

From: **peggy bond** [REDACTED]

Date: Sun, Sep 10, 2023 at 8:16 PM

Subject: Letter for agenda Sept 11, 23

To: Debbie Sherwood <[dsherwood@orangeville.ca](mailto:dsherwood@orangeville.ca)>, Lisa Post <[lpost@orangeville.ca](mailto:lpost@orangeville.ca)>, Andy Macintosh <[amacintosh@orangeville.ca](mailto:amacintosh@orangeville.ca)>, <[rstevens@orangeville.ca](mailto:rstevens@orangeville.ca)>, Todd Taylor <[ttaylor@orangeville.ca](mailto:ttaylor@orangeville.ca)>, Joe Andrews <[jandrews@orangeville.ca](mailto:jandrews@orangeville.ca)>, <[tprendergast@orangeville.ca](mailto:tprendergast@orangeville.ca)>

Cc: <[agenda@orangeville.ca](mailto:agenda@orangeville.ca)>

I'm not sure if I got this letter in time to be added to the agenda for tomorrow, so I have sent it to our elected Council for review prior to the meeting Monday night.

Dear Mayor Post, DM Taylor and Councillors,

Re: Item 12.3 Sept 11, 23 Regular Council meeting agenda

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the staff recommendation to remove Question Period from council meetings. In short, there are lots of reasons that Question Period remaining is important; people like myself at the last second check the agenda and aren't able to prepare a delegation to raise questions / concerns regarding vital issues, some items that come up aren't necessarily included in the agenda, some questions arise simply from listening to staff and councillors discuss the issues at the meeting itself. Question period is an important part of the open and transparent process of municipal government that allows for residents to provide input and ask questions regarding relevant topics that impact them and their tax dollars. The reasoning of the staff to remove this is pretty weak. Nobody is asking staff or yourselves to have all the answers prepared and accessible on the spot; a simple, "I'm not sure, let me look into that and get that information for you for in "x" time, " would be understandable and quite appropriate for complicated or information heavy questions. In fact, I think a motion by your Council to add a short Question Period after each item in the agenda would be most appropriate and would lead to a better discourse about the topic in real time. Leaving all the questions for the end seems kind of dumb to me. Why only give the public an opportunity to ask a question or raise a concern at the end of the meeting on an item that was already voted on earlier?

Thank you for your time and I hope you reflect upon my comments when you are considering how to vote on 12.3 tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Peggy Bond

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