

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Concerns from local voters

From: Lauren Harnish

Sent: July 20, 2020 4:56 PM

To: Collins, Chad <Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca>

Cc: clerk@hamilton.ca; hwdsbkidsneedhelp@gmail.com

Subject: Concerns from local voters

Dear Mr. Collins,

Regarding the recent discussion that took place between Hamilton's police services board about cutting police funding by 20 per cent, I personally wish to express how important it is that **any** money taken from HPS is put towards services that help the community in Hamilton.

As you know, Black organizers in our city have released the following demands in light of police brutality happening in Canada and in the United States:

<https://www.defundhps.com/demands>

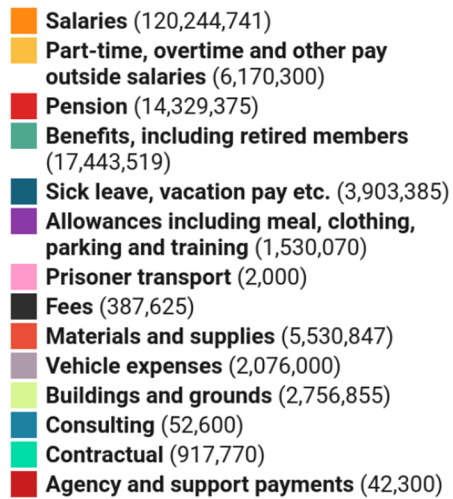
It is my hope that as counsellor, you take these demands seriously and take action to encourage the Hamilton Police Services to make these necessary changes. If this is not acknowledged, I cannot offer my support to you.

As well, here are some facts about why the police budget needs to be reduced by 20%.

- We spend \$171 million on policing but only \$158 million on social services here in Hamilton.
- There are 675 police officers on the sunshine list. That equates to 36.51% of city employees on the sunshine list employed by the police.
- The percentage of all Hamilton Police on the sunshine list is 61%.
- The percentage of sworn officers on the sunshine list is 79%.
- Average salary of a Constable \$116,527
- Average salary of a Detective Constable is \$123,073
- Average salary of a Sergeant 1st Class is \$135,110
- Average salary of a Sergeant 2nd class is \$122,979
- Policing costs are the highest cost to Hamilton's taxpayers.

Operating Budget

Hamilton Police Service's 2020 budget (\$)



Updated June 30, 2020, 6 p.m.

Chart: Hamilton Spectator Graphic • Source: Hamilton Police Services • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

Did you know over **3/5** of the Hamilton Police Services operating budget goes towards salaries? That is **68.60%** of their total budget

Thank you.
Sincerely,
Lauren Harnish