

2015-K375

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the Bloomingburg Fire Company to be celebrated on April 25, 2015

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

WHEREAS, With a membership of dedicated firefighters, the record of the Bloomingburg Fire Company 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 Bloomingburg Fire Company 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 Bloomingburg Fire Company reflects the history and development of firefighting over the past 80 years; and

WHEREAS, On February 15, 1935, the Bloomingburg Fire Company was organized, and has continually improved and expanded over the years; and

WHEREAS, The Bloomingburg Fire Company's first firehouse was a former ice house on North Street and was leased for eight dollars per month; while renting this small and inadequate truck house, members were

constantly raising money towards the goal of purchasing property for a more appropriate building; and

WHEREAS, On July 31, 1939, the Bloomingburg Fire Company became incorporated; one month later, they purchased a piece of property, now the Jeff Bank, with four buildings, two of which were stores; one store, a barn and an ice house were torn down, and the remaining store, under the supervision and work of Howard Taylor, was converted into a fire house that was used until 1964; and

WHEREAS, As soon as the Bloomingburg Fire Company was well established they had thoughts of expanding from the Village to a Fire District; on December 7, 1960, the Bloomingburg Joint Fire District was established, including the Village of Bloomingburg, an expanded area in the Town of Mamakating and a portion of the Town of Wallkill, Orange County, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Bloomingburg Fire Company turned over their property and equipment to the Bloomingburg Joint Fire District; in return, the newly formed District provided necessary housing, equipment and maintenance for the firefighters, under a tax structure; and

WHEREAS, The Bloomingburg Fire Company is comprised of three organizations, including the Bloomingburg Joint Fire District, Bloomingburg Fire Company No. 1 and the Bloomingburg Ladies Auxiliary; and

WHEREAS, In 2009, the Bloomingburg Fire Company moved into its new 15,300 square foot state-of-the-art firehouse; and

WHEREAS, Today, the Bloomingburg Fire Company is comprised of dedicated volunteers who provide numerous services to the Bloomingburg Joint Fire District, including cellar pump outs, extraction of victims at traffic accidents, resuscitator calls, and search and rescue efforts for

lost persons; it also provides, on a reciprocal basis, the same services to neighboring communities through the County Mutual Aid System; and

WHEREAS, The officers and members of the Bloomingburg Fire Company also teach educational programs concerning home safety for any group,

and conduct tours of the fire house and demonstrate how to use their specialized fire equipment; and

WHEREAS, The current officers of the Bloomingburg Fire Company are President, Steve Schwartz; Vice President, Kevin McGowan; Secretary, Diedra Angley; and Treasurer, Larry Arnold; and

WHEREAS, Jon Gillen, John Besson, Larry Arnold, Brian Hultslander, Bill Tobin, Rob Brinckerhoff, and Garry Call Sr. make up the Bloomingburg Fire Company Board of Directors; 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 Bloomingburg Fire Company to be celebrated at its Annual Dinner on April 25, 2015; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to President Steve Schwartz, Bloomingburg Fire Company.