

**VILLAGE OF OWEGO
BOARD RESOLUTION**

In the matter of establishing a
Service Award Program for
Active volunteer ambulance worker
members of the Village of Owego EMS
Department

Whereas, a proposal has been made to establish a Service Award Program for active volunteer ambulance worker members of the Village of Owego EMS Department.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That:

Section 1 The Village Board of the Village of Owego as authorized by Article 11-AA of the New York State General Municipal Law, directs that there shall be a mandatory referendum of eligible voters within the Village of Owego for an election held on March 19, 2024 from 12:00pm to 9:00pm at 22 Elm Street, Owego, NY 13827, to determine whether such Service Award Program shall be established effective January 1, 2024.

Section 2 The type of program shall be a defined contribution plan as described in Article 11-AA.

Section 3 All active volunteer ambulance worker members of the Village of Owego EMS Department, in accordance with such organization's by-laws, shall be eligible to become Service Award Program participants. Unless he or she waives participation, an eligible person shall become a participant on December 31st of the first calendar year after 2023 during which he or she meets the requirements set forth in Article 11-AA.

Section 4 For each year of active volunteer ambulance worker service credit earned for calendar years after 2023 under the *Village of Owego EMS Department Service Award Program Point System* (see Section 6), a \$1200 contribution shall be credited to a participating active volunteer ambulance worker's Service Award Program account balance. Investment income and interest, if any, shall be added to the participant's account and necessary program administration and investment related expenses shall be subtracted.

Section 5 A vested participant (see Section 6) shall be eligible to apply for payment of his or her

Service Award, which shall be the participant's account balance as of the account valuation date immediately following the date on which the participant attains age 62, the Entitlement Age, and applies for payment of the account balance. No Service Award shall be paid to any person until after he or she earns credit under the Point System for five (5) years of service after 2023. Persons who continue to volunteer after attaining the Entitlement Age and having been paid a Service Award shall continue to have the opportunity to earn program credit and to thereby be paid additional service awards.

Section 6 A Participant's Service Award shall be 100% vested (i.e., he or she shall have a nonforfeitable right to it) after he/she has earned credit for five (5) years of service after 2023 or he/she is awarded a finding of total and permanent disability.

Section 7 A year of Service Award Program service credit shall be earned by a participant for each calendar year after 2023 during which a participant earns at least 50 points while an active volunteer ambulance worker member for participating in the volunteer ambulance activities set forth in the *Village of Owego EMS Department Service Award Program Point System* document, adopted by the Village Board of the Village of Owego as authorized by Article 11-AA of the General Municipal Law. A copy of such Point System is attached to this resolution.

Section 8 Under Article 11-AA of the General Municipal Law, the Village of Owego shall be the Service Award Program Sponsor and the New York State Comptroller, or their designee(s) shall be the administrator(s) an/or Trustee(s) of the Village of Owego EMS Department Service Award Program.

Section 9 The estimated 2024 annual cost, payable in 2025, of funding the Village of Owego EMS Department Service Award Program benefits may be as much as \$46,800 or about \$1,200 per active volunteer ambulance worker member. The estimated annual cost to administer the program for 2025 is about \$1677.

Section 10 All other provisions of the Village of Owego EMS Department Service Award Program shall be in accordance with Article 11-AA of the General Municipal Law as amended from time to time, the applicable rules and regulations for Service Award Programs promulgated by the New York State Comptroller; and, with this resolution.

The appropriate officials of the Village of Owego are authorized to and shall take the necessary actions to carry out this resolution.

CERTIFICATION

I, Rod Marchewka, do hereby certify that I am the Village Clerk-Treasurer of the Village of Owego and that the foregoing constitutes a true, correct and complete copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Owego at a meeting thereof held on February 5, 2024 with a Motion by Trustee Morton and seconded by Trustee Plater, said resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote:

Mayor Mike Baratta	<u>Aye</u>
Trustee David Farrell	<u>Aye</u>
Trustee Rusty Fuller	<u>No</u>
Trustee Ed Morton	<u>Aye</u>
Trustee Charles Plater	<u>Aye</u>
Trustee Laura Spencer	<u>No</u>
Trustee Fran VanHousen	<u>Aye</u>

Motion Carried 5-2

(seal)

Rod Marchewka, Clerk-Treasurer

Dated: February 5, 2024