

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

CITY OF SARATOGA SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 2, 2020

MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM

PRESENT:

- Meg Kelly, Mayor
- Michele Madigan, Commissioner
- Robin Dalton, Commissioner
- John Franck, Commissioner
- Skip Scirocco, Commissioner
- Matthew Veitch, Supervisor
- Tara Gaston, Supervisor



1           MAYOR KELLY: Good evening. Welcome  
2 to city council meeting, Tuesday, June  
3 2nd, 2020.

4           We have one public hearing on the  
5 schedule tonight, and that is community  
6 development block. We have citizen  
7 participation plan amendment.

8           HUD had mandated the city amend its  
9 current citizen participation plan last  
10 updated in 2010 where the CDBG  
11 entitlement program to account for  
12 waivers connected to COVID-related  
13 activities. Updates also include the  
14 elimination of the costly newspaper  
15 advertisements, citizens' participation  
16 procedures for future disaster events,  
17 and inclusion of digital and virtual  
18 methods of public notification and  
19 participation.

20           The citizen participation plan is  
21 established to encourage broad public  
22 participation in the development,  
23 implementation, and ongoing assessment of  
24 the city's community development block  
25 grant entitlement program.



1           At this time, Lisa, do we have  
2           anybody in the waiting room to have --  
3           for public comment? Okay.

4           So we are closing this evening. And  
5           then we will move on to our city council  
6           meeting. However, we have three minutes  
7           to wait, so we're going to mute everybody  
8           and just wait three minutes to start the  
9           meeting.

10           (Pause)

11           MAYOR KELLY: Eric, can you hear me?  
12           If you can, you're muted. Can you  
13           unmute?

14           SUPERVISOR GASTON: Yes, I can hear  
15           you.

16           MAYOR KELLY: No, I'm talking to  
17           Eric. Can Eric hear me?

18           ERIC: Yes, I can.

19           MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Eric, are you  
20           here for a public comment or --

21           ERIC: Yeah. I'm just here to watch  
22           the meeting.

23           MAYOR KELLY: Okay. So we're going  
24           to take you out of this Zoom meeting.  
25           And you can go on to our website. And



1           it's live.

2           ERIC:    Okay.

3           MAYOR KELLY:   Okay?

4           ERIC:    Sounds good.

5           MAYOR KELLY:   Thanks.   Thank you.

6           Okay.   Where is -- is Skip around?

7           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN:   Does he want  
8           to try to come to City Hall?   Rec?

9           MAYOR KELLY:   I don't -- I don't  
10          even -- is -- is that Lynn?   Okay.

11          UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:   Yes, it is.

12          MAYOR KELLY:   Okay.   Thank you,  
13          Lynn.   They keep sending him to  
14          registration, but he's already  
15          registered.   I don't know what that  
16          means.   That's what she said.

17          (Pause)

18          MAYOR KELLY:   Good evening.   We're  
19          back.   We are -- we're still having some  
20          technical difficulties with Commissioner  
21          Scirocco.   So he'll be joining us  
22          hopefully soon.

23          Roll call, please.

24          UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:   Commissioner  
25          Franck?



1 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Present.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Commissioner  
3 Madigan?

4 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Present.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Commissioner  
6 Dalton?

7 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Present.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Mayor Kelly.

9 MAYOR KELLY: Here.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Supervisor  
11 Veitch.

12 SUPERVISOR VEITCH: Here.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Supervisor  
14 Gaston.

15 SUPERVISOR GASTON: Hear.

16 MAYOR KELLY: Please rise for the  
17 pledge of allegiance.

18 (Pledge of allegiance)

19 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. The only  
20 comment is feel free to submit comments  
21 by email, and we will add them to the  
22 record.

23 We have one presentation tonight.

24 And I believe Sean is on the call here

25 with us. And that is fire station number



1           3. And I'll turn it over to Commissioner  
2 Dalton.

3           COMMISSIONER DALTON: Thank you. Do  
4 we do have -- am I muted? No, I'm not.  
5 Wow, look at that.

6           We do have a presentation by Sean at  
7 Hueber Breuer about the needs analysis  
8 for fire station number 3. He is here  
9 with us. I can see him.

