Objection to Installation of Parking Meters

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Taylor, Sheree L.

Object: FW: Waterdown Parking Meters

From: Shelley [mailto:]
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2010 2:31 PM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: Waterdown Parking Meters

As a small business owner, JITTERBUG CAFE, right in the heart of Waterdown, I am strongly opposed to the city council forcing these unwanted parking meters on our village. Many of my core customers just stop in quickly for a coffee and surely will not want to pay for a 2min pop-in when they can go to a drive-thru 3mins away for free. This will put a huge stress on my small business!!! I continue to have much difficulty understanding how an issue that directly affects the people of Waterdown has been able to go forward under the total and passionate opposition of those very citizens. Please help us change this in the favor of those directly affected, or at the very least, for once, please explain to us how it will help our local merchants who are already struggling to compete with the Clappisons Corners BIG BOX corporates.

Truly,
Shelley Campbell
Owner & Operator
JITTERBUG CAFE
Leylands
Fine British Foods & Confectionary
PO Box 1526, 5 Mill Street South, Unit #2.
Waterdown, Ontario. LOR 2H0
Phone: (905) 690-9539 Fax: (905) 690-3774

Attention: Mayor
Councilor McCarthy
Waterdown BIA

April 15th 2010

Reference: Waterdown Parking Meter Proposal

During my three years at Leylands, the British store I bought out in 2005, I have already seen changes to the original downtown core of Waterdown. Stores that were here in 2005 are no longer, replaced by offices or other retailers trying to bring back the feeling of a quaint Victorian town but struggling with more road traffic and “big box” mentality.

Please don’t get me wrong I actually have no problem with the big box stores, just the feeling (or lack thereof) behind them – get in, get out and be on your way, after all we have too much to do and not enough time to do it in......right?

The whole idea behind “original” downtown cores is that you slow down, enjoy and give yourself a break from the hustle and bustle unless you have to time your stay (yet again) in order to feed the parking meter.

As a very proud and relatively new Canadian citizen I find it sad that money talks louder than history. Roots and communities being sold out without regard for what might be lost. We are slowly chipping away at the bygone era in places like Waterdown, where life is a little richer in community spirit where you care about your fellow citizen and retailers well being and allow visitors and residents the luxury of a slower pace of life. When did time become a luxury anyway? How sad.

Now Corporations and governments seem to be taking over, after all money talks, so if the aim is to have no heritage left and hand the downtown’s over to the larger corporations with their free parking or to introduce money generating parking meters where none were ever needed before, your going the right way. Say goodbye to the small independents that generate tourist revenue every year in spite of continuing changes, goodbye to the quaint stores that still offer the time of day a friendly smile and belief in building customer relationships over the years and sell them out in favor of the quick buck.......but what about the revenue these seemingly inconsequential hamlets generate for their municipalities every year? When gone what good will the parking meters be then? With the stores gone what’s left to visit?

Please take the time to look at the whole picture before implementation as every action taken can have a crippling effect on small independents and we look to our representatives to take care of the whole, not just the part.

Thank you,

Mrs. K. Thorpe
Leylands Fine British Foods.
To whom it may concern,

Please consider the following short letter and arguments enclosed for the next council meeting.

The latest plan for the instalment of parking meters is both seriously flawed and an insult to the the residents and merchants of Waterdown and surrounding communities. This great town is already suffering from the demise of local businesses due to the development of "big box" stores such as those at Clappison's Corners. Now the City of Hamilton wants to "put a nail in our coffin" by installing parking meters in Waterdown. In addition to our local tax rates increasing dramatically over the past several years, more than most other parts of the "New" City of Hamilton, the city is adding more stress to our pocket books. And for the amount of revenue the meters will produce, the merchants and thus the residents, will lose ten fold that in decreased business. I find it ironic and incredulous that our city fathers/mothers speak of shopping and working locally and then institute programs like parking meters. When will this insanity and hypocrisy stop??!!

Please forward the above message to all councillors on city council, put it on the public record, and include my concerns in the agenda at the next council meeting.

Thank you very much.

Ed Mizzi

2H3
Dear Councillors,

Please forward this e-mail to the councillors, put it on the public record and have my concerns included in the agenda at the next council meeting.

Parking meters are not necessary in downtown Waterdown. What is necessary in Hamilton is not automatically needed in Waterdown.

Installing, maintaining, administering, collecting and policing will result in a deficit, not a profit.

