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OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE 148TH ANNUAL  
MEETING OF THE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF THE STATE  
OF NEW YORK, HELD ON THE 22ND DAY OF AUGUST,  
2020, AT THE HILTON GARDEN INN, 235 HOOSICK  
STREET, TROY, NEW YORK.

**B E F O R E:** STEVEN E. KLEIN, President

Jamie J. Woodard  
Court Reporter  
P.O. Box 59  
Ridge, New York 11961  
(631) 345-2386

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MR. KLEIN: Good morning, everybody. We apologize for the late start. We did run into some technical problems this morning. That's why we don't do this every year, I guess.

As you well know, the 148th Annual Convention of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York had to be cancelled due to the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic. In our 148 years this is only the second time we've had to cancel the convention.

Following increased and overwhelming concerns, it was with careful consultation with our board members, the convention committee, and the exhibits committee, and all the office staff regarding the health and safety of our association, our members, sponsors, exhibitors, partners, and guests, we had to make the difficult decision to cancel the annual convention, which was originally to be in Tarrytown, New York.

In the spring of this year with the growing concerns of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was decided to move the convention to Albany. As time grew closer to the actual convention dates, it was

1  
2 evident that we would need to downsize the  
3 convention itself and only conduct an annual  
4 meeting. Many hours of planning to make this  
5 change took place, including assistance from  
6 LAFASNY President Jean Christensen with her  
7 annual meeting.

8 By mid July it was decided that we needed  
9 to protect ourselves from each other so here we  
10 with today's modern technology, which obviously  
11 this isn't perfected, conducting our required  
12 annual meeting electronically.

13 The purpose of our annual meeting is to  
14 consider and take action on the matters of the  
15 election of the FASNY President, the FASNY First  
16 Vice President, two FASNY Directors, and two  
17 Trustees of the FASNY Firemen's Home; the  
18 approval or rejection of the 2019 annual meeting  
19 minutes, the approval or rejection of the annual  
20 budget of the FASNY Firemen's Home, the approval  
21 or rejection of proposed amendments to the  
22 Association Bylaws, and the transaction of such  
23 the business as may be properly brought before  
24 the meeting. An explanation of the voting  
25 process for Second Vice President will be

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announced during the regular business session.

The annual meeting ad book is now posted on our website. The ad book also contains the annual committee reports and the officers' reports. Please take a moment to look at the ad book so you can see all who support this association. With the ad book on our website, it can be now be seen by over 43,000 members of our association.

With all of that being said, I would like to take a moment, we're going to call the Chaplain up here for an invocation, but if everybody would take a moment of silence. We lost a very active member of our legislative committee, Dave Violis, in the last week. Dave was a true advocate of the fire service and very active on our legislative committee; and one of the bills that he really championed is the one we're still trying to get, and that's the EMS Fair Play Recovery bill.

So Chaplain, if you'll make your way up here, and we'll take a moment of silence, please.

REVEREND FOSTER: Good morning.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

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(Whereupon, there was an invocation by

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Reverend Barrie-Lyn Foster.)

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(Whereupon, there was a moment of silence.)

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MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Chaplain.

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If you can now please remain standing for

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the National Anthem to be sung by Alicia Caron.

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(Whereupon, the National Anthem was

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performed by Alicia Caron.)

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MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Alicia.

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Sergeant-at-Arms Thomas With with a salute

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to the flag, please.

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MR. WITH: Hand over heart.

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(Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was

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recited by Sergeant-at-Arms Thomas With and the

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audience members.)

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MR. KLEIN: Welcoming remarks. All right,

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welcoming remarks. Hopefully the glitches and

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the gremlins have been worked out of the issues

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with the online folks. Are we doing all right

21

now?

22

MS. ROUNDS: Eighty.

23

MR. KLEIN: Excellent. Total or online?

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MS. ROUNDS: Online.

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MR. KLEIN: Okay, that's great.

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Okay. So Mr. Sergeant-at-Arms, do we have a quorum?

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MR. WITH: We currently do not. We are waiting for more people to come in and come online.

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MR. KLEIN: We do. We do have a quorum.

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MR. WITH: We do now have a quorum.

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MR. KLEIN: We do. Thank you very much.

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I declare the convention open, or the annual meeting open, I guess, because it's not a convention. It's very confusing, folks. You'll have to bear with me. This is the first time I've ever done this.

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Okay. So here we are. We're ready to get started. We do have some very important business to take care of today, and we do have some folks that are here and supporting us and do have to move on. So without any further adieu, I will read off the important folks of our association. We will not be able to show them all to you on screen; and it's unfortunate, because these are a hardworking group of people, and they make our association what is it.

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So, the **FASNY Board of Directors** consists

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of: Me, Steve Klein, President; John P. Farrell, Jr., my First Vice President; Ed Tase, Jr., Second Vice President; Ken Pienkowski, Immediate Past President.

**Directors:** Mike Caron, Joe DaRocha, Laurie Hance, Ken Holmes, Sr., Mike Krumpenacker is not with us today. Mike had some surgery this week, and he's home recuperating. We wish him well. Director Eugene J. Perry, Jr., Diana Pfersick, Andy Pilecki, and Don Farrell.

Those are our directors. Thank you all for what you do. We appreciate it so much.

**Appointed Officers:** John D'Alessandro, Secretary; Thomas Krawczyk. Tom is electing to retire at the end of this fiscal year. Tom has served as an officer in this association -- my gosh -- longer than I've been involved; and he's going to have big shoes to fill. We think we have the right candidate, Andy Doyle. Andrew Doyle has been chosen by the Board to succeed Tom. Andy is the Deputy Treasurer at this point in time learning the ropes from Tom. Tom, we wish you great success in your retirement; and Andy, we're looking forward to a long career with

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2 you. Thank you both.

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(Applause.)

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MR. KLEIN: The Chaplain, we've already  
5 heard from. For those folks who may not be or  
6 may be joining us for the first time, when I  
7 first got elected President, the attorney  
8 retired, the Chaplain retired, it was really  
9 looking -- I made it through the end before the  
10 Secretary left so -- The Treasurer, I mean.

11

(Laughter.)

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MR. KLEIN: The Secretary is, well, I know,  
13 he's been listening to John this morning, he  
14 might have second thoughts --

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(Laughter.)

16

MR. KLEIN: I apologize for the -- I  
17 digress. Tom With, Sergeant-at-Arms, you've  
18 already been introduced to him; and our Assistant  
19 Sergeant-at-Arms, Juan Batta, is also recovering  
20 from a recent surgery. He's not able to join us  
21 today. We wish him well also.

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**Association Counsel:** The honored law firm,  
23 the Hannigan Law Firm, Terry and Tim, have really  
24 covered my cheeks a few times this year.

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(Laughter.)



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MR. KLEIN: I'm really appreciative. We'll see how it goes from here.

All right. Now the key people, the association key staff; and this is what makes the association run on a daily basis. These folks are so knowledgeable in the areas that they work in; and they're just a great asset to the Board and to the Trustees down at the home.

**Key personnel:** We have Francesca Connell, the Interim Director of Operations. Fran, everybody knows who you are, that's for sure. You've been around, and you're a great asset. We have Patricia Phesay, Director of Finance. Jim Dorward, Director of Facilities. Harrison Breuer, I think anybody that calls the office ends up at some point in time speaking to Harrison, the Member Outreach Coordinator. He's the fellow who's responsible for all those certificates that we do. A lot of people don't realize that some months we do 50, 60 certificates in one month. It's a big undertaking, and Harrison does a tremendous job at that and anything else we ask him to do. We have Chris Roberson, the Director of Information

1  
2 and Technology, who did get the gremlins out this  
3 morning; and we're glad that he did, because we  
4 do have folks joining us now, and that's a great  
5 thing. April Rounds, our Events Manager. She's  
6 the one that feeds us and keeps us clothed, so we  
7 really need April. She's doing a fantastic job.  
8 Karen Wendling, one of our newer employees,  
9 Director of Development. Karen is responsible  
10 for the ad book, amongst other financial things  
11 and solicitation, and we're doing great with her.  
12 She's doing a fantastic job. Things are really  
13 moving along in that direction. Marti  
14 Vandebogart, she's the Administrative Assistant.  
15 She's the other half of housing at FASNY. When  
16 we have to make arrangements, she and April are  
17 the ones that handle that. We have Jennifer  
18 McMann, our Associate Accountant. Jenn works  
19 very hard with Patricia to pay our bills and keep  
20 us fiscally sound. The Building Facilitator, Don  
21 Mackey. He's the guy now who's taking  
22 everybody's temperature every day, so he's doing  
23 a great job. And finally, Director of Human  
24 Resources, we have Colleen Simo; and Colleen, as  
25 John will find out very shortly, is a key player

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with what we do with our human resources.

