# **Goshen Fire District**

# **Meeting Minutes**

March 16, 2023

# I. Call to order:

Chairman Turi called to order the regular meeting of the Goshen Fire District at 7:00 PM on March 16, 2023 in Goshen, NY. Unless otherwise stated, all of the resolutions/motions were approved by unanimous vote of the commissioners present and such persons were present during each vote unless otherwise indicated.

#### II. Attendees:

The following people were present: Chairman Turi, Commissioner Donnelly, Commissioner Pearson, Commissioner Mendres, Secretary Roberts, Chief Wade, Past Chief Budd, Captain Gambuti

Absent: Treasurer Keeley, Commissioner Shovlin, Assistant Chief Easop, Assistant Chief Graham

# III. Approval of minutes from last meeting:

A motion was made by Commissioner Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Mendres to approve the minutes of the monthly meeting held on February 16, 2023. All Commissioners present in favor. One Commissioner absent. Motion passed.

# IV. Correspondence:

- Received from Penflex the estimates for changes to our LOSAP Program.
- Sent letters to Senator Skoufis and Assemblyman Maher with regards to Exit 124W and bill S8962.
- Received an email from the National Fallen Firefighers Foundation. The next Memorial weekend is May 6 and 7. Asking that we put our lights on and leave them on for the weekend.
- Received an e-mail from the Town of Goshen with the amounts that we are owed for the Glen Arden Pilot Tax. This was sent to OCNYIDA. Gave to Darlene to file with Glen Arden paperwork.
- Received a letter from Senator Skoufis thanking us for sending our letter of support for Bill S8692
- Received a DEC report on the wetlands next to Station 3 with regards to the building that was going on there.

# V. <u>Treasurer Report</u>: Given by Secretary Roberts

A motion was made by Commissioner Mendres and seconded by Commissioner Pearson to approve Abstracts 2 and 3 consisting of vouchers 867 to 906 for a total amount of \$134,541.22. All Commissioners present in favor. Motion passed.

Cash Receipts: US Treasury \$94.45

#### **VI. Commissioners Reports:**

# Commissioner Pearson:

- 10 Truck Checks done, no major issues, refilled necessary fluids.
- 931 Added DEF.
- 932 Added DEF. Repaired small coolant leak.
- 933 No Report.
- 934 Added DEF.

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- 935 NYSI
- 936 Added DEF. Looked for light issue that occurs when warning lights are on. Problem not experienced.
- 937 Repaired washer hose. Ordered on board compressor.
- 938 Replaced reverse light.
- 939 Recommend battery replacement due to age.
- 941 NYSI. Front sway bar links to be replaced.
- DC Car NYSI

# Commissioner Shovlin: Absent

#### Commissioner Mendres:

• Car 1 sent pictures to McNeil so repairs can be done.

# Commissioner Donnelly:

# Station 1

- Sensor in front of 937 were broken and have been repaired.
- Waterlines and hose reels have been installed.
- Power Box had to be rescheduled due to snow storm
- All interior doors have been realigned/fixed.
- Leaking pipes were fixed in meeting room
- Stair treads have been purchased and will be installed by maintenance man.
- Washing machine is not working. Have contacted HK
- Ice filter installed upstairs.
- Radio Room baseboard cover installed.

#### Station 2

- D-Ben and Roger are trying to fix the key fob issue. Problem seems to be the boxes
  were installed in the ceiling and no one seems to know where. Thought they were all
  fixed but will check with Roger again to see if we can find any other boxes. D-Ben says it
  is definitely tech not the key fob pads.
- Hose reels to be installed.
- Interior doors were realigned/fixed.
- Bay heaters were not working. One closest to the thermostat replaced the ignitor. Heater closest to the workshop needs a new fan motor.

# Station 3

- Had the mandatory meeting on March 14. Ward and Triple R showed up. Since it was the snow storm some vendors called and asked if there will be another one. Will schedule for March 28, 2023 at 10:00
- Hose reel installed.
- Ice machine installed
- Plumber will be here Friday 3/17 to fixed the toilet sensor in bays and the knocking noise.
- MC Fire Protection fixed the valve.
- Schnidler was here to fix the elevator.
- Interior doors were realigned/fixed and some new door stops installed.
- The tiles were fixed in the downstairs kitchen. The moldy boards were replaced as well as new kick plates.

#### Commissioner Turi:

 LOSAP points have been taken down and Secretary Roberts will send all paperwork to Penflex.

