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**ROBERT G. DONOVAN**

Alderman, 8th District

**Ald. Donovan**

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**Mayor Has Explaining & Apologizing to Do  
Statement of Alderman Bob Donovan  
March 8, 2011**

The Milwaukee Police Association (MPA) made public yesterday – in the form of a half-page advertisement in the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* – the fact that Mayor Tom Barrett’s city negotiators have rejected an MPA contract offer that would bring \$12 million in immediate savings and \$184 million, in today’s dollars, over the next 25 years.

This revelation comes in response to the mayor’s request that the MPA and our firefighters’ union, Local 215, voluntarily make concessions in the talks to approve new contracts for 2010-2011. Further, MPA President Michael Crivello said the mayor rebuffed his friendly offer to sit down to discuss issues over coffee.

This is a perfect example of how the mayor says one thing in public, but does something entirely different behind closed doors or out of public view.

The MPA has offered serious and substantial savings to the city in real dollars, and I believe the union has been forthright in its dealings with city negotiators. Twelve million dollars in immediate savings would come in handy in plugging budget holes and saving city services and jobs, wouldn’t it Mr. Mayor?

Further, in his March 4 “*Barrett Report*” e-newsletter, the mayor states:

**“City residents will feel service cuts and some hard working city employees will pay much more for benefits. But police union members and fire union members will waltz along without sharing the load.”**

Mayor, is this how you truly view the commitment and dangerous work of our brave men and women in the Milwaukee Police Department and the Milwaukee Fire Department? Were those West Allis police officers and emergency medical personnel just “waltzing” when they responded while you were lying on the ground bleeding near State Fair Park?

What about the half-dozen MPD officers shot in the line of duty over the past few years – were they also “waltzing?”

**Mayor, it’s time for you to apologize to the hard working men and women of our police and fire services.**

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