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I'm embarrassed at Gainesville's actions

As a former mayor and commissioner, I am distressed and embarrassed for our town by the improper use of force to silence the concerns of peaceful local ratepayers.

On several recent occasions GPD has been used by city officials to intimidate and threaten ratepayers with arrest. The only "crime" committed was voicing concern over our city's utility rates and actions in a public place.

Gainesville hardly needs police protection from citizens who protest utility rate increases at the public utility administration building.

Sadly it appears that our police are now being used to protect public officials from disclosure of inept, costly and indefensible actions.

If we fail to speak out and stand up, we will have voluntarily given up the most important freedom that many of us fought to secure.

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Citizen Comment
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