

Candidates Name: John A. Miner

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1. There is a direct correlation between low crime rates and homeownership. What are your thoughts on reducing crime in the community?

- I believe that it is essential that the city do everything in its power to reduce its rising crime rate, even if this includes increasing the budget for the police department to allow for an additional amount of police officers, increasing patrols in targeted high crime areas, and even placing foot patrols in some area as a constant deterrent to those seeking to commit crimes. Where there is an increase in crime the quality of life in that area is always on the decline. If we provide our police and law enforcement community with the resources and tools that they need to effectively police our city I believe we will see a drastic decline in crime and a substantial increase in the quality of life of the people of our city, which will increase homeownership, property rentals, property valuations, as well as provide a conducive environment for sustained business and economic growth.

2. There is also a direct correlation between job growth and housing growth. Do you have a plan for attracting new business to the area?

- My plan for attracting new businesses to the area is building stronger partnerships and better tax incentives. As a City I believe that we should build stronger relationships and partnerships with our business community. We can do this in many ways, but in my opinion two of the quickest and most effective ways to do this is by providing resources and programs on the municipal level that encourage entrepreneurship and small business development. One of the number one ways to attract businesses is to lower crime and lower taxes on businesses especially small businesses. Businesses in this country in recent years have been hit with major expenses, everything from mandatory health care coverage to higher wages for employees and many of them are struggling to keep their doors open. What better way to encourage business growth and development and to attract businesses to the area than to provide them with effective tools, opportunities and sustainable economic incentives that help them grow their business and their bottom line.
- As businesses come to the area the real estate market will see I believe sustained growth. This growth will happen because the majority of homeowners in today's housing market are searching for convenience, they want a beautiful home where they can raise their family and they want convenience. Businesses that grow and thrive equal jobs and the more access to job in an area the more likely homebuyers and renters will move to that area. People are willing to commute but they would prefer not to. The more convenient and economically vibrant you make an area the more attractive it is for people looking to move into that area, the more people live in that area the attractive that area is for business establishment and growth.
- In addition, we have the matter of crime, because the more businesses and people are in an area often times the higher the crime rate. I believe it is incumbent upon the City to continue to strive to reduce crime across the entire spectrum of Fayetteville not just in the more affluent areas but to reduce crime in all areas of Fayetteville and to work with local partners on the city and county level as well as the state and federal level if possible and necessary to address the rise in violent crimes in our city. Crime plays an intricate part in the real estate market and people who are looking to purchase homes are not looking to purchase homes in an area where crime is on the

rise. In addition, business owners are not looking to establish businesses in areas where crime is on the rise because crime jeopardizes their bottom line and forces them in many cases to seek other markets to establish their dreams and/or grow their business.

3. What is your definition of “Quality of Life” within a community?

- Quality of life is the ability to live and work in an environment and community that is conducive for my growth and the growth of my family. It is the ability in many cases to simply breathe. When I say simply breathe I am saying it is the ability to live a life that is enjoyable, comfortable, economically sound and safe.

4. How would you generate revenue for the city...other than property taxes?

- Building partnerships, providing revenue/ tax incentives, and providing tools, and opportunities that help small businesses grow will in turn help the city generate needed revenue. When you provide empowering tools and opportunities for businesses to grow those businesses become contributors to the city's bottom line and as those businesses grow not only does their financial contribution to the city grow, but they begin to hire more employees. As these businesses hire more employees those employees are now contributing to the city's bottom line not just through taxes but because they are now able to engage the economy. More people will engage the economy because they have more resources to engage with.

5. What new ideas/concepts can you bring to the office you are seeking?

- Community partnerships. Focusing the city on building partnerships and relationships that provide:
- Better vocational and skill training
- Better resources for working with the homeless
- Programs that empower our youth on the national and global level.
- Programs that strengthen our families.
- Programs that encourage stronger police and community relationships
- Programs that stimulate the economy not bail it out.

6. Would you take REALTOR political Action funds from the Longleaf Pines REALTORS, INC. to help with your campaign? If yes, do you have an open campaign account?

- Yes.
- Yes we do have an open campaign account

7. List any endorsements you have received to date.

- None as of yet.