
From: Gerry DefQon1 <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2023 9:16 AM
To: Devyn Murray <Devyn.Murray@FoothillsCountyAB.ca>
Subject: Fwd: 2023 tax assessment roll #2104337540

Hi Devy, here's some disclosure I'd like to add/share for my case.

Thx,

Gerry

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From: Barb Castell <Barb.Castell@FoothillsCountyAB.ca>
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2023 6:00:48 p.m.
To: Gerry DefQon1 <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: 2023 tax assessment roll #2104337540

Good morning Gerry:

You should have received a letter with your tax notice that explained the reasons for the Tax increase. If you did not, I can get that sent to you again.
If you disagree with the assessment, you had an opportunity to dispute the assessment and appear before the Assessment Review Board.

I would like to ask Public Works why your road is not being maintained. Do you mind sending me your 911 address and I will look into this?

I did not have one complaint this past winter about roads not getting cleared, so this is a concern for me. I am on a short, dead-end road and I sometimes do not get mine cleared until the third day out after a snowfall.

However, the bus routes should be first day out.

I have looked after my own sewer (septic) and water (well) and garbage for the entire 45 years I have lived out here. I believe most residents do.

Half of my taxes went to the Provincial Education Requisition although I did not have any children in school all these years. It went up significantly this year as did the Seniors Housing requisition. The money is requisitioned, and Foothills County must pay it, no choice.

The 911 Dispatch, RCMP, Recreation, Fire, Library all went up too. **The costs due to inflationary pressures are reflected in the fuel, oil, staff wages, and the cost of materials.**

What really drove my taxes up this year was the strong market growth within Foothills County. **My property assessment went up 7 %.**

I have been on Council for a year and a half so when I started it was part way through the year. **Council received the same Cost of Living increase as Foothills County Staff**, but because of a reduction in pay for committees, the amount budgeted for Council did not change. More than likely Council will be under budget.

If you are not satisfied with any answers about taxes, you are more than welcome to contact our CAO and express your concerns.

CAO Ryan Payne

ryan.payne@foothillscountyab.ca

Kind regards,

Barb.

Barb Castell
Councillor, Division 3

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Foothills County

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After Hours Emergency Number: 1-888-808-3722

www.foothillscountyab.ca

From: Gerry DefQon1 <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2023 8:56 AM
To: Barb Castell <Barb.Castell@FoothillsCountyAB.ca>
Subject: 2023 tax assessment roll #2104337540

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Good morning, I was given your email address to address my complaint about property tax increase for 2023. I find it outrageous that the county has raised my property taxes with almost 20%! Life is getting very expensive here in the MD of the Foothills!

When will there be a time when you will lower the taxes? My salary hasn't gone up for the last 4 years while everything is getting more expensive on federal and provincial level. With everything becoming more expensive and then a property tax increase of almost 20% it's going to be very difficult keeping up with all the bills.

I pay property taxes and basically get ZERO services back. My street is not being maintained (school bus route) and the snow gets plowed several days after the snowfall. I had to plow part of my own street several times this winter because the MD forgot (?) to do it. In our street we have no lights, no fire hydrants, no sewer, etc. And when it comes to police or bylaw patrols, I've NEVER seen them in our street. Even the speed enforcement on the 762 is a joke even after several complaints from residents.

Then the school division is asking us to pay for bus services and other useless fees for school. So now we pay double since my property taxes pay for the school bus as well.

How much longer is the MD going to milk the cash cow? I wonder what will happen when people can't pay their taxes anymore. I predict that, at this increase of tax rates my property taxes will reach \$10,000-\$12,000/year in 5 years from now. Can you imagine paying \$1,000/month for your property taxes?

Can I ask you how much of a salary increase you and your colleagues received over the last 4 years? As a tax payer I believe this information should be disclosed at any given time.

Regards,

Gerry Villani

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