

From: [Joe Seiler](#)
To: Council@cityofgreen.org
Subject: Issue 3 and Taxes
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Hello Council Members,

I have been following the development of the proposed Issue 3 Property Tax increase and I am left with more questions than answers.

1. The community center that the Mayor speaks of (see below) for a new building. It appears that this is to be included in the tax increase. Do we know if this will be free of charge to use / reserve? In times past, the citizens of Green could reserve the pavilions at the parks free of charge, but now we have to pay. For example, we would rent a pavilion for a birthday party, send in a check as a deposit and it would subsequently be returned. However, now we have to pay to reserve/use the same pavilion. Why?

During his State of the City Address in January, Green Mayor Gerard Neugebauer proposed the city partner with the school district to build a separate building that will provide community facilities that include multiple basketball, volleyball and pickleball courts, multipurpose active space and an indoor track.

2. The Mayor also states that Green residents pay the "Lowest" in property taxes anywhere in Summit county. I just ran a quick search and found out that the residents of the City of Akron pay LESS than the residents of Green based on (fiscaloffice.summitoh.net) which clearly shows like-for-like housing being lower in Akron. What is our Mayor reading/thinking? And, you may want to check out your personal property on said website as well because our property taxes INCREASED \$2000 Year over Year (YoY) to which an additional tax will be applied via Issue 3!

"Passing this school levy just makes sense financially," Neugebauer said. "By replacing three of our oldest buildings with two new schools, our district will reduce maintenance and staffing costs to save our taxpayers money over the next 30 years. With this levy, Green's property taxes will continue to be the lowest in Summit County."

I am sorry, but this is absolute lunacy when we have to choose between putting food on our tables or gas in our tanks or paying life-sucking taxes on our houses. The end result is less money being spent with local businesses and in our community and thus ultimately driving them out of operation. Is that what the City wishes to achieve? If so, congratulations as it is well on its way.

My family and I are at the point where we now need to consider moving due to these burdensome Tax rates after living in Green since 2001. Thank you for already adding to a stressful 2 years.

Joe Seiler