding its long term effects.

Coronavirus is not only a respiratory disease, the virus spreads to other organs such as brain, heart, bladder and kidney causing damage to these organs. A recent study has demonstrated that **60% of the RECOVERED patients** develop myocardial inflammation leaving them with unknown cardiovascular sequelae. The most concerning findings are that this inflammation was independent of preexisting conditions (Puntmann, 2020). Neurological and kidney diseases are also side effects suffered by recovered patients months after their infections.

The rising Covid-19 cases in our community are alarming, this will leave thousands of Jonesboro citizens with pre-existing conditions that will undermine their quality of life.

Not putting others at unnecessary risk is such a fundamental part of society and the restrictions do just that - help reduce the risk for all that are participating members of our community.

Very respectfully,

Walter Acosta. Ph.D.

Reference <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamacardiology/fullarticle/2768916>

From: Lana Jean <jeanlana@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 2:49 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Resolution 20:159

PLEASE do **NOT** ask the governor to end the state of emergency regarding Covid-19. The numbers are still climbing, and Craighead County is leading the state in new infections. PLEASE do not put the health of the residents of Craighead County at risk. We need to be even more vigilant now than ever before!

From: Barry Eggers <barry@bigborebikes.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 3:02 PM
To: Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>
Subject:

I absolutely support Bobby Long's Freedom Resolution that will go before council and urge all councilmen to vote for this Resolution.

Thank You,
Barry Eggers

From: David White <david.white@tlctutoringco.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 3:09 PM

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

Subject: State of Emergency Resolution

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing in reference to the resolution that has been proposed asking the City of Jonesboro to call on the governor to end the state of emergency regarding Covid-19. As recent numbers have shown, both in Arkansas and nationally, there is a significant increase in the number of individuals impacted by this illness. Sadly, my own family and friends have not been exempt.

In light of such sobering data and so many tragic experiences, sending a resolution to the governor requesting an end to the state of emergency is an affront to the many people who have lost loved ones to this illness. Moreover, it compromises the future economic prosperity of the many small businesses in our community who desperately need this pandemic to end. Our best hope for returning to normalcy is to commit ourselves to an all-out war on this virus until such a time as it is controlled. Polio, smallpox, diphtheria, and a host of other deadly illnesses have been conquered through science, and Covid-19 will be no exception. We will triumph over this adversity as our parents and grandparents did when they faced similar circumstances, but to be victorious, we must marshal every resource at our disposal to defend and protect our community until such a time as a viable vaccine is found to facilitate the eradication of virus.

Understanding the gravity of the moment, I ask that we lay aside our political posturing and consider how history will look on us if we make this recommendation. How will we explain to the families who stand beside caskets that their loved one's death doesn't constitute an emergency? How will we explain to business owners that their loss of income due to the pandemic doesn't constitute an emergency? How will we explain to future generations that we claimed to be "pro-life" but put our political position ahead of action that could have preserved human life? To take such a position is unconscionable in the sight of God and of the good people of this community.

I am waiting until after city council takes action on this resolution to cast my vote, and it will be a determining factor in how I vote with regard to our city council members. Do what is right, stay the course, and fight the virus until we win!

Sincerely,

David White
651 W. Monroe Ave.
Jonesboro, Arkansas

From: Mike Downing <MDowning@jonesboro.org>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 3:16 PM

To: Mitch Johnson <johnsons3@suddenlink.net>; Bobby Long <blongjcc@gmail.com>; Charles Frierson <cdfrierson3@hotmail.com>; Chris Gibson <cgibson@jonesboro.org>; chrismooreplumbing@yahoo.com; David McClain <DMcClain@jonesboro.org>; Gene Vance <GVance@jonesboro.org>; Gene Vance_Contact <gene.vance@vanceconstructionsolutions.com>
Cc: Bill Campbell <BCampbell@jonesboro.org>; Carol Duncan <CDuncan@jonesboro.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>; Harold Perrin <HPerrin@jonesboro.org>
Subject: #7 Comment on Resolution 20:159

More comments (email #7) received on Resolution 20:159:

I have been a resident of Jonesboro for 26 years, and appreciate the people living here and their spirit of freedom; however, I am very disappointed that anyone on the City Council thinks that Resolution 20:159 is a good idea! Jonesboro and the surrounding County are spiking in our cases of the Coronavirus, and it is extremely irresponsible to be advocating anything that might be considered to be permission to take this virus less seriously. We ALREADY have too many citizens who, for whatever inexplicable reason, think that wearing masks and taking precautions as a community and a state are egregiously limiting their individual freedoms. We all saw the governor struggle against requiring Arkansans to wear masks and limiting business openings, and when people didn't show enough good sense to do it on their own, he finally mandated it. Instead of attacking these mandates as restrictions of freedom, how about promoting them as badges of good citizenship? If more of us would wear our masks and social distance properly, more businesses could be open, thus allowing our community to thrive even during these times. Please DO NOT SUPPORT RES-20:159! It is irresponsible and does not help our city!