I do want to take a moment to introduce in the, room, our past people that are in the room, we have with us today Past President Bob McConville; and I already read off Past President Ken Pienkowski, Immediate Past President. These two gentlemen were in the seat that I have now prior to me taking over, and they were instrumental in mentoring me to get to this position. So if I'm doing anything wrong, it's their fault.

(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: We also have Past Directors with us. We have Brian McQueen. I don't think he needs any introduction, because everybody is aware of the work that Brian does; and we have with us Roy Dahlen. Thank you gentlemen for coming and supporting us.

And we have a guest here today. We have Assemblyman from the 102nd District, Chris Tague. Chris is going to swear in the new president when we get to that point in the program.

So thank you everybody for being here, for what you do, for making me look good for the last

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two years.

Now I would like to take this moment to introduce Wayne Butts, President of the Board of Trustees. Wayne and Vice President Owenburg have done a tremendous job this year down at the home. I basically let them run the home; and any decisions that had to be made, nothing was done at the home without the input of the President and the Board of Trustees; and that's the way it should be. That's the way it was set up 125 years ago. It works. If it ain't broke, don't fix it. So Wayne, I want to thank you for the job you did. It was amazing. I appreciate it very much.

MR. BUTTS: Thank you. Thank you very much, Steve. Just a couple of things I'd like to say before we introduce my fellow trustees. I just want to thank the Board of Directors, Steve and all of his officers for letting Jerry and I and the trustees put the home back together. In my 10 years I've been here we've had some up and downs, some rough times, we've gone through a couple of administrators here and there. I think we finally have got the right guy. His name is

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Keith Henchey. Do you want to stand up, Keith? Most of you probably haven't met him yet. He's the administrator of the Firemen's Home. He's doing a wonderful job. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. BUTTS: Okay, who do I have with me today? Soon to be President, Jerry Owenburg; Trustee Peter Cincotta, which is going to be the Vice President. Stand up, Peter. Attaboy. Dennis Eickhoff, Secretary -- The train went through. Dennis didn't get out. He tried --

(Laughter.)

MR. BUTTS: My personal lawyer -- Sorry, Tim and Terry -- Fred Griffiths --

(Laughter.)

MR. BUTTS: Everybody has got to have a lawyer. I got my own, Fred --

(Laughter.)

MR. BUTTS: Besides the Hannigans want to hire him, so I don't know what that's all about.

(Laughter.)

MR. BUTTS: Past President Dave Smith, Alan Way, Mike De Vittorio -- a couple of words I'd like to say there, but --

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(Laughter.)

MR. BUTTS: Marilyn Schrader, Walter Eck, Jr., Anthony DeMarco, Marty Thomas, Doug Van Etten, and President Steve Klein. Jim Interdonati couldn't be here today. He's one missing.

Past Trustees that are in attendance: Jose DaRocha, Jim P. Farrell, Past President Klein, Ken Pienkowski, and Bob McConville.

I just want to thank all you guys. You've been my mentors coming up through; and for everybody that believed in me to do the job that I did, you got it done. I couldn't have done it with everybody here that helped me out along the way.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. BUTTS: Excuse me. I missed one Trustee. That's going to cost me, Walter Frame; where are you?

Thank you, Walter.

(Applause.)

MR. BUTTS: Story of my life.

MR. KLEIN: Great job, Wayne. Thank you.

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(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: Secretary D'Alessandro, for the purpose of reading a letter.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, we have received correspondence from Steven Hirsch, the Chairman of the National Volunteer Fire Council. Steve had hoped to be here today, but unfortunately like many events, the pandemic sort of got in the way, but he did want to express his kind words to us at our annual meeting.

"Dear Friends: How can I begin to express my appreciation for all that you do for the firefighters of the State of New York, and frankly, around this great country. FASNY is a known leader in the fire service for its service to firefighters. When I talk to the media, I often refer to programs that FASNY has implemented that allow our firefighters to do their jobs more proficiently and professionally. From your website that is loaded with outstanding information and training materials, to the youth programs, which are just the best that I have ever seen, FASNY continues to serve those that serve. And then there's the credit union and the

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home on the Hudson, both of which are a service to the men and women that take care of their New York communities so well.

I wanted so much to be with you this fall of 2020 and tell you all these things in person, but this pandemic had other thoughts. Nevertheless, I wanted to send this letter to you and thank you for what you do for firefighters around New York and this great country and to wish for each of you God's blessings as you serve your neighbors.

Sincerely yours, Steven W. Hirsh, Chairman of the National Volunteer Fire Council."

MR. KLEIN: Thanks, John.

FASNY has a very, very unique relationship with the NVFC. We were one of the initial founding organizations to try to -- Actually, the original intent of the first convention of FASNY was to establish a nationwide association. That didn't work out, so we ended up as a state association. We have two representatives. We have Brian McQueen and Ken Pienkowski representing us at the NVFC, and they do a remarkable job; and we appreciate what they do.



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Now I would ask the Secretary to come back to the podium and explain the voting process for us. That's good, because I don't understand it so.

(Laughter.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, I would like to thank all the membership for taking the time to participate in the 2020 Annual Meeting of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York. Since we are holding the meeting electronically, I wanted to take a moment to explain a few points on how we're going to conduct business today.

Motions will be voted upon by the use of a poll that will appear on the participant's screen. We will allow one minute for participants to vote. The votes of the individuals in the room will be added to the vote count electronically. I will then announce whether the motion has passed or been defeated. Participants electronically can also ask a question during the meeting by using the Q and A function located on the bottom of their screen.

The procedure for the election of our

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Second Vice President will be explained later in the program.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you. That cleared it up. Thank you.

All right, now we're going to move into the business of the meeting.

Our first order of business is to adopt the meeting agenda, which has been posted on the FASNY website. I will entertain a motion to adopt the meeting agenda as printed in the official program that was posted on the website.

MR. HOLMES: Mr. President, I move for the adoption of the meeting agenda.

MR. KLEIN: Motion made by Ken Holmes.

Do I have a second?

MR. BUTTS: Mr. President, I second the motion.

MR. KLEIN: Seconded by Wayne Butts.

On the motion, all in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. KLEIN: Hands.

MR. BUTTS: You've got to raise your hand.

MR. KLEIN: Are you good at counting?

MR. WITH: Forty-four, Mr. President, in

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the room.

MR. KLEIN: John?

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: We have to wait.

MR. KLEIN: Okay, we're waiting for the electronic balloting to complete. It takes a few seconds.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, the motion has passed.

MR. KLEIN: Okay. Thank you. The motion has been passed.

All right. The minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting have been posted on the FASNY website.

Mr. Secretary, are there any additions or corrections to the 2019 Annual Meeting minutes?

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: There are no additions or corrections, Mr. President.

MR. KLEIN: I will entertain a motion to adopt the minutes of the 2019 Annual meeting.

MR. EICKHOFF: Mr. President, Dennis Eickhoff, moves for the adoption of the 2019 minutes.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Dennis. Motion by Dennis Eickhoff.

Do I have a second?

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MS. PFERSICK: Yes, Diana Pfersick seconds  
the motion.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Diana.

On the motion, all in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. WITH: Forty-four, Mr. President --

MR. KLEIN: Thank you.

MR. WITH: (Continuing) -- in the room.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, the  
motion is approved.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you very much.

Mr. Secretary, is there any unfinished  
business that has been carried over from the 2019  
Annual Meeting?

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: There is no unfinished  
business to be carried over.