Meters will have a devastating effect on the small businesses who are struggling to compete with the stores which have free parking at Clappison's Crossing. In addition meters will have a discouraging effect on passing visitors.

If small businesses in Waterdown are forced to close, there will be less tax revenue for Hamilton.

Please leave our village alone so that those of us who chose to live here and love it can continue to enjoy its small town atmosphere.

Rosemary Mills.
Taylor, Sheree L.

From: Joyce Bishop
Sent: Saturday, April 17, 2010 7:55 PM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: parking meters

Please forward this to all councilors.

Flamborough votes 99% not to join Hamilton before we were forced to amalgamate with Hamilton. Due to the total disregard Hamilton has shown Flamborough since amalgamation, today the vote would be the same. The parking meter issue is the same as every other rotten trick Hamilton has played on Flamborough - total disregard and complete lack of concern for a rural way of life. We are not the city of Hamilton and should not be treated the same as the city of Hamilton. You lied about amalgamation and continue to punish Flamborough every way you can. Shame on you. It is disgraceful and silly to consider parking meters for Waterdown. The only difference is this time it will cost you, as parking meters in Waterdown will be a negative revenue.

Joyce Bishop
To Whom it may concern,
I was recently made aware of the 86 parking meters planned for downtown Waterdown. My partner and I moved to Waterdown 6 months ago and we chose Waterdown because of its small town feel. Adding parking meters will take away from that small town feel. We are opposed to such plans. Please forward this e-mail to the councillors to be put on public record and included in the agenda for the next council meeting.

Sincerely,

Andrea Applegarth & Jeremy Stadler

Mail has the best spam protection around http://mail.yahoo.com
Would you please record our objection to parking meters being installed in downtown Waterdown. We understand you can forward this opinion to the councillors and ensure that it is included on the agenda at the next council meeting.

There is no current problem with parking in the downtown area and the costly installation of meters would achieve very little. The local merchants are suffering enough with the new "box type" stores that are located nearby and need all the help we can give them to keep Waterdown the special place that it is at present.

Thank you.

Jim and Marjorie Coit

LOR 1V0
I would respectfully ask that the following comment be forwarded to all councillors for the public record and that it and my concerns be included in the agenda at the next council meeting of the City of Hamilton.

The proposed inclusion and installation of parking meters in the core area of Waterdown is not in the best interests of those in business in the core, and just as importantly it will severely effect the on street parking for those of us who own homes immediately adjacent to the proposed meters.

The level of concern here is significant and it is born of sheer frustration at the arbitrary nature of the way this issue has been handled from the beginning, not once was I as a homeowner ever consulted, ask for my opinion, or even advised that this was a possibility, by any member of the city or it's representatives.

Sincerely,

Glenn Sherwood
Taylor, Sheree L.

Subject: FW: PLEA FOR GOOD JUDGEMENT RE PARKING METERS

-----Original Message-----
From: B Moir [mailto: bmoir@iol.com]
Sent: Friday, April 16, 2010 2:47 PM
To: Chamber Of Commerce Stoney Creek; Clark, Brad; Stoney Creek News; Joyce Brown; letters@thespec.com; Eisenberger, Fred; Stoney creek News
Subject: PLEA FOR GOOD JUDGEMENT RE PARKING METERS

Dear Brad Clark/ Your Honour The Mayor.

I'd appreciate it very much if you would distribute this email to all the City Councilors; plus any other appropriate people at City Hall. THANKS!

A LAST DITCH EFFORT TO REQUEST GOOD CIVIC JUDGEMENT

There has been an a lot said & written about the plans to install metered parking in Stoney Creek. A lot of what has been said in support of metered parking, seems to be of little importance, no longer accurate, or falls into the category of “Who Cares?”.

Examples of the WHO CARES ideas being used to support metered parking:

- Maria Pearson says that at some time in the past, she remembers some members of the Stoney Creek BIA favored metered parking. Not one of the current Stoney Creek BIA members NOW wants metered parking. So “who cares” what Maria remembers? We live in the present, not in Maria’s memory of the past.

- Maria says she remembers the old Stoney Creek City Council favored metered parking. Two of the previous Mayors of Stoney Creek are on record as saying metered parking was never approved. Even if Maria’s memory is correct, “who cares”? Again she is talking about the past, not the current opinion of the people who live in Stoney Creek.