Deborah Johnson

I absolutely support Bobby Long's Freedom Resolution that will go before council and urge all councilmen to vote for this Resolution.

Thank You,
Barry Eggers

From: Russ Pierce <russallenpierce@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 3:16 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Resolution 20:159

Councilmen,

I am writing to voice my opposition to Resolution 20:159. I am a pharmacist practicing in Oncology and I have children in our public schools. The health of this community means a great deal to me. I trust the governor and support continuing the state of emergency for as long as he deems appropriate during this time of crisis.

Regards,

Russ Pierce, Pharm.D.

From: Ronal Foster <ronalfos@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 3:23 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: City Council meeting & Resolution 20:159

I am writing to say that the council needs to 86 this resolution. We are routinely among the worst Covid-19 locations in the state these days and the last thing we need is a relaxation of rules that keep us from getting worse. If anything, we need to encourage the Governor to put teeth in these rules with fines so we can get better control of this pandemic.

Because of this virus running rampant in our area my wife and I have been forced to take care of my 91-year-old mother in our home instead of a retirement home or nursing home. This has been going on for 8 months with no relief in sight. We are going to be stuck like this until we get serious and put this virus in a box so the rest of us can live outside the box. To do that we must apply these rules and maybe more as seriously as we can.

Sincerely,

Ron Foster
609 Center Grove Circle
Jonesboro, AR

From: Ben Woodruff <woodruff.ben@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 3:23 PM

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

Subject: Resoution 20:159

To the Jonesboro City Council,

As a citizen of Jonesboro, I'm writing to express my opposition to Resolution 20:159. Craighead County has seen a recent spike in COVID cases over the past few weeks, and I believe it would be poor leadership to call for the end of Arkansas' current state of emergency and mask mandate at this time. The citizens of Jonesboro have done much to combat the spread of COVID-19, but our risk is far from over. It is vital that the citizens of Jonesboro and the rest of the state continue to wear masks in public in order to control the spread. Issuing a symbolic message that our city and its leadership doesn't take COVID-19 as a serious threat is a reckless step that sends the wrong message to our people and neighbors.

Ben Woodruff

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

From: June Williams <junewilliams@suddenlink.net>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 3:24 PM

To: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Masks

It is absolutely necessary for the health of our community that the wearing of masks be mandatory. We must protect ourselves and those who are foolish enough to think it unnecessary.

June Williams

Sent from my iPhone

From: Hope S <music1violin@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 3:32 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Resolution 20:159

Dear Aldermen,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Resolution 20:159, proposed by Bobby Long.

We are experiencing a really dangerous spike in covid-19 cases here in northeast Arkansas; the Governor reported today that our region is the highest in the state during today's briefing.

Lifting the State of Emergency is wreckless endangerment. As a small business owner, I'd rather preserve the health of my community then see everything fully open up. Just examine the spikes that occurred not only locally, but right after memorial day when Georgia, Florida, Texas, and Arizona all experienced dangerous spikes after fully opening up.

Infectious Disease Experts also predict that it will get worse this winter.

It would add an undue burden to our E911, to our Hospitals, to our EMT's, Doctors and Nurses. Do we really want to do that?

This is a public health emergency and the Governor and Dr. Romero both say that if over 40% of the citizenry would adhere to the CDC and NIH guidelines, then we can safely open back up fully.

Nobody likes this situation but it's better for our economy, it is better for Jonesboro to have a HEALTHY population. Let's be sensible and please do the right thing and vote No on the wreckless resolution.

Thank you!
Hope Smith
1509 Granger Drive
Jonesboro, AR 72405

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

From: Dylan Faught <faughtsfight93@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 3:32 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Opposition to Resolution 20:159

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my concern in regards to opposition to Resolution 20:159.

I know multiple people that have contracted the virus in the last week. Our experience with this pandemic is far from over. In fact, I believe it's just beginning. Two extremely loved and respected people in the Jonesboro community have died this week as well. How many more have to die before our community starts taking this virus seriously? We need stricter enforcement of masking and social distancing.

Multiple employees at restaurants downtown have also contracted it, receiving their positive results today. We need funding to ensure that these people will receive the care they need when they need it most. This virus has proved it can create a turn for the worst at any given moment.

Thanks for your time,

Dylan A. Faught

From: Neale and Elaine Bartee <enbartee@suddenlink.net>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 3:36 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: mask mandate

To whom it may concern,

I have learned that the City Council is considering a resolution to strike down the governor's mandate about mask wearing. I cannot believe that anyone would consider doing this when Covid-19 has become out of control in this part of the state. I regularly hear of people that I know personally who are in the hospital battling this disease.

I know some of you feel that this disease affects only older people. However, that fact continues to be proven wrong over and over. I wish that everyone could understand that had we followed the guidelines from the beginning we would have probably already been back to some semblance of normal life. Also, I don't think many of you realize how much of the economy older citizens drive. Mask wearing by the majority of people has allowed me and others my age some freedom to go out into public places like stores. If we return to our former situation where very few members of the population are wearing a mask, we would rarely venture out.

