

F-46-19 - Approval of 2020 budget

On Dec 15, 2019, at 9:51 PM, [REDACTED] wrote:

Hello,

Please feel free to share with all Councillors. My husband and I live in Headon Forest and have three children. We have somehow managed to thrive on a single family income for roughly 10 years. My children are better for it, as they've had a parent present and involved.

Up until last year, I'd say we were doing ok. Now I'd call it surviving. Everything is increasing....taxes, insurance, hydro. Families are struggling. Husband's company bonus was cut last year. We don't spend extra much anymore and we're not the only ones. Parents are being forced to have dual income, kids don't get the attention required at times (I'm very involved with the school and would be happy to elaborate), rent only increases, people cannot afford homes, rent, bills, not much left over to support local business. I know so many families who are struggling pay cheque to pay cheque. Companies are cutting and certainly aren't increasing wages as readily as monthly bills are increasing. I see it all over the community FB pages and mom groups.

It's tough for residents/ families. This kind of a tax hike gives me nothing but anxiety. I'm a well educated woman with a Masters Degree and I feel so much pressure to return to work. A dear friend of mine, her husband committed suicide last year due to pressure at work and just trying to make it in life.

With Amazon taking on the world and people cutting back, I think inevitably you're going to see the consequences. You better hope mortgage rates stay low.

Give people a break. Cut from the top down. Really think about how this affects residents. I've already reduced my mortgage payments (we've always payed more than we've had to) to free up cash flow for 2020 until I'm working again.

I wish I could have made it to Fortinos today but the above are just thoughts. Tip of the ice berg.

Merry Christmas,

[REDACTED]