

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
BELGIUM COLD SPRINGS FIRE DISTRICT
VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION
PURSUANT TO REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW §466-A**

WHEREAS, a new Real Property Tax Law §466-a now permits enrolled volunteer firefighters throughout New York State to be eligible to qualify for a partial real property tax exemption on their residential real property subject to approvals by local counties, towns, cities, villages, fire districts, etc.; and

WHEREAS, Real Property Tax Law §466-a requires that local government entities wishing to confer the benefits of said statute on enrolled volunteer firefighters serving within their boundaries hold a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire Districts wishes to consider conferring the partial real property tax exemption benefits of Real Property Tax Law §466-a upon the enrolled volunteer firefighters of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire Department;

NOW, therefore, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire District will hold a public hearing in order to hear public comment on whether or not it should confer the partial real property tax exemption benefits of Real Property Tax Law §466-a upon the enrolled volunteer firefighters of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire Department on Monday, March 20, 2023 commencing at 6:45 p.m. at the fire station located at 7920 River Road Baldwinsville, New York.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the aforesaid matter will be presented to the residents and taxpayers of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire District and the Board of Fire Commissioners for public comment to the Board of Fire Commissioners so that all persons interested in the subject can be heard at such time and place.

Dated: February 21, 2023
Baldwinsville, New York

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
BELGIUM COLD SPRINGS FIRE DISTRICT
TOWN OF LYSANDER

ATTEST:
Amy Speach
FIRE DISTRICT SECRETARY

**RESOLUTION OF THE BELGIUM COLD SPRINGS FIRE DISTRICT
TO GRANT A TAX EXEMPTION TO ELIGIBLE VOLUNTEER
FIREFIGHTERS AS PROVIDED FOR BY REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW §466-a**

WHEREAS, § 466-a of the Real Property Tax Law authorizes the Fire District after a public hearing to grant a tax exemption to enrolled volunteer members of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire Department

WHEREAS the Fire District has conducted the public hearing required by the Statute and elicited public comment on said topic

WHEREAS the Board of Fire Commissions has determined that the granting of the tax exemption will enhance recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters in the Fire Department

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that an exemption be granted at 10% of the assessed value of the real property owned by an enrolled volunteer firefighter who meets the eligibility requirements established in this resolution;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the enrolled member of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire Department must meet the following requirements to be eligible for the tax exemption:

1. The enrolled member must reside in the territory served by the Fire District
2. The property must be the primary residence of the enrolled member
3. The property is used exclusively for residential purposes, provided however, that in the event any portion of such property is not used exclusively for the applicant's residence but is used for other purposes, such portion shall be subject to taxation and the remaining portion only shall be entitled to the exemption provided by this section
4. The enrolled member has been certified by the Chief of the Fire Department or designee to have served at least 2 years of active service and such certification has been approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an enrolled member of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire Department who accrues more than twenty years of active service as certified by the Chief of the Fire Department or designee shall be granted the 10 percent exemption as authorized by this resolution for the remainder of his or her life as long as the property for which the exemption is sought under this resolution is the primary residence of the enrolled member.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the exemption granted under this resolution shall continue for the un-remarried spouse of an enrolled member of the Fire Department who is killed in the line of duty upon the following conditions:

1. The un-remarried spouse is certified by the Chief of the Fire Department or designee as the un-remarried spouse of the volunteer firefighter killed in the line of duty; and
2. The deceased volunteer firefighter had been an enrolled member for at least two years; and

3. The deceased volunteer firefighter had been receiving the exemption prior to his or her death.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the exemption granted under this Resolution shall continue for the un-remarried spouse of a deceased member of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire Department under the following conditions:

1. The un-remarried spouse is certified by the Chief of the Fire Department or designee as the un-remarried spouse of the deceased enrolled member of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire Department
2. The deceased volunteer firefighter has been an enrolled member for at least twenty years
3. The deceased volunteer firefighter has been receiving the exemption prior to his or her death.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any exemption granted under this Resolution shall be filed with the Town of Lysander on the forms designated by the Town; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Fire District is directed to provide the Town of Lysander with a copy of this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be governed by and applied in accordance with Real Property Tax Law §466-a.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THIS RESOLUTION shall be effective as of the date of its adoption.

The adoption of the foregoing resolution will be duly put to a vote and upon roll call.