

**From:** Anisa Verrelli

**Sent:** June 3, 2020 6:37 PM

**To:** horwatha-qp@ndp.on.ca; pmiller-qp@ndp.on.ca; SShaw-QP@ndp.on.ca; mtaylor qp@ndp.on.ca; Wilson, Maureen <Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; Farr, Jason <Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca>; Nann, Nrinder <Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca>; Merulla, Sam <Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca>; Collins, Chad <Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca>; Jackson, Tom <Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca>; Pauls, Esther <Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca>; Ward 8 Office <ward8@hamilton.ca>; Clark, Brad <Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca>; Pearson, Maria <Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca>; Johnson, Brenda <Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca>; Ferguson, Lloyd <Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca>; VanderBeek, Arlene <Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca>; Whitehead, Terry <Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca>; judi.partridge@hamilton.ca; chiefadmins@hamiltonpolice.ca; info@hamiltonpolice.on.ca; Paparella, Stephanie <Stephanie.Paparella@hamilton.ca>; Stevenson, Kirsten <Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca>; Office of the Mayor <mayor@hamilton.ca>; matthew.green@parl.gc.ca; Jagmeet.Singh@parl.gc.ca

**Subject:** Hamilton Police Officers and Body Cameras

Hello,

I am writing to you today to express my concerns regarding community safety, anti Black racism and violence particularly at the hands of police, and body cameras. I am a Hamilton resident living in Ward 7.

As a Hamilton citizen, it worries and disgusts me that the Hamilton police still do not have body cameras. Referencing information provided on the city website, the police force's budget increased by 19 million dollars in 2020 – yet the police force and city council have sighted "cost concerns" when deflecting the implementation of body cameras, a request which has been voted against a total of 4 times.

With the current state of unrest and tension between the Police and the public, it is necessary to have complete transparency in order to hold our police accountable and keep our people safe. Body cameras are mandatory in many other cities, why is Hamilton an outlier? Making body cameras necessary would not only elevate your law enforcement legitimacy, as well as increase community safety.

With the exorbitant funding that the Hamilton Police receives with taxpayer dollars, the city should be able to allocate funding to body cameras. This needs to be a priority. As a citizen of Hamilton, I demand that body cameras be used by the Hamilton Police.

Thank you for your time and attention.

[Anisa Verrelli]

**Vernem, Christine**

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**From:** clerk@hamilton.ca  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 25, 2020 3:13 PM  
**To:** Vernem, Christine  
**Subject:** Fw: Hamilton Police Officers and Body Cameras

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**From:** Vanessa Urbina [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 4, 2020 10:21 PM  
**To:** clerk@hamilton.ca  
**Subject:** Fwd: Hamilton Police Officers and Body Cameras

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Vanessa Urbina [REDACTED]  
**Date:** Wed., Jun. 3, 2020, 6:52 p.m.  
**Subject:** Hamilton Police Officers and Body Cameras  
**To:** <mayor@hamilton.ca>

Hello,

I am writing to you today to express my concerns regarding community safety, anti-Black racism and violence particularly at the hands of police, and body cameras. I am a Hamilton resident living in Ward 3.

As a Hamilton citizen, it worries and disgusts me that the Hamilton police still do not have body cameras. Referencing information provided on the city website, the police force's budget increased by 19 million dollars in 2020 – yet the police force and city council have sighted "cost concerns" when deflecting the implementation of body cameras, a request which has been voted against a total of 4 times.

With the current state of unrest and tension between the Police and the public, it is necessary to have complete transparency in order to hold our police accountable and keep our people safe. Body cameras are mandatory in many other cities, why is Hamilton an outlier? Making body cameras necessary would not only elevate your law enforcement legitimacy, as well as increase community safety.

With the exorbitant funding that the Hamilton Police receives with taxpayer dollars, the city should be able to allocate funding to body cameras. This needs to be a priority. As a citizen of Hamilton, I demand that body cameras be used by the Hamilton Police.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Vanessa Urbina

## Pilon, Janet

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**From:** clerk@hamilton.ca  
**Sent:** Monday, June 8, 2020 2:12 PM  
**To:** Pilon, Janet  
**Subject:** Fw: HAMILTON POLICE BODY CAMERAS

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**From:** Josh Sebastian [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 8, 2020 1:19 PM  
**To:** clerk@hamilton.ca  
**Subject:** Fwd: HAMILTON POLICE BODY CAMERAS

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Josh Sebastian [REDACTED]  
**Date:** June 8, 2020 at 1:09:54 PM EDT  
**To:** mayor@hamilton.ca, maureen.wilson@hamilton.ca, jason.farr@hamilton.ca, nrinder.nann@hamilton.ca, sam.merulla@hamilton.ca, chad.collins@hamilton.ca, tom.jackson@hamilton.ca, ester.pauls@hamilton.ca, ward8@hamilton.ca, brad.clark@hamilton.ca, maria.pearson@hamilton.ca, brenda.johnson@hamilton.ca, lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca, arleen.vanderbeek@hamilton.ca, terry.whitehead@hamilton.ca, judi.partridge@hamilton.ca  
**Subject:** HAMILTON POLICE BODY CAMERAS

Dear City of Hamilton Elected Members,

I am writing to you today to express my concern regarding the Hamilton Police Services 2020 budget of \$172 million from the total \$924 million operational budget for the City of Hamilton. This is roughly a 4% increase from the 2019 Police Services Budget. Despite this astronomically high budget, the Hamilton Police are not required to wear body cameras and the Hamilton Police Board has voted against the use of body cameras on four separate occasions. The Hamilton Police (on the City approved budget) will spend \$78,806 on ammunition, \$95,000 on surveillance and \$61,409 on tasers. Comparatively, only \$158 million will be spent on social services, including transit and healthy/safe communities. In light of ongoing unrest between the public and police, it is crucial that the Hamilton Police Force begin to use body cameras. Body cameras can provide transparency and more accountability surrounding police use-of-force. I am asking that you, as an elected official, pledge to do the following:

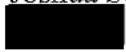
1. Not approve the 2021 Police Services Budget unless it allocates funds to body cameras.
2. Ensure the Hamilton Police Services uphold their promise to “take action to eliminate racism” (Hamilton Chief of Police, Eric Girt, 2020).
3. Eliminate unnecessary budget increases to Hamilton Police Services.