I hope you will not support this resolution. It is reckless!!!!!!!

Neale and Elaine Bartee

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

From: Dustin Lake <laked@rollerfuneralhomes.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 3:41 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Opposition of resolution

I am writing to you in opposition of the resolution concerning face masks.

I work in the funeral industry and have seen many who have passed from COVID-19, and I have seen what it has done to the families.

When I talk to the families, they tell me that face masks is what helps slow the spread of COVID-19 and that wearing them will help us all get back to doing what we all want to do and do it safely.

I urge you NOT to pass the resolution 20:159 concerning face masks.

Thank you.

Dustin Lake

Resident of Jonesboro

Sent from my iPhone

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

From: Amy Grissom <a_keton@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 3:42 PM

To: alderman@jonesboro.org

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Resolution 20-159

I strongly oppose the resolution in front of the committee today as a lifetime resident and registered voter in Jonesboro Arkansas.

At a time when our hospitals are full and our area is leading the state in new infections, we need to be doing more, not less, to curb the spread of Covid. Our public safety committee needs to be looking for ways to support and strengthen public health efforts, not weaken their force.

-Amy Grissom
3508 Savannah Cove
Jonesboro, Ar 72404

Sent from my iPhone

From: Bianca <biancalburgess@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 3:43 PM

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

Subject: Opposition to Resolution 20:159

Esteemed Aldermen,

It pains me that I feel the need to write to you this day. I would have hoped that all citizens of Jonesboro would realize the need now, more than ever, to enact safe and careful methods to protect not just ourselves, but our most vulnerable as well. At a time when our hospitals are full and our area is leading the state in new infections we need to be doing more, not less, to curb the spread of Covid-19. What sense does it make that we are lessening our efforts now than when this plague was in its infancy? Our public safety committee needs to be looking for ways to support and strengthen public health efforts, not to weaken their force.

I urge you to think of those without loved ones to care for them, without good jobs that provide them with sick leave, without shelter to recover in during these times. Please oppose resolution 20:159.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Bianca Burgess

From: Skip Kelley <kelley.skip.sk@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 3:43 PM
To: Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Councilman Long's Freedom Resolution

Vote yes on Councilman Long's Freedom Resolution. Pass it out of committee and pass it on the floor!

--

H. Skip Kelley
Jonesboro, Ar
870-421-3680

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

From: Sheila Hellman <colliefun@earthlink.net>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 3:44 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: [BULK] COVID-19 response

Please do not approve any resolution calling for ending the state of emergency procedures for COVID-19.

We have actually done pathetically little to strengthen public health efforts in Jonesboro. We have allowed selfishness to prevail, and contribute to ongoing spread of this potentially fatal virus.

We need city, county, and state leaders to all stand up for the expectation of all people contributing to the safety of the general public.

Thank you.

Sheila Hellman

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

From: Lisa Tedder <lltedder@suddenlink.net>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 3:52 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Bobby Long's Resolution

Dear Aldermen,

I am writing again today because I am not sure my email went through yesterday. I am asking you to vote against Mr. Long's resolution restoring "freedom". My husband and future daughter in law work at St. Bernard's and have seen first hand what COVID is doing - people are DYING! This is not the time to back down on mask wearing or other precautions.

Thank you for you attention to this matter.

Lisa Tedder

Ward 4

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

From: CYNDY <cyndyshepherd@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 3:52 PM

To: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: MASK

Councilmen and Councilwomen,

PLEASE keep the mask mandate in order for the city of Jonesboro. Do not vote it out. It is the safest, and simplest, preventative for Covid-19.

Former FDA commissioner says the U.S. is one week away from a “rapid acceleration” in Covid cases!

Keep our community safe!

Sincerely,

Cyndy Shepherd

1201 Princeton Drive

Jonesboro, AR 72401

Sent from my iPhone

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

From: Kelli Craig <kellijocraig@hotmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 3:54 PM

To: alderman@jonesboro.org; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Resolution 20:159

To whom it may concern:

I oppose resolution 20:159. My son is participating in the virtual learning option at Valley View. It is working well for us and we would like to continue. It is my understanding that the Governor's emergency order is what is allowing virtual school to be an option. I lost a cousin to COVID last week. We need to be taking more measures to keep each other safe, not less!

Thank you,
Kelli Adkins

Sent from my iPhone

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

From: Nancy Owens <nanarama@hotmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 3:54 PM

To: alderman@jonesboro.org

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Mask ordinance/State of Emergency

Dear City Officials,

Normally I don't stomp my foot or raise my voice too loudly politically. However, the very idea that there are those seeking to lift the State of Emergency Declaration has forced me to speak up.

I cannot imagine lessening safety restrictions at such a critical time with the numbers of cases on the rise and more people attending sporting events, weddings and other gatherings. Knowing that our state officials take this seriously and have mandates for masks, social distancing etc. is one of the few things that gives me hope and allows me to get out into the community to work or go to do basic errands.