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#### VII. Chief's Reports

#### Chief Wade:

- Fire Calls February 2023, Fire-39, Rescue-8, Total 47, YTD-72
- Will start utilizing on-line training from McNeil and Company (sexual harassment/OSHA).
   Will still hold them in person but this will help anyone that can't make the drills.

Assistant Chief Easop: Absent

Assistant Chief Graham: Absent

# VIII. Old Business:

 Secretary Roberts has all the ethics forms and will contact the Ethics Committee to review them.

#### IX. New Business:

 Upon a motion made by Commissioner Mendres and seconded by Commissioner Donnelly to allow the following members to attend the Convention in Harrisburg on May 19-20, 2023:

Richard Pearson, Charles Gambuti, Joe DeNisco, Rory Pettus. They will be using 933. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioners Turi, Pearson, Donnelley and Mendres voted yes. Commissioner Shovelin was absent. Motion passed. (Attachment A).

 Upon a motion made by Commissioner Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Donnelly to accept the attached resolutions be presented to the public for the FF Property Tax Exemption:

Active Firefighters/Lifetime Firefighters/Un-Remarried Spouses of deceased Firefighters

A roll call vote was taken. Commissioners Turi, Pearson, Donnelley and Mendres voted yes. Commissioner Shovelin was absent. Motion passed. (Attachments B, C, D).

- A motion was made by Commissioner Mendres and seconded by Commissioner Pearson to hold public hearing will be held on April 17, 2023 at 7:30 to discuss the 10% FF Property Tax Exemption. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioners Turi, Pearson, Donnelley and Mendres voted yes. Commissioner Shovelin was absent. Motion passed. (Attachment E).
- Chief Wade presented a Joint Staffing Proposal between Washingtonville/Chester/Goshen
  in an effort to increase staffing/response to incidents within each fire district listed. He asked
  that a commissioner accompany him to the next meeting as a representative of the Board.
  Commissioner Pearson will be the Commissioner representing the board.

# X. Public Participation: None

# XI. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Commissioner Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Mendres to adjourn at 8:10 PM. All Commissioners present in favor. One Commissioner absent. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen A. Roberts Secretary

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# RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE VOLUNTEER TO ATTEND TRAINING SCHOOL AND INSTRUCTIONAL COURSES OUT OF STATE

# DATE OF RESOLUTION March 16, 2023

WHEREAS, General Municipal Law §72-g authorizes volunteer members of the department to attend training schools or courses of instruction for firefighters out of New York State provided the fire chief authorizes such training, and such authorization is subject to the rules or regulations made by the Board of Fire Commissioners, and the Board of Fire Commissioners makes certain determination in regard to such training of course of instruction

WHEREAS, when the training school or the offered course is located outside New York State, The authorization to attend the school or conference must receive prior approval of the Board of Fire Commissioners, and

The Board of Fire Commissioners must find that the training course or school of instruction is: necessary;

in the public interest; and

not available within a reasonable distance and time period in New York State.

WHEREAS, before this Board of Fire Commissioners is a request by Chief Wade that the following volunteers with the Goshen Fire Department to attend training outside of New York State at Harrisburg, PA for the Annual Fire Convention on Friday, May 19 thru Saturday, May 20, 2023. The firefighters are: Richard Pearson, Charles Gambuti, Joe DiNisco, Rory Pettus. They will use 933

NOW THEREFORE, the request before the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Goshen Fire District makes the following findings:

The training course or school of instruction is necessary for the volunteer; It is in the public interest that the volunteer attend such training; and Said training is not available within a reasonable distance and time period in New York State.

ACCORDINGLY, The request by the above listed name(s) of volunteer(s) with the Goshen Fire Department to attend the above listed outside of New York State training at the above location is granted subject to the rules and regulations established by this Board of Fire commissioners.

FURTHERMORE, the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control must receive notification and proof of attendance of any out-of-state training school from the fire chief. (This reporting form is available at <a href="http://www.dos.state.ny.us/fire/firewww.html">http://www.dos.state.ny.us/fire/firewww.html</a>.)

