

**Pilon, Janet**

---

**Subject:** Review of Hamilton Police Motion

**From:** Fareeda Baruwa

**Sent:** Friday, June 12, 2020 1:10 PM

**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

**Subject:** Fwd: Review of Hamilton Police Motion

Good afternoon Chair and Members of General Issues Committee, and Emergency & Community Services Committee,

My name is Fareeda Baruwa, and I am a Hamilton resident of Ward 1. I'm sending this email in regards to the motion put forward by the Hamilton Police Department, which is nowhere sufficient enough to handle the issue of defunding the Police. The following is a review of the motion.

Whereas members of Hamilton City Council and members of the Police Service Board have received correspondence requesting the 'defunding of the Hamilton Police Service'; and,  
Whereas the same correspondence requests the reinvestment of the proposed budget reduction into other City funded services (ie. food security, anti-racism and affordable housing); and  
Whereas a budget reduction of 20% would substantially alter the current services provided by Hamilton Police Service staff;  
Whereas the city of Hamilton has claimed a \$23 million dollars deficit due to the COVID pandemic and,  
Whereas the city of Hamilton will spend \$171 million dollars on the police budget, but only \$11 million on children's services; and,  
Whereas the city of Hamilton will spend \$171 million on the police budget but only \$44.3 million of housing services and,  
Whereas the city of Hamilton will spend \$171 million on the police budget but only \$4,804,750 on unhoused people and,  
Whereas the Hamilton Police Service CEO has been approved for a \$10,000 raise totalling a \$308,250 salary in 2020 and,  
Whereas the city of Hamilton will spend \$31,300 on a pipe band, police choir and chorus but will reduce funding for food for prisoners by 5.97% totalling \$31,500 and,  
Whereas the Hamilton police will spend 78,806 on ammunition and \$61,409 on Tasers, whose sole purpose is to physically harm people while they could be spent on any social services. The city and police should not have the power or tools to physically assault residents and should not have access to these weapons or a budget for them.  
Whereas the Hamilton police have 17 new full time officers that work to violently oppress those made vulnerable in Hamilton while Ontario Works lost 44 hires to provide support to those same people.  
Whereas it is likely that the Hamilton Police Services Board will attempt to show a 20% budget reduction that is in their favour and not in the interest of demilitarization  
Therefore, be it resolved that the Hamilton Police Service board will defund and demilitarize the Hamilton Police.

Be it resolved that the Hamilton Police Service Board release a full, line by line, accounting of their dollars to the public instead of deciding where these hypothetical cuts should come from on their own.

Be it further resolved that the city of Hamilton will invest that money into services such as social housing, youth programming, sexual assault services, transit, food security, mental health response teams, and other community based alternatives to policing.

We need to do better.

Thank you and have a nice day,

Fareeda Baruwa