File #:	19-4725 **Version:** 1	**Name:**	ORLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
Type:	Consent Calendar Resolution	**Status:**	Approved
File created:	7/16/2019	**In control:**	Board of Commissioners
On agenda:	7/24/2019	**Final action:**	7/24/2019
Title:	PROPOSED RESOLUTION		

HONORING THE ORLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT'S 125th ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, the year 2019 marks a milestone for the Orland Fire Protection District, celebrating 125 years; and

WHEREAS, the earliest record of organized fire protection in the Orland area included a volunteer fire department flag with the year 1894 sewn on as well as a photo of uniformed members standing in front of a two-story building on Beacon Avenue with State Senator John Humphrey; and

WHEREAS, this early Volunteer Department consisted of a four-man, hand-pulled pumping engine, a hose cart with 500 feet of hose, and 14 members. They used a wood-frame building on Beacon Avenue, which doubled as a village hall and firehouse, to store their equipment; and

WHEREAS, in 1914, Peter J. Pitts was named Fire Marshal. His duties, besides overseeing the volunteers, included cleaning the village water tank for a fee of $5. The Fire Department's budget for the year was $100. The 25-member fire department survived on a small stipend from the village and various fundraisers; and

WHEREAS, under the direction of Chief Carl Quigley, the Department purchased its first motorized vehicle, a 1929 Chevrolet chemical engine, from the Prospect Fire Company for $3,500. The new engine, which served both the town and rural areas, came equipped with a front-mount pump, two forty-gallon water tanks, a tank of bicarbonate of soda and small bottles of sulfuric acid; and

WHEREAS, Arthur Granat Sr., the seminal figure who would later serve 29 years as Fire Chief, joined the volunteer ranks in 1946. Elected fire chief in 1957, Granat, Sr. led the department as it transitioned from a predominantly rural service to a more suburban-oriented one. In 1969, he was instrumental in forming the Orland Fire Protection District after voters approved a referendum the previous year. Chief Granat became the first full-time employee of the Fire District in 1973 and was later honored with the dedication of the Orland Fire Protection District Training Facility in his name; and

WHEREAS, Robert M. Buhs, appointed Fire Chief/Administrator in 1988, oversaw the transition of a small organization to a multi-faceted, modern operation. That year the number of firefighters stood at 26 and the Fire District appropriated $8.7 million. By the Centennial year in 1994, the numbers jumped to 81 firefighters in six stations with the budget swelling to $9.9 million; and

WHEREAS, under the current direction of Chief Michael Schofield, the Orland Fire Protection District continues to provide innovative and cutting-edge service to the residents and visitors to the area, while also being a regional leader in fire safety and training. The Fire District is a multifunction fire protection and life-safety organization with over 117 sworn personnel and 35 support staff and covers 33 square miles; and

WHEREAS, through its community-oriented programs such as the Overdose Prevention and Knox Box Programs, and the generous dedications of used vehicles and equipment to neighboring fire departments, the Orland Fire Protection District provides critical assistance to those in need; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners thank the Orland Fire Protection District for its 125 years of dedicated service to the Orland area and wish them a most enjoyable celebration on July 20, 2019; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of the Honorable Body, and an official copy be tendered to the Orland Fire Protection District in recognition of its 125th Anniversary.

Sponsors: SEAN M. MORRISON

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments:

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
7/24/2019	1	Board of Commissioners	approve	Pass