MR. KLEIN: Is there any new business?

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: There is no new business  
at this time.

MR. FARRELL: Good morning.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. FARRELL: At this time President Klein  
is going to give you a few remarks.

President Klein?

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2 MR. KLEIN: This is the part of the meeting  
3 that's usually reserved for my annual report. My  
4 annual report is printed in the ad book, which is  
5 available on the website to everybody, so rather  
6 than being redundant, I figured I would take this  
7 opportunity to speak to some of the folks that  
8 may be joining us for the first time through the  
9 electronic meeting system here; and I wanted to  
10 take this opportunity to let folks know that they  
11 can be at some point in time standing where I'm  
12 standing here today. We are perceived as an  
13 older association that doesn't do anything to  
14 attract the younger members; and the reason that  
15 is is because the younger members don't get  
16 involved with FASNY. So I figured I would stand  
17 up here and tell YOU how I came to be President  
18 of this association, and maybe the remarks I make  
19 will encourage you to get involved somewhere  
20 outside the four walls of your own firehouse.

21 I joined the fire department, like most of  
22 us, at a young age looking forward to getting  
23 involved going to fires, a lot of training, a lot  
24 of fires, loved it. Loved fighting fires. I  
25 loved it. It was great. Unfortunately, the

1  
2 older you get, the harder it becomes; and then  
3 you get to be my age, and it's damn near  
4 impossible. So I went through the chairs in my  
5 company. I went through the chairs in the fire  
6 department; and when I got done being Chief, I  
7 looked around for something to do; and at that  
8 point in time, I hadn't been active in any of the  
9 county associations. I had gone to a couple of  
10 Fire Chiefs' Council meetings, and there was a  
11 gentleman who was becoming the President of the  
12 Eastern Division of the International Association  
13 of Fire Chiefs' from Nassau County, and they were  
14 going to have a party for him, or a dinner thing;  
15 and they were asking for volunteers. So I showed  
16 up at the dinner. They put me behind the bar. I  
17 don't know what they saw in me --

18 (Laughter.)

19 MR. KLEIN: (Continuing) -- but they put me  
20 behind bar, and I worked with a couple of people  
21 who I never met before, and I decided it was a  
22 good group to be with. It was just like being in  
23 the firehouse only it was different people, and I  
24 think that anybody that's watching this  
25 electronically even for the first time you hear

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2           sidebars, you hear remarks, and laughing, and the  
3           comments, just like you're in your own firehouse;  
4           and believe it, these two Boards that are  
5           standing in front of here, the Directors and the  
6           Trustees, it's just like one big firehouse. We  
7           pick on everybody. We have nicknames for  
8           everybody. Sometimes we do off color jokes and  
9           remarks with everybody. It's just like being in  
10          your own firehouse; and if you have gotten to the  
11          point in your fire department where maybe you  
12          have reached the pinnacle and you want to do  
13          something, I encourage everybody out there, get  
14          involved in your county organization, find out  
15          about your sectional organization, and become a  
16          part of this organization, which is the greatest  
17          organization that I've ever had the opportunity  
18          to serve with. Everybody here is just an  
19          unbelievably great person -- I sound like the  
20          President --

21                   (Laughter.)

22           MR. KLEIN: (Continuing) -- It's  
23          unbelievable. It'll be huge.

24                   (Laughter.)

25           MR. KLEIN: And I'm really not a political

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person, and the reason -- All right. I'll stop.

(Laughter.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Thank you.

(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: The attorneys are mopping their  
brow --

(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: (Continuing) -- squiggling in  
the chair.

(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: I just can't say enough about  
the Firemen's Association of the State of New  
York and the people that, number one, work for  
us; and number two, volunteer for us. We have  
many committees. If you're interested in  
anything, I know a lot of people aren't  
interested in the legislation, although they  
should be, because we're protecting you all the  
time, but there is plenty. There's training,  
there's work with the youth. There's all kinds  
of programs you can get involved with in FASNY.  
I encourage you to take a minute or two and talk  
to somebody who belongs to FASNY as an officer or  
director or a trustee and find out what I'm



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talking about.

And I just want to take this last opportunity to thank everybody for the support and encouragement over my term as President.

Thank you all, and God speed.

(Standing ovation.)

MR. FARRELL: At this time I'm looking for a motion to accept the President's report as mentioned this morning. Roy?

MR. DAHLEN: Yes, I make a motion to accept.

MR. FARRELL: Do I have a second?

MR. PIENKOWSKI: Ken Pienkowski.

MR. FARRELL: Thank you, Ken.

All those in favor say aye.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. FARRELL: So carried.

Here you go, Mr. President. Thank you.

MR. KLEIN: I now call on John D'Alessandro for the Annual Report of the Secretary.

MS. ROUNDS: The video.

MR. KLEIN: You want to do the video now?

MR. TASE: That was the plan to do that.

MR. KLEIN: Okay, we'll do the video.

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Thank you.

MS. ROUNDS: This is the video that was shown last night.

(Whereupon, a video was played.)

MR. KLEIN: Okay. Here it comes. This pandemic has been devastating, and FASNY wants to pay respects to the health care industry for the job that they've done in our state taking us from one of the worst affected states to one of the safest states at this point in time. Part of that health care system is our volunteer ambulance corp, our EMTs, our fire department based ambulance, the folks that are out there every day, sometimes four, five, six times a day taking care of people that are really sick. It's my understanding that when the legislation reconvenes in the fall here that the bill will come out of committee, but it will not make it on the calendar, because the governor doesn't want it to be on the calendar, because he doesn't want to pass it. I have heard a rumor what the reason is, but I will not speculate that. I am calling on the governor -- I'm demanding that the governor allow the legislature to vote on this

1  
2 bill as a way of showing his respect and  
3 admiration for the people who've been in the  
4 front line trenches during this pandemic. Is  
5 that okay, attorney? Is that okay, Secretary?

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. KLEIN: It's important. This is the  
8 way for the governor to show his appreciation for  
9 what we've been doing. Just let us recover the  
10 funds that we are legally and rightfully and  
11 morally entitled to, that we get what we are  
12 supposed to have. Everybody else gets it. We  
13 don't get it. It's wrong.

14 Okay. Now I'll call on John D'Alessandro  
15 for his report. Mr. Secretary?

16 MR. D'ALESSANDRO: This is my favorite  
17 quote. "The only thing necessary for the triumph  
18 of evil is for good men to do nothing." That was  
19 uttered more than 200 years ago by Edmund Burke,  
20 an Irish statesman and philosopher. This quote,  
21 to me, is at the core of what drives us to be  
22 volunteer firefighters and emergency medical  
23 personnel. We are driven to leave our homes at  
24 two o'clock in the morning for the fire alarm at  
25 the senior apartments. We are compelled to leave

1  
2 the holiday dinner table to respond to that motor  
3 vehicle accident. We are more than happy to take  
4 time off from work to teach fire prevention at  
5 the local middle school. Just like its members,  
6 organizations can also be judged by their  
7 willingness to stand against the things that  
8 would harm its members and to stand for things  
9 that would help them. The 148th year track  
10 record of the Firemen's Association of the State  
11 of New York clearly shows where we stand. Our  
12 core mission is to educate, advocate, and inform  
13 the volunteer fire service. In essence, the  
14 function of our association is to protect the  
15 protectors, yet what makes this association  
16 different is that we exist to better our members  
17 so that they can more effectively protect the  
18 lives and property of the people they serve.  
19 This is an important distinction and one that we  
20 should all be very proud of. As association  
21 Secretary, I am happy to report that the health  
22 of our organization is good and that our  
23 commitment to our core mission continues to grow.  
24 Our efforts have resulted in FASNY being regarded  
25 as the preeminent voice of the volunteer fire

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service in New York and a respected voice on the national fire service stage. What started as a conversation at a parade in 1872 has evolved into an organization that continues to withstand the test of time.

Since the 147th Annual Meeting of the organization last August, the Board of Directors has met 13 times -- actually a few more, we had a little issues to deal with -- Copies of the meeting minutes are distributed and are available for review at FASNY headquarters. The Secretary's office also retains transcripts of previous annual meetings, nominating petitions, contact information of all elected officers, listings of appointed committee members, and copies of current corporate documents.

