

the amount of money that we charged to hold these...sell these items, and as I said earlier, some of the money was spent for other than the purchase of a truck, but the majority was spent for a good cause and it was in benefit to the community. We have never heard anybody object to it, and there was no thought that it was not legal and there was anything wrong with the issue, until this issue came up about deciding whether this, in fact, was a proper way for that money to be handled and distributed. So, certainly I rise in support of the actions of many of the departments. As most of you know, these volunteer firemen receive no money for the service they put on, that they give to the community, and the fact that they may have had a party at sometime to use some of this money didn't seem in the eyes of at least the people in the community to be such a terrible issue. So I certainly rise to support the bill and I hope the rest of you will too. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Mr. Speaker, members, this is a bill that's had lot of discussion, it's generated a lot of interest. I think maybe because of the fact that it does pertain to funds and I guess the point is or the discussion was do these funds belong to the city, do they belong to the fire department, do they belong to the volunteers, or whatever. I am a volunteer fireman. I spent...two weeks ago I spent 8 hours planning for a soup supper or soup dinner, whatever you want to call it, you know. If I knew these funds that we generated by two or three dollars per person went to the city for whatever, or were monitored by the city, or were told to us how to spend these dollars, I probably or perhaps would not have spent 8 hours planning for that event. Likewise with the pancake suppers and so on, these people would not stand there and flip pancakes all day long if they knew these funds that they were going to be generating through these volunteer man-hours would go to be looked at by the city officials. The volunteers raise them and I think they should be spent accordingly. They have boards that monitor this. Sometimes with these specific boards, no more than the boards actually deal with the problems, know themselves, while I think they are responsible, and that this should be handled by the volunteers themselves. Without volunteers, we are done for. I do appreciate the concerns of the people that wanted it monitored. There is some discussion that perhaps could take place later on this but right now these volunteer funds should stick with the volunteers and act