



City of Bluff City
Mayor Percy J. Brown

Office of the Mayor

City Hall / 100 Broad Avenue
Bluff City, Ohio

August 30, 2009

Dear Bluff City Citizens:

The budget woes continue to haunt us, your loyal civil servants slaving away here at Bluff City city hall! We've cut everything to the bone and now we're getting the bone saw ready!

As most of you should know by now, Public Safety efforts devour over 78% of Bluff City's general fund budget. Yes, it costs us a small fortune to transport all you sickly, accident-prone, criminal miscreants to either hospitals or jail! And the costs just keep going up. Do you know what forty caliber bullets cost these days? Even with the public safety discount?!

Needless to say, tax revenues have not kept up with the demand for these services. While we can charge for hospital transports, we can't hardly charge criminals gas fare to take them to jail. Well, maybe we can, but that's not the point! The point is that we need to cut the public safety budget to contain costs. And the most expensive costs in the public safety budget are personnel costs. This is where we can get the most bang for the buck, police pun intended.

But there is no way the tax paying public will allow us to lay off police officers or firefighters, since they're the ones on the street actually doing real work. So instead I've decided to make personnel cuts at the top, starting with the police and fire chiefs! They make the most money, and I would argue they contribute the least, so I'm cutting them first!

Now, lest you worry that nobody will lead our brave police officers and firefighters, rest assured I plan to replace their positions by combining them into new single public safety chief position. We'll call it the "Fire-Police Chief"! We're trendsetters and mavericks here at Bluff City city hall, creating exciting new trends in local government!

However, I am, as always, constrained by civil servitude requirements that dictate this new position first be posted for internal fulfillment by the senior-most candidate. Once that candidate is located, we should be able to hire them at a salary substantially lower than the combined salaries of the current police and fire chiefs. We can then buy the police more bullets with our salary savings. We might even be able to pick up a new ambulance or two!

All in a continuing effort to inexpensively keep you safe and secure!

Sincerely,
Percy J. Brown
Your Honorable Mayor