

BY: M. of A. Hawley

COMMEMORATING the 200th Anniversary of the Town of
Newstead, New York

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to honor and commemorate the distinguished histories of the communities which comprise the noble body of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 200th Anniversary of the Town of Newstead, New York; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1823 and located in the northeastern corner of Erie County in Western New York, the Town of Newstead is a rural community with over 40% of the area devoted to agriculture; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Newstead is split in two by a unique geographical feature, the Onondaga escarpment, and a portion of the Tonawanda Indian Reservation is in the northeastern corner of the Town; and

WHEREAS, The Town government headquarters is located in the Village of Akron, and as of the 2010 Census, the population is estimated just below 9,000; and

WHEREAS, Throughout its history, elected officials held meetings in town halls in various locations; in the 1900s, they met at a location on the east side of Buffalo Street between Main and John Streets, and then moved to the corner of Church and John Streets in the Village where it stayed until 2005; in 2004, the Town purchased the old Strippit training center located at 5 Clarence Center Road and converted it into the current Town Hall, where it remains today; and

WHEREAS, During the 1970s, the Town Seal was created by Lanis Ritecz and assisted by Supervisor Kelsey Webster and Board member Terry Newcomb, and in 2015, it was replaced with a symbol of a white pine and headdress with a single feather that more accurately portrayed a headdress worn by the local Tribesmen; and

WHEREAS, Through a period of uncertainty, the Board took several measures to help guide the future of the Town; it developed its first Town Master Plan, bought vacant land through grant money for future use, started to expand the water districts and purchased the rights to various abandoned railroads; and

WHEREAS, The railroad property has enhanced the Town by improving electric service to the Village, and the construction of a bike path which extends all the way to the Town of Clarence in two locations; and

WHEREAS, The Town also partnered with other municipalities and businesses to make its community a better place for its residents to

live, work and play; three Town Sewer Districts, a refuse district, and both a Conservation Advisory Committee and a Library Committee were created; currently, the Town is predominately watered through the Erie County Water Authority; and

WHEREAS, In 2011, the Town Highway Department and Village Department of Public Works moved into a new Joint Municipal Facility together under one roof at 12707 Clarence Center Road; today, the Highway Department efficiently maintains its roads with help from both Erie County and New York State; and

WHEREAS, Remaining fruitful over the ebb and flow of decades of growth and change, the Town of Newstead continues its commitment to enhancing the quality of life of its citizens, ensuring a positive business, institutional and educational climate, and providing all essential services; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 200th Anniversary of the Town of Newstead, New York, recognizing the significance of the role it continues to play in the life of the community of the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to David L. Cummings, Supervisor, Town of Newstead.