10          Hey, Sean. How are you?

11          MR. FORAN: Good. How are you?

12          COMMISSIONER DALTON: I am good. I  
13 will let you take it away.

14          MR. FORAN: All right. Thank you so  
15 much, Robin.

16          And thank you, Mayor Kelly, and the  
17 rest of the board for your time tonight.

18          Just a quick introduction. My name  
19 is Sean Foran. I'm vice president at  
20 Hueber Breuer. I manage the division of  
21 fire protection services on their behalf.  
22 I answered or responded to the RFP that  
23 the city issued late last year in regards  
24 to a feasibility study for fire station  
25 number 3.



1           Just a little bit of quick  
2 background if I could for a few minutes.  
3 As far as experience at Hueber Breuer and  
4 I personally have had in the capital  
5 district region in the last seven years,  
6 we have I believe successfully managed  
7 the Rotterdam District number 7  
8 (indiscernible). We've managed Burnt  
9 Hill Station 2. We've managed the Aplas  
10 (ph.) Station. We've managed Jonesville  
11 Station 2. And we are currently  
12 completing the Charlton Fire District  
13 Station in Charlton. So we do have five  
14 local fire stations that we've managed on  
15 the owners' behalf in the last seven  
16 years in your region.

17           As part of your RFP for feasibility  
18 study for the development of station 3,  
19 the scope of work that was requested that  
20 we included in our proposal includes a  
21 program development process. And I'll --  
22 well, I'll touch on that in a moment. It  
23 included developing a critical path. And  
24 we actually created two critical paths,  
25 kind of an aggressive short version and



1           then a more deliberate longer critical  
2           path as part of our proposal. We did --  
3           we did begin the project budget process.  
4           And we've shared with the group a format  
5           that we use currently to help manage the  
6           fiscal properties of the project.

7                     We did develop strategies regarding  
8           the fixtures, furnishing, and equipment,  
9           and what would possibly be held as an  
10          owner purchased item. And we've  
11          discussed with the group the benefits of  
12          that -- that approach.

13                    We are scheduled to give you a final  
14          report of the findings of the -- the  
15          efforts that the committee has made to  
16          date. And then the last portion of that,  
17          and really what we're waiting to -- to  
18          deliver that final report, the last  
19          portion was to develop a draft or a  
20          design request for proposal to take the  
21          project to the next step. And we have  
22          successfully completed that with  
23          Battalion Chief Aaron Dyer and his group.  
24          So that's a little bit of the scope that  
25          has been requested and that we've been





1 working to fulfill with the group in the  
2 last three months or so, four months.

3 If I could -- if you don't mind, can  
4 we share my screen?

5 COMMISSIONER DALTON: I think so.

6 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Just grab it.

7 MR. FORAN: Oh, is it -- share  
8 screen. Sorry. Thank you.

9 So can you see my screen now?

10 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Yep.

11 MAYOR KELLY: Yeah.

12 MR. FORAN: Okay. So I forwarded  
13 packages with Chief Dyer's help today.  
14 If I could please just share quickly,  
15 this is an update -- I'm sorry, an  
16 overview of the items that I'd like to  
17 share with you tonight, a critical path  
18 for the project, some -- I'd like to  
19 discuss bond counsel and some potential  
20 financial strategies and discussions that  
21 the group has had. I'd like to share  
22 with you quickly the program the  
23 development that we've done, the budget  
24 development that's been achieved.

25 Quick look at our site analysis and



1           how it fits the program that we believe  
2           is appropriate and then also the design  
3           RFP. We have a draft of that -- that's  
4           been reviewed and prepared and -- and  
5           ready for you -- for your review as well.

6           So if there are no questions  
7           about -- I'll go to my next document.  
8           Regarding the critical path, the -- in  
9           our proposal, we shared two critical  
10          paths as I mentioned. And the first  
11          critical path -- or the path that we  
12          followed due to the COVID-19 and the  
13          obvious funding issues that the city now  
14          faces, we are now on our -- what we call  
15          our conservative approach. This is found  
16          in tab 4 of our proposal. But in this  
17          conservative approach, it had our design  
18          team FRP issuance in June of 2020. So in  
19          regards to our overall critical path on  
20          the conservative approach, we are in line  
21          with what our original proposal was.