In a recent statement issued by Police Chief Girt, Hamilton Police Services have acknowledged that instances of police brutality “erode public trust in police”. In order to uphold relationships with the public and reaffirm their commitment to order and diversity, the Hamilton Police Services should be required to use body cameras.

By not approving the future Police Services Budget unless it includes funds for body cameras, the City of Hamilton has the potential to affirm its commitment to enhanced social justice.

Sincerely,

Joshua Sebastian



## Vernem, Christine

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**From:** clerk@hamilton.ca  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 25, 2020 3:13 PM  
**To:** Vernem, Christine  
**Subject:** Fw: A Call To Action For Body Worn Cameras

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**From:** L. T [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 4, 2020 1:30 PM  
**To:** clerk@hamilton.ca  
**Subject:** A Call To Action For Body-Worn Cameras

Good Afternoon!

I have been advised to forward the below email to you by Mr. Paul Szachlewicz, Administrator for Mayor Eisenberger, so all members of council will be able to see and address this very important matter. Thank you.

Dear Mayor Eisenberger

My name is Leigh Taylor, and I am a resident in Ward 3. I am reaching out to you regarding a matter that has been heavy on my mind and heart. I am sure that you are aware of the tragic death of George Floyd at the hands of 4 Minneapolis Police Officers on May 25th. As a Black man in this community, it shook me to the core despite this happening stateside. I could not help but think, what if something like this happened to me here. Two days later on May 27th, 29-year-old Regis Korchinski-Paquet tragically fell from the 24th floor of an apartment building during a police encounter. What struck me about this tragic death is that there is no video of the incident. Not just from eyewitnesses, but also from Toronto Police. Because the Toronto Police Department does not use body-worn cameras.

What if what happened to George Floyd happened here in Hamilton? What if what happened to Regis Korchinski-Paquet happened here in Hamilton? Outside of eyewitness testimony and eyewitness video footage, we would only have the word of those involved. That makes the job of a unit like the Special Investigations Unit extremely difficult because the Hamilton Police Department does not use body-worn cameras. They have not even engaged in a trial run. This is unacceptable.

I understand the high costs associated with such an endeavor, but the fact that the use of body cameras comes with positives like protection for police and citizens alike, accountability for those charged to protect and serve, and improved public perception, it is time that the Hamilton Police Force take this on and find a way to fit this in their budget given that it would only consist of 1.6% to implement based on the Hamilton Police Budget for 2020. I do understand that the acceptance of this measure lies with the police board, but this measure has been turned down one time too many by Hamilton Police. Especially at a time when public distrust in the police and city is definitely high with situations like their interactions with the LGBTQ+ community revolving around Pride, the issues surrounding the Yellow Vests at City Hall, much less the strained relationship with Black, Brown and Indigenous Communities. This can no longer continue.

As Mayor of Hamilton, there is no greater voice than yours. No voice that would have a greater reach or

impact. As Mayor and member of the Hamilton Police Board, your voice, along with those of your fellow city councillors would carry more influence with your fellow Hamilton Police Board members and Police Chief Eric Girt. While there are other measures that can and should be addressed, this is one that can be addressed and implemented sooner. Calls from our city leaders for body-worn cameras to be adopted by the Hamilton Police Department need to begin now.

I look forward to hearing from you on this matter.

Kind regards,  
Leigh Taylor

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**Pilon, Janet**

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**Subject:** HAMILTON POLICE BODY CAMERAS

**From:** Josh Sebastian

**Date:** June 8, 2020 at 1:09:54 PM EDT

**To:** [mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca), [maureen.wilson@hamilton.ca](mailto:maureen.wilson@hamilton.ca), [jason.farr@hamilton.ca](mailto:jason.farr@hamilton.ca), [nrinder.nann@hamilton.ca](mailto:nrinder.nann@hamilton.ca), [sam.merulla@hamilton.ca](mailto:sam.merulla@hamilton.ca), [chad.collins@hamilton.ca](mailto:chad.collins@hamilton.ca), [tom.jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:tom.jackson@hamilton.ca), [ester.pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:ester.pauls@hamilton.ca), [ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca), [brad.clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:brad.clark@hamilton.ca), [maria.pearson@hamilton.ca](mailto:maria.pearson@hamilton.ca), [brenda.johnson@hamilton.ca](mailto:brenda.johnson@hamilton.ca), [lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca), [arleen.vanderbeek@hamilton.ca](mailto:arleen.vanderbeek@hamilton.ca), [terry.whitehead@hamilton.ca](mailto:terry.whitehead@hamilton.ca), [judi.partridge@hamilton.ca](mailto:judi.partridge@hamilton.ca)

