

2015-J4841

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the Pine Island Fire Department

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the Pine Island Fire Department and to honor its past and present firefighting members for 80 years of fire protection to the citizens of Pine Island, 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 80 years, the courageous and devoted firefighters of the Pine Island Fire Department have valiantly responded to all types of fire emergencies and have won the praise and respect of the community which they serve; and

WHEREAS, On Sunday, December 22, 1935, a group of 19 young men met for the purpose of organizing a Volunteer Fire Company in Pine Island, with the object being the gathering of a company of men of good moral and honest character as volunteer firemen to prevent the spread of fire in Pine Island, New York and vicinity, and to promote good fellowship amongst members; and

WHEREAS, Among the guests who were instrumental in helping form this company were Captain George W. Lappine who acted as temporary chairman, Chief Martin J. Maher, Trustee William Weed and other officers of the Florida Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, In January of 1936, the first regular meeting was held and the name of "Pulaski Fire Company" was adopted as the name of the Volunteer Fire Company of Pine Island, in honor of Count Casimer Pulaski, a patriot of Poland and America in the Revolutionary War; the bylaws were adopted in April of 1936, and the Pulaski Fire Company was incorporated under the laws of the State of New York as a Volunteer Fire Company in May 1936; and

WHEREAS, The Pulaski Fire Company was accepted as a member of the Orange County Volunteer Firemen's Association in September of 1936, as a member of the Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association in February of 1937, and the Firemen's Association of the State of New York in January of 1939; furthermore, the Department joined the Orange County Mutual Aid Program in November of 1957; and

WHEREAS, The work for the formation of the Pine Island Fire District was undertaken in November of 1936, and in June of the following year, during which time five Fire Commissioners were appointed; and

WHEREAS, The first fire apparatus and siren were purchased in December of 1936, which was temporarily quartered in the blacksmith shop and was later transferred to new quarters in the Pine Island School Bus Garage; the Pulaski Fire Company turned over the fire apparatus to the Pine Island Fire District in June of 1937; and

WHEREAS, In the spring of 1951, the Pulaski Fire Company acquired their present property on Pine Island Turnpike; they turned the deed of the property over to the Pine Island Fire District in the fall of the same year, at which time the building of the firehouse was started; it was completed in the spring of 1952, when the Pulaski Fire Company moved into their new quarters; and

WHEREAS, With a membership of dedicated firefighters, the record of the Pine Island Fire Department in public service and fire protection is one to be envied; for 24 hours a day, for 365 days a year, for 80 years, whenever the alarm sounded, these noble volunteers left their homes and went to the aid of their neighbors; and

WHEREAS, The brave firefighters of the Pine Island Fire Department 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, the Pine Island Fire Department reflects the

history and development of firefighting over the past 80 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 80th Anniversary of the Pine Island Fire Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Pine Island Fire Department.