In addition to the record keeping duties of the office, the bylaws of the organization state that, "The Secretary shall assume responsibility for supervising the registration of members entitled to vote and issuing voting cards, ballots, or other like documents should a vote or election be called at any meeting of the membership." There are seven offices up for

1  
2 election this year; President, First Vice  
3 President, Second Vice President, two seats on  
4 the Board of Directors, two seats on the  
5 Firemen's Home Board of Trustees are also open.  
6 The race for Second Vice President is the only  
7 contested election. I also serve as FASNY's  
8 Volunteer Program's Coordinator. In this  
9 capacity, I assist the recruitment and retention  
10 committee in their efforts, and I am responsible  
11 for the administration of the FASNY Help College  
12 Tuition Reimbursement Program.

13 In 2020, FASNY applied for their third  
14 federal staffing for adequate fire and emergency  
15 response or Safer Grant through the US Department  
16 of Homeland Security. These funds, if approved,  
17 will enable us to continue our current  
18 recruitment and retention efforts. In 2019/2020,  
19 the Safer Grant funded a statewide outreach  
20 campaign, which included a website, social media,  
21 internet advertising, radio spots, television  
22 commercials, and department recruitment kits.  
23 This grant also provided resources to promote  
24 recruit New York weekend. Unfortunately, due to  
25 the COVID-19 pandemic, Recruit New York Weekend

1  
2 had to be cancelled. On a positive note, at the  
3 time of cancellation, we had the greatest number  
4 of departments preregistered to participate. In  
5 addition to our Safer Grant, we were fortunate to  
6 receive another grant from the New York State  
7 Senate to conduct recruitment and retention  
8 programs. In an unprecedented approach, the  
9 recruitment and retention committee joined forces  
10 with the youth in the fire service committee to  
11 develop a strategic calendar of activities.  
12 These included both youth days and several  
13 firefighter for a day sessions for the general  
14 public. Again, unfortunately, COVID-19 forced us  
15 to put these events off until 2021.

16 Our landmark study of cancer in the  
17 volunteer fire service is also coming to a  
18 conclusion. As I write this report, data  
19 collection has ended, and the research team is  
20 complying the results. This first of a kind  
21 study will enable us to fight for further  
22 coverage of volunteer firefighters and to develop  
23 protocols to better shield us as we are  
24 protecting the citizens of New York.

25 FASNY has 43,244 members as of July 1st.

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2 This is the dividend generated by the hard work  
3 of our elected officers, staff, and committee  
4 people. While we appreciate your membership,  
5 simply paying your dues is not enough. We need  
6 you to be individually involved if we are to  
7 continue to advocate for New York's volunteer  
8 first responders. Join a committee. Attend one  
9 of the many trainings and seminars; and above  
10 all, make your voice heard on legislative issues  
11 that directly affect our health and wellbeing.  
12 We also need you to speak to non-member  
13 departments about the benefits of being part of  
14 FASNY. Ultimately, joining the association  
15 produces real results for each and every  
16 volunteer department across the state. The old  
17 adage about strength in numbers is especially  
18 true in the current social and political  
19 environment. We must never forget, never forget,  
20 that the foundation of the volunteer fire service  
21 is built upon the dedication of trained,  
22 motivated individuals. This is as true on the  
23 fire ground as it is in the FASNY meeting room.

24 I am proud to be in the company of good men  
25 and women who are always there when their



1  
2 communities need them. I'm proud to be part of  
3 that thin red line that shields people from evil,  
4 because we believe that all lives matter. Be  
5 proud, serve well, and remain safe.

6 Thank you, Mr. President.

7 (Applause.)

8 MR. KLEIN: Excellent report. Thank you,  
9 John.

10 All right. I will now call on our  
11 Treasurer, Tom Krawczyk, for the annual report of  
12 the Treasurer of FASNY and the Annual 519 Report  
13 of FASNY.

14 MR. KRAWCZYK: My annual report is printed  
15 in the convention program book, and I'd also like  
16 to read my report for the record today.

17 "In accordance with the Firemen's  
18 Association of the State of New York constitution  
19 and bylaws, it is my annual responsibility to  
20 report on the state of the finances of the  
21 association. Our mostly recently audited year  
22 was September 30, 2019; and the audit was done by  
23 certified public accountants, Battaglia and  
24 Associates, CPA, under the direction of Mr.  
25 Joseph Battaglia. The association's finances are

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2 presently in conformity with generally accepted  
3 accounting principals in the United States, and a  
4 copy of our audit shows revenues and expenses for  
5 this year and last year, along with the auditor's  
6 comments, is available upon request from our  
7 office at 107 Washington.

8 Our investment portfolio, the majority of  
9 which is currently being held by the FASNY  
10 Foundation, continues to increase as compared to  
11 last year, except for the COVID-19 period. We  
12 have lost a substantial amount of our market  
13 value during this time. The funds to operate  
14 FASNY come from our office receipts and grants  
15 from the foundation. Grant requests have to be  
16 fully documented and approved by the foundation  
17 grant committee and the foundation Board of  
18 Directors before funds are released from the  
19 foundation portfolio. The general fund also  
20 funds the home expenses above the two percent  
21 monies and the home recoveries. The portfolio is  
22 being managed by Lesko Advisors; and we've been  
23 with that investment company for the past 11  
24 years.

25 The brick memorial at the Firemen's Home

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located in the front of the museum is still open for more brick orders. A cost of a brick is \$25.00. If you're looking for your brick or bricks, the receptionist at the home has the brick index, which will give you the section and row of your brick.

I would like to thank all the associations and everyone who donated baskets to our scholarship raffle during the last convention. We received a total of a 136 baskets last year and turned a profit of \$4,500.00 that went to the scholarship fund. A special thank you for Jennifer McMann for setting up all the baskets last year as she has done in the previous years.

In closing, I would like to thank the President Steve Klein, John Farrell, and Edward Tase, Jr., and the Board of Directors for my appointment as Treasurer. I would also like to thank the staff at 107 and Patricia Phesay, Director of Finance, for her excellent cooperation this past year, along with the home trustees and the home staff. This will be my last report as Treasurer of FASNY. In my years as Secretary and Treasurer of this great

1  
2 association my wife Shirley and I have met many  
3 fine officers and members and employees of FASNY.  
4 We thank them all for their friendships  
5 throughout the years.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. KLEIN: As I said, Tom has done a  
8 magnificent job, and we certainly are going to  
9 miss him. What can I say? He's an institution  
10 here. We thank you for all of those many, many  
11 years. I certainly wish you God speed.

12 MR. KRAWCZYK: Thank you.

13 I have the 519 Annual Report, the Board of  
14 Directors; and we have to give this yearly as per  
15 our Nonprofit Corporation Law.

16 "To the members of the Firemen's  
17 Association of the State of New York, the Board  
18 of Directors respectfully submits for your  
19 information the following report related to the  
20 Firemen's Association of New York for the 12  
21 month period ending June 30, 2020.

22 The assets and liabilities, including trust  
23 funds of the corporation, at the end of the said  
24 fiscal period, are as follows. This is as of  
25 June 30, 2020. Total assets are \$40,837,575.00.

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Total liabilities are \$1,958,457.00.

Trust funds are none available.

The principal changes in the assets and liabilities, including trust funds of the corporation during the said fiscal period, were as follows: Assets decreased due to the timing of the two percent foreign exchange tax program receipt.

The revenues of the corporation, both restricted and unrestricted, to particular purposes during the said fiscal period ending June 30, 2020 total \$9,423,061.00. The revenues or receipts for restricted to particular purpose, there wasn't any. The expenses, or disbursements of the corporation, for general and restricted purposes during that said period, totalled \$15,927,868.00.

Concerning the membership of the corporation: The number of members as of June 30, 2020 is 43,232. The number of members increased by 61 from the last year of June 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. The names, places, and residences of the current members may be found in the books of the corporation, which are kept at

1  
2 107 Washington;" and this report has been signed  
3 by the President, Steve Klein, and myself as  
4 Treasurer.