I am around the public in my work. My brother is a physician putting himself at risk daily. My elderly parents are among the most vulnerable population. I know I am not alone in my concerns for myself, my family and our community. I beg of you to continue with the state of emergency as declared by our governor and heed the advice of leading scientists.

It is more important than it has ever been for our part of the country that we continue to take this disease and it's ripple effect very seriously.

Sincerely,
Nancy Owens

Sent from my iPhone

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

From: Angel St. Pierre <angelstpierre@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 4:04 PM

To: alderman@jonesboro.org; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: State of emergency

I'd like to state my opposition against the resolution to end the state mandate. With our numbers rising to the point that we are recognized by the White House task force, taking away a mask mandate seems beyond negligent. I cannot fathom why people are opposing this with our hospitals full and people dying. Please consider our elderly population and all of those at risk and keep the state of emergency in place.

Thank you,

Angela St. Pierre, LCSW

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

From: ROBERT Dunham <bdunhamar@sbcglobal.net>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 4:11 PM

To: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: safety

To Whom It May Concern:

As an Arkansas resident who grew up in Jonesboro and who has parents still residing there, I am strongly opposed to any proposals to decrease Covid-19 safety measures. Case numbers are increasing not decreasing. Craighead county is a hotspot. Hospitalizations are increasing state-wide. Soon we will face this crisis concurrently with the seasonal flu. This is not the time to consider taking steps in the wrong direction for public safety. Please be wise.

Thank you,

Brenda Brinkley Dunham

Sent from my iPhone

From: martha lamm <marthalam@yaho.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 4:02 PM

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

Subject: Opposition to Resolution 20:159.

To Whom It May Concern:

Please register my opposition to Resolution 20:159, the resolution that would have the city to contact the governor to end the state of emergency regarding COVID 19.

Our local risk has not ended. The numbers of cases are high in Jonesboro and surrounding areas. The change of seasons makes indoor gatherings more likely and will probably increase the risk further. I approve the governor having the authority to act in the pandemic. I think the state standing behind businesses trying protect employees and customers gives cover to reasonable requirements.

Our people have had private and public loss of health and lives. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Martha Lamm

From: Richard Owens <rowens@cusi.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 4:16 PM

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

Subject: Resolution 20:159

This appears to simply be an attempt to circumvent/run around actions intended to protect the public as a whole.

Having being inundated for several weeks with smoke from field burn offs, it would not entirely surprise me if the city were to put the profits of a few over the health of thousands...

My hope is the officials, who we hope will look out for us all, will exhibit more care and continue to look out for every citizen. I hope they would not put the many at risk in the interest of the few.

Thank you much
Richard Owens

From: Emily Boves <emilyboves@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 4:16 PM

To: alderman@jonesboro.org; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Resolution 20:159

I am writing to say that I oppose this resolution. Covid-19 cases in Jonesboro are still on the rise. This is not the time to end the mask mandate. For the health of our citizens and the health of our community, we need to continue to be diligent and cautious.

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

From: Kylene Lichucki <krlichucki@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 4:17 PM

To: alderman@jonesboro.org; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Oppose resolution

I'm writing to oppose the resolution that will be discussed tonight. The mask mandate should stay in place.

Kylene

From: Mari Porter <portermari@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 4:18 PM
To: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Mask mandate

I am NOT in favor of lifting the mask mandate.

Mari Porter

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: ALISON BURTON <alichetister@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 4:20 PM

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

Subject: COVID 19 Restrictions

Good afternoon,

I am a constituent and voter who lives in Jonesboro with my partner and 3 children. I would like to voice my concerns that some people on the city council would like to drop the emergency measures that our governor has laid out during this trying time. Due to our continued and increasing COVID cases in NEA and the upcoming flu season, I feel like this shouldn't even be an issue. Number one, Arkansas never even "closed down" like many others states did in the beginning. My family members that live in MI and OH couldn't even believe that we did not shutter like their states did and their states continue to have restrictions that are much more constricting than Arkansas. Doing away with the mask mandate and the restrictions on group size seems very arbitrary at this point with our increasing cases and the upcoming flu season. Oh, COVID, is still running rampant through our community, you can try to deny it all you want but that would simply not be true. My daughter is a nurse at St. Bernards and she is amazed that it has pretty much become full of nothing but people dealing with complications due to this virus. Also, my son, niece and nephew all work in some capacity at St. Bernards and my niece just recovered from it. She is only 22 years old and had severe symptoms ranging from fever, shortness of breath and lose of taste and smell, she still suffers from fatigue and shortness of breath months later but for some reason people don't want to listen to the science that this can and does effect younger people. I think those on the city council that would wish to reject Governor Hutchinson's mandates and guidelines are being short sighted and acting in a selfish manner because Jonesboro is no different than any other city in this wonderful state and a lot of us are willing to live with these guidelines until a vaccine is effectively available. Thank for reading my statement and have a good day.

