

Revenue Review Town Hall

Sept. 4, 2018

Cj Rylands, Councilor & Revenue Review Committee
Member

A Safe, Affordable, Welcoming Community, where a point is made to include Everyone that Wants to Participate.. If this is our intention and we align our decisions with this intention, we will be successful.

As a restaurant owner, that will have the cost of his products raised by 1%, I do not Disagree with any of the comments made in opposition to this tax.

When Elkins enacted their 1st due fire fee and 1% Sales Tax, on our business, we didn't like it. We still don't like to write a check each month for a \$73 fire fee and we don't like the fact that eating at our restaurant costs 1% more than eating at Applebee's on the 4-lane.

However, the imposition of this tax has not impacted our business What-so-Ever, and if the City of Elkins makes physical improvements to the community, it would be a big help, but to my knowledge they have not specified where this money will go, and that is fundamentally why I opposed it.

As a businessman and resident my impulses are to say No, tighten your belt and do more with less like the rest of us. However, I think we already have too many folks, in positions of power & authority across this country that are making public decisions based on their private interests. My role as a fiduciary for the City of Buckhannon is to make decisions that are in the Community's Best Interest as a whole, not what appeals to me personally. So, I

recommend the passing of a 1% sales tax and that the monies be allocated as laid out in this proposal.

Why wait until our backs are against the wall before making tough decisions? They are easy then because you have no other choice. We need to do the things in the Present, that will make us successful 5 or 10 years from Now.. and if we do, Buckhannon will further differentiate itself from all the other small towns in WV.