

## 2015-K1211

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Richard W. Wakeman, LLC upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2016 Business of the Year Award by the Unadilla Chamber of Commerce on April 17, 2016

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to take note of and publicly recognize those businesses within the State of New York which have positively influenced their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Richard W. Wakeman, LLC upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2016 Business of the Year Award by the Unadilla Chamber of Commerce, to be celebrated at its Annual Dinner on Sunday, April 17, 2016, at the Unadilla First United Methodist Church, Unadilla, New York; and

WHEREAS, Richard W. Wakeman, LLC, a local construction company, has been serving the residents of Unadilla, New York, for over five decades; and

WHEREAS, Richard W. Wakeman, affectionately known as Bud, grew up from humble beginnings; after serving his country during World War II, Bud began to work with his father, Rex Wakeman, a master carpenter; and

WHEREAS, Together, the men worked for the Endicott-Johnson Shoe Company, traveling throughout the region to perform various tasks; during this time, Bud W. Wakeman learned the carpentry trade and a stellar work ethic from his hard-working father; and

WHEREAS, In the early 1950s, Bud W. Wakeman decided it was time to stop traveling and settled down in the Sidney/Unadilla, New York, area; he married his wife, Kay in 1954, and started a family, along with his own business; and

WHEREAS, Slowly and surely the business grew and eventually flour-

ished; Bud W. Wakeman started working on small scale projects, and as he became more successful, he completed full scale commercial projects at the Sidney Lutheran Church, Sidney Catholic Church, the Sidney Baptist Church, the Unadilla/Wells Bridge I-88 rest stops, and other local landmarks throughout the Tri-Town area, as well as Norwich, Oneonta, and Vestal, New York; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the years, Bud W. and Kay Wakeman's children grew up and began to work in the family business; however, only the middle three, Dave, Steve, and Robert "Jim" chose to follow in the footsteps of their father; and

WHEREAS, Dave Wakeman chose the path of a carpenter just as his father and his father before him; Steve Wakeman learned the masonry trade, laying, setting, and pouring of stone; and Jim Wakeman, the youngest of the trio, became a machine operator; and

WHEREAS, Upon seeing the interest his three middle sons possessed in their chosen fields, Bud W. Wakeman decided to incorporate his business in 1974, and it became known as Richard W. Wakeman, Inc.; the business continued to grow with each passing year until 1980, when Bud suffered a stroke; and

WHEREAS, As Bud W. Wakeman began the slow recovery process of having to relearn how to do almost everything, Jim Wakeman was busy learning the basics of the construction industry; after Bud's recovery, he began working side by side with his son; as the stream of work became steady once again, Dave and Steve Wakeman returned to work in the family business; and

WHEREAS, In the mid-1980's Jim Wakeman became the sole owner of Richard W. Wakeman, Inc., with the rock solid foundation laid for him by his

father; under his leadership, the business grew and expanded, accepting larger and larger projects with each passing year; and

WHEREAS, In 1994, Jim Wakeman formed Richard W. Wakeman, LLC which became a licensed Butler Builder, a pre-fabricated metal building system

which only allows a franchise to companies that fill a long list of requirements and criteria; their Butler Buildings, such as the Sidney High School Bus garage, Trout Creek Fire Department, Guilford Highway Garage, and a building at Egli's Machine Company are located throughout the area; and

WHEREAS, In recent years, Richard W. Wakeman, LLC has completed projects for ACCO Brands, Johnston Circle Springbrook Residences, Pathfinder Village Medical Clinic, SFCU Oneonta and the Oxford Veterans Home Storage; and

WHEREAS, Recently, Jim Wakeman has begun to teach his son, Jesse and his wife, Korinne, all of his vast knowledge relating to the field, skills that could never be bought; today, Jesse and Korinne Wakeman help operate the business with Jim; and

WHEREAS, Looking into the future, Richard W. Wakeman, LLC will continue advancing with competency and professionalism in the field of commercial construction offering their skills in carpentry, masonry, excavation, as well as numerous others to all who require them; and

WHEREAS, A third generation-owned business, Richard W. Wakeman, LLC has always tried to give back by donating to numerous local charities including Catskill Area Hospice, Toys for Tots, local Chamber of Commerce activities, Operation Merry Christmas, local food banks, local schools, Dollars for Scholars, and the Sidney Memorial Veterans Park that is set to open Memorial Day weekend; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Richard W. Wakeman, LLC prefers to buy materials from lumber yards in Sidney and Sidney Center, as well as a variety of local stores in the surrounding area; they also hire local union workers and local sub-contractors to complete areas of construction that they do not specialize in; and

WHEREAS, The success of Richard W. Wakeman, LLC is in direct correlation to the efforts of its staff, whose involvement is, and always has been characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all endeavors on behalf

of the business and the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, It is with great pleasure that this Legislative Body acknowledges Richard W. Wakeman, LLC's success, recognizes its contributions to the local and State economies, and extends its highest commendation to the business and its employees, fully confident that, in its future, it

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will enjoy the same sparkling success which has so characterized its past; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Richard W. Wakeman, LLC upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2016 Business of the Year Award by the Unadilla Chamber of Commerce; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Jim and Doreen Wakeman and Jesse and Korinne Wakeman, co-Owners, Richard W. Wakeman, LLC.