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**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Saturday, February 3, 2024 2:30 PM

**To:** Stevenson, Kirsten <Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca>

**Subject:** Comments for Police Services Board Meeting

Good afternoon Ms. Stevenson,

It was advised by Councilor Kroetsch that you are the person to email as the city wishes to hear Hamilton resident comments for the upcoming Police Services Board meeting in Feb. 2024 regarding the proposed budget allocation for this department. My comments are as follows:

To the Police Services Board,

As a long time voter in municipal elections in the City of Hamilton over many years I have seen constant requests in the millions each budget year from this department. Some years I've been supportive, but this budget year 2024 I can not be.

1) Hamilton Police Services must come to realize that they are **not above** any other department when having to cut back in a budget crunch. This department has come to expect significant raises every single year from the individual taxpayer. This is not sustainable. The individual taxpayer is maxed out. Doug Ford keeps claiming he is the biggest proponent of police services. Make him prove it. If not receiving such massive increases is truly such a devastating issue, then police chiefs across the province must to go to Doug Ford in unison and demand reinstatement of proper transfer payments to municipalities to cover it. You can not expect the individual taxpayer to bear the burden alone of such massive yearly increases to this department. It is not sustainable.

2) This department seems to have an obstinance to cutting back on their budget or operating with current levels. Frivolous spending

does exist. For example, does this department really need to spend \$ on a mounted unit? It is rarely used with impact. This is only one example of many. Furthermore, let's be clear on yearly increases and their actual impact on the street. A very large percentage of yearly budget increase requests goes to salary increases, which **does not reduce crime or improve safety in the community.**

Sincerely,

Steven Rogers