

STATE OF NEW YORK

LEG SEP24'13 AM 9:14

LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY

BUFFALO, N.Y., SEPTEMBER 26TH, 2013 A.D.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, That at a regular session of the Legislature of Erie County, held in the County Hall, in the City of Buffalo, on the 26th of September, 2013 A.D., a resolution was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:

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WHEREAS, the City of Tonawanda was incorporated as a city in 1903; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tonawanda, in September of 1913, saw the need for full-time fire protection, and formed the department and hired the first four firemen; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tonawanda Fire Department responded to its first call on November 18, 1913 at the American Hotel on North Niagara Street, which caused \$31,500 in damage and destroyed the hotel; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tonawanda Fire Department's first Fire Chief was Chief C. Grover Rech, followed by Chiefs William Schreiber, Harold Badrow, Jay R. Ralph, Edward J. Gugino, John F. Fleming and Thomas D. Miller, and currently is lead by Chief Charles B. Stuart; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tonawanda Fire Department currently employs 26 career firemen who are proud members of the Tonawanda Uniformed Professional Firefighters Association Local 859 AFL-CIO; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tonawanda Fire Department volunteer division currently has four separate fire companies, each in existence for well over 100 years, having a membership of over 30 volunteers and 12 Fire Police Officers; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tonawanda Fire Department has seen great changes over the years, having originally transported its fire apparatus by hand or horse, operated its water pumps by hand with teams of men lowering and raising the pump handles, to currently operating a fleet of 6 support vehicles, 5 Fire Apparatus vehicles, and 2 Special units; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tonawanda Fire Department responded to a total of 2,443 calls in 2012, and more than 1,788 calls to date, in 2013.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the Erie County Legislature pauses in its deliberations to recognize and honor the City of Tonawanda Fire Department on its 100th Anniversary, and extend our heartfelt thanks for the dedication and commitment to the City of Tonawanda.

Kevin R. Hardwick
Erie County Legislator – 4th District

Robert M. Graber
Clerk of the Legislature