

**NEW YORK STATE**  
**LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY**  
**FEBRUARY 4, 2016 A.D.**

I **HEREBY CERTIFY** that at a regular meeting of the Legislature of Erie County, held in Old County Hall, in the City of Buffalo, on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2016 A.D. a resolution was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:

**WHEREAS**, at the turn of the last century, after a series of disastrous fires, Snyder residents met on October 29, 1915 and the Snyder Hose Company was officially incorporated on April 13, 1916 and later renamed the Snyder Fire Department; and

**WHEREAS**, as the hamlet of Snyder grew the Snyder Fire Department grew along with it, the department has always been recognized as a leader in the fire service field and as a progressive fire department that continues to boast a modern fleet of fire/rescue apparatus and the latest and best firefighting equipment available; and

**WHEREAS**, among the many highlights enjoyed by the department in its rich and storied history include the first local department to establish a communication link with the Amherst Police, and the first department in Amherst to provide a car to the fire chief and became the first department to equip its entire chiefs' line with vehicles; and

**WHEREAS**, the Snyder Fire Department was the first department in Erie County to equip all its apparatus with two way radios and then to provide home receivers to the members, and the first department in all of Erie County to purchase a ladder truck, and was one of the first departments to utilize large diameter hose and smaller, more versatile 1 3/4" hose for water supply and fire attack; and

**WHEREAS**, the Snyder Fire Department became recognized as the first volunteer fire department in the United States to offer paramedic service to its residents. 43 Snyder Firefighters were certified as paramedics, and Snyder residents began receiving this advanced life support care, years before it began being offered in other communities and even before many major metropolitan cities provided the service; and

**WHEREAS**, after New York State legislation authorized it, Snyder FD became the first Amherst department to adopt a service award program to help recruit and retain members; and

**WHEREAS**, In addition to responding to emergency incidents, department members spend countless hours training to improve their firefighting proficiency and enhance their emergency medical care skills. In addition, the members pride themselves on being interwoven in the fabric of the Snyder community participating in numerous community events throughout the year and are often participants in neighborhood block parties, charity races, and fundraisers; and

**WHEREAS**, the Snyder Fire Department sponsors year round fire prevention programs designed to educate children and adults as well. The firefighters travel to the local schools and churches and visit with scout troops and other community organizations to discuss fire safety and teach CPR and first aid as well; and

**WHEREAS**, for decades now, the Snyder Fire Department has enjoyed a class 3 rating from the Insurance Services Organization, due to providing unparalleled emergency services to the community over the course of the past 100 years, responding and delivering professional service on a 100% volunteer basis to the beloved Snyder community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT,**

**RESOLVED**, That the Erie County Legislature pause in its deliberations to congratulate the Snyder Fire Department on 100 years of excellent volunteer community service to Snyder and on a 100 year history of excellence.

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**Hon. Thomas A. Loughran**  
*Erie County Legislator, 5<sup>th</sup> District*  
*Minority Leader*

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**Karen M. McCarthy**  
*Clerk of the Erie County Legislature*