



City of Bluff City
Mayor Percy J. Brown

Office of the Mayor

City Hall / 100 Broad Avenue
Bluff City, Ohio

January 30, 2009

Dear Bluff City Citizens:

Well, my friends, it's that time of year again. By that, I mean it's a new year. And I'm going to start a new tradition by using my January Mayor's Memo to comment on the state of the city. I'll deliver the really bad news to you in my state of the city TV special. Consider this a primer.

That said, here we go ... Things Stink!

Our local economy is in shambles, our businesses are cutting production and laying people off, our tax revenues are down, and demand for our services is skyrocketing! In non-economic terms, serving you people is costing us a lot more than we get back from you in taxes! Something's got to give or we either start cutting services or we charge you for the basics, like trash pickup or police and fire protection.

One notable benchmark for this lousy economy can be seen in the increasing number of Avon Ladies peddling their wares in Bluff City. Evidently studies have shown that when the economy is bad, lipstick sales go up! When jobs are lost, women make new careers by turning to Avon. This explains the scores of Avon Ladies storming through Bluff City hassling me to buy cologne! This also explains the rash of personal assault reports our Police Department has received over the last few weeks as Avon Ladies crowd into one another's sales zones, where competition gets fierce and the Avon claws come out!

Evidently Avon Ladies don't play nice together in a lousy economy. And now the Bluff City jail is full of very aggravated ladies wearing a bit too much makeup (it's been said that Avon makeup is great at hiding bruises and black eyes). Please, can't you all just get along?! It's only make-up, for goodness sake!

On a high note, the new Bluff City website is active! You can find us at www.cityofbluffcity.org.

My goal is to use this new website as a tool to communicate directly with you, our beloved citizens. On the site you'll find my Mayor's Memos, a photographic history of Bluff City (new historic photos always welcome!), news and updates, as well as a link to my "Twitter" account, which I will be using to post my thoughts and actions as they happen during the course of my work day. It'll be as if you could look directly into my brain! I hope it will give you some idea of just how much work it is being your mayor. It's a labor of love, although I would love a pay raise this year . . . LOLing!!

As always, we welcome your comments on the new site, but please don't denigrate the design. With the city's budget in shambles, we couldn't afford to hire a real website designer, so I formed a committee to create the website and this is what they came up with. I'm quite proud of it and I think you'll find it both usable and fun! And remember the tens of thousands of dollars we saved by doing it ourselves and not hiring a consultant! I think you'll agree that this is just another demonstration of how well we manage the public's money. I spend it as if it were my own!!

Sincerely,
Percy J. Brown
Your Honorable Mayor