

BY: Senator KAPLAN

COMMENDING ex-Chief Paul Gerner upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to the New Hyde Park Fire Department

WHEREAS, The firefighters of New York State are renowned throughout the Nation; their reputation is synonymous with excellence in the arduous field of fire protection and prevention; and

WHEREAS, Since the early days of "teapot steamers," the volunteer firefighter has been the cornerstone of our great Nation's efforts to spare us from the ravages of fire; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to commend outgoing ex-Chief Paul Gerner upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to the New Hyde Park Fire Department to be celebrated at its Annual Inspection Dinner on Saturday, May 14, 2022, at Crest Hollow Country Club, Woodbury, New York; and

WHEREAS, Paul Gerner was appointed membership to the New Hyde Park Fire Department on August 22, 1972, where he served as Deputy Chief and Chief of the Department; he has also been an active member of the Estates Engine Company No. 3, serving as Captain, 1st and 2nd Lieutenant as well as Company Secretary; and

WHEREAS, Volunteer firefighters and fire departments not only provide the critical service of fire protection but also engage in other activities of great benefit and importance to the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, It takes a special dedication, a strong desire to help others and a tireless sense of community to forsake precious time with family and friends to respond to the signal that a neighbor is in need; Joseph Papa is one such firefighter; throughout his five decades of devoted service, this volunteer heroically performed, above and beyond the call of duty, those responsibilities which define the task of fire protection; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend ex-Chief Paul Gerner for 50 years of distinguished service to the New Hyde Park Fire Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to ex-Chief Paul Gerner.