**Village of Castleton-on-Hudson**

**Resolution of the Village Board of Trustees**

**Resolution Number: 2024-3**

*In the matter of amending the Length of Service Award Program*

WHEREAS, eligible voting residents of the Village of Castleton-on-Hudson approved a referendum to establish a defined contribution Length of Service Award Program (a “LOSAP”) for active volunteer firefighter members of the Castleton Fire Company in accordance with Article 11-A of the New York State General Municipal Law (GML); and

WHEREAS, the Village is the LOSAP Sponsor and Program Administrator; and

WHEREAS, GML § 216 authorizes the Village, as LOSAP Sponsor, to amend the LOSAP; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 474 of the Laws of 2019 amended GML § 218 to increase the maximum annual service award contribution that may be earned by a participating firefighter in a LOSAP from $700 to $1,200; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board desires to increase the annual service award contribution; and

WHEREAS, this increase is consistent with the intent of the LOSAP to recruit, retain and reward volunteer firefighters; NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

 RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Castleton-on-Hudson, Town of Schodack, County of Rensselaer, as authorized by Article 11-A of the GML, approves an amendment to the LOSAP by increasing the annual service award contribution from $900 to $1,000 effective January 1, 2025. The service award contribution will remain $800 for service credit earned in calendar year 2023, $900 for service credit earned in calendar year 2024, and be increased to $1,000 for service credit earned in calendar years beginning on or after January 1, 2025. It is expected that as many as 20 volunteer firefighters will participate and earn a contribution, making the cost of this amendment $2,000, or an increase from $18,000 to $20,000, plus annual administrative expenses of $2,250, which will not change.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the LOSAP shall continue to be administered by the Village and that all other provisions of the LOSAP shall remain the same.

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution is subject to a mandatory referendum of qualified voters of the Village of Castleton-on-Hudson and said referendum shall be held on March 19, 2024, between the hours of 12:00 PM and 9:00 PM (prevailing time) at 85 South Main Street, Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033.

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proposition placed before the qualified voters read as follows:

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF CASTLETON-ON-HUDSON, TOWN OF SCHODACK, COUNTY OF RENSSELAER, IN A RESOLUTION ADOPTED FEBRUARY26, 2024, APPROVED THE AMENDMENT OF THE LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE VILLAGE AND ESTABLISHED FOR ACTIVE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER MEMBERS OF THE CASTLETON FIRE COMPANY TO INCREASE THE ANNUAL SERVICE AWARD CONTRIBUTION MADE FOR SERVICE CREDIT EARNED BY PARTICIPATING FIREFIGHTERS FROM $900 TO $1,000 EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025. ALL OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE PROGRAM SHALL NOT CHANGE.

THE ESTIMATED COST OF THE CURRENT PROGRAM IS $18,000, WHICH IS $900 PER ELIGIBLE FIREFIGHTER, PLUS AN ANNUAL ADMINISTRATIVE COST OF $2,250. BASED ON CURRENT FIREFIGHTER PARTICIPATION, THE ANNUAL COST OF THE AMENDED PROGRAM IS ESTIMATED TO BE $20,000, OR $1,000 PER ELIGIBLE FIREFIGHTER, PLUS AN ANNUAL ADMINISTRATIVE COST OF $2,250.

SHALL THE STATED RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES BE APPROVED?

Mayor Keegan raised the motion to approve, Trustee Timerman seconded the motion, and upon roll call the vote of the Board was as follows:

Mayor Keegan Aye

Trustee Pratico Aye

Trustee D’Aquanni Aye

Trustee Timerman Aye

Trustee Bai Aye

The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted. Dated: 2/26/24