

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Jc Beemer

From: Emily Kulpaka

Sent: Wednesday, November 24, 2021 2:54 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Cc: nrinder.naan@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>

Subject: Jc Beemer

Hello,

I'm writing to express my deep discomfort and anger for the events transpiring today at JC Beemer.

When a house burns down, the community rallies. Supports are offered, community members step in, everyone helps out.

When our unhoused community faces a fire, you show up with police, and arrest those in solidarity with the victims of the fire, and take the belongings of those who lived there.

I'm watching the live feed with my staff. I'm watching police escalate situations each one of us know how to de-escalate without issue. This is an embarrassing waste of money. Their salaries could be providing the support the folks at Beemer need. This is cruel and inhumane.

What are they protecting? They certainly aren't serving the community. They are not keeping my neighbours safe. They are wasting time and money, traumatizing people and retraumatizing others.

Call off the police Mayor Fred (and don't tell us you don't control them, we know you can influence this if you choose), stop the arrests, and learn to communicate in ways that don't bring this situation to such a boiling point over and over again.

Send in supports, actual supports, not people with guns and tasers

With deep disappointment,

Emily Kulpaka