Commission	ner Donnelly		
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# **RESOLUTION OF THE**

# GOSHEN FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

# PURSUANT TO REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW §466-A TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER A TAX EXEMPTION FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the residents of the Goshen Fire District to recruit and retain volunteer firefighters to provide emergency services to the District; and,

WHEREAS, the Real Property Tax Law §466-a was amended in 2022 to provide local governing bodies, including fire districts, with the authority to provide real property tax exemptions, subject to limitations, to volunteer firefighters for, among other things, recruitment and retention purposes; and,

WHEREAS, Real Property Tax Law §466-a provides that up to 10% of the assessed value of a property owned, or co-owned, in the Fire District by a volunteer firefighter may be exempted from the Fire District's taxes if the volunteer firefighter meets, in accordance with the law, the criteria set forth in **EXHIBIT A**, attached hereto; and,

WHEREAS, the Fire District proposes to provide an exemption of 10% of the assessed value of a property owned, or co-owned, in the Fire District by a volunteer firefighter if the Exemption Criteria set forth in **EXHIBIT A**, attached hereto, are met; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed Minimum Service Requirement to receive the exemption is set forth in **EXHIBIT A**, attached hereto, and such Minimum Service Requirement is between two (2) to five (5) years in accordance with the law; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed process for certification of a volunteer's status as an enrolled member, and the proposed process for certification of a volunteer's status as meeting the Minimum Service Requirement, is set forth in **EXHBIT B**, attached hereto, and such processes are in accordance with the law.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED**, that the Board of Fire Commissioners of Goshen Fire District will hold a public hearing on April 17, 2023 at 7:30 pm at 10 Dikeman Drive, Goshen, New York, to consider the proposed exemption of 10% of the assessed value of property owned, or co-owned, in the District by volunteer firefighters that meet the criteria set forth in **EXHBIT A** and are certified in accordance with the processes set forth in **EXHIBIT B**, and to hear all person that are interested in the adoption of such tax exemption;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED** that the Fire District Secretary shall cause a notice, specifying the time and place of the hearing, to be posted on the Fire District sign-board and website at least fifteen (15) days but not more than twenty (20) days, before the hearing in accordance with the notice requirements set forth in Town Law §175-c;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED** that the Fire District Secretary shall provide, in a timely fashion, a notice, specifying the time and place of the hearing, to the Town of Goshen, to be posted on the Town sign-board and website at least fifteen (15) days, but not more than twenty (20) days, before the hearing in accordance with the notice requirements set forth in Town Law §175-c.

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#### **EXHIBIT A**

#### **EXEMPTION CRITERIA**

Real Property Tax Law §466-a provides that up to 10% of the assessed value of a property owned, or coowned, in the Fire District by a volunteer firefighter may be exempted from the Fire District's taxes if the volunteer firefighter meets, in accordance with the law, the criteria below:

- 1. The volunteer is an enrolled active member of an incorporated fire company that serves the town or village in which the Fire District is located and is so certified as an enrolled active member, as determined by the Fire District, by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated fire company; and,
- 2. The volunteer has met the Minimum Service Requirement determined by the Fire District and is so certified, as determined by the Fire District, by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated fire company; and,
- 3. The volunteer resides in the town or village which is served by the incorporated fire company; and,
- 4. The property subject to the exemption is the primary residence of the volunteer; and,
- 5. The portions of the property that are not used exclusively for residential purposes, but are used for other purposes, shall be subject to taxation, and only the remaining portions shall be entitled to the exemption.

# MINIMUM SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

The minimum service requirement upon which the exemption can be granted shall be at least 3 years of active membership, including credit for past service.

Active membership is defined as a volunteer who is subject to call for a firemanic, emergency medical, or other operational assignment which is covered by the VFBL (fire), and who:

- 1. has qualified to receive a year of service credit through the LOSAP Program
- 2. has not experienced a gap in their service of more than 2 continuous years except in the case that the volunteer experienced debilitating injury/disease/illness/military that prevented them from serving.

#### PAST SERVICE

Credit for past service in a fire company or fire companies, fire department or fire departments, or any combination thereof, will be granted if such service occurred in any state, territory, or province of the United States, Indian reservations, and Canada, and the past service meets the current service requirements for an enrolled member of the fire company, fire department of which the individual is a current enrolled member.

Credit for past service will only be granted for such service that occurred, in aggregate, within the last 6 calendar years.

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#### **EXHIBIT B**

#### **CERTIFICATION PROCESS**

# Certifying a volunteer's status as an enrolled member.

A volunteer shall be certified as an enrolled member when such individual has been elected or appointed pursuant to the bylaws of the fire company or fire department, and in the case of a fire company or fire department, such elected individual is approved by the authority having jurisdiction over said fire company or fire department pursuant to New York law.

