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To: budget

Subject: Draft 2025 Budget

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It was shocking to learn that property taxes in Wilmot Township are increasing 50%!! How did the staff let the situation get to this point? The taxpayers deserve an explanation. I have gone online to try to find out but it is difficult trying to decipher the information - transparency would certainly help us tax payers understand what has happened. Finger pointing and blaming is not what is needed at this time, but, getting down to work and getting the train back on the tracks, so to speak, is what's needed urgently. What is required is tough discussions about service cuts. Perhaps user fees could be increased for community services. I'm sure there are other areas where cuts can be made as well.

Our infrastructure is crumbling, for instance, Erb's Road is a heavily traveled road from Kitchener to New Hamburg and Stratford.

Erb's Road between Sandhills Road and Nafziger Road has been patched so many times since I moved here 14 years ago that I now drive in the middle of the road to avoid the potholes and uneven patches on either side of the road. There will be an accident one of these days and the Region/Municipality could be held responsible. Simply patching the road is simply unacceptable!!

We taxpayers are very concerned about the dire situation of the capital reserve fund.

Hopefully Councillors will have more information for the tax payers at the three upcoming town hall meetings.

Gladys Freer