Alison M Burton

alichetister@yahoo.com

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

From: Lanie Rollings <lanie.rollings@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 4:26 PM

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

Subject: Jonesboro State of Emergency & Mask Ordinance

I am NOT in favor of the proposal to end the State of Emergency & mask mandate in Jonesboro. As a mother of a newborn who spent his first week of life in the NICU, I have remained diligent to protect his life as well as others. As cases in Jonesboro continue to rise, it is more important than ever for everyone to do their part in fighting this virus.

Lanie Rollings

Sent from my iPhone

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

From: Emily Maglothin <emilymaglothin@hotmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 4:36 PM

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

Subject: Resolution 20:159

Dear City Council

I am an immune compromised person with resulting lung disease. I am currently working since my workplace is taking precautions such as wearing masks and social distancing. I am opposed to ending the emergency order which includes the mask ordinance right now while our cases are high. We should be doing more, not less to end the spread of this disease. I feel like by ending the mask ordinance and the associated mandates, it would make it less safe for me to work, and limit my ability to make a living and have insurance since that is tied to my work. It would also limit my freedom to do activities of daily living such as grocery shopping, and taking care of things that have to be done safely. I realize that the resolution involves more than just the mask mandate, however that is what effects me directly right now. I am sure there are many other people who feel the lifting of the emergency order would make them less safe and unable to work including restaurant workers and school employees.

Thank you for your time.

Emily Maglothin

Sent from my iPhone

From: chris ingle <chrisingle01@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 4:36 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>; Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Resolution 20:159

Hello,

My name is Chris Ingle and I am a long time resident of Jonesboro in ward 4. I work in the medical industry in town and have done so for 18 years. To remove the emergency declaration in regards to the ongoing and continually rising Covid-19 pandemic is not only reckless and irresponsible, it is taking a major step in the wrong direction. We are currently one of the three highest active Covid-19 case loads in the state. granted we have a higher population which appears to skew the numbers but the simple fact is, people are dying from this with the half hearted attempt at containment we have in place now. For the sake of our community and the people you serve, do not remove this mask mandate. I also beg you to increase action and effort in controlling the spread of this deadly disease. This has moved rapidly from " I've heard of someone with it" to " my family member has died from it." Everyone has felt the physical, emotional and financial impact of this virus. Teachers and students are forced back onto campus with little to no PPE or guidelines to follow and no enforcement of the guidelines. Medical staff was stretched thin before the rise of Covid-19 cases and now they're over run. If drastic measures aren't taken in effort to curb this, we wont have a community left.

From: fred.buhrmester <fred.buhrmester@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 4:39 PM

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

Subject: Basic Safety

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are in the middle of a significant rise in the number of cases of COVID-19 in NE Arkansas. Now is the time for increased vigilance, not less. Masks and social distancing should be the minimum prevention to stop this dreadful disease from destroying our community.

Fred Buhrmester
Jonesboro

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S8 Active, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

From: Marya Langford <mlangford@RICETEC.COM>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 4:42 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Mandates

Please have the “businessmen” sit down and hush. We don’t need them preaching about the science of using a mask any more than you would trust them with your prostate exams. We need to wear our masks, limit exposure, and do what’s right for our citizens and neighbors.

Concerned AND VOTING resident!
Marya Langford

Disclaimer

The information contained in this communication from the sender is confidential. It is intended solely for use by the recipient and others authorized to receive it. If you are not the recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution or taking action in relation to the contents of this information is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful.

This email has been scanned for viruses and malware, and may have been automatically archived by **Mimecast Ltd**, an innovator in Software as a Service (SaaS) for business. Mimecast specializes in security, archiving and compliance, providing a **safer** and **more useful** place for your human-generated data. To find out more [Click Here](#).

From: Taura McDaniel <taura.mcdaniel.aal@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 4:42 PM

To: alderman@jonesboro.org

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Objection to Resolution 20:159

To Whom it May Concern:

As a resident of Craighead County, please note my objection to Resolution 20:159. This resolution would have the city call on the governor to end the state of emergency regarding Covid-19. At a time when our hospitals are full and our area is leading the state in new infections, we need to be doing more, not less, to curb the spread of Covid. Our public safety committee needs to be looking for ways to support and strengthen public health efforts, not weaken their force.

Thank you for your hard work,

Taura L. McDaniel
870-897-2519

From: Taura McDaniel <taura.mcdaniel.aal@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 4:45 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Fwd: Objection to Resolution 20:159

To Whom it May Concern:

As a resident of Craighead County, please note my objection to Resolution 20:159. This resolution would have the city call on the governor to end the state of emergency regarding Covid-19. At a time when our hospitals are full and our area is leading the state in new infections, we need to be doing more, not less, to curb the spread of Covid. Our public safety committee needs to be looking for ways to support and strengthen public health efforts, not weaken their force.

