

2017-J3346

Senate Resolution No. 3346

BY: Senator BONACIC

COMMEMORATING the 70th Anniversary of the Westbrookville Volunteer Fire Company celebrated on September 24, 2017

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the Westbrookville Volunteer Fire Company and to honor its past and present firefighting members for 70 years of fire protection to the citizens of Westbrookville, New York, and its surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, This momentous milestone was celebrated at an Open House at the firehouse on Sunday, September 24, 2017; during the festivities, eight active firefighters were honored for their many years of dedicated service to the Westbrookville Volunteer Fire Company; and

WHEREAS, Fire departments are an integral part of community protection services in every locality of our State; during the past 70 years, the courageous and devoted firefighters of the Westbrookville Volunteer 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 Westbrookville Volunteer Fire Company in public service and fire

protection is one to be envied; for 24 hours a day, for 365 days a year, for 70 years, whenever the alarm sounded, these noble volunteers left their homes and went to the aid of their neighbors; and

WHEREAS, Formed in 1947, and later incorporated in 1949, the Westbrookville Volunteer Fire Company is part of Sullivan County's Battalion 5; the Company provides fire protection, rescue and BLS First Response to the Westbrookville Fire Protection District in the Town of Mamakating; and

WHEREAS, Within the rural residential area, 20 firefighters, and one junior firefighter protect many large undeveloped areas, US Route 209 and New York State Public Recreational Land; in addition, an active Ladies Auxiliary of 22 members provides an invaluable service to the fire department and community; and

WHEREAS, Each year, the Westbrookville Volunteer Fire Company responds to approximately 70-80 emergency calls; due to a significant rise in motor vehicle accidents, the Company purchased its first set of hydraulic rescue tools in 2006; and

WHEREAS, The skilled firefighters of the Westbrookville Volunteer Fire Company are well trained in Wildland Search and Rescue, and subsequently, have made several successful wildland rescues over the last few years; and

WHEREAS, The Westbrookville Volunteer Fire Company houses five pieces of apparatus including an engine/rescue, tanker/engine, light rescue, mini-pumper, brush rig and a SUV; and

WHEREAS, The Company, along with the Ladies Auxiliary, holds two

major annual fund raising events; every Christmas and Easter the Auxiliary hosts fun holiday parties for the local children; and

WHEREAS, Firefighters of the Westbrookville Volunteer Fire Company attend monthly meetings and actively participate in drills on various Sunday mornings and Tuesday evenings; in 2007, the steadfast members of the Company attended more than 300 hours of training; and

WHEREAS, The brave firefighters of the Westbrookville Volunteer 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 Westbrookville Volunteer Fire Company reflects the history and development of firefighting over the past 70 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 70th Anniversary of the Westbrookville Volunteer Fire Company celebrated on September 24, 2017; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Westbrookville Volunteer Fire Company.