

Hello,

The City needs to understand that most taxpayers and renters are fully extended. Increases have never been kept to inflation, not even during good times, but looking at increases of 7-10%+ over the next 4 years is unacceptable. Not only does the increase compound on the prior year but there is also a province wide MPAC assessment update that could be reinstated any day that would take the increase well beyond 10%. In addition to the changes to water and sewer rates, the average household could see \$600+ in 2024 alone. There has to be another way to go about this as it will just make the affordability crisis worse. The increases trickle down to those who can afford it least, especially renters and seniors.

I would like an efficiency audit of city departments to find out how we can do more with less. Much like higher levels of government, spending has increased beyond the rate of inflation every year for decades. In good times and bad, the one guarantee is an above inflation increase - this is simply not sustainable. From fire to police to city administration and all points in between, a hard look inward is needed. The private sector is tapped out and tired of bureaucrats living in a bubble. The rest of us are subject to performance reviews, goals and targets, and plain ol' hard work. Money doesn't grow on trees (taxpayers).

**For once please look internally to seek out efficiencies, stop creating new positions, reduce staffing levels, overtime practices, raise user fees, cancel central library, etc.. Property tax paying residents are tired of being on the hook for mismanagement and feel good projects. Yes, Doug Ford did make some changes to development charges, which is not an excuse. The City has been enjoying the expansion of their tax revenue for years AND enjoying the frothy bonus tax created by MPAC. For once do more with less like the rest of us!**

Sincerely,

**A very concerned Guelph taxpayer**

R Wilson