**Subject:** HAMILTON POLICE BODY CAMERAS

Dear City of Hamilton Elected Members,

I am writing to you today to express my concern regarding the Hamilton Police Services 2020 budget of \$172 million from the total \$924 million operational budget for the City of Hamilton. This is roughly a 4% increase from the 2019 Police Services Budget. Despite this astronomically high budget, the Hamilton Police are not required to wear body cameras and the Hamilton Police Board has voted against the use of body cameras on four separate occasions. The Hamilton Police (on the City approved budget) will spend \$78,806 on ammunition, \$95,000 on surveillance and \$61,409 on tasers. Comparatively, only \$158 million will be spent on social services, including transit and healthy/safe communities. In light of ongoing unrest between the public and police, it is crucial that the Hamilton Police Force begin to use body cameras. Body cameras can provide transparency and more accountability surrounding police use-of-force. I am asking that you, as an elected official, pledge to do the following:

1. Not approve the 2021 Police Services Budget unless it allocates funds to body cameras.
2. Ensure the Hamilton Police Services uphold their promise to “take action to eliminate racism” (Hamilton Chief of Police, Eric Girt, 2020).
3. Eliminate unnecessary budget increases to Hamilton Police Services.

In a recent statement issued by Police Chief Girt, Hamilton Police Services have acknowledged that instances of police brutality “erode public trust in police”. In order to uphold relationships with the public and reaffirm their commitment to order and diversity, the Hamilton Police Services should be required to use body cameras.

By not approving the future Police Services Budget unless it includes funds for body cameras, the City of Hamilton has the potential to affirm its commitment to enhanced social justice.

Sincerely,  
Joshua Sebastian

**From:**

**Sent:** June 3, 2020 8:42 PM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <mayor@hamilton.ca>; Paparella, Stephanie  
<Stephanie.Paparella@hamilton.ca>; matthew.green@parl.gc.ca; jagmeet.singh@parl.gc.ca

**Subject:** Hamilton Police Officers and Body Cameras

Hello,

I am writing to you today to express my concerns regarding community safety, anti-Black racism and violence particularly at the hands of police, and body cameras. I am a Hamilton resident living in Ward 6

As a Hamilton citizen, it worries and disgusts me that the Hamilton police still do not have body cameras. Referencing information provided on the city website, the police force's budget increased by 19 million dollars in 2020 – yet the police force and city council have sighted "cost concerns" when deflecting the implementation of body cameras, a request which has been voted against a total of 4 times.

With the current state of unrest and tension between the Police and the public, it is necessary to have complete transparency in order to hold our police accountable and keep our people safe. Body cameras are mandatory in many other cities, why is Hamilton an outlier? Making body cameras necessary would not only elevate your law enforcement legitimacy, as well as increase community safety.

With the exorbitant funding that the Hamilton Police receives with taxpayer dollars, the city should be able to allocate funding to body cameras. This needs to be a priority. As a citizen of Hamilton, I demand that body cameras be used by the Hamilton Police.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Alexa Rose



## Pilon, Janet

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**From:** clerk@hamilton.ca  
**Sent:** Friday, June 5, 2020 1:19 PM  
**To:** Pilon, Janet  
**Subject:** Fw: Hamilton Police Body Cameras

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**From:** Rowan Post [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 5, 2020 12:12 PM  
**To:** clerk@hamilton.ca  
**Subject:** Hamilton Police Body Cameras

Dear Mayor Eisenberger and Members of Council,

I am writing to you today to express my concern regarding the Hamilton Police Services 2020 budget of \$172 million from the total \$924 million operational budget for the City of Hamilton. This is roughly a 4% increase from the 2019 Police Services Budget. Despite this astronomically high budget, the Hamilton Police are not required to wear body cameras and the Hamilton Police Board has voted against the use of body cameras on four separate occasions. The Hamilton Police (on the City approved budget) will spend \$78,806 on ammunition, \$95,000 on surveillance and \$61,409 on tasers. Comparatively, only \$158 million will be spent on social services, including transit and healthy/safe communities. In light of ongoing unrest between the public and police, it is crucial that the Hamilton Police Force begin to use body cameras. Body cameras can provide transparency and more accountability surrounding police use-of-force. I am asking that you, as an elected official, pledge to do the following:

1. Not approve the 2021 Police Services Budget unless it allocates funds to body cameras.
2. Ensure the Hamilton Police Services uphold their promise to “take action to eliminate racism” (Hamilton Chief of Police, Eric Girt, 2020).
3. Eliminate unnecessary budget increases to Hamilton Police Services.

In a recent statement issued by Police Chief Girt, Hamilton Police Services have acknowledged that instances of police brutality “erode public trust in police”. In order to uphold relationships with the public and reaffirm their commitment to order and diversity, the Hamilton Police Services should be required to use body cameras.

By not approving the future Police Services Budget unless it includes funds for body cameras, the City of Hamilton has the potential to affirm its commitment to enhanced social justice.