- Maria says she wants meters because she gets lots of complaints from her constituents about not being able to find a parking spot when they go to the Medical Building. NOTE THAT SHE NEVER SAYS THEY ASK FOR METERED PARKING. Never mind the fact that the other 2 Stoney Creek Councilors don’t get similar complaints. Why do these few people have more sway with Maria than the several hundred who signed a petition against meters (the signatures on the petition were gathered within 48 hours; but we gave up getting more signatures because none of the City Councilors wanted to look at the petition). Maria - WHO CARES if a few people want metered parking? – You were elected to represent the majority of your constituents.

Examples of ideas supporting metered parking that don’t seem 100% accurate:

- Maria says she doesn’t favor area rating as a solution for not having parking meters. Yet, she defends her position on metered parking; because, she wants “to sock” away the profits from the parking meters into a “special fund” that will only be used for Stoney Creek. Kind of sounds like “area rating” to me (ie, being able to treat one part of the City different than the other parts). When I attended City Council, I heard the downtown Councilors saying they want our parking revenue to go into the same “pot” as the metered parking revenue from all of the other City areas. I don’t think Councilor Whitehead & the other City Councilors are going to support the money only being used in Stoney Creek.

- Supporters of metered parking say we should have standard rules across the City. They seem to forget that the City is made up of diverse areas; all with unique needs. It’s simple to apply standards for each area based on population; but it’s also just plain stupid to apply standards that are detrimental to the growth of an area. We don’t assign police, firemen, welfare dollars, etc. equally to every area. We apply them were
Taylor, Sheree L.

From: Jocelyn Killam [joc.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2010 12:03 AM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: Parking Meters

I Jocelyn Killam of 79 Boulding Avenue Waterdown, On. L0R2H3 am extremely opposed to 86 Parking meters in our downtown area.

As a taxpayer ... it is not acceptable to see our little town constantly being bombarded by big city attitudes.. We pay more taxes since we are now part of Hamilton and get less services and now you want to make us look like a city..... NO we are not interested.

I would like the Clerk to forward this email to the Councillors and put this on the public Record. You can include my concerns in you upcoming Council Meeting.

Jocelyn Killam

f.

s journey by making a difference for others."
As a resident of 21 years in Waterdown and a frequent shopper of many local businesses on Main St. (Bank & Doctor's Office), I fully object to the installation of parking meters on our streets in Waterdown.

Please forward this email to councillors, and put it in the public record. I would like my concerns to be included in the agenda of the next council meeting.

~ Vaughan Killam
Taylor, Sheree L.

From: Leon Killam
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2010 12:50 AM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: Objection to Parking Meters in Waterdown

As a resident of 21 years in Waterdown and a frequent shopper of many local business on Main St. (Bank & Doctor's Office). I fully object to the install of parking meters on our streets of Waterdown.

Please forward this email to councillors, and put it in the public record. I would like my concerns to be included in the agenda @ the next council meeting.
As a business owner in downtown Waterdown I am very concerned with the plan for parking meters in our town. We have a parking lot for our customers and staff but if there are meters on the street non-customers will try to park in our lot and we will have to police it.

Having meters on the street will discourage shopping in the downtown core. There aren't large enough parking lots available in town to accommodate the parking that is needed now. This will mean people will shop elsewhere. The city should be trying to encourage shopping in the core and trying to attract business not discouraging it.

I am also a resident of Flamborough and do not want the extra cost and time restraints of parking at meters in town. It would make me more likely to shop at the plazas and big box stores rather than the small specialty businesses here in the core area. How much revenue can possibly be acquired after the cost of purchasing the meters, installing them, maintenance and staffing for by-law enforcing? Will this revenue cover the cost of lost tax revenue from the loss of businesses the parking meters drive from town?

Please forward my email to the councillors and put it on the public record. Please also put the parking meter issue on the agenda for the next council meeting.

Sincerely Pauline Scott
Taylor, Sheree L.

From: Cindy Mayor |
Sent: Thursday, April 22, 2010 8:00 AM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: Parking Meters in Waterdown

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am emailing to state my opposition to the parking meters proposed for Downtown Waterdown. I work for several downtown businesses and I am aware of the hardship and inconvenience that this will cause the community. You have been informed of the many reasons but most of all, the City of Hamilton has not done their part to provide any longterm parking for employees of the downtown core and the parking meters will not provide an option.

Please forward my email to the Mayor and all councillors and add my opposition to the next meeting which will deal with this issue. Thank you.