Thank you for your hard work,

Taura L. McDaniel
870-897-2519

From: Brook <dr.brooklaurent@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 4:53 PM

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

Subject: do not support resolutions that would reverse mask requirements

Dear council members,

As a health care provider and concerned citizen, I ask that you do not support the upcoming resolution, regarding the reversal of mask requirements, which will negatively affect our community's health. COVID-19 cases continue to rise and hospitalizations are increasing, specifically in our region. The measures of health backed by scientific evidence should be supported. Please vote to keep the guidance and directives to require masks for the safety of our community.

Dr. Laurent

From: Courtney Fitzwater <fitzwatercourtney@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 4:57 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Resolution 20:159

As a resident of Craighead County, please note my objection to Resolution 20:159. This resolution would have the city call on the governor to end the state of emergency regarding Covid-19. At a time when our hospitals are full and our area is leading the state in new infections, we need to be doing more, not less, to curb the spread of Covid. Our public safety committee needs to be looking for ways to support and strengthen public health efforts, not weaken their force. Thank you for your hard work,
Brian and COURTNEY FITZWATER

From: Andrea Walker <adwalker25@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 4:58 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Oppose Resolution 20:159

Dear City Councilors,

I urge you to oppose Resolution 20:159. I'm embarrassed and appalled that this resolution is even being considered. At a time when our community leads the state in new infections, our city needs your leadership to do more, not less, to curb the spread of this virus. Please show the residents of this city that you care about our health and wellbeing by opposing this resolution.

Sincerely,

Andrea Walker
1101 Wilmar Cir
Jonesboro, AR 72401

From: Bethany Gallimore <bethanyjseaton@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 4:59 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: OPPOSITION to Resolution 20:159

Good evening,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Resolution 20:159. At a time when Jonesboro, Paragould, Blytheville, and Mountain Home have been designated "metro red zones" for COVID-19 by the White House Task Force, the best way we can protect our businesses, residents, and healthcare professionals is by extending the protections set in place by the state of Arkansas--not seeking to remove them.

I respect the desire to protect the freedom of local commissions and ensure government is reflective of its citizens' needs and desires. However, I believe our area still needs higher leadership in addition to local leadership at this time. As seen in today's KAIT report, "Craighead has the dual distinction of being one of three counties in the last three weeks with the *highest number of cases*." We need to be doing more to stop the spread of coronavirus, and cooperating with state mandates is one step in the right direction. This is the time to be protecting our citizens with more consistent and stronger requirements, **not** championing the end to a state of emergency that is clearly still ongoing.

Please accept this sincere plea to **oppose** Resolution 20:159. We need the leadership of our state officials at this time, now more than ever.

Sincerely.

Bethany Gallimore
Employed Face-to-Face at Arkansas State University
Residing in Brookland, Arkansas
501-276-5600

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

From: Jenny Petty <jenny.petty@nettletonschoools.net>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 5:01 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Opposition to Resolution 20:159

I want to express my opposition to Resolution 20:159. This resolution would have the city call on the governor to end the state of emergency regarding Covid-19. At a time when our hospitals are full and our area is leading the state in new infections, we need to be doing more, not less, to curb the spread of Covid. Our public safety committee needs to be looking for ways to support and strengthen public health efforts, not weaken their force.

Now is the time to be even more vigilant! Events are moving indoors, schools are in session, holidays are coming, and community spread is HIGH. Let's take care of each other. Let's keep our local economy afloat. Let's keep our kids in school safely. Let's keep our hospitals ready to take care of us.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Roseann Askeland <asketeacher@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 5:03 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Resolution 20-159

In consideration of 20-159 there are some basic considerations that you, as leaders of this community, should be taking into account. The first is that if Craighead and surrounding counties are now making national news for the rise in COVID 19 cases, is this the appropriate time for the council to be considering a resolution that will end any protections for its constituents? The reality is that the majority of people in this area are not adhering to the minimal restrictions that are in effect at this time so it seems to be a bit of grandstanding to try to push to remove the very basic restrictions now in place. Also, one can only assume that the support for this resolution is based on finances rather than the health of the community. Anyone who has been out shopping would quickly realize that the effect of the earlier shutdowns is much less today but the effect of the reopening and lack adherence to simple requests such as wearing masks and maintaining social distances has greatly affected the death rate and infection rates in the area. Please reconsider your response to protect our teachers, essential workers and children.

Roseann Askeland

From: Reagan McNeil <reagan.mcneil.ja@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 5:03 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Oppose Resolution 20:159

Please oppose Resolution 20:159. As someone who lost my dad to COVID, I beg you to support measures to keep NEA safe. With numbers rising, we need to stay vigilant, especially as cold weather and holidays are approaching. We want to avoid another shut down, and the best way is common sense mask-wearing. It's a small thing that can make a big difference.

After watching my strong, vibrant dad die of this - 4 weeks in the hospital, 2 times on and off the ventilator, with no family able to see him, struggling to breath... believe me- it's NOT what you want yourself or a family member to go through.

Please help protect us!