Sincerely,

Rowan Post  
[REDACTED]

## Pilon, Janet

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**From:** clerk@hamilton.ca  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 9, 2020 1:00 PM  
**To:** Pilon, Janet  
**Subject:** Fw: HPS - Body Cameras

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**From:** Miles Oreskovic [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 9, 2020 12:54 PM  
**To:** clerk@hamilton.ca  
**Subject:** HPS - Body Cameras

Dear Mayor Eisenberger and Members of Council,

I am writing to you today to express my concern regarding the Hamilton Police Services 2020 budget of \$172 million from the total \$924 million operational budget for the City of Hamilton. This is roughly a 4% increase from the 2019 Police Services Budget. Despite this astronomically high budget, the Hamilton Police are not required to wear body cameras and the Hamilton Police Board has voted against the use of body cameras on four separate occasions. The Hamilton Police (on the City approved budget) will spend \$78,806 on ammunition, \$95,000 on surveillance and \$61,409 on tasers. Comparatively, only \$158 million will be spent on social services, including transit and healthy/safe communities. In light of ongoing unrest between the public and police, it is crucial that the Hamilton Police Force begin to use body cameras. Body cameras can provide transparency and more accountability surrounding police use-of-force. I am asking that you, as an elected official, pledge to do the following:

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2. Ensure the Hamilton Police Services uphold their promise to “take action to eliminate racism” (Hamilton Chief of Police, Eric Girt, 2020).
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In a recent statement issued by Police Chief Girt, Hamilton Police Services have acknowledged that instances of police brutality “erode public trust in police”. In order to uphold relationships with the public and reaffirm their commitment to order and diversity, the Hamilton Police Services should be required to use body cameras.

By not approving the future Police Services Budget unless it includes funds for body cameras, the City of Hamilton has the potential to affirm its commitment to enhanced social justice.

Sincerely,

Miles Oreskovic  
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: elijah nolet <

Sent: June 3, 2020 12:21 AM

To: horwatha-qp@ndp.on.ca; pmiller-qp@ndp.on.ca; SShaw-QP@ndp.on.ca; mtaylor-qp@ndp.on.ca; Wilson, Maureen <Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; Farr, Jason <Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca>; Nann, Nrinder <Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca>; Merulla, Sam <Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca>; Collins, Chad <Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca>; Jackson, Tom <Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca>; Pauls, Esther <Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca>; Ward 8 Office <ward8@hamilton.ca>; Clark, Brad <Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca>; Pearson, Maria <Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca>; Johnson, Brenda <Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca>; Ferguson, Lloyd <Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca>; VanderBeek, Arlene <Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca>; Whitehead, Terry <Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca>; judi.partrige@hamilton.ca; chiefadmins@hamiltonpolice.ca; info@hamiltonpolice.on.ca; Paparella, Stephanie <Stephanie.Paparella@hamilton.ca>; Stevenson, Kirsten <Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca>; Office of the Mayor <mayor@hamilton.ca>; matthew.green@parl.gc.ca

Subject: Hamilton Police Officers & Body Cameras

Dear Mayor Fred Eisenberger, Councillor Jason Farr, City Council, General Issues Committee, Committee Against Racism, and the Hamilton Police,

I'm reaching out in regards to community safety and the recent displays of police brutality in Toronto. I am a citizen of Hamilton residing in Ward 2.

As a Hamilton citizen, it worries and disgusts me that the Hamilton police still do not have body cameras. The death of Regis Korchinski-Paquet is a prime example of why they are so important. You have voted against them 4 times, why is that, and what is the Hamilton police force trying to hide?

With the current state of unrest and tension between the Police and the public it is necessary to have complete transparency in order to hold our police accountable and keep our people safe. Body cameras are mandatory in many other cities, why is Hamilton an outlier? Making body cameras necessary would only elevate your law enforcement legitimacy as well as increase the communities confidence and trust in Police. In terms of safety, body cameras would reduce violent police interactions as both citizens and cops behave differently if they know they are being recorded.

Body cameras would improve training in the Police force as it would allow you to analyze and critique real life decision making, something that is important considering how often Police use unnecessary excessive force. It would allow you to analyze these interactions and ask questions, what prompted them to get violent? Is there a racial bias? With the exorbitant funding that the Hamilton Police receives with tax payer dollars, the city should be able to allocate funding to body cameras. This needs to be a priority.

Hamilton citizens do not feel safe in police presence, we do not feel protected. Your Police force needs to enforce more rigorous race and discrimination training in order for something to change. Body cameras are a small step towards regaining the public's trust.

As a citizen of Hamilton, I demand that body cameras be used by the Hamilton Police.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Eli Nolet

## Pilon, Janet

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**From:** clerk@hamilton.ca  
**Sent:** Monday, June 8, 2020 2:04 PM  
**To:** Pilon, Janet  
**Subject:** Fw: Concern regarding Hamilton police

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**From:** Hiva Nematollahi [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 8, 2020 12:01 PM  
**To:** clerk@hamilton.ca  
**Subject:** Concern regarding Hamilton police

Dear Mayor Eisenburger and Members of Council,

This delegation is written to you to express my concern regarding the Hamilton Police Services 2020 budget of \$172 million from the total \$924 million operational budget for the City of Hamilton. This is roughly a 4% increase from the 2019 Police Services Budget. Despite this astronomically high budget, the Hamilton Police are not required to wear body cameras and the Hamilton Police Board has voted against the use of body cameras on four separate occasions. The Hamilton Police (on the City approved budget) will spend \$78,806 on ammunition, \$95,000 on surveillance and \$61,409 on tasers. Comparatively, only \$158 million will be spent on social services, including transit and healthy/safe communities. In light of ongoing unrest between the public and police, it is crucial that the Hamilton Police Force begin to use body cameras. Body cameras can provide transparency and more accountability surrounding police use-of-force. I am asking that you, as an elected official, pledge to do the following:

1. Not approve the 2021 Police Services Budget unless it allocates funds to body cameras.
2. Ensure the Hamilton Police Services uphold their promise to “take action to eliminate racism” (Hamilton Chief of Police, Eric Girt, 2020).
3. Eliminate unnecessary budget increases to Hamilton Police Services.

In a recent statement issued by Police Chief Girt, Hamilton Police Services have acknowledged that instances of police brutality “erode public trust in police”. In order to uphold relationships with the public and reaffirm their commitment to order and diversity, the Hamilton Police Services should be required to use body cameras.

