

WHEREAS, it is the sense of the Schodack Town Board to act in accordance with its longstanding traditions, honoring the achievement of those who have given so generously to their community, exemplifying the ideals and values cherished by this great Town, and

WHEREAS, Joseph Belardo has distinguished himself as a person of outstanding ability, establishing a high standard of integrity, and has imparted a sense of fairness and compassion to his position of Schodack Police Lieutenant in the Town of Schodack, and

WHEREAS, Joe has been a life-long resident of the Town of Schodack and a graduate of Maple Hill High School class of 1987, and

WHEREAS, Joe earned an Associate of Arts degree in Criminal Justice in June 1996 from Columbia-Greene Community College, his Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from American InterContinental University in June 2005 and his Masters degree in Criminal Justice from University of Phoenix in August 2008 and is currently working on completing his Doctorate, and

WHEREAS, Joe began his law enforcement career as Court Officer for the Village of Nassau in 1991 serving from March 1991 thru April 1992, as a part-time Police Officer in the Village of Philmont serving from June 1991 thru July 1992, as a part-time Police Officer for the Town of Copake serving from October 1991 thru July 1992, as a part-time New York State Park Police (Taconic Region) Seasonal Police Officer from June 1992 thru July 1992, then as a full-time Rensselaer County Sheriff's Officer with the Highway Patrol Bureau from October 1993 thru October 1994, and with the Village of Chatham as a Police Officer from August 1992 thru November 1995, where he was appointed to the rank of Corporal on February 9, 1995, and

WHEREAS, Joe was appointed to the position of Police Officer with the Town of Schodack on November 13, 1995 under a three year grant agreement received from the U.S. Department of Justice entitled COPS FAST, Joe was appointed as Sergeant on January 1, 2003 and Lieutenant on February 16, 2005, and has served faithfully in this role under Police Chiefs: David Schindler and Bernard Peter and Supervisors Michael Glavin, Joseph McCabe, Eileen Natoli, Beth Secor and Dennis Dowds until his retirement on May 31, 2014, and

WHEREAS, early on, Joe demonstrated his commitment to the community by serving with the Rensselaer County Emergency Response Team, where on March 30, 1999 he assisted in the rescue of a 36 year old female who was

kidnapped from Lebanon, Maine and was being held at the Econo Lodge in East Greenbush which also resulted in the arrest of two subjects related to a double homicide in Maine, all without incident, and

WHEREAS, Joe continued his commitment to the community by serving on the SWAT team as an Incident Field Trainer, as a member of the Schodack PBA and teaching Criminal Justice classes at Bryant & Stratton College, and

WHEREAS, Joe has demonstrated his love of family by being the father of Anthony Belardo, Jordyn Wood and Michael Wood and "Papa Joe" to Noah Wood and devoted husband of Reneé for over eight years, and

WHEREAS, Joe over the years has demonstrated his love of barbequing on his smoker, sprinting between telephone poles and hiking (perhaps to become a 46er)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Legislative Body of the Town of Schodack is moved to honor Joseph Belardo, who has given himself to this community in so many ways and distinguished himself throughout his career bringing great pride to his family, his peers, his associates and his community by being a person of commitment, integrity and an impressive role model for all, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislative Body of the Town of Schodack will pause in its deliberations on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2014 to acknowledge and honor Joseph Belardo, upon his retirement, for his 18 plus years of service to the Town of Schodack and a copy of this resolution, suitably engrossed, will be transmitted to him.