



Hey,

As we have posted - and you may have read about, the City of Middletown (Ohio) Council recently voted to eliminate 9 Firefighter positions and close a fire station-along with the loss of 7 cops as well. That was done on November 29.

In what may be the most classic example of WTF?!, NTS or whatever you wish to apply, amazingly, the City Manager directed that a "fun" video be produced and shot-on the same day-that the Firefighters and the fire department budget was cut. The project is the idea of city hall dweller / City Manager Judy Gilleland and as she stated: "It's been a very difficult budgetary year....we've been through rounds of layoffs." So she wanted to lift the morale of employees and provide some entertainment for her residents...at taxpayer's expense and employee work time.

**Yeah-that's the spirit.**

**HERE IS THE VIDEO:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lrQPrSS12BY&feature=youtu.be>

**HERE IS MORE:**

<http://www.fox19.com/story/16318522/critics-say-middletown-holiday-video-inappropriate-during-time-of-layoffs>

[http://www.wcpo.com/dpp/news/region\\_north\\_cincinnati/middletown/middletown-releases-holiday-video-in-the-wake-of-firefighter-layoffs#ixzz1gTk7o8IE](http://www.wcpo.com/dpp/news/region_north_cincinnati/middletown/middletown-releases-holiday-video-in-the-wake-of-firefighter-layoffs#ixzz1gTk7o8IE)

<http://www.wlwt.com/news/29989574/detail.html>

We could write for hours about this-but we'll spare you the pain. But to say this is local government city hall dweller insanity at its best is a mild comment. The manager and those involved (and those who were afraid to speak up and say how dumb this idea was - but agreed to smile, say yes maa'm, suck up and do the video) are textbook examples of how completely out of touch so many are with reality.

**Why did all the people in that video act so happy?**

We figure that when you find out that **YOU** are not losing **YOUR** job, there is alot to sing about!

All is right with the world!

Plus the boss said do it.

Nice clothes emperor.

It's all about them. Not the Firefighters and Cops who lost or will lose their jobs-and it's definitely not about those who may need the fire/EMS units that are being cut. It's all about a fun video to lift the morale of the surviving workers and provide entertainment for the taxpaying residents.

And that is why local government was founded.

Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house-not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse....

The smoke detector was chirping by the chimney with blare, in hopes that the Firefighters would soon be there...

The children were nestled all snug in their beds, while visions of staffed firehouses danced in their heads....

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-13-11 / 1130 Hours

[www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com](http://www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com)