Reagan McNeil

Jonesboro, AR

From: Sean M Allen <seanmichaelallen@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 5:04 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: RE: tonight's meeting about mask requirements in Jonesboro city limits

As a Father with underlying health issues and being a citizen of Jonesboro; I, along with my wife and three children, bequest that you enforce a mandate to wear masks in all public places, at the very least **require** these protective measures . Hospitals and schools are trying to suppress the contagion that is COVID-19. The public should do its part to do the same. Inconvenience arguments of wearing a mask are illogical and are not within the guidelines of all experts (CDC, WHO, FEMA, Surgeon General, etc.). This should be a "no-brainer" but I would like my voice heard pertaining to public health. Please count 5 votes in favor of continuing mask wearing requirements. My children are 3, 6 and 10.

Sincerely,

Sean M Allen
1602 Castle Drive
Jonesboro, AR 72401

From: James Puckett <jamesbobbpuckett@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 5:06 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: I FULLY support 20:159

Aldermen,

I have read Resolution 20:159. I do not find anywhere that it reads that the citizens of Jonesboro should not wear a mask. I do not find where it reads that the state of Emergency should end.

I do find where it says that we implore the Gov to allow our elected officials from NEA to participate in the decision to extend the state of emergency. Why should the Gov and Dr. Romero continue to make these decisions alone without legislative involvement?

"We now implore the Governor of the State of Arkansas to restore a Representative Government of the people, by the people, and for the people by ending the practice of perpetually extending the state of emergency without direct legislative involvement and returning governing authority back to local and state elected officials."

If you are opposed to this resolution, please reply to this email and explain to me what part of Resolution 20:159 you specifically disagree with so that I may better understand your logic.

Bob Puckett

Sage Meadows

From: Rebecca Mixon <rebeccamixon@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 5:07 PM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Please keep our city safe

Do not put our city at risk! We must continue to follow the safety protocols outlined by the governor - or possibly hold ourselves to stricter standard. If we had taken quick decisive action last spring we would not be where are now.

Our local infection rates are high. It is definitely not a moment to lift any restrictions. Sure we all want our lives to go back to normal but pretending we aren't at risk will not diminish our risk. The only way to reduce the spread of Covid is if we all follow the mask ordinance, practice extreme social distancing, and work to keep our most vulnerable citizens safe.

My 100 year old grandmother lives with us. When the city allows its citizens to feel that it is acceptable to ignore precautions it puts her at risk and makes the time period we all must stay vigilant longer.

Do not ease any restrictions! Do not ask our governor to lessen any restrictions!

From: Stanley Lichucki <slichucki@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 5:07 PM
To: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>; alderman@jonesboro.org
Subject: Freedom Resolution

I am writing to voice my opposition to the Freedom Resolution.

While I am acting on my own behalf, as a leader for one of our large employers within the community, I have experienced the challenges of guiding my family and business without confident, robust guidance from our subject matter experts.

By considering this resolution, we are further confusing our community on how best combat this pandemic and I am further concerned that we will only perpetuate the current, out of control spread of what has shown to be a deadly virus.

Respe
Stanley Lichucki

From: Sheila Ford <lovethelord7@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 5:08 PM

To: alderman@jonesboro.org

Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: mask

Please continue using mask in Jonesboro, AR. There are many with medical conditions that COVID-19 could be detrimental to their health. Thank you.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

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

From: ROBERT Dunham <bdunhamar@sbcglobal.net>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 5:20 PM

To: Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Mask Mandate

To Whom It May Concern:

As an Arkansas resident who grew up in Jonesboro and who has parents still residing there, I am strongly opposed to any proposals to decrease Covid-19 safety measures. Case numbers are increasing not decreasing. Craighead county is a hotspot. Hospitalizations are increasing state-wide. Soon we will face this crisis concurrently with the seasonal flu. This is not the time to consider taking steps in the wrong direction for public safety. Please be wise.

Thank you,

Brenda Brinkley Dunham

Sent from my iPhone

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

From: ROBERT Dunham <bdunhamar@sbcglobal.net>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 5:20 PM

To: Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Mask Mandate

To Whom It May Concern:

As an Arkansas resident who grew up in Jonesboro and who has parents still residing there, I am strongly opposed to any proposals to decrease Covid-19 safety measures. Case numbers are increasing not decreasing. Craighead county is a hotspot. Hospitalizations are increasing state-wide. Soon we will face this crisis concurrently with the seasonal flu. This is not the time to consider taking steps in the wrong direction for public safety. Please be wise.

Thank you,

Brenda Brinkley Dunham

Sent from my iPhone

From: Sheila Ford <lovethelord7@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 5:22 PM
To: Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>
Subject: MASK re: Resolution 20:159

Please continue to use mask in Jonesboro, AR. There are many living in our city, with medical conditions that COVID-19 could be detrimental. Thank you.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

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

From: Sue Dickerson <suedickerson5@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 5:23 PM

To: alderman@jonesboro.org; City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Mask wearing

I would like to speak strongly against the City Council entertaining a resolution calling for ending the requirement to wear masks in Jonesboro. I cannot imagine relaxing our efforts to put this virus behind us. The Governor's briefing today said if we can get at least 50% of people to consistently follow this simple guideline—then we can get see a change in our numbers. Presently NEA leads the state.