By not approving the future Police Services Budget unless it includes funds for body cameras, the City of Hamilton has the potential to affirm its commitment to enhanced social justice.

Sincerely,

Hiva Nematollahi  
[REDACTED]

## Pilon, Janet

---

**From:** clerk@hamilton.ca  
**Sent:** Monday, June 8, 2020 11:01 AM  
**To:** Pilon, Janet  
**Subject:** Fw: Body cameras on our police.

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**From:** Ariana Moore [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 8, 2020 9:29 AM  
**To:** clerk@hamilton.ca; kristen.stevenson@hamilton.ca  
**Subject:** Body cameras on our police.

Dear City of Hamilton elected officials

I am writing to you today to express my concern regarding the Hamilton Police Services 2020 budget of \$172 million from the total \$924 million operational budget for the City of Hamilton. This is roughly a 4% increase from the 2019 Police Services Budget. Despite this astronomically high budget, the Hamilton Police are not required to wear body cameras and the Hamilton Police Board has voted against the use of body cameras on four separate occasions. The Hamilton Police (on the City approved budget) will spend \$78,806 on ammunition, \$95,000 on surveillance and \$61,409 on tasers. Comparatively, only \$158 million will be spent on social services, including transit and healthy/safe communities. In light of ongoing unrest between the public and police, it is crucial that the Hamilton Police Force begin to use body cameras. Body cameras can provide transparency and more accountability surrounding police use-of-force. I am asking that you, as an elected official, pledge to do the following:

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Sincerely,

[YOUR NAME]  
[YOUR POSTAL CODE]

Sent from my iPhone

## Pilon, Janet

---

**From:** clerk@hamilton.ca  
**Sent:** Monday, June 8, 2020 11:01 AM  
**To:** Pilon, Janet  
**Subject:** Fw: Body cameras on our police

---

**From:** Ariana Moore [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 8, 2020 9:18 AM  
**To:** clerk@hamilton.ca  
**Subject:** Body cameras on our police

Dear City of Hamilton elected officials

I am writing to you today to express my concern regarding the Hamilton Police Services 2020 budget of \$172 million from the total \$924 million operational budget for the City of Hamilton. This is roughly a 4% increase from the 2019 Police Services Budget. Despite this astronomically high budget, the Hamilton Police are not required to wear body cameras and the Hamilton Police Board has voted against the use of body cameras on four separate occasions. The Hamilton Police (on the City approved budget) will spend \$78,806 on ammunition, \$95,000 on surveillance and \$61,409 on tasers. Comparatively, only \$158 million will be spent on social services, including transit and healthy/safe communities. In light of ongoing unrest between the public and police, it is crucial that the Hamilton Police Force begin to use body cameras. Body cameras can provide transparency and more accountability surrounding police use-of-force. I am asking that you, as an elected official, pledge to do the following:

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Sincerely,

Ariana Moore  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** Madeleine Luvisa <

**Sent:** June 3, 2020 12:28 AM

**To:** horwatha-qp@ndp.on.ca; pmiller-qp@ndp.on.ca; SShaw-QP@ndp.on.ca; mtaylor-qp@ndp.on.ca; Wilson, Maureen <Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; Farr, Jason <Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca>; Nann, Nrinder <Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca>; Merulla, Sam <Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca>; Collins, Chad <Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca>; Jackson, Tom <Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca>; Pauls, Esther <Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca>; Ward 8 Office <ward8@hamilton.ca>; Clark, Brad <Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca>; Pearson, Maria <Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca>; Johnson, Brenda <Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca>; Ferguson, Lloyd <Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca>; VanderBeek, Arlene <Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca>; Whitehead, Terry <Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca>; judi.partridge@hamilton.ca; chiefadmins@hamiltonpolice.ca; info@hamiltonpolice.on.ca; Paparella, Stephanie <Stephanie.Paparella@hamilton.ca>; Stevenson, Kirsten <Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca>; Office of the Mayor <mayor@hamilton.ca>; matthew.green@parl.gc.ca; ward14@hamilton.ca; Ward 1 Office <ward1@hamilton.ca>; ward2@hamilton.ca; Office of Ward 3 City Councillor Nrinder Nann <ward3@hamilton.ca>; ward4@hamilton.ca; ward5@hamilton.ca; ward6@hamilton.ca; ward7@hamilton.ca; ward9@hamilton.ca; ward10@hamilton.ca; ward11@hamilton.ca; ward12@hamilton.ca; ward13@hamilton.ca; ward15@hamilton.ca

**Subject:** Hamilton Police Officers & Body Cameras

Dear Mayor Fred Eisenberger, Councillor Terry Whitehead, City Council, General Issues Committee, Committee Against Racism, and the Hamilton Police,

I'm reaching out in regards to community safety and the recent displays of police brutality in Toronto. I am a citizen of Hamilton residing in Ward 14.

As a Hamilton citizen, it worries and disgusts me that the Hamilton police still do not have body cameras. The death of Regis Korchinski-Paquet is a prime example of why they are so important. You have voted against them 4 times — why is that, and what is the Hamilton police force trying to hide?

With the current state of unrest and tension between the Police and the public it is necessary to have complete transparency in order to hold our police accountable and keep our people safe. Body cameras are mandatory in many other cities, why is Hamilton an outlier? Making body cameras necessary would only elevate your law enforcement legitimacy as well as increase the communities confidence and trust in Police. In terms of safety, body cameras would reduce violent police interactions as both citizens and cops behave differently if they know they are being recorded.