5 MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Tom.

6 I just want to take a moment. You heard  
7 Tom mention the scholarship. Tom and Shirley  
8 have been very active in that for as long as I've  
9 been a member here. Along with the 25  
10 scholarships that we award out in the field, we  
11 also award scholarships to two employees or  
12 family members of the employees; and the funds  
13 that we raise at the annual raffle is a big part  
14 of that. This year naturally we couldn't do the  
15 raffle. So what we did was when we cancelled the  
16 in person meeting, folks that had registered were  
17 given the opportunity to have their money  
18 returned to them or the registration fee donated  
19 to the scholarship fund. I just want to take a  
20 moment to thank all the folks who did make the  
21 decision to donate that money to the scholarship  
22 fund. Supporting the youth in the fire service,  
23 and even outside the fire service, it is one of  
24 our most important objects; and thank you all,  
25 because that's what's going to keep the

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scholarship rolling along this year.

All right. It's time now for us to have motions to have the Secretary cast one ballot for the uncontested officers.

I call on Second Vice President Ed Tase.

MR. TASE: Thank you, President Klein; and good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. TASE: As your Second Vice President, I request a motion directing the Secretary to cast a single affirmative ballot for Marsha Holland for a five year term as Firemen's Home Trustee to take effect following the adjournment of the 148th Annual Meeting.

Do I have a motion?

MR. HOLLAND: Lyle Holland, Past President of Southwestern Association of Volunteer Firemen. I am honored and proud to nominate my wife, Marsha Holland, to the position of Trustee of the Firemen's Home. Marsha was chair of the Fire Prevention Life Safety Committee for FASNY for the past three years. I feel she did a great job, and I know she will do a great job for the Trustees.

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MR. TASE: Thank you, Holland.

Do I have a second? Wayne Butts?

MR. BUTTS: I second the motion for Marsha as Trustee of the Firemen's Home; and I think Marsha will represent us very well.

Thank you.

MR. TASE: Any other motions?

(No response.)

MR. TASE: All those in favor signify by aye.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. TASE: Raise your hand.

(Audience complies.)

MR. TASE: Motion is carried.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, pursuant to the Association's Bylaws, I hereby cast one ballot for Marsha Holland.

MR. TASE: Congratulations, Marsha.

(Applause.)

MR. TASE: Thank you very much.

I request a motion directing the Secretary to cast a single affirmative ballot for Walter Frame for a five year term as a Firemen's Home Trustee to take effect immediately following the



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adjournment of the 148th Annual Meeting.

Do I have a motion?

Jose DaRocha?

MR. DAROCHA: As a good friend and a long time friend of mine and a neighbor and a member of our fire company in Albertson over there, Past President of Nassau County, Past Trustee of the Albertson Fire Company, and now a Trustee to the Firemen's Home the State of New York, I'd like to make a motion for Walter Frame as a Trustee to the Firemen's Home.

MR. TASE: Thank you, Jose.

Do I have a second?

MR. KLEIN: Yes, as Secretary of the Nassau County Steering Committee, I second the motion for the Secretary to cast one ballot.

MR. TASE: We have a motion. We have a second.

Any other motion?

(No response.)

MR. TASE: All in favor raise your hand.

(Audience complies.)

MR. TASE: Motion approved.

Congratulations, Walter.

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(Applause.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, pursuant to the Association's Bylaws, I hereby cast one ballot for Walter Frame.

MR. TASE: First Vice President John Farrell.

MR. FARRELL: Good morning.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. FARRELL: I request a motion directing the Secretary to cast a single affirmative ballot for Diana G. Pfersick for the position of Director of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York for a five year term effective immediately following the adjournment of the 148th Annual Meeting.

Do I have a motion? Mike Caron?

MR. CARON: Mike Caron, FASNY Director, and representing Northern Central, I proudly make that motion. I've been working with Diana for the last five years and looking forward to working with her the next five. I submit her name for the Secretary to cast one ballot for the second five year term.

MR. FARRELL: Thank you, Mike.

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Do I have a second?

MR. PFERSICK: Second from Royer Pfersick in Monroe County for Diana G. Pfersick second term as a Director.

MR. FARRELL: On the motion, all those in favor raise your hand.

(Audience complies.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, the motion has passed.

Mr. President, pursuant to the Association's Bylaws, I hereby cast one ballot for Diana G. Pfersick.

(Applause.)

MR. FARRELL: Congratulations, Diana.

I request a motion directing the Secretary to cast a single affirmative ballot for Andrew E. Pilecki for the position of Director of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York for a five year term effective immediately following the adjournment of the 148th Annual Meeting.

Do I have a motion?

Mr. Tase?

MR. TASE: Mr. President, I proudly make a

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motion to accept Andy Pilecki for five years on  
the Board of Directors.

MR. FARRELL: Thank you.

Do I have a second? Dave?

MR. SCHMIDT: Mr. President, David Schmidt,  
seconds that motion.

MR. FARRELL: Thank you, Dave.

All those on the motion in favor raise your  
hand.

(Audience complies.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, the  
motion has passed; and pursuant to the  
Association's Bylaws, I hereby cast one ballot  
for Andrew E. Pilecki.

MR. FARRELL: Thank you, John.

(Applause.)

MR. FARRELL: Congratulations, Andy.

Thank you.

MR. KLEIN: I'm back.

(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: I request a motion directing  
the Secretary to cast a single affirmative ballot  
for Edward Tase, Jr., for the position of First  
Vice President with the Firemen's Association of

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the State of New York for a two year term effective immediately following the adjournment of the 148th Annual Meeting.

MR. SCHMIDT: Mr. President, David Schmidt is honored and pleased to make that motion on behalf of Mr. Edward Tase, Jr., for the office of First Vice President of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Dave.

Do I have a second?

MR. PILECKI: Mr. President, I stand before you proudly to second the motion for Edward Tase, Jr., to be our First Vice President of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Andy.

On the motion, all in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, the motion has passed; and pursuant to the Association's Bylaws, I happily cast one ballot for Edward Tase, Jr.

MR. KLEIN: Congratulations.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Now we come to the moment that

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I've been waiting for.

(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: I request a motion directing the Secretary to cast a single affirmative ballot for John P. Farrell, Jr., for the position of President of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York for a two year term effective immediately following the adjournment of the 148th Annual Meeting.

Do I have a motion?

MR. STACEY: George Stacey, Athens Volunteer Fire Department, Past Director of the Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association, I've known John for many years. I've had the opportunity to work with him on many occasions. I know John is a man of integrity, and I'm sure that he will continue to lead this great organization forward. Therefore, I make a motion to nominate John P. Farrell, Jr., for the office of President for a two year term for the FASNY Firemen's Association.

MR. KLEIN: Very good. Thank you.

Second?

MS. SCHRADER: Marilyn Schrader proudly

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seconds the motion for John P. Farrell, Jr., to be the President of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York and well deserved.

MR. KLEIN: Yes, absolutely. Thank you, Marilyn.

On the motion, all in favor?

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, the motion has passed; and pursuant to the Association's Bylaws, I enthusiastically cast one ballot for our next President John P. Farrell, Jr.

(Laughter.)

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: And I enthusiastically accept your report. Thank you.

(Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: All right. Now, I will now -- Or is this you? Are you going to do this explaining, or am I doing it? I guess you're doing the explaining.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: As I mentioned earlier, and promised to give a bit of an explanation about how we're going to conduct, or are conducting, the election for the contested seat

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of Second Vice President.

The election for Second Vice President will be by mail in paper ballot only. Individual members who registered for the August 22, 2020 annual meeting will automatically receive a ballot. Organizational members who returned their delegate designation form by July 31st, will also automatically receive a ballot. Individual and organizational members who did not meet the above deadlines can still request a ballot from August 24th, this coming Monday, until September 21, 2020. Ballots can be requested by mail, fax, phone, email, or on the FASNY website. All ballots will be sent to the address on file with FASNY.

Importantly, ballots must be returned by mail and be in the supplied ballot return envelope, and ballots must be postmarked by October 7, 2020.

I would like to now introduce Director Michael R. Caron, Chairman of the Bylaws Committee.