Thank you, Sue Dickerson

Sent from my iPhone

From: Shawn Travelstead <travel8008@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 5:28 PM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Resolution 20:159

Hello Aldermen of Jonesboro,

I vehemently oppose any resolution for the city to call on the governor to end the state of emergency regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. Our city, county, and area has been designated by President Trump's own White House Task Force as a hotspot and red zone for the virus. If any resolution should be passed, it should be a resolution to build up on the governor's state of emergency. Our city has been without true leadership ever since the mayor was diagnosed with cancer (I hope the best for him) and we need the City Council to take a smart position. The City Council should do the responsible thing. Strike down Resolution 20:159, and pass a resolution supporting the state of emergency for our city, county, and area.

Thank you,
Shawn Travelstead
3109 Springwood Dr.
Ward 4

From: Dede Long <dede.long@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 5:41 PM
To: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Resolution 20-159

This is crazy to even consider at this time! Our numbers are going up not down!! VOTE
NO!

Demetra (Dede) Long

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: C c Reese <catpainting136@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 6:10 PM

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

Subject: Request from Jonesboro Resident

As a mother of two, a university professor, and a long-time resident, I BEG of you please do not ask the Governor to lift the safety protocols presently against the virus. We are about to hit the next wave and predictions are frightening. We already don't enforce the mask mandate, but at least it is one thing we are doing in our county to try and halt the spread.

Catherine C Reese

312 Marzee Ann Dr

Jonesboro, AR 72405

870-926-7178

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

From: Raquel Torres <raquelt2012@icloud.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 7:26 PM

To: Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Mask must be worn

As a RN, I strongly believe we are clearly not doing a vigilant job at protecting our community. We must wear mask, not gather in big groups, and social distance. It's embarrassing and disrespectful at this point in the pandemic to STILL have to stress how important it is to take this serious.

Best regards,

Raquel

Sent from my iPhone

From: Lisa Jones Ables <n913tg@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 7:50 PM
To: Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Emergency Order Must End!

Council Members,

Governor Asa Hutchinson has now extended his emergency orders for another two months! This means that:

MORE businesses will go bankrupt;

MORE people will lose their jobs and have to go on government handouts;

MORE students will be jerked in and out of schoolrooms because someone they MIGHT have come in contact with MIGHT have been in contact with another person who MIGHT be positive for the VIRUS;

MORE parents who have schoolchildren will have problems functioning at their jobs when they or their children are sent home multiple times for quarantining;

MORE people will have trouble accessing medical care;

MORE people will experience or have continued problems with substance abuse, suicidal thoughts, isolation from loss of jobs, quarantining from schools and jobs...

ALL of this has already happened and now will continue since Hutchinson's decision to continue Arkansas's non Lockdown Lockdown.

We need leaders in our cities and towns to stand up for the people who are being hurt by the continuing lack of local representation. It is our mayors, our city councils, our county officials who know the local people best and can best represent them, NOT governors or unelected bureaucrats in Little Rock. We need the leaders in our cities and towns to pass this Freedom Resolution that simply asks the governor to restore our representative government by ending the perpetual emergency orders given without legislative involvement and to return YOUR ability to govern those cities and towns that elected you.

You DO have faith in YOUR governance of our city, don't you?

James Ables

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: Gibson Amy <aepgibson@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 21, 2020 6:58 AM
To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Resolution 20.159

To Whom it May Concern:

As a resident of Craighead County, please note my objection to Resolution 20:159. This resolution would have the city call on the governor to end the state of emergency regarding Covid-19. At a time when our hospitals are full and our area is leading the state in new infections, we need to be doing more, not less, to curb the spread of Covid. Our public safety committee needs to be looking for ways to support and strengthen public health efforts, not weaken their force.

In addition, as a healthcare worker I personally am daily seeing patients who are infected and suffering from this. Reducing restrictions which many don't abide by as it is will certainly be detrimental to our health systems due to a false sense of stability in our region and put an increased strain on the already thin healthcare systems and providers.

Please do not put our community further in jeopardy by allowing this resolution to pass.

Thank you for your hard work.

Sincerely,
Amy Gibson, Pharm D

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

From: Darlene Avery <dardexavery@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 21, 2020 1:50 PM

To: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>

Subject: City Mask Meeting

To all of the Aldermen representing the Citizens of Jonesboro, I beg you to please keep mask requirements in place.

We are in a "Red Zone", our hospitals and health care workers are fighting with everything they have to save lives.

And members of the City Council want to slap them in their face and endanger more citizens by putting us at unnecessary risk.

I'm stumped here folks.

We need to work together to fight the spread of COVID, not just throw in the towel in the name of profit.

Please consider this as what it is. A major health crisis and protect YOUR fellow citizens.

Sincerely,

Darlene Avery, RN, BSN