

NOTICE OF ANNUAL ELECTION
CHESTER FIRE DISTRICT

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Annual Election of the Chester Fire District will take place on December 8, 2020, between the hours of 6:00 P.M. and 9:00 P.M. at the Sugar Loaf firehouse located at 1408 Kings Highway, Chester, New York for the following purposes:

To elect one (1) Fire District Commissioner for a five (5) year term commencing January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2025; and

To vote upon the following proposition:

PROPOSITION

**FOR SUBMISSION TO ELECTORS OF THE
CHESTER FIRE DISTRICT**

**REFERENDUM ON THE AMENDMENT OF THE SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM FOR
ACTIVE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER MEMBERS OF THE
CHESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

BOARD RESOLUTION OF THE CHESTER FIRE DISTRICT ("FIRE DISTRICT") IN THE COUNTY OF ORANGE, NEW YORK, ADOPTED OCTOBER 20, 2020, AUTHORIZING THE AMENDMENT EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2021 OF THAT CERTAIN BOARD RESOLUTION DATED JULY 11, 1991, APPROVED BY THE ELECTORS OF THE FIRE DISTRICT ON AUGUST 27, 1991 WHICH ESTABLISHED A DEFINED BENEFIT SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM FOR THE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS OF THE FIRE COMPANIES COMPRISING THE CHESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT, TO WIT: WALTON ENGINE & HOSE CO. NO. 1, INC.; SUGAR LOAF ENGINE COMPANY #1, INC.; AND TROUT BROOK ENGINE & HOSE COMPANY 3, INC.

WHICH RESOLUTION WAS AMENDED BY BOARD RESOLUTION DATED NOVEMBER 6, 2000, APPROVED BY THE ELECTORS OF THE FIRE DISTRICT ON DECEMBER 12, 2000.

IF APPROVED, THE AMENDMENT EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2021 WILL:

- RETAIN THE ENTITLEMENT AGE OF SIXTY-TWO (62) YEARS;
- INCREASE THE MONTHLY SERVICE AWARD PAYMENT BEGINNING AT ENTITLEMENT AGE FROM TWENTY DOLLARS (\$20.00) TO THIRTY DOLLARS (\$30.00) FOR EACH YEAR OF QUALIFIED SERVICE AFTER JANUARY 1, 2021;
- INCREASE THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF SERVICE YEARS THAT CAN BE EARNED BY A VOLUNTEER UNDER THE PROGRAM FROM THIRTY (30) YEARS TO (40) YEARS;

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- ALLOW THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF THE FIRE DISTRICT TO AMEND, REVISE OR OTHERWISE CHANGE THE POINT SYSTEM, PROSPECTIVELY ONLY, UNDER WHICH A YEAR OF SERVICE CREDIT IS EARNED;
- INCREASE THE ESTIMATED ANNUAL COST OF THE SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM FROM ONE HUNDRED SIXTY SEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$167,000.00) TO TWO HUNDRED FORTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$240,000.00), WHICH INCLUDES AN ESTIMATED ANNUAL ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF SEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$7,000.00), BASED ON THE EXISTING NUMBER OF FIREFIGHTERS;
- INCREASE THE ESTIMATED ANNUAL PER PARTICIPANT COST FROM ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED NINETY-THREE DOLLARS (\$1,193.00) TO ONE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,400.00), BASED ON THE EXISTING NUMBER OF FIREFIGHTERS;
- INCREASE THE MAXIMUM MONTHLY BENEFIT UNDER THE PROGRAM FROM EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$800.00) TO ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,200.00), BASED UPON A MAXIMUM OF FORTY (40) YEARS OF QUALIFIED SERVICE.

FURTHER, THE BOARD RESOLUTION OF OCTOBER 20, 2020 APPROPRIATES SAID AMOUNTS THEREFORE, STATES THAT ALL OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM, AS AMENDED, WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT, STATES THAT DEATH AND DISABILITY PAYMENTS ARE AUTHORIZED TO COMMENCE ON JANUARY 1, 2021 AND REGULAR DEFINED BENEFIT AWARD PAYMENTS ARE AUTHORIZED TO COMMENCE ONE YEAR THEREAFTER, AND STATES THAT THE FAILURE OF THE AMENDMENT TO BE APPROVED BY THE VOTERS OF THE FIRE DISTRICT WILL IN NO WAY AFFECT THE PROVISIONS OF THE SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM PRESENTLY IN EFFECT.

THEREFORE, SHALL THE STATED RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE CHESTER FIRE DISTRICT SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM BE APPROVED?

All residents of the Chester Fire District, who are duly registered to vote with the Orange County Board of Elections on or before November 16, 2020 shall be entitled to vote at this election.

Any person desiring to have his or her name appear on the ballot for the above office must have filed a petition, signed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified electors of the Fire District, with the Secretary of the Fire District, not later than November 18, 2020.

ELIZABETH A. REILLY, SECRETARY
CHESTER FIRE DISTRICT