

Letter to the Editor – The Record – January 22, 2014

Council report card

As someone who has followed politics at Kitchener City Hall for many years, I would like to critique the new, enlarged council's performance for the past three years.

In my opinion, Carl Zehr is the worst mayor I can remember the city having. He is largely responsible for the massive \$112 million debt the city has, with his closed-door decisions. He always promises openness and transparency to get elected; it has yet to happen. He has only one policy: my way of the highway.

Councillors John Gazzola, Yvonne Fernandes and Zyg Janecki have done an outstanding job as guardians of the taxpayer's purse and always seem prepared to discuss the agenda in a frank and common-sense manner. We need more of them.

Scott Davey and Dan Glenn-Graham show glimpses of being worthy councillors, but not to the same extent as the above three.

Paul Singh and Bil Ioannidis are passive at almost all meetings and show no emotion on any issue. They would be easily persuaded on any vote.

Berry Vrbanovic and Kelly Galloway-Sealock – I am amazed they get re-elected. They talk a lot at meetings but always rubber stamp the mayor's edicts.

Frank Etherington is the worst. Writing in The Record as a columnist before being elected, he would berate council for closed-door decisions and the waste of taxpayer's money, and now he marches to whatever tune the mayor plays.

There are some who will not agree with me, and that is their right. But if they don't attend council meetings or watch them regularly, I would urge them to do so. They will quickly find out who should be on council and who should not.

Ed Redgwell