

Form: Request to Speak to Committee of Council

Submitted on Wednesday, September 11, 2019 - 8:55 am

==Committee Requested==

Committee: Planning Committee

==Requestor Information==

Name of Individual: Julie Cooper

Name of Organization: Speedy Money

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

90 Centennial Pkwy North
Hamilton, Ontario
L8E 1H7

Reason(s) for delegation request:

My name is Julie Cooper and I currently operate a payday loan and cheque cashing store at 90 Centennial Pkwy North in Hamilton Ontario. I have been at this location for over 8 years and I am licenced under the Ontario Payday loan Act. I was visited by Steven Wood a Hamilton licencing officer on Wednesday Aug 28th, 2019 inquiring about my payday loan permit. It is my understanding after speaking to Mr. Wood that there was a by-law passed in the beginning of 2018 within the city of Hamilton requiring payday loan companies to pay for a permit. Unfortunately I was unaware of that by-law being passed. I spoke to Mr. Wood at great length and he suggested I go to City Hall and see what could be done.

On Thursday Aug 29th, 2019 I attended City Hall and was given the forms to apply for a payday loan permit however advised that I should speak to Steven Wood again before applying. I called Mr. Wood as he was going to speaking to his supervisors as he thought it was unusual that I was missed when they first completed the permits, however was not in licensing at the time so was unsure of how the procedure went. He indicated that I would not be able to apply for a permit as they were not granting anymore. However told me that I should reach out to my city counsel as well as the General Issues Committee. After speaking to many people it is now noted that I should be speaking to the Planning Committee.

Let me tell you a little about myself and my business, as previously stated I have been at that location for over 8 years, we offer payday loans, western Union, cheque cashing. We are a very small store and only carry about 25000 in loan receivables. We do not lend to person on fixed income, example CPP, ODSP, OW.

I will be asking the Planning Committee to add my store to the by-law, I will make the following the submissions. I am not looking to maintain the store long-term, I am seeking the ability to operate for the next 5 years. This will allow me to full fill my lease, as well as plan for closure properly. I will not sell the business, therefore allowing others to use that address for payday loans. I can't believe that when the by-law was written there intent was ever to cause harm to families or put employees out of work. Not allowing me to continue to operate the business as it is today would financially devastate my family, and the families of the employees that I work with.

Will you be requesting funds from the City? No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? Yes