

**CITY OF MONROE
COUNCIL WORK SESSION
MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2008**

Work Session of the City Council of the City of Monroe, Michigan held on Monday, March 31, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Present: Council Members Beneteau, Clark, Conner, McGhee, Molenda, Paisley and Mayor Worrell.

Also Present: George Brown, City Manager
Ed Sell, Finance Director
Tom Moore, Deputy Police Chief
James Kansier, Fire Marshall
Gary Werner, Firefighter
Marv Hicks, Firefighter
Michael Everly, Firefighter
Michael Toth, Firefighter
David DePiombo, Police Dept.
Gregory Morgel, Police Dept.
Matthew Poremba, Firefighter
Pete Portillo, Firefighter
Mark Farris, Citizen
Paul Marks, Citizen

John Michrina, Police Chief
Bill Bert, Fire Chief
Brett Ansel, Police Dept.
Daryl Tamsen, Police Dept.
Derek Whittaker, Firefighter
Clem Hess, Firefighter
Kirk Heller, Firefighter
Joseph Mominee, Firefighter
Charles Abel, Police Dept.
Garry Gose, Retired Firefighter
Cory Solomon, IT Dept.
Michael DeSloover, Firefighter
Jenny Michrina, Citizen
Kathy DeSloover, Citizen

John Michrina, Chief of Police, presented the Police Department budget stating that the City could save money by utilizing the use of trustees and cadets. He also suggested that money could be saved by training police officers to assist the fire fighters as needed and proposed that the blight inspectors be transferred to the Police Department. He discussed a meeting with Lake Erie Transit to discuss the possibility of relocating the transfer station from downtown Monroe to eliminate the foot and vehicle traffic. He also stated that the accident and crime scene teams train together to focus on accidents or major crime scenes. He reported that the pension contribution increased to several hundred thousand dollars compared to last year, civilian staff has been cut in half, and the police officers have been cut by almost 10%. The replacement of half of the parking meters has allowed the department to double the parking rates and also gives them some audit capabilities. The OMNI team consists of one Sergeant and two Officers that focus in the City.

Councilman Molenda asked about the percentage of overtime and how it is distributed. Chief Michrina responded that he would report back to him with the actual numbers.

William Bert, Fire Chief, presented the Fire Department budget stating his department has to be prepared for everything that happens in the community. He stated that the department currently operates three stations with six firefighters deployed out of the Central Fire Station, two firefighters out of each satellite station, and ambulance service at the West Side Station. He also reported that the Fire Marshall division is responsible for public education, code enforcement and arson investigation; the maintenance division is responsible for repairs of equipment, keeping the department up with compliance, annual pump testing and driver and operator training to keep liabilities down. The railroad tracks, River Raisin and the freeways play a major role in the fire departments service delivery.

Councilman Molenda questioned the command vehicle as well as some OSHA equipment that was mentioned in the narratives and wanted to know if these two issues were addressed in the capital improvements.

Chief Bert responded that the vehicle was approved by Council; the SEVA's filled the need of a new fill station, however there is still a need for air packs and air cylinders. Discussion was also held regarding the Fire Department absorbing some of the duties of the Building Department.

It was moved by Councilman McGhee and seconded by Councilman Clark that the meeting adjourn at 10:12 p.m.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Rosalind Boswell
Deputy Clerk

Mark G. Worrell
Mayor