

## 2015-J6456

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of The Honorable William M. Larsen, renowned public servant, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to mourn publicly the death of certain prominent individuals whose valued contributions to their community and their profession served to enhance the quality of life in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, William M. Larsen, Mayor of Interlaken, New York, died on Wednesday, May 18th, 2016, at the age of 68; and

WHEREAS, William M. Larsen was born in Auburn, New York, on February 22nd, 1948 to the late Laverne and Ruth Phillips Larsen; and

WHEREAS, After graduating from Interlaken High School in 1966, William M. Larsen began his long and industrious career as a mental health therapy aide at Sampson State Hospital; he then transferred to Willard State Hospital where he worked until his retirement; and

WHEREAS, In addition, William M. Larsen served as a rural mail carrier for the Interlaken Post Office, retiring after 20 years of service; and

WHEREAS, From 1978 -1982, William M. Larsen served as a Trustee for the Village of Interlaken; well-liked and respected by his neighbors, he was then elected to the esteemed position of Mayor of Interlaken, a title he held for 34 consecutive years; and

WHEREAS, In this leadership capacity, Mayor William M. Larsen not only brought his expertise to every task, he brought his passion, enthusiasm and experience; and

WHEREAS, Mayor William M. Larsen truly embodied the role of public servant, serving the Village of Interlaken, the State of New York and the Federal Government; and

WHEREAS, When he was not serving his constituents, Mayor William M.

Larsen worked as a general contractor, cooked at the local Quick Shoppe and was very active with the Community Action Group; and

WHEREAS, A man of many interests and passions, Mayor William M. Larsen enjoyed spending time outdoors, toiling in his garden and feeding the birds, squirrels and other stray animals; he also liked to make objects out of wood, watch NASCAR races and cheer for his beloved Yankees; and

WHEREAS, Above all, Mayor William M. Larsen loved his family and friends; he visited and drank coffee with his friends in the morning and relished inviting his family to come home for gatherings and events; and

WHEREAS, Predeceased by son-in-law, Frank; a stepson, Jimmy "Peaches"; and a granddaughter, Sierra, Mayor William M. Larsen is survived by his wife of 41 years, Patricia; their daughter, Karrie (Brad); his four stepchildren, Regina, Bobby (Tina), Jeff (Karen) and Danielle (Ken); 11 grandchildren; one great-grandson; two brothers, Robert (Cathy) and James and five sisters, Sandra, Margaret, Helen, Carol and Mary (Ken); as well as a very large extended family; and

WHEREAS, Mayor William M. Larsen was sincerely loved and greatly respected by all those with whom he worked; committed to his community, the people he represented, his State and his Nation; he served his public with dignity, dedication and incisive wisdom; and

WHEREAS, Over a long and meritorious life of service on behalf of others, Mayor William M. Larsen was a man of action, integrity and commitment, whose true compassion was generously given to all who knew him; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Mayor William M. Larsen leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of The Honorable William M. Larsen, renowned public servant, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community; and

be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of The Honorable William M. Larsen.