MR. CARON: Good morning, everyone.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.



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2 MR. CARON: Mr. President, after reviewing  
3 the association's bylaws, the Bylaws Committee is  
4 recommending that all references to the Chief  
5 Administrative Officer position be removed from  
6 the bylaws. This is accomplished by editing  
7 Article Five, Section Two and Article Five,  
8 Section 7.1. It will also require removing  
9 Article Five, Section 7.5, in its entirety.  
10 These changes have been posted on the  
11 association's website.

12 Mr. President, on behalf of the Bylaws  
13 Committee and the Board of Directors, I will make  
14 a motion to implement those changes.

15 MR. KLEIN: Thank you for your report. You  
16 heard the motion, do I have a second?

17 MR. PERRY: Mr. President, Eugene Perry,  
18 Jr., seconds the motion to have the amendments to  
19 the bylaws, for the FASNY Bylaws.

20 MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Gene.

21 On a motion, all in favor?

22 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

23 MR. KLEIN: Just for people in the room  
24 there are right now over 103, 102 people online,  
25 so you have an idea what the delay is.

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MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, the motion has passed.

MR. KLEIN: Okay, the motion has passed. Thank you very much.

I will now call on Trustee Vice President Jerry Owenburg to read the motion for the Firemen's Home budget, please.

MR. OWENBURG: "WHEREAS, Article II, Section 1.1 of the Bylaws of the Association provides that the membership shall have the opportunity to approve or reject the annual budget for the Firemen's Home at the annual meeting or convention,

AND WHEREAS, the Firemen's Association of the State of New York Board of Directors has submitted to this annual meeting its budget for the purpose of operating the Firemen's Home for the fiscal year commencing October 1, 2020 and ending September 30, 2021 in the sum of ten million, five hundred and fifteen thousand, nine hundred and ninety nine dollars (\$10,515,999.00),

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that there be appropriated the sum of ten million, five hundred and fifteen thousand, nine hundred and

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ninety nine dollars (\$10,515,999.00) for the

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purpose of operating the Firemen's Home at

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Hudson, New York, for the period commencing

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October 1, 2020 and ending September 30, 2021."

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Mr. Chairman, I move to adopt this motion.

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MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Jerry.

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You've heard the motion; do I have a

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second?

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MR. BUTTS: Soon to be Past President of

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the Trustees, I second the motion.

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MR. KLEIN: Wayne Butts. Thank you, sir.

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On the motion, all in favor?

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MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, the

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motion is passed.

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MR. KLEIN: Okay. Very good. Thank you.

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I now ask John D'Alessandro to step forward

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for the purpose of resolutions of the

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association.

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MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, we have

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nine resolutions to vote on. I will read each

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one individually, indeed the maker of the motion;

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and we will need a second. Then the participants

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will have the opportunity to vote.

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Resolution number one, "WHEREAS, Steven E.

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Klein has given decades of service to the volunteer fire service making it a safer and more respected profession,

AND WHEREAS, his focused and decisive leadership has greatly advanced the accomplishments and reputation of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York as its 79th President,

AND WHEREAS, under his leadership, the Firemen's Association has made important advances during the most trying of times, not the least of which has been the COVID-19 pandemic,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the officers and members of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York offer their heartfelt appreciation to Steven E. Klein, President of FASNY, who has served this organization to the best of his ability and is leaving office at the conclusion of this annual meeting,

AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the association and Board of Directors welcomes his participation, advice, and counsel as he continues his service as FASNY Past President and that the membership affords him a rising vote of

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thanks."

Mr. Chairman, I so move the adoption of  
this resolution.

MR. KLEIN: You've heard the resolution; is  
there a second?

MR. TASE: I'll second that motion.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Ed Tase.

On the motion, all in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. KLEIN: Okay, the resolution has  
passed. Thank you.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: The motion has passed.

(Standing ovation.)

MR. KLEIN: Thank you. Thank you. Thank  
you.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Resolution number two,  
"WHEREAS, Thomas L. Krawczyk has served the  
Firemen's Association and its membership for  
thirty-four years,

AND WHEREAS, he has held the positions of  
Association Secretary, Association Treasurer,  
Foundation Treasurer, and Sergeant-at-Arms,

AND WHEREAS, he has been an ardent advocate  
and supporter of the Gerard J. Buckenmeyer FASNY

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Volunteer Scholarship program,

AND WHEREAS, Treasurer Krawczyk will be retiring on September 30, 2020,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the officers and members of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York offer their heartfelt appreciation to Association Treasurer Thomas L. Krawczyk, who has served this organization to the best of his ability,

AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the association and Board of Directors welcomes his participation, advice, and counsel as he enjoys retirement -- You hear that Tom, enjoy retirement --

(Laughter.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: (Continuing) -- and that the membership affords him a rising vote of thanks."

Mr. Chairman, I so move the adoption of this resolution.

MR. KLEIN: You heard the motion, is there a second?

MR. PIENKOWSKI: Ken Pienkowski seconds.

MR. KLEIN: Ken Pienkowski seconds the

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motion.

Thank you, Ken.

On the motion, all in favor?

MR. KLEIN: Motion carried?

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Motion carried.

(Standing ovation.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Resolution number three,  
"WHEREAS, Wayne Butts has been, and continues to  
be, a friend and outspoken advocate for the  
members of the Firemen's Home,

AND WHEREAS, he served for 10 years as a  
dedicated member of the Firemen's Home Board of  
Trustees,

AND WHEREAS, he served as President of the  
Firemen's Home Board of Trustees,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the  
officers and members of the Firemen's Association  
of the State of New York offer their heartfelt  
appreciation to Trustee Wayne Butts, who has  
served the members of the Firemen's Home and this  
organization to the best of his ability,

AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the  
association and Board of Directors commends him  
for his service and that the membership affords

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him a rising vote of thanks."

Mr. Chairman, I so move the adoption of  
this resolution.

MR. KLEIN: You've heard the reading of  
resolution number three and the motion; is there  
a second?

MR. SCHMIDT: I'll second, Dave Schmidt.

MR. KLEIN: Past President Dave Schmidt  
seconds the motion.

You've heard the motion, all in favor?

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, the  
motion is passed.

MR. KLEIN: Okay. The motion passes.

(Standing ovation.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Resolution number four,  
"WHEREAS, the Firemen's Home has provided a "home  
away from home" for thousands of firefighters who  
gave dedicated and committed service to the  
citizens of New York,

AND WHEREAS, the staff of the Firemen's  
Home exhibits extreme dedication and  
professionalism on a daily basis,

AND WHEREAS, the staff of the Firemen's  
Home provides unparalleled care for the residents



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of the home as exemplified by keeping the home  
COVID-19 free,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the  
officers and members of the Firemen's Association  
of the State of New York offer their heartfelt  
appreciation to the staff of the Firemen's Home  
for all they do for the residents of the  
Firemen's Home and the Association."

Mr. Chairman, I so move the adoption of  
this resolution.

MR. KLEIN: You heard the motion.

MR. ECK: Mr. President, I second that  
motion, Walter Eck, Jr.

MR. KLEIN: Walter Eck, Jr., seconds the  
motion.

On the motion, all in favor?

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. Chairman, the motion  
is passed.

(Applause.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Resolution number five,  
"WHEREAS, the officers, committee people, and  
staff of the Firemen's Association of the State  
of New York exhibit dedication, commitment, and  
professionalism on a daily basis,

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AND WHEREAS, the officers, committee people, and staff of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York enable the association to fulfill its mission to train, educate, and advocate for volunteer firefighters across New York,

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AND WHEREAS, the officers, committee people, and staff of the association are a primary reason that the Firemen's Association of the State of New York is regarded as one of the premiere volunteer firefighter organizations in the country,

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AND WHEREAS, they have kept FASNY moving forward during the most challenging year of 2020,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the officers and members of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York offer their heartfelt appreciation to the officers, committee people, and staff of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York for all they do on a daily basis."

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Mr. Chairman, I so move the adoption of this resolution.

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MR. KLEIN: You've heard the motion; is

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there a second?

MR. MCQUEEN: Brian McQueen proudly seconds that.