Proof of such appointments, elections, and if applicable, approvals, shall be presented to the Fire District in the form of a written letter, or certified list, signed by the Chief Operational Officer and/or Secretary of the corporation to the Fire District.

# Certifying a volunteer's status as meeting the minimum service requirement.

A volunteer shall be certified as meeting the minimum service requirements when such individual provides proof to the Fire District in the form of a written letter, or certified list, signed by the Chief Operational Officer and/or Secretary of the corporation in which they are a current enrolled member that certifies that the individual has met the minimum service requirements as defined by the Fire District.

# CERTIFICATION FORM FOR ANNUAL EXEMPTIONS

I, Kathleen A Roberts, being the Secretary of the Goshen Fire District hereby certify to the Fire District pursuant to Real Property Tax Law §466-a, that the individuals listed below are enrolled members, a defined by the Fire District, of this Goshen Fire District, and have met the minimum service requirements a defined by the Fire District, including active membership of at least 3 years, which includes credit for passervice.
. Secretary

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# **RESOLUTION OF THE**

# GOSHEN FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

# PURSUANT TO REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW §466-A TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER A LIFETIME TAX EXEMPTION FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the residents of the Goshen Fire District to recruit and retain volunteer firefighters to provide emergency services to the District; and,

WHEREAS, the Real Property Tax Law §466-a was amended in 2022 to provide local governing bodies, including villages, towns and fire districts, with the authority to provide real property tax exemptions, subject to limitations, to volunteer firefighters for, among other things, recruitment and retention purposes; and,

WHEREAS, Real Property Tax Law §466-a provides that 10% of the assessed value of a property owned, or co-owned, in the Fire District by a volunteer firefighter may be exempted from the Fire District's taxes for the remainder of their life if the volunteer firefighter meets, in accordance with the law, the criteria set forth in **EXHIBIT A**, attached hereto; and,

WHEREAS, the Fire District proposes to provide an exemption of 10% of the assessed value of a property owned, or co-owned, in the Fire District by a volunteer firefighter for the remainder of their life if the Exemption Criteria set forth in **EXHIBIT A**, attached hereto, are met; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed Service Requirement to receive the exemption is set forth in **EXHIBIT A**, attached hereto, and such Service Requirement is more than twenty (20) years in accordance with the law; and.

WHEREAS, the proposed process for certification of a volunteer's status as an enrolled member, and the proposed process for certification of a volunteer's status as meeting the Service Requirement, is set forth in **EXHBIT B**, attached hereto, and such processes are in accordance with the law.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED**, that the Board Of Fire Commissioners of Goshen Fire District will hold a public hearing on April 17, 2023 at 7:30 pm at 10 Dikeman Drive, Goshen, New York, to consider the proposed lifetime exemption of 10% of the assessed value of property owned, or co-owned, in the District by volunteer firefighters that meet the criteria set forth in **EXHBIT A** and are certified in accordance with the processes set forth in **EXHIBIT B**, and to hear all person that are interested in the adoption of such tax exemption;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED** that the Fire District Secretary shall cause a notice, specifying the time and place of the hearing, to be posted on the Fire District sign-board and website at least fifteen (15) days but not more than twenty (20) days, before the hearing in accordance with the notice requirements set forth in Town Law §175-c;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED** that the Fire District Secretary shall provide, in a timely fashion, a notice, specifying the time and place of the hearing, to the Town of Goshen to be posted on the Town sign-board and website at least fifteen (15) days, but not more than twenty (20) days, before the hearing in accordance with the notice requirements set forth in Town Law §175-c.

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# **EXHIBIT A**

# **EXEMPTION CRITERIA**

Real Property Tax Law §466-a provides that 10% of the assessed value of a property owned, or co-owned, in the Fire District by a volunteer firefighter may be exempted from the Fire District's taxes for the remainder of their life if the volunteer firefighter meets, in accordance with the law, the criteria below:

- 6. The volunteer is an enrolled active member of an incorporated fire company that serves the town or village in which the Fire District is located and is so certified as an enrolled active member, as determined by the Fire District, by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated fire company; and,
- 7. The volunteer has met the Service Requirement determined by the Fire District and is so certified, as determined by the Fire District, by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated fire company; and,
- 8. The volunteer resides in the town or village which is served by the incorporated fire company; and,
- 9. The property subject to the exemption is the primary residence of the volunteer; and,
- 10. The portions of the property that are not used exclusively for residential purposes, but are used for other purposes, shall be subject to taxation, and only the remaining portions shall be entitled to the exemption.

# SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

The service requirement upon which the exemption can be granted shall be more than 20 years of active membership, including credit for past service.

Active membership is defined as a volunteer who is subject to call for a firemanic, emergency medical, or other operational assignment which is covered by the VFBL (fire), and who:

3. has qualified to receive a year of service credit through the LOSAP Program

#### PAST SERVICE

Credit for past service in a fire company or fire companies, fire department or fire departments or any combination thereof, will be granted if such service occurred in any state, territory, or province of the United States, Indian reservations, and Canada, and the past service meets the current service requirements for an enrolled member of the fire company, fire department of which the individual is a current enrolled member.

Credit for past service will only be granted for such service that occurred, in aggregate, within the last 30 calendar years.

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#### **EXHIBIT B**

#### **CERTIFICATION PROCESS**

# Certifying a volunteer's status as an enrolled member.

A volunteer shall be certified as an enrolled member when such individual has been elected or appointed pursuant to the bylaws of the fire company or fire department, and in the case of a fire company or fire department, such elected individual is approved by the authority having jurisdiction over said fire company or fire department pursuant to New York law.

Proof of such appointments, elections, and if applicable, approvals, shall be presented to the Fire District in the form of a written letter, or certified list, signed by the Chief Operational Officer and/or Secretary of the corporation to the Fire District.

# Certifying a volunteer's status as meeting the service requirement.

. Secretary

A volunteer shall be certified as meeting the service requirements when such individual provides proof to the Fire District in the form of a written letter, or certified list, signed by the Chief Operational Officer and/or Secretary of the corporation in which they are a current enrolled member that certifies that the individual has met the service requirements as defined by the Fire District.

# CERTIFICATION FORM FOR LIFETIME EXEMPTIONS

I, _Kathleen A Roberts, being the Secretary of the Goshen Fire District hereby certify to the Fire District pursuant to Real Property Tax Law §466-a, that the individuals listed below are enrolled members, as defined by the Fire District, of this Goshen Fire District, and have met the service requirements for the lifetime exemption as defined by the Fire District, including active membership of more than twenty (20)
years, which includes credit for past service.

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#### RESOLUTION OF THE

# GOSHEN FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

# PURSUANT TO REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW §466-A TO PROVIDE TAX RELIEF TO UN-REMARRIED SPOUSES OF DECEASED VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Goshen Fire District, pursuant to Real Property Tax Law §466-a and the limitations included therein, has resolved to offer a tax exemption of up to 10% of the assessed value of certain property owned, or co-owned, in the Goshen Fire District by qualifying volunteer firefighters; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners may continue an annual exemption already being received by a volunteer firefighter to the un-remarried spouse of the volunteer firefighter if the volunteer becomes deceased, and the Annual Exemption Criteria for Un-Remarried Spouses set forth in **EXHIBIT A**, attached hereto, are met; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners may continue a lifetime exemption already being received by a volunteer firefighter to the un-remarried spouse of the volunteer firefighter if the volunteer becomes deceased, and the Lifetime Exemption Criteria for Un-Remarried Spouses set forth in **EXHIBIT A**, attached hereto, are met; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners requires, pursuant to Real Property Tax Law §466-a, that an un-remarried spouse of a deceased volunteer firefighter must first be certified in accordance with the process for certification set forth in EXHIBIT B, attached hereto, before receiving such exemption.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED**, that Board of Fire Commissioners of the Goshen Fire District hereby grants a continuation of a tax exemption of 10% of the assessed property value of property in the Fire District owned, or co-owned, by the un-remarried spouse of a volunteer firefighter that became deceased, provided that the exemption shall only apply to un-remarried spouses that meet the Annual Exemption Criteria for Un-Remarried Spouses as set forth in **EXHIBIT A**, and provided that the exemptions shall only apply to un-remarried spouses that are certified in accordance with the certification processes set forth in **EXHIBIT B**, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED** that the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Goshen Fire District hereby grants a continuation of a tax exemption of 10% of the assessed property value of the property in the Fire District owned, or co-owned, by the un-remarried spouse of a volunteer firefighter at the time of the volunteer's death, provided that the exemption shall only apply to un-remarried spouses that meet the Lifetime Exemption Criteria for Un-Remarried Spouses as set forth in **EXHIBIT A**, and provided that the exemptions shall only apply to un-remarried spouses that are certified in accordance with the certification processes set forth in **EXHIBIT B**, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED** that the Fire District Secretary shall cause copy of this resolution is to be filed with the Town and County Assessors; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED** that the fire district Secretary shall cause copy of this resolution, along with the Certification Form for Un-Remarried Spouses, to be distributed to every fire company, fire department, and voluntary ambulance service located within the Fire District, and to any resident by request.