Body cameras would improve training in the Police force as it would allow you to analyze and critique real life decision making, something that is important considering how often Police use unnecessary excessive force. It would allow you to analyze these interactions and ask questions, what prompted them to get violent? Is there a racial bias? With the exorbitant funding that the Hamilton Police receives with tax payer dollars, the city should be able to allocate funding to body cameras. This needs to be a priority.

Hamilton citizens do not feel safe in police presence, we do not feel protected. Your Police force needs to enforce more rigorous race and discrimination training in order for something to change. Body cameras are a small step towards regaining the public's trust.

As a citizen of Hamilton, I demand that body cameras be used by the Hamilton Police.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Madeleine Luvisa



-----Original Message-----

From: lababe <

Sent: June 3, 2020 3:40 PM

To: horwatha-qp@ndp.on.ca; pmiller-qp@ndp.on.ca; SShaw-QP@ndp.on.ca; mtaylor-qp@ndp.on.ca; Wilson, Maureen <Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; Farr, Jason <Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca>; Nann, Nrinder <Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca>; Merulla, Sam <Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca>; Collins, Chad <Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca>; Jackson, Tom <Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca>; Pauls, Esther <Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca>; Ward 8 Office <ward8@hamilton.ca>; Clark, Brad <Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca>; Pearson, Maria <Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca>; Johnson, Brenda <Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca>; Ferguson, Lloyd <Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca>; VanderBeek, Arlene <Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca>; Whitehead, Terry <Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca>; judi.partrige@hamilton.ca; chiefadmins@hamiltonpolice.ca; info@hamiltonpolice.on.ca; Paparella, Stephanie <Stephanie.Paparella@hamilton.ca>; Stevenson, Kirsten <Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca>; Office of the Mayor <mayor@hamilton.ca>; matthew.green@parl.gc.ca; Jagmeet.Singh@parl.gc.ca; Pearson, Maria <Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca>

Subject: Hamilton Police Officers and Body Cameras

Hello,

I am writing to you today to express my concerns regarding community safety, anti-Black racism and violence particularly at the hands of police, and body cameras. I am a Hamilton resident living in Ward [YOUR WARD # HERE].

As a Hamilton citizen, it worries and disgusts me that the Hamilton police still do not have body cameras. Referencing information provided on the city website, the police force's budget increased by 19 million dollars in 2020 – yet the police force and city council have sighted "cost concerns" when deflecting the implementation of body cameras, a request which has been voted against a total of 4 times.

With the current state of unrest and tension between the Police and the public, it is necessary to have complete transparency in order to hold our police accountable and keep our people safe. Body cameras are mandatory in many other cities, why is Hamilton an outlier? Making body cameras necessary would not only elevate your law enforcement legitimacy, as well as increase community safety.

With the exorbitant funding that the Hamilton Police receives with taxpayer dollars, the city should be able to allocate funding to body cameras. This needs to be a priority. As a citizen of Hamilton, I demand that body cameras be used by the Hamilton Police.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sofia Labb

**From:** Conor Goulden

**Sent:** June 4, 2020 4:37 PM

**To:** Jagmeet.Singh@parl.gc.ca; matthew.green@parl.gc.ca; Office of the Mayor <mayor@hamilton.ca>; Stevenson, Kirsten <Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca>; Paparella, Stephanie <Stephanie.Paparella@hamilton.ca>; info@hamiltonpolice.on.ca; chiefadmins@hamiltonpolice.ca; judi.partridge@hamilton.ca; Whitehead, Terry <Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca>; VanderBeek, Arlene <Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca>; Ferguson, Lloyd <Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca>; Johnson, Brenda <Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca>; Pearson, Maria <Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca>; Clark, Brad <Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca>; Ward 8 Office <ward8@hamilton.ca>; Pauls, Esther <Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca>; Jackson, Tom <Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca>; Collins, Chad <Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca>; Merulla, Sam <Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca>; Nann, Nrinder <Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca>; Farr, Jason <Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca>; Wilson, Maureen <Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; mtaylor-qp@ndp.on.ca; SShaw-QP@ndp.on.ca; pmiller-qp@ndp.on.ca; horwatha-qp@ndp.on.ca

**Subject:** Hamilton Police Officers and Body Cameras

Hello,

I am writing to you today to express my concerns regarding community safety, anti-Black racism and violence particularly at the hands of police, and body cameras. I am a Hamilton resident living in Ward # 13.

As a Hamilton citizen, it worries and disgusts me that the Hamilton police still do not have body cameras. Referencing information provided on the city website, the police force's budget increased by 19 million dollars in 2020 – yet the police force and city council have sighted "cost concerns" when deflecting the implementation of body cameras, a request which has been voted against a total of 4 times.

As a student of McMaster, as well as a future nurse, I feel that it is my responsibility and obligation to see justice carried out, and see increased protection for my community as a whole. My job is not limited to protecting the safety and well-being of my patients and clients, but of the population at large as well. For me to do this, I need support, and I need all of your assistance. It is our collective duty, obligation, and requirement to ensure the safety of EVERY community member – not just the ones whose protection comes easily and with little resistance.

With the current state of unrest and tension between the Police and the public, it is necessary to have complete transparency in order to hold our police accountable and keep our people safe. Body cameras are mandatory in many other cities, why is Hamilton an outlier? Making body cameras necessary would not only elevate your law enforcement legitimacy, as well as increase community safety. I urge you to incentivize police to adopt body cameras by withholding funds until they do so, or defunding them to penalize their resistance.