MR. KLEIN: Motion is seconded by Brian McQueen.

On a motion, all in favor?

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, the motion has passed.

MR. KLEIN: Beautiful. Moving right along here.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Resolution number six, "WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has forced FASNY to cancel its annual convention and to schedule an electronic annual meeting in its place,

AND WHEREAS, this unfortunate situation has rendered the association unable to hold its annual memorial service for departed members,

AND WHEREAS, several members of New York's volunteer fire service have succumbed to COVID-19,

AND WHEREAS, the association has lost dedicated members Werner "Zip" Kramer, Past Sergeant-at-Arms; Paul Van Arts Dalen, Executive Committee; David Violas, Legislative Committee;

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Don McCaig, Firefighter of the Year and Audit Committees; Larry James, Hazmat Committee; and Richard Penney, Recruitment and Retention Committee, in 2020,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the officers and members of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York offer their heartfelt sympathy to the families and departments of these individuals."

Mr. Chairman, I so move the adoption of this resolution.

MS. PFERSICK: Diana Pfersick seconds.

MR. KLEIN: I have a second, Diana Pfersick.

On the motion, all in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, the motion is passed.

MR. KLEIN: Very good.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Resolution number seven, "WHEREAS, Chief Thomas Perkins has been a member of the Firemen's Association for more than 50 years,

AND WHEREAS, he has served on the

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Legislative, Fire Service Achievement Award, and  
Training and Education Committees,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the  
officers and members of the Firemen's Association  
of the State of New York offer their heartfelt  
appreciation to Chief Thomas Perkins, who has  
served this organization to the best of his  
ability."

Mr. Chairman, I so move the adoption of  
this resolution.

MR. KLEIN: You've heard the motion.

MR. PIENKOWSKI: Mr. President, Ken  
Pienkowski, Onondaga County, proudly seconds the  
motion in honor of Chief Thomas Perkins.

MR KLEIN: Thank you very much, Ken.

On the motion, all in favor?

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, the  
motion is passed.

Resolution number eight, "WHEREAS, current  
events across the nation have highlighted the  
danger and threats to the personal safety of our  
brothers and sisters in the volunteer and career  
fire service, volunteer and career EMS service,  
and the law enforcement community,

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AND WHEREAS, individuals in these professions in this state and throughout the nation are routinely called upon to serve and protect their fellow citizens by responding to horrendous events and acting heroically to save the lives of others,

AND WHEREAS, they perform their duty while frequently putting their own person safety in jeopardy,

AND WHEREAS, certain factions in society have called for the disbanding or de-funding of emergency services,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the officers and members of the Firemen's Association of the State New York that they declare their support and solidarity with the men and women who serve, or who have served, in the volunteer and career fire service, the volunteer and career EMS service, and the law enforcement community and who have earned our respect and deepest gratitude for their efforts to serve their fellow citizens."

Mr. Chairman, I so move the adoption of this resolution.

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MR. KLEIN: You heard the motion.

MR. PERRY: Eugene Perry seconds the motion.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Gene.

On the motion, all in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, I happily say the motion has passed.

MR. KLEIN: Me too. Thank you.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Resolution number nine, "BE IT RESOLVED, that the officers and members of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York extend their sincere condolences to the families of Brian J. Sullivan, Fire Department of the City of New York; Dale E. Jaynes, Burdett Fire Department; Robert H. Bush, Homer Fire Department; Darryl Rollins, North Amityville Volunteer Fire Company; Robert E. White, Jr., West Stockholm Fire Department; Michael A. Cardinale, Sr., East Farmingdale Fire Company; Michael Field, Valley Stream Volunteer Fire Company; Edward J. Ciocca, White Plains Fire Department; Andrew DiMaggio, New Rochelle Fire Department; and Alec Tannenbaum, Vails Gate Fire

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Department, on their passing,

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that we extend our eternal respect and gratitude to our brothers who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty while protecting their communities."

Mr. Chairman, I so move the adoption of this resolution.

MR. KLEIN: I have a motion; do I have a second?

MR. WAY: Alan Way seconds it.

MR. KLEIN: Alan Way. Hi. I have a motion and a second.

On the motion, all in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, the motion is approved; and that concludes the report of Resolutions Committee.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you very much.

We're getting to the end now, folks.

Once again, the annual reports from the officers and committees are on the website in the ad book. Please take some time and read the reports to see what has been happening over the past year.



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Also in the ad book you will find the annual award winners for this year. Please take a moment to recognize this year's recipients.

The Firemen's Association of the State of New York is grateful to the following organizations who have made a significant commitment as sponsors in 2020. Their support enables FASNY to fulfill its mission through education, training, and advocacy for New York's volunteer responders.

Our **Five Alarm Platinum Sponsors** are:

National LOSAP Heroplus Program in conjunction with the Lincoln Financial Group and FIRSTNET supported by AT&T.

Our **Three Alarm Silver Sponsors** are:

Alexco Advisors, VFIS, and Provident.

Our **Two Alarm Bronze Sponsors** include COOL

Insuring Agency and RangeSafe.

Our **Bronze Education and Training Sponsor**

is the New York State Public Entities Safety Group.

Our **Gerard J. Buckenmeyer FASNY Volunteer**

**Scholarship Sponsors** are: ESIP, DKC Public Relations Firm, Provident, and Ruscon Truck

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Service Center.

The Gerard J. Buckenmeyer FASNY Volunteer Scholarship program is made possible each June through the generous donations of individuals, fire departments, and auxiliaries. The awards recognize exemplary members of the youth fire service who also contribute to their communities.

Unfortunately, we are unable to have our annual Saturday night scholarship fundraiser this year. We encourage everyone to feel free to make a donation to this vital fund. Simply go to the website and click on the "give" tab to make a gift.

We would also like to acknowledge our FASNY supporters: Albany Strategic Advisors, Business Partners Printers, Hannigan Law Firm, and the Law Office of Mark C. Butler.

Once again, thank you all.

(Applause.)

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: Mr. President, Past President Mike Wutz would like to make a motion to accept the Treasurer and Secretary's reports.

MR. KLEIN: I have a motion to accept the make Secretary and the Treasurer's reports.

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MR. BUTTS: I'll second it.

MR. KLEIN: Second by Wayne Butts.

On a motion, all in favor?

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. D'ALESSANDRO: The motion is passed,  
Mr. President.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you.

Okay. **Announcements.** As soon as we  
adjourn the meeting all of those people who were  
reelected or elected to a seat on either board  
and the President, Vice President of the Board of  
Trustees, and the First Vice President Ed Tase,  
will line up in front of the podium and be sworn  
in by one of our learned attorneys; and following  
that, we will install the new President.

Okay. Thank you all very much for your  
participation in this unique annual meeting. We  
look forward to seeing you next year as we focus  
on "Training in the 21st Century."

Lunch for the people that are here will be  
at noon in the same place we congregated last  
evening. The reorganization of the Board of  
Directors', the reorganization meeting, will  
begin at 1:00 p.m. at the Sage One; and the

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Trustees will meet in Sage Two, the same hours,

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1:00 to 5:00. Is that the same room that were in

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yesterday?

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MR. BUTTS: We had a whole room, remember?

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MS. ROUNDS: So Trustees is across the

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hall, and the Board of Directors is downstairs.

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MR. KLEIN: This is changed? You failed to

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give me the latest information?

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(Laughter.)

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MS. ROUNDS: Sorry.

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MR. KLEIN: See how fast I've been thrown

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under the bus?

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(Laughter.)

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MR. KLEIN: He knows where the meeting's

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going to be, doesn't he?

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(Laughter.)

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MR. KLEIN: Okay. The self pay dinner

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tonight is in the Ferris Grand Ballroom. Again,

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where we were. I have been told by the learned

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tell twister of the Board of Trustees, who

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arranged for that dinner -- Thank you very much

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for doing that, Fred -- that it's casual, but you

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must be dressed respectfully. So I guess that

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means you have to cover certain things, but it's

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casual, so we'll see you all there.

That being said, I hereby adjourn the Annual Meeting of FASNY. Hopefully we'll never have to do an electronic meeting like this again, because it certainly is a bit unique.

