

**TOWNSHIP OF STILLWATER
COUNTY OF SUSSEX
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-04

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND, REVISE AND SUPPLEMENT
CHAPTER 80 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF STILLWATER, COUNTY OF SUSSEX,
STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ENTITLED “VOLUNTEER
INCENTIVES”/ARTICLE I, ENTITLED “LENGTH OF
SERVICE AWARDS PROGRAM”**

WHEREAS, the Township of Stillwater, in 2002 adopted in accordance with Chapter 388, P.L. 1997, a Length of Service Awards Program (hereinafter referred to as “LOSAP”) to reward eligible volunteer members of the Stillwater Township Area Volunteer Fire Department and/or Stillwater Emergency Rescue/First Aid Squad (hereinafter referred to as “Fire Department” and “Rescue Squad”); and,

WHEREAS, the Township now wishes to amend, revise and supplement Chapter 80 of the Township Code of the Township of Stillwater, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, entitled “Volunteer Incentives”/Article I, entitled “Length of Service Awards Program” to take into account the classes of the Fire Department/Rescue/First Aid Squad and the applicable provisions of law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Stillwater, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, State of New Jersey that the Township Committee wishes to amend, revise and supplement Chapter 80 of the Township Code of the Township of Stillwater, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, entitled “Volunteer Incentives”/Article I, entitled “Length of Service Awards Program” as follows:

§80-1. Establishment.

A Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP) is herewith created in accordance with Chapter 388 of the Public Laws of 1997, to reward volunteer members of the Stillwater Township Area Volunteer Fire Department and, where applicable, Stillwater Emergency Rescue/First Aid Squad for their loyal, diligent and devoted services to the residents of the Township.

§80-2. Contributions; plan; administration of plan.

The LOSAP shall provide for fixed annual contributions to a deferred income account for each volunteer member that meets the criteria set forth below. Such contributions shall be made in accordance with a plan that shall be established for the Township of Stillwater pursuant to P.L.

1997, c. 388 (N.J.S.A. 40A:14-183); 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 Chapter.

§80-3. Criteria for receipt of contributions.

The LOSAP shall provide for annual contributions to each eligible member that meets the following criteria each calendar year (January 1 through December 31) as follows:

| Number of Points | Annual Contribution |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 91 or more | \$1,951.00 |
| 75 to 90 | \$1,408.00 |
| 50 to 74 | \$908.00 |
| 0 to 49 | \$0 |

Starting on January 1, 2026, any such change in the aforementioned contributions above may be amended, revised and/or supplemented by a Resolution of the Stillwater Township Committee, unless the Township Committee chooses to amend Chapter 80 by Ordinance.

§80-4. Cost of program.

The estimated cost of the program has been calculated as follows: for regular annual service \$60,000.00 per year. Starting on January 1, 2026, any such change in the aforementioned estimated cost above may be amended, revised and/or supplemented by a Resolution of the Stillwater Township Committee, unless the Township Committee chooses to amend Chapter 80 by Ordinance.

§80-5. Point Schedule.

Each active volunteer member shall be credited annually, on December 31, with points for volunteer services provided to the Stillwater Township Fire Department and Stillwater Emergency Rescue/First Aid Squad in accordance with the following schedule. Points can be earned in any of the following categories:

A. Incident response: Sixty (60) points maximum.

- (1) At least twenty (20%) percent, but less than forty (40%) percent of all emergency calls per calendar year: Thirty (30) points.
- (2) At least forty (40%) percent, but less than sixty (60%) percent of all emergency calls per calendar year: Forty (40) points.
- (3) At least sixty (60%) percent, but less than eighty (80%) percent of all emergency calls per calendar year: Fifty (50) points.
- (4) At least eighty (80%) percent or greater of all emergency calls per calendar year: Sixty (60) points.

- (5) Percentages (%) for Fire Department members are based on the total number of emergency calls per year. For Rescue/First Aid Squad members, the percentage (%) shall be based on the total number of calls for each member's respective duty crew.
- (6) Members that are both Firefighters and First Aiders/Rescue Squad members can combine points in the above categories, provided they meet the required percentages (%) on separate calls.

B. Longevity: Twenty-five (25) points maximum.

One (1) point per each active service year. For the purpose of this category, "active service" shall be defined as attendance at forty (40%) percent or greater of all Fire Department or First Aid/Rescue Squad activities. Members who are both Firefighters and First Aiders/Rescue Squad members can not combine points in this category.

C. Training courses: Twenty-five (25) points maximum.

(1) Courses under twenty (20) hour duration: Two (2) points per hour, with a maximum of Ten (10) points.

(2) Courses of Twenty (20) to less than Forty-Five (45) hours duration: Ten (10) points per course.

(3) Courses of Forty-Five (45) to less than One Hundred (100) hours duration: Ten (10) points per course.

(4) Courses over One Hundred (100) hours duration: Fifteen (15) points per course.

D. Drills: Forty-Eight (48) points maximum.

Two (2) points per drill minimum two (2) hour drill.

E. Elected or appointed positions: Twenty (20) points maximum.

(1) Completion of one (1) year term in an elected or appointed position equals the following points per title:

(a) Fire Chief; EMS Captain or President: Twenty (20) points.

(b) Assistant Chief, EMS Lieutenant or Vice President: Fifteen (15) points.

(c) Fire Captain, Fire Lieutenant, Fire Foreman, Safety Officer, Fire Police Captain, EMS Second (2nd) Lieutenant, Secretaries, Treasurer or State Association Officers: Ten (10) points.

(d) Engineers: Five (5) points.

(2) Points may be combined for multiple positions held up to the maximum of Twenty (20) points.

F. Attendance at meetings: Twenty (20) points maximum.

Attendance at any official meeting of the Department, Squad, Relief and Exempt Associations, County Association and the State Fireman's Association and Exempt Association caucus and convention: One (1) point per meeting.

G. Miscellaneous Activities: Twenty (20) points maximum.

Attendance at inspections, formal fund-raising activities, public programs and other Fire Department and Rescue Squad/First-Aid Squad activities not falling under one (1) of the other categories: One (1) point per official activity.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Stillwater Township Committee as follows:

1. All ordinances of the Township of Stillwater, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency(ies).
2. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause and/or phrase of this Ordinance is held for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional and/or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining provisions of this Ordinance.
3. This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication as provided by law.

ATTEST:

**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
OF STILLWATER TOWNSHIP**

Valerie Ingles, RMC/CMR

Lisa Chammings, Mayor

DATED: Introduced: February 4, 2025

Adopted: February 18, 2025