

**Form: Request to Speak to Committee of Council**

Submitted on Saturday, March 4, 2017 - 7:28pm

==Committee Requested==

**Committee:**

==Requestor Information==

**Name of Individual:** Shekar Chandrashekar

**Name of Organization:** Concerned private Citizen City of Hamilton

**Contact Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Reason(s) for delegation request:**

Madam Chair and committee members:

I am appearing before you to express my frustration over bureaucratic red tape. You are all struggling to reduce the 2017 budget. I have always said that the City doesn't have a revenue problem; the City has an expenditure problem. Now this has become a reality. Madam Chair and Members of the Committee, I have tried to express my input in a congenial manner but I am having difficulty making my message heard. I am very much involved with examining the Hamilton Police Services Budget. In going through the Police budget, it became apparent that water and sewer surcharges are imposed on City owned properties and thereby increasing the levy. According to the Assessment Act, City owned properties are exempt from the charging of property taxes. Water and Sewer surcharges are not part of the Levy because they are recouped through "user fees".

Ultimately, by applying Water and Sewer surcharges against City owned buildings, such as Hamilton Police Services' buildings (over \$100,000 in the case of HPS) all Hamilton taxpayers will be paying through the levy. To avoid this, I have tried to encourage a more progressive approach but I have not been able to make senior management get on board. As a result, I am appearing before you to urge you to make a decision in the interest of Hamilton taxpayers. The amount may not appear to be significant but adding intangible costs such as transaction costs, time etc, it adds up to a significant amount. I will provide you with details of how accounting and budgeting are intertwined. Respectfully submitted by a Concerned Private Citizen Shekar Chandrashekar

**Will you be requesting funds from the City? No**

**Will you be submitting a formal presentation? Yes**