



City of Milwaukee

City Hall
200 East Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Meeting Minutes FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

ALD. MICHAEL J. MURPHY, CHAIR

Ald. Nik Kovac, Vice-Chair

Ald. Milele A. Coggs, Ald. Joe Dudzik, and Ald. Ashanti Hamilton

Staff Assistant, Chris Lee, 286-2232; Fax: 286-3456,

clee@milwaukee.gov

Legislative Liaison, Jim Carroll, 286-8679,

jcarro@milwaukee.gov

Thursday, October 17, 2013

9:00 AM

Room 301-B, 3rd Fl., City Hall

2014 BUDGET HEARINGS

Meeting convened: 9:17 A.M.

Present 5 - Murphy, Kovac, Coggs, Dudzik, Hamilton

Individuals also present:

Mark Nicolini, Budget and Management Director

Jim Carroll, Legislative Reference Bureau

Martin Matson, Comptroller

1. [130517](#) Communication from the Mayor relating to the proposed 2014 budget.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Individuals appearing:

Bryan Rynders - Budget and Management Division

Chief Mark Rohlfig - Milwaukee Fire Dept.

Sean Slowey - Milwaukee Fire Dept.

Asst. Chief Gerard Washington - Milwaukee Fire Dept.

Discussion centered on recruitment of minority and female firefighters and the lack of them in the current workforce. The Chief would prefer decommissioning a company to having rolling brownouts. He will come back with information on this prior to budget amendment day.

Ald. Murphy questioned the Department whether it has reviewed the current locations of fire houses based upon changing population demographics.

Ald. Coggs questioned how Open Sky has been functioning; per the Department, it has been working very well.

Ald. Murphy questioned the unprofessional actions of the firefighters at one company and if they felt untouchable. The Chief said that 98% of the firefighters do a very good job. The Department is acting swiftly with appropriate disciplinary actions. Ald. Kovac would encourage the breaking up of personnel at fire houses.

Ald. Dudzik was concerned that he hears of consistent hazing and bad behavior by small cadres of firefighters. Decommissioning a fire house is not a political decision, but one made for public safety by the Chief. Ald. Dudzik thought that the Chief's opponents will use this closure to spread unrealistic fear.

This Budget was NOT ACTED ON

A motion was made by ALD. KOVAC that this Budget be HELD TO CALL OF THE CHAIR. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Murphy, Kovac, Coggs, Dudzik and Hamilton

No 0

Meeting adjourned: 11:03 A.M.

Linda M. Elmer

Staff Assistant

This meeting can be viewed in its entirety through the City's Legislative Research Center at <http://milwaukee.legistar.com/calendar>.