With the exorbitant funding that the Hamilton Police receives with taxpayer dollars, the city should be able to allocate funding to body cameras. This needs to be a priority. As a citizen of Hamilton, I demand that body cameras be used by the Hamilton Police.

Let it be known that wearing body cameras can aid in any false accusations, or accounts from officers of the Hamilton Police which lie in a gray area to be dismantled. This will provide protection to our community – including our police officers.

Thank you for your time and attention.

**Conor Goulden**, [REDACTED]  
(He/Him/His)

Level IV BScN Program

School of Nursing  
Faculty of Health Sciences



## Pilon, Janet

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**From:** clerk@hamilton.ca  
**Sent:** Friday, June 5, 2020 1:16 PM  
**To:** Pilon, Janet  
**Subject:** Fw: Delegation

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**From:** Michelle Gauthier [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 5, 2020 10:35 AM  
**To:** clerk@hamilton.ca  
**Subject:** Delegation

Mayor Eisenberger and Members of Council,

I am sure that you are aware that the world is in anger right now, trying to bring light and justice to a corrupt system. I appreciate the time that will be taken to read what I have to say. Now, while there are many things that I feel Hamilton could be doing differently, I want to bring your attention and interest to a couple points specifically.

The first one, is my inquiry and concerns about why the Hamilton Police Board has voted against the use of body cameras for a 4th time. I understand that there will be a cost at the beginning getting everything set up, but for the safety of police officers and civilians I fail to understand. I know that the CBC article had stated "There were 331 police complaints between 2016 and 2018, the report said, which makes up "less than one percent of interactions with the public", but that is 331 filed complaints. How many riots/protests have happened from our indigenous, LGBTQ+ community, and our black community in response to how the police have responded to circumstances? How many of those included in the previously mentioned groups fear to file a complaint or to fight back (peacefully) against a system that targets them?

Wearing body cameras would hold the police accountable as well as protect them. With evidence of situations, not only would the police board be able to stand behind police actions (if they were in the right), but they would also be able to protect the citizens with disciplinary action towards any officer that has crossed a line. There would be no grey area of doubts. In an article I've recently read, it was stated that

" In a 2014 study funded by the Office of Justice Programs Diagnostic Center, researcher Michael White noted that earlier evaluations of body-worn cameras found a number of beneficial outcomes for law enforcement agencies.[5] The earliest studies conducted in the United Kingdom indicated that body-worn cameras resulted in positive interactions between officers and citizens and made people feel safer. Reductions in citizen complaints were noted, as were similar reductions in crime. The studies found that the use of body worn cameras led to increases in arrests, prosecutions, and guilty pleas.[6] From an efficiency standpoint, the use of the technology reportedly enabled officers to resolve criminal cases faster and spend less time preparing paperwork, and it resulted in fewer people choosing to go to trial."

As you can see, there are benefits to the whole community, police officers included. Less costs for the court system, less paperwork for police which means they have more time to be in the field PROTECTING our citizens.

Even if the Hamilton police start with some cameras. One per pairing of officers, or even half-shift rotations that they would have to upload the footage between officers to keep everyone accountable. I am willing to do

more research and to write my concerns to the police chief as well. But as you are the mayor of the city, I felt that you also needed to hear these concerns, to protect your city-folk.

I had mentioned I had a couple concerns. The second one is just to make sure the police are on top of their trainings. How to de-escalate situations without force. I know how beneficial that can be, as I took a non-violent de-escalation course in school for working with individuals with disabilities. Officers NEED to be trained to know how to de-escalate situations. It will reduce violence, unnecessary deaths, and even keep the police officers safer. While I am appalled that I feel the need to state the positives for the police force, instead of just civilians, I know that is the way the system works. What is most beneficial for those implementing these changes. I can tell you, the benefits of protecting the community and creating trust and respect will be insurmountable. While I fear (and know) that our minorities (black, indigenous, LGBTQ+) fear their lives every day, many times from police and authority, I know I cannot single-handedly change it. We need your support and action.

The time is now to change. We're in 2020 and yet there is still huge discrimination and oppression, and Mr. Eisenberger, Black lives do matter. Changes in Hamilton can ignite change throughout the province. I know you want to be part of that change. If these concerns and suggestions are not things the Police Service are willing to incorporate, please consider re-distributing funds and resources to a team/force that will be willing and have the power to de-escalate situations properly and to accountability.

Thank you for taking the time to read through this, to understand how important it is to not only me, but the community as a whole.

-Michelle Gauthier

## Pilon, Janet

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**From:** clerk@hamilton.ca  
**Sent:** Monday, June 8, 2020 11:01 AM  
**To:** Pilon, Janet  
**Subject:** Fw: Call to Action For Body worn Cameras

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**From:** E Clarke [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 7, 2020 5:59 PM  
**To:** Office of the Mayor  
**Cc:** Stevenson, Kirsten; clerk@hamilton.ca  
**Subject:** Call to Action For Body-worn Cameras

Dear Mayor Eisenberger

My name is Erica Clarke and I am a resident in Ward 5. I am reaching out to you regarding a matter that has been heavy on my mind and heart. I am sure that you are aware of the tragic death of George Floyd at the hands of 4 Minneapolis Police Officers on May 25th. This brutal act of violence, perpetrated by the very people who are supposedly hired to keep citizens safe, amounted to nothing less than state-sponsored murder. While many Canadians like to shelter themselves with the idea that we are less violent and more tolerant than our southern neighbours, the truth is that this kind of behaviour could happen in Canada too. Two days later on May 27th, 29-year-old Regis Korchinski-Paquet tragically fell from the 24th floor of an apartment building during a police encounter. I was absolutely horrified by this. It is absolutely unacceptable that people with emergency response training would allow this to happen under their supervision. This death was criminal negligence at best and cold-blooded murder at worst. What I learned about this tragic death is that there is no video of the incident. Not just from eyewitnesses, but also from Toronto Police. Because the Toronto Police Department does not use body-worn cameras.