& Messenger for mobile!
Mayor Fred Eisenberger  
City Clerks Office  
Hamilton City Centre,  
77 James St. N.,  
Hamilton, ON L8R 2K3  

April 14, 2010  

Dear Mr. Mayor and Council  

Please accept this letter as part of the Flamborough Community campaign against parking meters slated to be installed in Waterdown in July 2010. In January 2010 Hamilton City Council voted to have parking meters installed in downtown Waterdown, Stoney Creek, Ancaster and on Locke Street in Hamilton's core.

I am respectfully requesting this letter be received and read by councillors at the next appropriate COW or City Council meeting.

It is my hope that through this letter campaign Hamilton's mayor and councillors will consider the significant negative impact and reverse council's recent decision to install parking meters in downtown Waterdown.

Should these parking meters be installed, it will threaten the very existence of businesses already struggling to survive in the core of Waterdown. There is no need for parking meters in town, in fact there is little if any evidence that there are or have been any parking issues in Waterdown.

One of the big issues currently facing businesses in Waterdown is the lack of parking spaces for their employees, as well as customers. If parking meters are installed it will create additional and deeper issues for employee parking. With no alternatives for parking and no public transportation available from outside the core, we ask what City Hall is expecting employees and their employers to do.

Waterdown small businesses are already dealing with the massive retail power centre which continually drains business from the core. Worst of all, there is free parking at all power centre businesses with easy walking distance.

Perhaps to be fair, the city should impose paid parking at all retail power centre malls throughout the city. That would certainly add to the coffers, and create a level playing field for all businesses whether they are in the downtowns or not.

Mayor Fred, you acknowledged yourself in a recent Flamborough Review article "that Waterdown doesn't have the parking turnover problems that plague other areas of the city". With this in mind, I ask you why Hamilton Council would further burden Waterdown businesses.

I am also frustrated that if anyone other than the City of Hamilton wants to change the outward appearance of the streetscape of the historic area of Waterdown, the City requires them to seek the approval of the Historic Society. On the other, it seems that the City will barge forward with installing ugly, unwanted meters throughout our historic village centre without the support of the Historic Society.

I ask that you please reverse the decision to install parking meters in Waterdown to create a fair opportunity for residents and businesses to keep the downtown flourishing, sustainable, and attractive.

Respectfully submitted

[Signature]

Dr. Lynda Newkirk
36 letters were received identical to this and their names have been recorded. All personal information has been deleted further to the Freedom of Information and Protection to Privacy Act.

Mayor Fred Eisen
City Clerks Office
Hamilton City Centre
77 James St N
Hamilton ON L8R 2K3

APR 21 2010

By email to: mayorfred@hamilton.ca

Dear Mr. Mayor and Council Members:

I am writing to express my opposition to the January 2010 Hamilton City Council vote to install parking meters in downtown Waterdown in July 2010.

I am requesting that you and the City Councillors consider the significant negative impact and reverse the decision to install parking meters in Waterdown.

The parking meters will threaten the viability of businesses already struggling to survive in the core of Waterdown. If the reason for the meters is to address “parking turnover issues”, there is little if any evidence that there are or have been any parking issues in Waterdown. Mayor Fred, you acknowledged in a recent Flamborough Review article “that Waterdown doesn’t have the parking turnover problems that plague other areas of the city”.

If the reason is for generating revenue for the City of Hamilton, there is every indication that parking meters will not generate significant revenue. Is generating a mere $49,000 in annual revenue from the meters worth the negative impact on business in Waterdown? In fact, an analysis done by a Carlisle resident shows the cost of operating parking meters in Waterdown will result in a deficit for the City of Hamilton.

A major issue currently facing businesses in Waterdown is the lack of parking spaces for employees as well as customers. Parking meters will create additional and deeper issues for employee parking. With no alternatives for parking and no public transportation available from outside the core, how do you expect employees and their employers to get to work?

Waterdown small businesses are dealing with the massive retail power centre which is draining business from the core. These power centre businesses have the advantage of abundant free parking.

This decision is unfair and detrimental to the businesses in the downtown area. I ask that the decision to install parking meters in Waterdown be reversed in the interest of creating a fair opportunity for residents and businesses and to keep downtown Waterdown viable.

Sincerely,

Patrick C.

Name:
Address:
Phone:

Note: Every person I spoke to in my neighborhood was opposed to parking meters in Waterdown. Without exception, each person was thoroughly annoyed with - and I was - FED UP with - Norstein's attitude toward Waterdown.