22          And as we talk more about the design  
23          RFP, you'll see that we believe there's a  
24          lot of good strategies and some solid  
25          reasoning for moving forward with the



1 city's approval for the issuance of the  
2 design RFP. And we'll talk a little bit  
3 about the benefits of that strategy  
4 coming up.

5 The next thing that I would like to  
6 talk about -- and I guess we can -- we  
7 can kind of go to that now. The bond  
8 counsel and financing strategies, right  
9 now in our -- in our previous history in  
10 working with fire departments, I know I  
11 can tell you that one our busiest times  
12 ever was in 2008, 2009, 2010, right after  
13 the stock market crashed and the bond  
14 market was reduced down to almost zero  
15 for public bonding. I believe -- and  
16 people in our industry believe that there  
17 will be a similar bond rate decrease that  
18 will -- may have a tremendous effect on  
19 the long-term cost of this project over a  
20 20 or 30-year bond. And we believe that  
21 it's strongly in the city's favor to be  
22 in a position to move forward with the  
23 project when, in fact, those bond  
24 decreases occur.

25 And as we'll talk about with the



1 design RFP, the issuance of the design  
2 RFP right now does not put the city at  
3 any financial risks. But it's merely a  
4 gathering of information, a gathering of  
5 proposals. And as you'll see when we  
6 look at the RFP, we have structured it in  
7 such a way that we can get schematic  
8 design work done by the design  
9 professionals that would allow us to have  
10 a floorplan, an elevation, and a site  
11 plan developed. And those three things  
12 would position the city well moving  
13 forward with any potential grant monies  
14 that they might seek because of the  
15 recovery from the COVID pandemic.

16 So again, these are all strategies  
17 that we've looked at as a committee. And  
18 I believe they can -- would benefit the  
19 city well in a long-term financing  
20 strategy.

21 I guess I'll take a breath there for  
22 a second. Is there any questions or  
23 comments regarding the bond counsel and  
24 the financing strategies and potential  
25 benefits of having the project in a -- in



1 a ready position come next spring/summer?

2 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: You know, it  
3 sounds good. And I look forward to  
4 seeing, you know, the RFP that you put  
5 together. You might be right about what  
6 bond counsel is indicating. You know, I  
7 have a report later tonight on my agenda.  
8 And we went out to bond today actually  
9 and received very good interest rates.  
10 So, you know, we are working pretty much  
11 hand-in-hand with our bond counsel and  
12 fiscal advisors, looking to them for  
13 guidance as well. So maybe at some point  
14 in time we should just all sort of whoop  
15 together and see what the timing is like  
16 and what the market is like and take it  
17 from there.

18 COMMISSIONER DALTON: And I just  
19 want to reiterate again that no extra  
20 money is being spent right now by the  
21 city. This is all part of an RFP that  
22 was put out last year that has been  
23 answered by Hueber Breuer because I know  
24 that -- I'm sure we look at some people  
25 who are thinking that we're continuing to



1 spend money on the project when, in fact,  
2 we're just going over the results of the  
3 RFP response that Hueber Breuer has  
4 provided for us.

5 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: That's right.

6 MR. FORAN: That's correct, Robin  
7 and Michele. And this is part of the  
8 original scope that I was engaged for  
9 back in January. And like I said, it's  
10 not a -- it's not a commitment on the  
11 city's behalf to expend any additional  
12 dollars for the project. It's merely to  
13 put yourself in a position to review  
14 those costs.

15 And along those lines, the -- I  
16 know -- I just put another project out to  
17 bid for design services. And right now,  
18 as a rule of thumb, a lot of the design  
19 forms that work on public facilities such  
20 as fire stations also engage in public  
21 work for school projects. And most  
22 school districts have pulled their  
23 projects completely and were finding that  
24 the design teams are extremely hungry  
25 right now. And we believe you'll get



1           beneficial pricing at this point -- at  
2           this timeframe from the design teams.  
3           Even though they're -- a bulk of their  
4           work may happen six, nine, twelve months  
5           from now, we can still get their  
6           proposal, and we can have an interview  
7           with the. And we can engage them with  
8           the understanding that it would be a --  
9           on a -- to proceed later.

