

Wilmington, Delaware  
December 14, 2017

**#4462**

**Sponsors:**

**Council  
Members  
Williams  
McCoy**

**Co-Sponsor:**

**Council  
Member  
Turner**

**WHEREAS**, on September 24, 2016, the Wilmington Fire Department's bravest – including Captain Christopher Leach, Lieutenant Jerry Fickes, Jr. and Lieutenant Ardythe Hope – answered the call of duty, setting aside all concerns for their own safety and rushing into a blazing house fire attempting to save the lives of others they believed to be trapped; and

**WHEREAS**, Captain Leach and Lieutenant Fickes were killed in the line of duty on September 24, 2016, and Lieutenant Hope, after courageously fighting for her life, ultimately succumbed to her injuries on December 1, 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, Firefighter Brad Speakman was seriously injured in the fire, and is still recovering; and

**WHEREAS**, the house destroyed by the fire has been demolished, and the lot has remained vacant; and

**WHEREAS**, this location is considered hallowed ground to the members of the Wilmington Fire Department and the families of those whose lives were tragically lost; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wilmington Professional Firefighters Union, Local 1590 is seeking to secure the property as a permanent memorial of the courageous sacrifices of its members.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON**, that City Council supports efforts by the Wilmington Professional Firefighters Union, Local 1590 to preserve the property located at 1927 Lakeview Road as a permanent memorial to the fallen heroes, Captain Christopher Leach, Lieutenant Jerry Fickes, Jr., and Lieutenant Ardythe Hope, who gave their lives for the City they loved.

Passed by City Council,

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Approved as to form this \_\_\_\_\_  
day of December, 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Senior Assistant City Solicitor

**SYNOPSIS:** This Resolution supports efforts by the Wilmington Professional Firefighters Union, Local 1590 to preserve the property located at 1927 Lakeview Road as a memorial to the fallen heroes, Captain Christopher Leach, Lieutenant Jerry Fickes, Jr., and Lieutenant Ardythe Hope, who gave their lives for the City they loved.