Statement from Alderman Harold Perrin:

I regret that I cannot be in attendance for tonight's meeting, but I was asked to participate in as well as invite the Governor to speak at the grand opening of a new economic development project this evening.

Even though I could not be there with you, I did not want to let the opportunity pass to once again state my support for this measure and to encourage my fellow council members to support Ordinance 08:35 - The Fire Department Educational/Training Incentive Plan.

Monies invested in an attempt to create longer tenure, more advanced training, a reduction in turnover, as well as measures to keep our firefighters safe on the job and our citizens safe at home and work is money well spent.

I was proud to vote for this ordinance in both the Public Safety Committee as well as the Finance Committee, and I am proud to enter my support on the record tonight.

Thank you for your consideration of this important commitment to our firefighters and our community.