10                 Okay. So we saw -- it was amazing.  
11           We saw costs in the fifty to sixty-  
12           percent range of what we normally see for  
13           typical projects. There -- there is --  
14           this could be a hundreds of thousands of  
15           dollars of benefit to the city over the  
16           long run I believe if we can issue this  
17           RFP and review in the June/July timeframe  
18           versus fall or winter when things might  
19           change.

20                 If it's okay -- if there's no other  
21           questions, let me go if I could,  
22           please -- so part of the things -- one of  
23           the things that we looked at is,  
24           obviously, the program -- the size of the  
25           building, if you will, drives the cost of



1 the project.

2 One of the first things -- and,  
3 obviously, one of the largest spaces that  
4 commits -- that requires financial  
5 commitment is the fire bay spacing. So I  
6 forwarded this package -- and I'm not  
7 sure how many people have access to  
8 the -- to the literature I forwarded out  
9 to the city yesterday. But if you can  
10 take -- so on this drawing here, it's a  
11 very simple drawing. But what we did is  
12 an analysis of the equipment that you  
13 have and the space that would be required  
14 to house it.

15 And it's -- again, it's not very  
16 fancy, but it's driven off of need. And  
17 it basically depicts a fire bay area that  
18 would be ninety feet long by sixty-four  
19 feet wide. So when we're doing our  
20 budgeting, this was the basis of the fire  
21 bay spacing. And that is -- again, it's  
22 a large chunk of the building. And it's  
23 a -- it confirms that our -- our  
24 perceptions on the need of the fire bay  
25 space are accurate.





1 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Sean, so let  
2 me --

3 MR. FORAN: At this --

4 COMMISSIONER DALTON: -- interrupt  
5 for a sec. Is this something you guys  
6 have in front of you that you're looking  
7 at?

8 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Was emailed  
9 to us.

10 COMMISSIONER DALTON: It was sent --  
11 is there any chance we can put it up on  
12 the screen, Sean, or no?

13 MR. FORAN: I've got it on my screen  
14 right now. I don't know --

15 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Oh. Do you  
16 guys have it on your screen now?

17 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: No, I --

18 MAYOR KELLY: I have the overview.  
19 I have the first page. I have --

20 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Me too.

21 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Yeah.

22 COMMISSIONER DALTON: That's what I  
23 have too.

24 MR. FORAN: Hang on one second.  
25 Maybe I'm doing something wrong.



1 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Okay.

2 MR. FORAN: I'm trying to -- how do  
3 I share screen again? Sorry.

4 COMMISSIONER DALTON: That's okay.

5 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Somewhere at  
6 the bottom. On the bottom there's a  
7 share screen icon.

8 MR. FORAN: Meeting control. It  
9 says here -- oh, new share. I'm sorry.

10 COMMISSIONER DALTON: That's okay.  
11 I just wanted to make sure we were all  
12 looking at the --

13 MR. FORAN: Do you have it now?

14 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Yes. There we  
15 go.

16 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Thank you.

17 COMMISSIONER DALTON: That's -- yes.

18 MR. FORAN: Okay. Thank you. I'm  
19 sorry.

20 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Thanks. No,  
21 no. That's all right.

22 MR. FORAN: So this is just a quick  
23 layout that we did of that fire bay space  
24 that demonstrates how we're -- we plan on  
25 spacing the engines and the size of the



1 doors and so forth. And it confirms our  
2 ninety by sixty-four fire bay spacing is  
3 appropriate. Is everybody able to see  
4 that okay?

5 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Yes.

6 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Yes, thank  
7 you.

8 MR. FORAN: Okay. So -- and if I  
9 could just share for a minute, one of the  
10 main components -- and we have somewhat  
11 of a unique approach to our program  
12 development, a little bit different from  
13 a design approach. Chief and his people  
14 were good enough to spend a day in  
15 Syracuse. And we literally toured three  
16 fire stations in the Syracuse area that  
17 have been completed in the five years.

18 Instead of sitting at a table and  
19 trying to extract from them how big does  
20 your room need to be -- for example,  
21 we'll use the radio room an example. I  
22 showed them three different types of  
23 radio rooms that are all used in  
24 different manners. And they were able to  
25 say that works for me.



1           So this program that we've put  
2 together is really a blend of three fire  
3 stations, different rooms from different  
4 stations. But with this process, having  
5 the end user standing in the room  
6 already, we feel confident that the  
7 spacing of the rooms is appropriate for  
8 their needs.

