

2015-J2248

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 130th Anniversary of Highland Engine and Hose Company No. 3

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to commemorate the 130th Anniversary of Highland Engine and Hose Company No. 3, and to honor its past and present firefighting members for 130 years of fire protection to the citizens of Florida, New York and its surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, Fire departments are an integral part of community protection services in every locality of our State; during the past 130 years, the courageous and devoted firefighters of Highland Engine and Hose Company No. 3 have valiantly responded to all types of fire emergencies and have won the praise and respect of the community which they serve; and

WHEREAS, In 1885, 16 citizens of Florida, New York, met at Seward's Hall to organize the Florida Fire Company No. 2; and

WHEREAS, During its humble beginning, the Florida Fire Company No. 2 owned 12 pails painted red with a No. 2 stenciled on each one, some ice pike poles, a couple of axes, crowbars, and lanterns; they built a two-wheeled cart, with a hose reel in the center used to carry the tools; and

WHEREAS, In 1887, the Florida Fire Company No. 2 purchased a 20-man power fire pump, which could be drawn by either a team of horses or by hand; a condition of the sale was the fire company be renamed Highland Engine and Hose Company No. 3, which it is still called today; and

WHEREAS, In April of 1917, Highland Engine and Hose Company No. 3 purchased a 4 cylinder model 40 pumper with a 350 gallon per minute pump; the truck made history at the great St. Elmo Hotel fire in Goshen, New York, on February 1, 1920, pumping water continuously from 2:10 a.m. until 9 a.m. in minus 24 degree weather; and

WHEREAS, The Fire Police of Highland Engine and Hose Company No. 3

were officially chartered in July of 1932; eight years later, a volunteer ambulance squad was formed, using a second-hand Chrysler ambulance; and

WHEREAS, On August 1, 1977, Gail Kujawski became the first woman to be accepted on the membership roll of Highland Engine and Hose Company No. 3; and

WHEREAS, During the aftermath of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, the Rescue Squad was deployed to the devastating scene for a 24-hour period; and

WHEREAS, Today, Highland Engine and Hose Company No. 3 owns numerous emergency vehicles, including three engines, one tanker, one brush truck, one rescue truck, one fire police vehicle, two ambulances, and one 4x4 mule with trailer; and

WHEREAS, The brave firefighters of Highland Engine and Hose Company No. 3 are prepared to risk their lives every day to help save the lives of others and to protect homes and property from the destruction caused by fire; and

WHEREAS, In addition to the skill and devoted service demonstrated by individual firefighters, Highland Engine and Hose Company No. 3 reflects the history and development of firefighting over the past 130 years; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body cannot express sufficient gratitude to those devoted individuals who recognize that the preservation of life and property is a sacred responsibility and who make that responsibility their own by serving as firefighters; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that we should give special recognition to those who work so assiduously for the betterment of their communities, and acknowledge publicly the heroic good works

performed by the volunteer fire departments of this great Empire State, their officers and auxiliaries; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to proudly commemorate the 130th Anniversary of Highland Engine and Hose

Company No. 3; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Highland Engine and Hose Company No. 3.