Farmingville, NY – At the December 1 Town Board Meeting, Councilman Kevin LaValle honored three Suffolk County Police officers for helping a Centereach family escape a fire in their home. On the night of November 11, off duty Officer James Anson was alerted by his 12-year-old daughter that the house across the street was on fire. Without hesitation, Officer Anson instructed his daughter to call 911 before retrieving a ladder from his garage and rushing over to his neighbor’s house, which by then was fully engulfed in flames. As Officer Anson began to rescue the family who were trapped inside, he was joined by Sixth Precinct Gang Unit Officers William Cope and Donny Calcagno. Soon, firefighters from Centereach Fire Department Engine CO 3, Stony Brook Fire Department, Setauket Fire Department, Coram Fire Department, Selden Fire Department, and Ronkonkoma Fire Department arrived to battle the flames as Officer Anson successfully brought both parents and their 7 and 6 year old sons to safety.

Councilman LaValle said, “The heroic actions by Officers Anson, Cope and Calcagno remind us how the brave men and women of the Suffolk County Police Department put their lives on the line everyday to save lives. I also commend the firefighters who responded to the call and stopped this fire from spreading to other homes in the neighborhood. We owe them all a debt of gratitude for the work they do.”

Pictured left to right are Councilwoman Valerie M. Cartright, Councilwoman Jane Bonner, Officer William Cope, Officer Donny Calcagno, Supervisor Ed Romaine, Officer James Anson, Councilman Kevin LaValle, Councilman Neil Foley, Councilman Dan Panico and Councilman Michael Loguercio.