What if what happened to George Floyd happened here in Hamilton? What if what happened to Regis Korchinski-Paquet happened here in Hamilton? Outside of eyewitness testimony and eyewitness video footage, we would only have the word of those involved. That makes the job of a unit like the Special Investigations Unit extremely difficult because the Hamilton Police Department does not use body-worn cameras. They have not even engaged in a trial run. This is unacceptable.

I understand the high costs associated with such an endeavor, but the fact that the use of body cameras comes with positives like protection for police and citizens alike, accountability for those charged to protect and serve, and improved public perception, it is time that the Hamilton Police Force take this on and find a way to fit this in their budget given that it would only consist of 1.6% to implement based on the Hamilton Police Budget for 2020. I do understand that the acceptance of this measure lies with the police board, but this measure has been turned down one time too many by Hamilton Police. Especially at a time when public distrust in the police and city is definitely high with situations like their interactions with the LGBTQ+ community revolving around Pride, the issues surrounding the Yellow Vests at City Hall, much less the strained relationship with Black, Brown and Indigenous Communities. This can no longer continue.

As Mayor of Hamilton, there is no greater voice than yours. No voice that would have a greater reach or impact. As Mayor and member of the Hamilton Police Board, your voice, along with those of your fellow city councillors would carry more influence with your fellow Hamilton Police Board members and Police Chief Eric Girt. While there are other measures that can and should be addressed, this is one that can be addressed and implemented sooner. Calls from our city leaders for body-worn cameras to be adopted by the Hamilton Police Department need to begin now.

I look forward to hearing from you on this matter.

Kind regards,  
Erica Clarke

-----Original Message-----

From: Olivia Bozzo

Sent: June 3, 2020 3:43 PM

To: Office of the Mayor <mayor@hamilton.ca>

Subject: Hamilton Police Officers and Body Cameras

Hello,

I am writing to you today to express my concerns regarding community safety, anti-Black racism and violence particularly at the hands of police, and body cameras. I am a Hamilton resident living in Ward 3.

As a Hamilton citizen, it worries and disgusts me that the Hamilton police still do not have body cameras. Referencing information provided on the city website, the police force's budget increased by 19 million dollars in 2020 – yet the police force and city council have sighted "cost concerns" when deflecting the implementation of body cameras, a request which has been voted against a total of 4 times.

With the current state of unrest and tension between the Police and the public, it is necessary to have complete transparency in order to hold our police accountable and keep our people safe. Body cameras are mandatory in many other cities, why is Hamilton an outlier? Making body cameras necessary would not only elevate your law enforcement legitimacy, as well as increase community safety.

With the exorbitant funding that the Hamilton Police receives with taxpayer dollars, the city should be able to allocate funding to body cameras. This needs to be a priority. As a citizen of Hamilton, I demand that body cameras be used by the Hamilton Police.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Olivia Bozzo



## Pilon, Janet

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**From:** clerk@hamilton.ca  
**Sent:** Monday, June 8, 2020 2:21 PM  
**To:** Pilon, Janet  
**Subject:** Fw: Police Service Budget Concerns

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**From:** Mary Chu [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 8, 2020 2:15 PM  
**To:** Office of the Mayor; Wilson, Maureen; Farr, Jason; Nann, Nrinder; Merulla, Sam; chad.collin@hamilton.ca; Jackson, Tom; Pauls, Esther; Ward 8 Office; Clark, Brad; Pearson, Maria; Johnson, Brenda; Ferguson, Lloyd; VanderBeek, Arlene; Whitehead, Terry; Partridge, Judi; clerk@hamilton.ca  
**Subject:** Police Service Budget Concerns

Dear Mayor Eisenberger and members of the Council,

I am writing to you today to express my concern regarding the Hamilton Police Services 2020 budget of \$172 million from the total \$924 million operational budget for the City of Hamilton. This is roughly a 4% increase from the 2019 Police Services Budget. Despite this astronomically high budget, the Hamilton Police are not required to wear body cameras and the Hamilton Police Board has voted against the use of body cameras on four separate occasions. The Hamilton Police (on the City approved budget) will spend \$78,806 on ammunition, \$95,000 on surveillance and \$61,409 on tasers. Comparatively, only \$158 million will be spent on social services, including transit and healthy/safe communities. In light of ongoing unrest between the public and police, it is crucial that the Hamilton Police Force begin to use body cameras. Body cameras can provide transparency and more accountability surrounding police use-of-force. I am asking that you, as an elected official, pledge to do the following:

1. Not approve the 2021 Police Services Budget unless it allocates funds to body cameras.
2. Ensure the Hamilton Police Services uphold their promise to “take action to eliminate racism” (Hamilton Chief of Police, Eric Girt, 2020).
3. Eliminate unnecessary budget increases to Hamilton Police Services.

In a recent statement issued by Police Chief Girt, Hamilton Police Services have acknowledged that instances of police brutality “erode public trust in police”. In order to uphold relationships with the public and reaffirm their commitment to order and diversity, the Hamilton Police Services should be required to use body cameras.

By not approving the future Police Services Budget unless it includes funds for body cameras, the City of Hamilton has the potential to affirm its commitment to enhanced social justice.

Sincerely,

Mary Chu  
[REDACTED]