I will now ask the learned attorneys to swear in the people that I identified prior, and then the Assemblymen Tague will install the President following the other officers.

Thank you all. God bless you all and stay safe. Wear your mask, even though it's a pain in the neck, and social distance.

Thank you all.

MR. CARON: Motion.

MR. KLEIN: I have a motion from Mike Caron to adjourn the meeting.

MR. BUTTS: I'll second it.

(Whereupon, the Oath of Office was administered to newly elected and reelected Officers by Attorney Timothy Hannigan).

MR. HANNIGAN: Congratulations to all of you.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: My first official duty as

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Immediate Past President is to ask everybody to remain in the room. The duly elected President would like to address the body before we leave.

Where is the Assemblyman? Assemblyman?

MR. TAGUE: Yes, sir.

MR. KLEIN: I just want to take the time to thank you for coming out and doing this. I really appreciate your support, and you're swearing in a very good man.

MR. TAGUE: Oh, I know that for sure.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you very much for taking the time. I know you do have to be somewhere else, but we do appreciate your time.

MR. TAGUE: I just want to say to everybody here, thank you for your service; and I'm not just a guy that talks about the fire service. I was a volunteer fireman, was the president of my fire department for 10 years, and a lieutenant and a captain for 16, so I understand what you folks are going through. I was so happy to hear earlier when the Secretary and the President both mentioned retention, because that's the problem we have right now in our volunteer services. What people don't realize is that this country

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2 was founded on volunteerism. Those soldiers that  
3 fought in the revolutionary war, they didn't get  
4 paid. They were volunteers. They fought for  
5 what they believed in, and I've always believed  
6 that our fire and EMS services that are  
7 volunteers are the same thing. They give back to  
8 their communities. So I don't want to make a  
9 political speech here, because today's about you  
10 folks and about John, but rest assured, when it  
11 comes to the volunteer fire and EMS, there's  
12 nobody more in Albany that has your back than I  
13 do; and I just want you to know that, because I'm  
14 one of you. I'm one of you. So I just want to  
15 say thank you, and God bless you, each and every  
16 one of you.

17 (Applause.)

18 MR. TAGUE: But I do want to say I am so  
19 honored. This is actually an honor for me to be  
20 here amongst you folks today and that John had  
21 asked me to come and swear him in. I feel very  
22 honored; and those of you here I know you know  
23 John and Marilyn. They are great people. Some  
24 people are good people, John and Marilyn are  
25 great people; and I'm honored that he lives in my

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district; and you know, when I have issues having to do with fire and EMS, the first person I turn to is John Farrell.

So John, you're going to have to raise your right hand and repeat after me.

(Whereupon, the Oath of Office was administered to John P. Farrell by Assemblyman Chris Tague.)

MR. TAGUE: You're new President (Indicating).

(Applause.)

MR. FARRELL: Hey, Chris.

MR. TAGUE: Yes.

MR. FARRELL: I just want to say I know every day, even though you're on the minority side, this man here he fights like hell for the volunteers; and he has people taping him, and when I come home and I get on my phone I can see exactly what he's doing on the floor of the assembly, and from all of us, we want to thank you for your hard work and dedication that you continue to strive day to day to take care of all of us first responders.

Thank you so much.



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MR. TAGUE: Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. FARRELL: I would be remiss if I didn't have a little acceptance speech, because the last four years has really been a training program for me. So I just want to say good morning.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. FARRELL: Reverend Clergy, Board of Directors, Board of Trustees, members and guests. It is truly an honor and a privilege to stand before you today and deliver these remarks as your President of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York.

I am humbled at the trust and the faith that you have bestowed on me as the incoming President of this great organization. With all the opportunities and challenges that come with this acceptance to serve, I am of the belief that this journey will not be smooth if I do it alone. However, I know that will not be the case.

I would like to congratulate my friend, Steve Klein, for his leadership during the past two years. It is an understatement to say that he faced some challenges. Despite it all, he

1  
2 kept FASNY moving forward in the best interests  
3 of this association and our membership. Steve  
4 and I have worked together for almost 20 years,  
5 and it has certainly and truly been an honor to  
6 serve alongside of him. During my four years as  
7 your Vice President, both Steve and Past  
8 President Ken Pienkowski, have helped educate me  
9 on the operation of FASNY; and I would like to  
10 thank both of them for sharing their knowledge,  
11 and most of all, their friendship.

12 I need to also say thank you to my wife,  
13 Marilyn. If it wasn't for her, I certainly  
14 wouldn't be here today. Since my firematic  
15 career began over 49 years ago, her love,  
16 support, encouragement, and counsel -- most  
17 important --

18 (Laughter.)

19 MR. FARRELL: (Continuing) -- have enabled  
20 me to achieve many things; and I thank you with  
21 all my love.

22 To the West Athens Lime Street Fire Company  
23 and the Greene County Volunteer Firemen's  
24 Association, and the Hudson Valley Volunteer  
25 Firemen's Association, what can I say? All of

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you have stood with me from the beginning, and I greatly appreciate you and your support.

This organization provides outstanding resources and information to all of our members in the volunteer fire and EMS services. The Board of Directors, Board of Trustees, our staff at 107, and the staff at the Firemen's Home consistently show high standards of professionalism and dedication to our mission. I would be remiss if I didn't take a moment to applaud the work of the staff at the Firemen's Home. Their efforts during this pandemic has resulted in no cases of COVID-19 among the residents; and there is no better example of their commitment to provide the highest quality of care to our brothers and sisters at the home.

The role of the volunteer fire service has changed drastically over the years. From bucket brigades and riding the tailboard, we have become a New York emergency rapid deployment force. Our historic roles of serving individual communities has grown to see our members sent to different parts of the state and even to other parts of the country to respond to manmade and natural

1  
2 challenges. The right to be called professional  
3 volunteers has been won with our blood and our  
4 sweat.

5 FASNY exists to educate and advocate for  
6 the volunteer fire and EMS services so they can  
7 better serve when called upon. While we meet the  
8 needs of today, we also need to start focusing on  
9 the future. All of our lives have changed in the  
10 response of COVID-19; and during the last four  
11 months, I have realized that both FASNY and the  
12 volunteer fire service needs to change the way  
13 they conduct business, and I take this  
14 responsibility very seriously. The association's  
15 planning methods must be adaptable and our  
16 decision making process must be responsive. More  
17 importantly, I believe that the training must be  
18 the core service that FASNY serves to our fire  
19 and EMS volunteers. With that in mind, the theme  
20 of my two term will be "Training in the 21st  
21 Century."

22 If this virus has shown us anything in the  
23 past, it is that we must think outside the box.  
24 When it comes to training and education, the days  
25 of primarily sitting in a classroom are coming to

1  
2 an end. Just as we have adopted new technologies  
3 and methods to do our job, we must also explore  
4 and adopt new methods to educate and train. The  
5 flexibility of this approach will also assist us  
6 in recruiting and retaining volunteers, because  
7 it will alleviate some of the time pressure we  
8 all feel. Just as we do on the fire ground, we  
9 must embrace and utilize the newest  
10 communications and learning technology. FASNY  
11 must offer more virtual training, online courses,  
12 and innovative learning environments to our  
13 membership. I am also committed to embracing  
14 better communication mechanisms to make us more  
15 available and connected to our membership. I am  
16 extremely happy to inform you that the FASNY  
17 leadership and our training and education  
18 committee has been working on this project for  
19 some time.

20 Andrew Carnegie once said, "Teamwork is the  
21 ability to work together toward a common vision,  
22 the ability to direct individual accomplishments  
23 toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel  
24 that allows common people to attain uncommon  
25 results." I feel very confident that this

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administration will be adaptive to meet the demands of tomorrow. Our committee chairs and members are ready to move forward with another successful year; and together, we will truly achieve uncommon results.

Always remember that we respond for today, but we train for tomorrow. I look forward to working with all of you as we meet tomorrow's challenges.

Thank you. God bless the volunteer fire and EMS services. God bless America.

Thank you very much.

(Standing ovation.)

(Whereupon, the meeting was concluded.)



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