



PUBLIC SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

November 2, 2017 – 9:15 a.m.

**Committee Members: Terri Ward, Chair; Mark McCarthy, Vice-Chair;
Catherine Owens, Nadia Rasjz, Alan Sorensen**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENTATIONS: None

DISCUSSIONS: None

RESOLUTIONS:

- 1. Requesting that the State of New York increase the monetary incentives available for Volunteer Firefighters and EMS for rural counties and look to Improve its attraction and retention efforts with the same agencies.**

REPORTS:

- **Update: Public Safety**
 - **Emergency Management**
 - **Fire Protection**
 - **E-911**
 - **Probation Department**
 - **Emergency Medical Services**

- **District Attorney's Office** **Jim Farrell, District Attorney**

- **Sullivan County Sheriff's Office** **Michael A. Schiff, Sheriff**

- **Update: Sullivan County Coroner's Office**

PUBLIC COMMENT

RESOLUTION NO. INTRODUCED BY PUBLIC SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE REQUESTING THAT THE STATE OF NEW YORK INCREASE THE MONETARY INCENTIVES AVAILABLE FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND EMS PROVIDERS FOR RURAL COUNTIES AND LOOK TO IMPROVE ITS ATTRACTION AND RETENTION EFFORTS WITH THE SAME AGENCIES.

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Legislature has declared the need to address all areas of policy which affect health and safety for the residents of Sullivan County in an effort to improve our state ranking and make Sullivan County a healthier place to live and visit; and

WHEREAS, Sullivan County, like many rural counties, depends on volunteers of professional services like Firefighters and Emergency Medical Service providers, yet the recent trends for these citizen support systems show a great decline, in contrast to the growing importance and frequency of our needs; and

WHEREAS, the County is scrambling its efforts in all directions at the local level to ensure the attraction and retention of these needed agencies improve, however, finding itself limited in economic incentives, a county can offer to make this possible due to State limitations of the property tax laws and income tax laws; and

WHEREAS, the state-mandated training hours and recertification requirements continue to grow for both of these support agencies, which although intended to improve the quality of the service and standards, has created the unintended consequence of furthering the decline of retention and attraction; and

WHEREAS, the County believes that it is in New York State's interest to offer incentives for training, education, and participation in voluntary service to the fields of EMS and Firefighting so that as New Yorkers living in rural counties, New Yorkers who travel to rural counties as visitors and those who we welcome from out of state or out of country to rural New York are ensured of adequate levels of life-saving support service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sullivan County Legislature hereby request, with great urgency, that the NYS budget for 2018 increases incentives available to rural New York Counties to help attract and retain volunteers to Firefighting and Emergency Medical Services and that the state offer more training for these types of agencies in rural New York, as well as investigate alternatives to the State's current programs that may make participation in these needed support agencies more viable.

Moved by _____,
Seconded by _____,
and adopted on motion _____, 2017.

**COMBINED: LEGISLATIVE MEMORANDUM,
CERTIFICATE OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS
AND RESOLUTION COVER MEMO**

To: Sullivan County Legislature

Fr: Joshua Potossek, County Manager

Re: Request for Consideration of a Resolution: Requesting the State of NY Increase Monetary Incentives for Firefighters and EMS

Date: 10/20/2017

Purpose of Resolution: [Provide a detailed statement of what the Resolution will accomplish, as well as a justification for approval by the Sullivan County Legislature.]

REQUESTING THAT THE STATE OF NEW YORK INCREASE THE MONETARY INCENTIVES AVAILABLE FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND EMS FOR RURAL COUNTIES AND LOOK TO IMPROVE ITS ATTRACTION AND RETENTION EFFORTS WITH THE SAME AGENCIES.

Is subject of Resolution mandated? Explain:

No

Does Resolution require expenditure of funds? Yes ___ No

If "Yes", provide the following information:

Amount to be authorized by Resolution: \$ _____

Are funds already budgeted? Yes ___ No ___

If "Yes" specify appropriation code(s): _____

If "No", specify proposed source of funds: _____

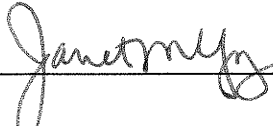
Estimated Cost Breakdown by Source:

County	\$ _____	Grant(s)	\$ _____
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State	\$ _____	Other	\$ _____
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Federal Government	\$ _____	(Specify)	_____
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Verified by Budget Office: _____



Does Resolution request Authority to Enter into a Contract? Yes ___ No

If "Yes", provide information requested on Pages 2. If "NO", please go straight to Page 3 and acquire all pre-legislative approvals.

Pre-Legislative Approvals:

- A. Director of Purchasing: Amerson Lewis Date 10/30/17
- B. Management and Budget: Jammy Date 10/31/17
- C. Law Department: [Signature] Date 10/30/17
- D. County Manager: [Signature] Date 10/31/17
- E. Other as Required: _____ Date _____

Vetted in PS&LE Committee Committee on 11/02/2017