9           So if I stop that share now, and if  
10 I go to -- so what -- the first thing we  
11 did when we create this is we have -- we  
12 create a square footage sheet. And how  
13 do -- sorry, why does that go away?

14           COMMISSIONER DALTON: It's okay.  
15 Take your time.

16           MR. FORAN: Sorry. I'm trying,  
17 guys.

18           COMMISSIONER DALTON: No, that's all  
19 right.

20           MR. FORAN: Zoom meeting.

21           COMMISSIONER DALTON: Hi, Skip.

22           COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Hi.

23           MAYOR KELLY: The bottom -- the  
24 green icon. Are you trying to share  
25 something, Sean?



1           MR. FORAN: Yeah. I'm -- sorry. It  
2 says exit. No. There we go. Share  
3 screen. I'm sorry. Thank you, Mayor.

4           MAYOR KELLY: Um-hum.

5           MR. FORAN: If is how you next  
6 the square footage -- there you go. Did  
7 you get the square footage sheet?

8           COMMISSIONER DALTON: Yes. That's  
9 awesome.

10          MAYOR KELLY: Yes.

11          COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Yes.

12          MR. FORAN: All right. So this  
13 is -- this is a brief description and  
14 overview of the process that we went  
15 through to develop the needs of the fire  
16 department. And you can -- you can see  
17 we made some revisions. We were  
18 originally -- I can tell you the group  
19 was at approximately 17,000 square feet  
20 on our first run-through. And that was  
21 producing budget numbers that we -- that  
22 we felt were going to be excessive. So  
23 we went back and we changed things. For  
24 example, you can see we originally had a  
25 training space in there of twenty-four by



1 thirty. We found ways to use meeting  
2 rooms and other rooms to meet that need.  
3 So we were able to reduce the square  
4 footage by about a thousand square feet.

5 You can see in the bottom, this is  
6 not a process right now where we draw  
7 everything and we draw every corridor.  
8 You can see on the bottom -- I can -- I  
9 utilize a percentage of twenty percent of  
10 the administrative space to understand  
11 what we need for circulation and mop  
12 closets and things of that nature.

13 So right now we have a -- budgeted  
14 area of 16,000 square feet. It would be  
15 the goal of the -- the fire station 3  
16 committee in working with the design team  
17 to continue to discuss those spaces and  
18 see how we could potentially further  
19 minimize that space without being too  
20 shortsighted for the future.

21 So I'm going to -- that is a  
22 process -- you can see the different  
23 rooms that we've -- we've engaged. We do  
24 have -- one of the things that's  
25 important to the city -- I know right now



1           you're struggling with some evidence  
2           storage space constraints. We do have a  
3           committed 400 square feet for that. We  
4           have a committed 300 square feet for  
5           record storage. And then most of the  
6           other spaces are pretty -- pretty  
7           standard for a fire station design of  
8           today.

9                        We are utilizing mezzanines in the  
10           fire station. They are extremely cost-  
11           effective spaces. And they also provide  
12           very good training opportunities. So  
13           we're being careful with this. We look  
14           at this to try and maximize mezzanine  
15           space whenever we can.

16                      COMMISSIONER DALTON: Sean, you  
17           probably don't have this information.  
18           But just as a comparison, any chance you  
19           know -- I should know this -- ballpark  
20           what the fire station we have right now  
21           on Lake Avenue is in terms of square  
22           footage? I'm asking the chief just  
23           because I think it would be a good -- a  
24           good comparison as we look at the square  
25           footage.



1           MR. FORAN: I think it's around  
2 twelve-five if I can remember, twelve-  
3 five.

4           COMMISSIONER DALTON: Okay.

5           MR. FORAN: 13,000. I think it's in  
6 that range.

7           COMMISSIONER DALTON: Okay. So this  
8 isn't like enormously bigger. It's --

9           MR. FORAN: No. No. It's -- just  
10 to look at it in comparison, if you will,  
11 the smallest station I've ever  
12 constructed is the one in Charlton right  
13 now. And it's just under 11,000 square  
14 feet. And it only has three -- it has  
15 three apparatus bays. It has parking for  
16 three engines. You have parking for six  
17 engines.

