

From: mmarsman@ On Behalf Of Mike Marsman
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 8:48 PM
To: Henderson, Dale; Polhill, Bud; Armstrong, Bill; Swan, Joseph; Orser, Stephen; Baechler, Joni; Branscombe, Nancy; Brown, Matt; Hubert, Paul; Van Meerbergen, Paul; Brown, Denise; Usher, Harold; Bryant, Judy; White, Sandy; Fontana, Joe
Cc: Saunders, Cathy; Walsh, Jo-Ann
Subject: Re: 2012 Budget

Councillor Henderson: You provided a brief response to my initial email that I felt was inappropriate and did not address my concerns. You did not reply to my followup. I ask that you please acknowledge this response and also acknowledge my position as a constituent of your ward, even if you do not agree with it.

Mayor Fontana: You were elected on a premise of creating jobs and sustaining services, while delivering a 0% tax increase. Given the number of jobs that London has lost since you took office in 2010, I ask that you please shift focus to delivering that election promise, but please also keep in mind responsible spending and sustaining service levels the people of London have become accustomed to.

Councillors: I appreciate all of your efforts and what you do for this city. I ask that you keep future generations as well as those less fortunate in mind during any final deliberations on the proposed 2012 Budget. I don't like paying taxes any more than the next guy, but I don't want to see the city that I plan to raise my family in suffer as a result of short sighted decisions to achieve a superficial goal. I feel sick to think of what we will lose as a result of an irresponsible focus on 0% this year, let alone future years.

Ms Saunders: I ask that you please include this correspondence (in it's entirety) in the agenda package for the 2012 Budget approval on Feb 21.

If any of you would like to followup with me directly, please do not hesitate to contact me.

..mm

Mike Marsman - children Shawn (age 3) and Charlotte (age 1)
1004 Griffith St
Ward 9

On Fri, Feb 10, 2012 at 8:34 AM, Mike Marsman <mike@ wrote:
> Thank you for the prompt response, however I feel that you have not
> acknowledged any of my concerns directly.
>
> My belief is that future councils will face consecutive years of
> significant tax increases as a result of a continued focus on 0%. I
> fear that any savings I have realized today will be paid for by future
> generations and on the backs of those who need our help most.
>
> I would happily pay more tax simply for the garbage in our
> neighborhood park to be collected in the winter, as well as my
> children being able to enjoy the Byron wading pool just as they have
> in prior years. That doesn't even address the ethics behind cutting
> from places like affordable housing and raiding reserves to achieve what I
believe is a flawed promise of 0%.
>
> I'm absolutely in favour of responsible spending and accountable government.
> I am not, however, in favour of irresponsible cutting and short
> sighted decisions.
>
>
> ..mm
>
> Mike Marsman
> 1004 Griffith St

> On Friday, February 10, 2012, Henderson, Dale <dhenders@london.ca> wrote:
>> History will show you got the best Ward team that "London has seen in
>> 10 years! Happy savings!
>> Dale G Henderson
>> City of London
>> Councillor Ward 9
>>
>> ----- Original Message -----
>> From: Mike Marsman
>> Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2012 11:52 PM
>> To: Henderson, Dale
>> Cc: Walsh, Jo-Ann
>> Subject: 2012 Budget
>>
>> Hello Dale, I just wanted to pass along a few words to you as my
>> elected councillor.
>>
>> I am disheartened by the actions of council tonight. I am
>> specifically disappointed in your actions, as the elected
>> representative from my ward.
>>
>> You ran on a platform that promised "restored jobs, economic growth
>> and first rate service in London". I do not see how any of your
>> actions tonight are inline with this platform.
>>
>> I want to look for the best in people and never to blindly assume the
>> worst, but I feel your actions tonight have been irresponsible and
>> shortsighted. Council achieved the reckless goal of 0% on backs of
>> the city's most vulnerable, raiding reserves and using assessment growth.
>>
>> I can only imagine how deep the cuts will have to be in order to
>> achieve 0% in 2013.
>>
>> ..mm
>>
>> Mike Marsman
>> 1004 Griffith St