

From: Elizabeth
Sent: November 28, 2023 10:01 AM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Cc: Francis, Matt <Matt.Francis@hamilton.ca>
Subject: property tax

To whom it may concern,

My name is Elizabeth Aquila, I am a retired Registered Nurse who was born, raised, schooled and worked in Hamilton and I am writing to express my outrage regarding the proposed reality tax increase of 14.2 % in this city

Hamilton reality taxes have consistently and chronically been scandalously higher compared to other municipalities and neighboring cities even though our property values have been lower, in comparison.

There are countless hard working individual and families already struggling to keep up with the cost of living, how can they continue to be stressed with continued high tax hikes? Many are already unable to pay these high taxes how can you expect more, especially for those on fixed incomes, unless forced to abandon their homes and add to the homeless (already placed in public hotels and other facilities). I think the spending in this city is unreasonable and not well prioritized.

I do not think, as many agree, that the bike lane project enquires to be expedited at outrages costs.

I also do not agree or fair that counselors/city staff decide where my tax dollars should go regarding charities. I have my own personal charities that I prefer to contribute to. In fact with continued financial strain the city is forcing on citizens is adding to the limits of what I can contribute to the charities of my choosing!

Climate initiative cost of up to 2.5 million is certainly unreasonable. Do counselor and other city staff bike to work or do they take public transportation or car pool?

I also think, as many agree, that six digit incomes are absurd. Perhaps these numbers can be re evaluated and funds distributed appropriately where needed.

I suspect that the counselors who voted in favour of the proposed property taxes increase do not live in our city of Hamilton.

I am frustrated and tired of the poor management of this city and employ you to look long and hard with intelligence and unbiased at the decisions you are making and how these decisions impact on individual lives in this city.

Thank you for reading

Regards

Elizabeth Aquila