



TOWN OF NEWMARKET

Clerks Department
clerks@newmarket.ca

Request for Deputation

Request for deputation and/or any written submissions and background information for consideration by either Council or Committee of the Whole must be submitted to the Clerk's Department by the following deadlines:

For Council – by 12 noon on the Wednesday immediately prior to the requested meeting

For Committee of the Whole (for items not on the agenda) – by 12 noon on the Wednesday twelve days prior to the requested meeting

PLEASE PRINT

Council / Committee date: June 16

Agenda Item # _____ Subject: _____

Name: Karin Hamalainen

Address: _____
Street Address
Newmarket
Town/City Postal Code

Phone: Home: _____ Business: _____

Fax #: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Name of Group or Person(s) being represented (if applicable)

Brief summary of the issue or purpose of your deputation:

Request to reassess the good coins program
and its possible adverse effects to a portion of
the population

Personal information on this form will be used for the purposes of sending correspondence relating to matters before Council. Your name, address, comments, and any other personal information, is collected and maintained for the purpose of creating a record that is available to the general public in a hard copy format and on the internet in an electronic format pursuant to Section 27 of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.M.56, as amended. Questions about this collection should be directed to the Clerk, Town of Newmarket, 395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328, STN Main, Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7; Telephone 905 895-5193 Ext. 2202; Fax 905-953-5100.

395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328, STN MAIN NEWMARKET, ON L3Y 4X7
Tel: 905-895-5193 Fax: 905-953-5100

VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT: www.newmarket.ca

Subject of Deputation: Viability of the Good coin Program

I'd like to begin by saying that I have found very little public information on this subject so please correct any information that is not accurate.

I will be speaking to you today in response to Mr. Fergusons presentation at council May 26 regarding the Good Coin Program.

This program aims to provide Southlake with new medical equipment while providing incentive to conserve hydro.

I must say by using Southlake and especially targeting pediatric care seems a marketing gem! On the surface who could deny the value of this program. Yet Southlake and hospital equipment fall in the sphere of Provincial responsibilities. The Municipality in the past already burdened property taxpayers with a hospital tax levy that fell outside the Towns sphere of responsibilities. Now member's of the Board of Newmarket Tay Hydro which include Mayor Tony Van Byran, former Mayor Tom Taylor, the Mayor from Tay Township (which is somewhere near Orillia), Paul Ferguson and 3 other board member's seem to have gone ahead contracting the services of the tech firm Zerofootprints to implement the firms Good Coins Program.

Not knowing the financial commitment to Zerofootprints I was equally curious as to where the funds to purchase the hospital equipment were to come from. Maddie DiMuccio asked Mr Ferguson and the reply was that it would be funded by the utility and that is where issues arise. The idea of providing anyone who enters the program with a free smart thermostat is highly unethical. In essence the program forces seniors or those on fixed incomes to compensate (via their hydro bill) those ratepayers that can well afford to pay for their own smart thermostat.

The Town must recognize that those living on fixed incomes are already doing all they can to keep their bills down out of necessity!

The costs of acquiring the services of Zerofootprints, costs of data analysis, cost of Medical Equipment, costs of bureaucracy required to run this program will negate any individual savings from conserving electricity.

What is left is a program to fund Southlake through our Hydro utility!

I am asking council to rethink its position and remember those standing in line at the Newmarket food Pantry or Seniors choosing between medications or food. These people will be adversely affected if we continue this program.

Attempts to control and lower usage could easily be attained by a tiered usage system. A much fairer system of rewarding those that conserve.

Clearly the Hydro Utility is a provider of energy not a means of funding or fundraising for any entity and especially not for the shortfall of provincial funding!

Fundraising should target those with the means while not burdening the disadvantaged.

I respectfully ask you to review the decision to proceed even with the pilot program.

Karin Hamalainen