

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM

WHEREAS, residents of the Village of Lancaster had approved a proposition to establish a Service Award Program for active volunteer firefighter members of the Lancaster Fire Department, in accordance with Article 11-A of the New York State General Municipal Law;

WHEREAS, the current program being administered by the Board of Trustees of the Village Lancaster permits only 30 years of active service to be credited towards the LOSAP program; and

WHEREAS, the Trustees believe it to benefit the public to increase the length of credit of a volunteer's time in the LOSAP to 40 years, in order to provide an incentive to continue to increase the time of active service;

WHEREAS, the Trustees believe it to benefit the public to lower the entitlement age of a volunteer firefighter to age 62, in order to provide an incentive to serve the community;

WHEREAS, Article 11-A authorizes the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lancaster to seek voter approval of proposed amendments to the Service Award Program;

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the Board of Trustees to propose amendments in order to improve the Service Award Program benefits to active volunteer firefighter members of the Lancaster Fire Department;

WHEREAS, such improvement in Service Award Program benefits is consistent with the intent of the Program to help the Lancaster Fire Department recruit and retain active volunteer firefighter members;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE LANCASTER, NEW YORK HEREBY RESOLVES (by the favorable vote of not less than three-fifths of all its members), AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The Village of Lancaster, as authorized by Article 11-A of the New York State General Municipal Law, directs that there shall be a public referendum of eligible voters of the Village of Lancaster in an election to be held on Wednesday March 18, 2026, at the Village of Lancaster Municipal Building at 5423 Broadway between the hours of 12 pm and 9 pm, to determine whether the previously established Village of Lancaster Defined Contribution Service Award Program (Program), currently administered by the Village of Lancaster for active volunteer firefighter members of the Lancaster Fire Department, shall be amended, effective January 1, 2026, to increase the maximum number of years of allowable service credit from 30 years to 40 years and lower the entitlement age from 65 to 62.

SECTION 2. This resolution is expected to increase the total annual minimum required contribution by about \$130,132.00;

SECTION 3. All other provisions of the Village of Lancaster Service Award Program, which require voter approval to be amended, shall not change and the Program shall continue to be administered by the Village of Lancaster in accordance with Article 11-A of the New York State General Municipal Law as such law is amended from time to time.

The ballot will be in substantially the following form:

Should the following resolution to amend the Village of Lancaster Volunteer Firefighter Length of Service Award Program duly adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lancaster on January 26, 2026, be approved?

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF LANCASTER BOARD OF TRUSTEES, AUTHORIZING, PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 11-A OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, AN AMENDMENT TO THE EXISTING DEFINED CONTRIBUTION SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM CURRENTLY ADMINISTERED BY THE VILLAGE OF LANCASTER FOR ACTIVE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER MEMBERS OF THE LANCASTER FIRE DEPARTMENT, TO BE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026; STATING THAT THE SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM SHALL INCREASE THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF YEARS OF ALLOWABLE SERVICE CREDIT FROM 30 YEARS TO 40 YEARS; AND LOWERING THE ENTITLEMENT AGE FROM 65 TO AGE 62; STATING THAT ALL OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE VILLAGE OF LANCASTER SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM, WHICH REQUIRE VOTER APPROVAL TO BE AMENDED, SHALL NOT CHANGE AND THE PROGRAM SHALL CONTINUE TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE VILLAGE OF LANCASTER IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 11-A OF THE NEW YORK STATE GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW AS SUCH LAW IS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME.

All persons registered to vote in the Village and residing in the Village for at least thirty days prior to the day of the vote may vote in such referendum.

Dated: Village of Lancaster, New York
January 26, 2026

Mayor/Trustee SCHROEDER moved, Mayor/Trustee MILLER seconded, and the Village officials voted as follows:

	YES	NO
Mayor	<u>SCHROEDER</u>	<u>X</u>
Trustee	<u>MALONE SCHAEFEN</u>	<u>ABSTAINED</u>
Trustee	<u>MIKOLEY</u>	<u>X</u>
Trustee	<u>MILLER</u>	<u>X</u>
Trustee	<u>O'BRIEN</u>	<u>X</u>

By Order of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lancaster in the Town of Lancaster, Erie County, New York

By: Trif E. Cty
Village Clerk-Treasurer