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#### **EXHIBIT A**

# ANNUAL EXEMPTION CRITERIA FOR UN-REMARRIED SPOUSES

Real Property Tax Law §466-a provides that an annual exemption already being offered to qualifying volunteer firefighters under Real Property Tax Law §466-a may be continued for un-remarried spouses of volunteer firefighters that become deceased in the line of duty if the criteria below, in accordance with the law, are met:

- 11. The deceased volunteer firefighter was already receiving the annual exemption before death; and,
- 12. The deceased volunteer firefighter was an enrolled member, for at least five years, of the fire company or fire department that they were an active enrolled member of at the time of their death; and,
- 13. The deceased volunteer firefighter is so certified by the authority having jurisdiction for the fire company or fire department that the deceased volunteer was an active enrolled member of; and,
- 14. The un-remarried spouse of the volunteer firefighter is certified as the un-remarried spouse of a previously active enrolled member of the fire company or fire department before the volunteer's death.

# LIFETIME EXEMPTION CRITERIA FOR UN-REMARRIED SPOUSES

Real Property Tax Law §466-a provides that a lifetime exemption already being offered to qualifying volunteer firefighters under Real Property Tax Law §466-a may be continued for un-remarried spouses of volunteer firefighters that become deceased if the criteria below, in accordance with the law, are met:

- 1. The deceased volunteer firefighter was already receiving the lifetime exemption for such property before death; and,
- 2. The deceased volunteer firefighter was an enrolled member, for at least twenty years, of the fire company or fire department; and,
- 3. The un-remarried spouse of the volunteer firefighter is certified as the un-remarried spouse of a previously active enrolled member of the fire company or fire department before the volunteer's death.

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#### **EXHIBIT B**

#### **CERTIFICATION PROCESS**

# Certifying an un-remarried spouse of a deceased member.

An un-remarried spouse of a volunteer firefighter shall be certified as an un-remarried spouse of a previously enrolled member when such individual provides proof of their status as being un-remarried to the Chief Operational Officer and/or Secretary of the fire company or fire department and the Chief Operational Officer and/or Secretary provides proof in the form of a written letter, or certified list, signed by them, to the Fire District.

# Certifying a volunteer's status as deceased

A volunteer shall be certified as deceased when the Chief Operating Officer and/or Secretary of the volunteer fire company or fire department provides proof to the Fire District in the form of a written letter, or certified list, signed by the Chief Operational Officer and/or Secretary of the corporation.

# CERTIFICATION FORM FOR EXEMPTIONS FOR UN-REMARRIED SPOUSES

I, Kathleen A Roberts, being the Secretary of the Goshen Fire District hereby certify to the Fire District, pursuant to Real Property Tax Law §466-a, that the individuals listed below are un-remarried spouses of previously enrolled members of this Goshen Fire District.

Additionally, I hereby certify to the Fire District, pursuant to Real Property Tax Law §466-a, that the individuals listed below are previously enrolled members of this Goshen Fire District that became deceased and were, at the time of death, married to the individual listed above.

. Secretary	

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# GOSHEN FIRE DISTRICT LEGAL NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on April 17, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. at the Goshen Fire District Office located at 10 Dikeman Drive, Goshen, NY, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Goshen Fire District, Town of Goshen, County of Orange, New York, will hold a public hearing to consider the proposed exemption of 10% of the assessed value of property owned, or co-owned, in the district by qualifying volunteer firefighters who, among other things, have served for 3 years as a volunteer firefighter or have served for more than twenty (20) years as a volunteer firefighter and for un-remarried spouses of volunteer firefighters that died. These proposed tax exemptions are made pursuant to Real Property Tax Law Section 466-a. All interested residents of the Goshen Fire District are invited to attend and comment. The Board of Fire Commissioners may meet immediately following the public hearing vote on the proposal.

Kathleen A. Roberts, Secretary Goshen Fire District

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