

ORDINANCE 2001-09

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARDS PROGRAM FOR MEMBERS OF THE HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND THE HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP FIRST AID SQUAD

WHEREAS, the Township of Hardyston deems it appropriate and necessary to ensure retention of existing members and provide incentives for recruiting new volunteer fire fighters and first aid squad members; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Hardyston has determined that the creation of a Length of Service Awards Program will enhance the ability of the Township to retain and recruit volunteer fire fighters and first aid squad members.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Hardyston as follows:

1. A Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP) is hereby created in accordance with Chapter 388 of the Laws of 1997, to reward members of the Hardyston Township Volunteer Fire Department and the Hardyston Township First Aid Squad for their loyal, diligent and devoted services to the residents of the Township of Hardyston.
2. The LOSAP shall provide for fixed annual contributions to a deferred income account for each volunteer member that meets the criteria set forth below; that such contributions shall be made in accordance with a plan that shall be established by the Township of Hardyston pursuant to P.L. 1997, c. 388; and that such plan shall be administered in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey, the United States Internal Revenue Code and this Ordinance.
3. The LOSAP shall provide for annual contributions to each member that meets the following criteria:
  - a. A minimum of 528 annual service points are required for a member of the Hardyston Township First Aid Squad to be eligible for an annual contribution to the LOSAP program, calculated in accordance with the Hardyston Township First Aid Squad LOSAP Service Point System, annexed as Schedule 1 of this Ordinance.
  - b. A minimum of 100 annual service points are required for a member of the Hardyston Township Volunteer Fire Department to be eligible for an annual contribution to the LOSAP program, calculated in accordance with the Hardyston Township Volunteer Fire Department LOSAP Service Point System, annexed as Schedule 2 of this Ordinance.
4. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-191, the Fire Chief and First Aid Squad President shall furnish to the Township Council, by no later than January 10, of the new year annual certification list, under oath, of all volunteer members who have qualified for credit under the award program for the prior year.

5. The Township Council shall review the annual certification list furnished by the Fire Chief and First Aid Squad President and approve the the final annual certification by no later than February 7 of the current year.
6. Five (5) years of service from the effective date of this Ordinance, not necessarily consecutive, shall be required for vesting.
7. The Township's annual contribution shall be \$500 per eligible member.
8. The estimated cost of this program has been calculated at \$50,000 per year.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon presentation as a public question at the next general election, and ratification by the voters, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:13-183 et seq.

The ordinance published herewith was introduced and passed upon first reading at a meeting of the governing body of the Township of Hardyston, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, held on July 17, 2001. It will be further considered for final passage after public hearing thereon, at a meeting of said governing body to be held in the Municipal Building, Stockholm, New Jersey on August 21, 2001 at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as said matter can be reached, at which time and place all persons who may be interested therein will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the same.

Louanne Cular RMC/CMC  
Municipal Clerk