

Date: 24 October 2019

Mr. Chairman and Members of HPS board
Hamilton Police Services Board
155 King William Street
P.O. Box 1060, LCD1
Hamilton, ON
L8N 4C1

Attention: Lois Morin and Chairman and Members of Police Services Board

Dear Sirs/ Mesdames:

Re: Independent Review Committee Report item 5.5 Memorandum

This is in respect to memorandum 5.5 from your October 20, 2019, HPSB meeting. I listened patiently until the method of financing this item, a review by an external legal counsel, was raised. It is easy to add it to next year's levy, as proposed, but to reduce the levy is the challenge that should be undertaken.

It was apparent that there had been a private discussion of the matter before the public discussion. Nonetheless, it appears that the HPS board had not asked staff if any funds are available within the current budget in order to avoid increasing the levy.

I appeal to HPSB that it is not too late to reverse the \$600,000 charge to the 2020 budget. Those funds should be allocated to the Police Chief to hire more uniformed officers and detectives to fight against the increase in crime.

I have reconciled "Salary Increase-Collective Agreement" (includes Merit increases, performance pay, etc.). It is already distributed to the base budget but the question is, is the same amount carried forward and who is carrying it, the City or the Police? In many instances, the Police have taken the budgeted amount and divided it by twelve months. That amount should be added to the budget projection instead of recording as actual.

The City of Hamilton has a population of over 500,000 persons. Hamilton is diverse. The Mayor of Hamilton and Chairman of HPSB are promoters of local talent yet with Memorandum of 5.5 HPBD0028 Dated October 8, 2019, HPSB approved the hiring of an external legal counsel from outside the city. The Mayor should ask whether this reflects negatively on Hamilton's image, and whether Hamilton has any suitable legal firms. Also, doesn't this added cost limit our ability to spend more on front line policing?

Mr. Chairman and members of the HPSB, I submit this for your consideration.

Respectfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Morin', written over a horizontal line.