

**Pilon, Janet**

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**Subject:** Last weeks meeting

From: Barbara Sliwa  
Sent: January 25, 2024 9:11 AM  
To: clerk@hamilton.ca  
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Hello,

I did not get the chance to speak, can you please forward this to the members for their consideration.

Thank you  
Barb  
Good afternoon,

My name is Barbara Sliwa and I live in ward 5.

I am speaking to you today to voice my concerns regarding this astronomical property tax hike.

Why do you feel this is appropriate during this time period when the majority of households can not afford to feed their families?

At this rate, we will be adding to the homeless population, which the city has a hard time addressing as it is.

What will this money be used for? How will my family and community benefit from this? Will this guarantee my children a swim lesson spot in our local recreation center?

Currently, I need to have all devices locked and loaded to "try" to secure a swim spot for at least one of my kids.

Will this improve our local libraries? Our library is a warming/ cooling center, which is important, however, I do not feel safe sending my kids to the washroom solo because I do not know what can be waiting for them in there. Is that appropriate?

What about our local parks? Will they be encompassed with tents, garbage and discarded needles? How can parents feel safe and allow their kids just play.

Will this property tax ensure our streets remain clean? Currently, the local bus stops are trashed with litter of all kinds.

When contacting the HSR, they offer no solutions for this, who's responsibility is this?

When the snow comes, will all side walks and streets be appropriately cleaned?

Please re-consider this inappropriate rate hike, please dig deep into the funding you already have for these fees and don't expect us to foot the bill.