

**Pilon, Janet**

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**Subject:** Public meeting with Defund HPS now

**From:** Alexandra Weinberger

**Sent:** December 2, 2020 4:06 PM

**To:** Office of the Mayor <[mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)>

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Mayor Eisenberger,

I once again write to your office as a disappointed constituent. Not only was the clearing of the tents from Freedom Camp in the City Hall Forecourt inhumane, the fact that their homes and only belongings were thrown out was despicable. Your office's inaction and unwillingness to speak out against by-laws action was shameful.

As mayor you represent the people of Hamilton. This includes the protesters and the underhoused. You need to publicly meet with Defund HPS now.

The patronizing words you use to describe the protest in the media is all the more reason this meeting needs to be in public. You have shown a lack of respect for their message and contempt for their actions.

Your office last week described their protest and camp as 'playing politics' but now it is you who is doing so. Offering to only meet two of them and in private is a political tactic that goes back quite far. You can look like you are willing to listen and talk, and then deny any critique the protesters have of the private meeting.

The time for a private meeting has long passed. We have a housing crisis in this city, and the folx demanding change are being ignored. I am in support of their message and their actions and want public accountability. There needs to be a public meeting with the protesters now.

We need to defund the police. We need to take immediate action on keeping our citizens safe and housed. I look forward to finally seeing you step up and take this meeting publicly.

Warmly,

Alexandra Weinberger

Ward 3 Resident