



NEWS RELEASE From Mayor Dean DePiero

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MAYOR RESPONDS TO FIRE UNION CLAIMS

(PARMA) – Parma Mayor Dean DePiero responded this afternoon to the latest claims from the leadership of the International Association of Fire Fighters local 639.

“It is typically not my policy to negotiate labor contracts in the media,” said Mayor DePiero. “However, it is important to set the record straight following a series of news releases by our local fire union leadership.”

Mayor DePiero outlined the following timeline:

- In May, all city directors, managers, elected officials and non-union employees were ordered to take a 10% reduction in pay.
- Thereafter, Mayor DePiero worked with all safety unions including police and corrections personnel to make fiscally responsible changes to existing agreements.
- ***The fire union leadership*** crafted two separate proposals that were ***accepted by the city***. The fire union membership decided to decline both.
- On July 1, the fire union membership voted unilaterally on a third proposal that had not been approved by the city. In essence, the vote was meaningless.

Under Mayor DePiero’s plan:

- **Not a single firefighter will be laid off**
- **Not a single fire station will be closed**
- **The problem of excessive overtime will be cut significantly**

“Let me be clear, this is about being fiscally responsible and cutting overtime while maintaining a safe city,” said Mayor DePiero.

“As I indicated to the fire union leadership, I stand ready to continue negotiations. We have an excellent Fire Department in Parma, and I fully expect these men will continue to provide professional services to our residents.”

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