

**BY:** Senator RANZENHOFER

**COMMEMORATING** the 100th Anniversary of East  
Amherst Fire Department, Inc. on September 14, 2019

**WHEREAS,** This Legislative Body is proud to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the East Amherst Fire Department, Inc. and to honor its past and present firefighting members for 100 years of fire protection to the citizens of East Amherst, New York, and its surrounding communities; and

**WHEREAS,** This auspicious milestone will be observed at a Centennial Celebration on Saturday, September 14, 2019, at East Amherst Fire Hall Station No. 1; and

**WHEREAS,** The East Amherst Fire Department was organized in 1919 by a group of local residents, who, sharing a mutual concern for fire protection, purchased an American LaFrance No. 11 chemical fire engine two-wheeled pull-cart with money from their own pockets; this group was led by Philip P. Paultler and the Muegel Brothers, George, Christian, and Louis; and

**WHEREAS,** The first meeting of record of the East Amherst Fire Company was held on March 6, 1920, and the company was officially incorporated in 1927; and

**WHEREAS,** With donations, benefits, and dedicated work, the East Amherst Fire Company purchased a piece of land on which to build a fire hall by June of 1920; the first house was reconstructed from an old roller skating rink which was located on the west side of Transit Road approximately one-quarter mile north of Muegel Road; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1922, the East Amherst Fire Company acquired its first motorized apparatus, a Brockway Motor Fire Truck, Model E-2; in July of 1939, the Transit Fire Company approved the purchase of a new fire engine to be built by Cayasler Manufacturing Corporation of Buffalo, New York; and

**WHEREAS,** On November 17, 1940, the Transit Fire Company fire hall was completely destroyed by fire, however, within a year, a new two-story masonry structure was built on the same lot; and

**WHEREAS,** Through the years, the rural farmlands of the East Amherst area gradually became a sprawling urban community and the fire company constantly strived to upgrade its equipment and improve its service; in 1953, the first ambulance, a 1942 GMC, was purchased by the Ladies Auxiliary, and in June of 1948, the Transit Fire Company purchased the Muegel Inn located on Transit and Muegel Roads; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1962, the old buildings on Transit and Muegel Roads were demolished and replaced with a new one; 10 years later, the fire company acquired a plot of land to construct a second fire station to better

service the community, and the building became Transit Fire Company Station No. 2; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1988, Station No. 1 was extended and remodeled, and on April 1, 1992, the Transit Fire Company Inc. was renamed the East Amherst Fire Department, Inc.; once again in 2003, Station No. 1 was completely renovated and expanded; and

**WHEREAS,** Fire departments are an integral part of community protection services in every locality of our State; during the past 100 years, the courageous and devoted firefighters of the East Amherst Fire Department 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 East Amherst Fire Department in public service and fire protection is one to be envied; for 24 hours a day, for 365 days a year, for 100 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 East Amherst Fire Department 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 East Amherst Fire Department reflects the history and development of firefighting over the past 100 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 100th Anniversary of East Amherst Fire Department, Inc. on September 14, 2019; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to East Amherst Fire Department, Inc.