

Resolution R-3254

A Resolution Honoring Steve DeJong on his retirement from the Village of Homewood

- WHEREAS,** *Steve DeJong* joined the Homewood Fire Department in November 2000 as a firefighter/paramedic;
- WHEREAS,** *Steve DeJong* holds both a Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration and a Master of Public Administration from Columbia Southern University; and
- WHEREAS,** *Steve DeJong* is certified by the Illinois State Marshal as a Chief Fire Officer and as a Hazardous Materials Specialist; and
- WHEREAS,** *Steve DeJong* was promoted to the rank of Deputy Chief in 2013. During his tenure as Deputy Chief, he played a key role in leading operations, mentoring personnel, and advancing training initiatives within the department; and
- WHEREAS,** *Steve DeJong* served as an instructor for Prairie State College and the University of Illinois, helping to train the next generation of emergency responders; and
- WHEREAS,** *Steve DeJong* was actively involved in the State of Illinois incident management team and served as an incident commander on large-scale responses, including the 2019 Southern Illinois floods, Hurricane Ian, and the Southwest Border Mission in Chicago; and
- WHEREAS,** *Steve DeJong* served his country as a member of the United States Army. He was deployed in Afghanistan from 2004 to 2005 where he was wounded in action and awarded the Purple Heart. He later served an additional deployment to Iraq from 2007 to 2009. In 2015, DeJong retired from the Army with the rank of Command Sergeant Major; and
- WHEREAS,** *Steve DeJong* has been an exceptional leader, mentor, and firefighter throughout his 25-year career with the Homewood Fire Department; and
- WHEREAS,** *Steve DeJong* retired from the Homewood Fire Department on April 3, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Homewood, Cook County, Illinois that

Steve DeJong

be honored and commended for twenty-five years of outstanding, dedicated service to the citizens of Homewood. On behalf of the citizens of Homewood, the President and Board of Trustees hereby extend best wishes to Deputy Chief DeJong as he enters his retirement.

This Resolution passed this 28th day of April, 2026.

ATTEST:

Village President

Village Clerk