18           The other big thing is you have --  
19 the other thing that drives your square  
20 footage is you have to have the bunk  
21 space available and the lockers and the  
22 showers and so forth that volunteer  
23 stations don't have to commit that space  
24 to. So for a fully staffed career  
25 station, this is -- I'm doing one in the





1 city of Auburn right now. It's 32,000  
2 square feet.

3 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Oh. Okay.  
4 Sorry. That was just --

5 MR. FORAN: Yep. No. But that --  
6 just to give you perspective on the -- on  
7 the range of them.

8 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Thank you.

9 MR. FORAN: So I'll stop this share.  
10 And if I go to -- see if I can do it this  
11 time. So along with that, we obviously  
12 created a magnitude of cost. And if I --  
13 if I share -- hey, look at that, I may  
14 have got it right the first time.

15 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Maybe we don't  
16 need to share this one screen.

17 MR. FORAN: Are you being serious  
18 or --

19 COMMISSIONER DALTON: No.

20 MR. FORAN: -- do you want me to  
21 share it?

22 COMMISSIONER DALTON: No. That's a  
23 joke. I'm sorry.

24 MR. FORAN: Okay.

25 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Sorry, bad



1           joke.

2                   MR. FORAN:  So -- so we worked on --  
3           we worked on magnitudes of cost.  And  
4           this is -- this magnitude of cost is just  
5           to start the committee in the right -- on  
6           the right path.  And also, one of the  
7           keys to doing a good feasibility study  
8           with a non-designed based entity is it  
9           helps us create a budget for the project  
10          that's realistic.  The design teams are  
11          going to base their fees on the -- on the  
12          stated budget for the construction  
13          portion of the project.

14                   So when we put this -- the RFP that  
15          is in front of you, you'll see we show an  
16          estimated construction cost of 5.5  
17          million dollars.  And that's what we want  
18          them to be bidding on because they're  
19          going to bid a percentage of that number,  
20          whether it be five percent, six percent,  
21          seven percent.  They all -- and I'll be  
22          honest with you.  I don't understand why  
23          they use that number, but that's normally  
24          what the lean to.

25                   So if you look at this right now,



1 we're -- I'm thinking seven to eight  
2 percent is the going rate. I really  
3 believe that you will see design fees  
4 below 300,000 dollars based on today's  
5 COVID situation. You see I have allowed  
6 340 dollars as square foot for  
7 construction. You will have some bond  
8 legal miscellaneous.

9 We do carry a design contingency on  
10 the 5.5-. And then we carry a  
11 construction contingency. So right now  
12 this is being budgeted at 6.7-. The goal  
13 would be to get this further reduced down  
14 towards the six-million-dollar number,  
15 even lower. We're not done -- we're not  
16 done analyzing fully the budget until we  
17 get some schematic design done. But  
18 the -- my goal in being successful for  
19 you and -- you know, as in interviewed,  
20 my goal is to get you the most cost-  
21 effective station I can that'll meet your  
22 long-term needs.

23 So I did put a little note on this  
24 just for information. So in the -- as we  
25 move forward, once -- if we're -- we move



1 forward and get a design team engaged,  
2 for every thousand square feet we can  
3 reduce this building by, we can -- we can  
4 reduce the budget by approximately  
5 400,000 dollars. So we're going to  
6 continue to look at space analysis and  
7 see how we can do things smarter and  
8 better. But we do need some design help  
9 at this point to better that effort and  
10 to narrow in better on that budget.

11 I can share with you the last -- the  
12 last four or five projects I've done,  
13 this magnitude of cost that I have  
14 created, every time we have gone to bond  
15 market for the project, it has either  
16 been at this number or less than this  
17 number. So we have never -- this number  
18 will not grow. It should go down, if  
19 anything.

20 Are there any questions or comments  
21 on the magnitude of costs that I have up  
22 on the screen?

23 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: I just want  
24 to point out that from the very  
25 beginning, you have been so cost-



1           conscious and budget-focused. And that,  
2           of course, really resonates with me well  
3           and the entire city council. And, you  
4           know, nice job putting this budget  
5           together and, you know, telling us how  
6           accurate you are and including the  
7           contingency.

8                         And, you know, I know you could  
9           build a fire station for a lot more money  
10          than this. So you know, I do appreciate  
11          the care and detail that you've put in  
12          focusing on this budget and on these  
13          numbers.

