

Township of Nutley

County of Essex, New Jersey

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Hereby Issue this Proclamation on May 28, 2018

Proclamation

WHEREAS, between the years of 1938 and 1942, four Nutley Firemen lost their lives in service to the Township of Nutley; and

WHEREAS, Thomas “Hickey” Woodruff was a career Nutley Fire Fighter from 1931-1938. He was married to Mary Webster Woodruff and they had two children together, Thomas Jr. and Nancy. In his younger years he was known as a great baseball player. He received the nickname “Hickey” because of his fondness for establishing hickory nut hunts. On February 11th, 1938 he died from falling off a 6-foot ladder in headquarters; and

WHEREAS, Captain Frank Zimmerman was a career Nutley Fire Fighter from 1923-1939. He was married to Mae Owens Zimmerman. Frank was named the very first firefighter once the department turned career. In February of 1928 he was promoted to Captain. For a number of years, he had taken great interest and spent many hours repairing toys for the town’s poor children at Christmas time. On September 13th, 1939 Captain Frank Zimmerman experienced having a coronary embolism upstairs in the fire departments dormitory and passed away while on duty; and

WHEREAS, Andrew Miller was a career Nutley Fire Fighter from 1929-1941. He was married to Anna May Miller and left behind a 3-year-old son when he passed. On November 8th, 1941 the Fire Department responded to 66 Elm Place on the report of a working fire. Andrew entered the basement by himself to suppress the fire but slipped going down the stairs and broke his neck and fractured his skull. Captain Earl Manning went down to rescue him but also slipped and broke his own ankle, but continued to search for him and was able to carry him out. He was then transported to St. Mary’s hospital in Passaic where he was pronounced dead; and

WHEREAS, Edward Stroba was a career Nutley Fire Fighter from 1924-1942. He was a widower from his late wife Virginia Seguin. As a child, Edward took up great interest in running and fishing as his hobbies. On the evening of December 19th 1942, just days before Edward was going to announce his engagement to his girlfriend Katherine Stegner, a fire broke out in Katherine’s home at 75 William Street. Edward tried fighting the fire but was overcome by smoke. Outside he was given emergency medical treatment by the Chief of Police along with a few other men. Moments later the town physician ordered for Edward to be transported to the hospital where he was later pronounced dead of smoke suffocation; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, TOWNSHIP OF NUTLEY, COUNTY OF ESSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY that these four Nutley Firemen be posthumously recognized and commended for their service to duty and for their selfless dedication to the residents in the Township of Nutley.