14                        COMMISSIONER DALTON: Me too.

15                        MR. FORAN: Thank you.

16                        COMMISSIONER DALTON: Well said.

17                        MR. FORAN: Thank you. Thank you,  
18          ladies. And I don't -- I -- you know,  
19          it's important -- it's important that  
20          information -- I work for you. I'm here  
21          to consult you to the best of my ability.  
22          And I don't want to put unrealistic  
23          numbers in front of you. But I also  
24          don't want to put numbers in front of you  
25          that are so safe that it doesn't allow



1           you to make good decision moving forward.  
2           It's easy to budget this at nine million  
3           dollars and look like a hero at the end.  
4           But we -- I believe it's in your best  
5           interest to try and narrow down this  
6           budget the best we can and then work with  
7           the design team and the fire department,  
8           the other city officials, to hit that  
9           budget. So that's kind of the approach  
10          we've been using.

11                   MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

12                   MR. FORAN: The -- if I can get rid  
13           of this. And I had stop share. And I  
14           had -- oh, hang on. Sorry. Stuttering  
15           around here a little bit.

16                   I wanted to show you quickly if I  
17           could the cite plan and with a word of  
18           caution. On the site plan, this -- the  
19           intent of this site plan is only to  
20           verify that the site that you have --  
21           that you have, you know, obtained -- that  
22           the station that we're talking about will  
23           physically fit on the site. So in other  
24           words, if your site was only 1.2 acres or  
25           something like that, there's no sense in



1           developing a 16,000-square-foot building  
2           that you can't fit on the site.

3           COMMISSIONER DALTON: Right.

4           MR. FORAN: So we take it --

5           COMMISSIONER DALTON: I'm sorry.

6           MR. FORAN: We --

7           COMMISSIONER DALTON: Not to  
8           interrupt. I just want to reiterate to  
9           people that this isn't exactly what it's  
10          going to look like. This is just to show  
11          that needs that we have are fulfilled by  
12          the site.

13          MR. FORAN: That's correct. And it  
14          literally just an exercise in how -- how  
15          would it fit on the site and is -- is it  
16          crowding the property lines, or does it  
17          have room for the property lines. You  
18          can see that dark black line I believe is  
19          the final property line. This is the  
20          revised survey that was provided to me by  
21          the city. I know there's one survey out.  
22          And I think there was some tweaks to some  
23          property lines or some shared spaces or  
24          whatever it was, part of the agreement.

25          But my -- my comment regarding this



1 site plan is simple: the site will  
2 accommodate your building, whether it's  
3 14-, 15-, 16-, 17,000 square feet. This  
4 site will accommodate this fire station  
5 without a problem from a -- from a size  
6 perspective. Okay? And this is --  
7 believe it or not, this is one of the  
8 first things we do whenever we started  
9 developing a project because, obviously,  
10 you've got to have some site  
11 considerations. But this site -- this  
12 site is ample, and it's not a problem.  
13 Is everybody okay with that -- that  
14 process and what it's meant to  
15 represents?

16 MAYOR KELLY: Yeah.

17 MR. FORAN: Stop share.

18 And then let me just see. I think I  
19 have -- I think I have one -- then the  
20 last item that I'd like to share with  
21 you -- I'm sorry. I hope I'm not taking  
22 up too much time. The last item I'd like  
23 to share with you is the design RFP.  
24 This is a twenty-seven or twenty-eight  
25 page document that we have prepared. And





1 I know -- I know Robin and Michele I  
2 think have looked at it. I know Chief  
3 Dyers put a lot of time into it. We've  
4 structured it in such a way that we'll be  
5 getting fee proposals broken down into  
6 three distinct segments, the first being  
7 just conceptual design. I would  
8 anticipate that conceptual design to be  
9 somewhere between eight and ten percent  
10 of the total design costs. So once we  
11 receive all of these bids, we can analyze  
12 them -- or these proposals, I'm sorry.  
13 Once we receive these proposals, we can  
14 analyze them. And then the city can make  
15 a decision as to if they want to engage a  
16 firm to move forward with just a  
17 schematic design phase.

18 And again, to just -- to reiterate  
19 quickly, I believe there's great value in  
20 the city completing the schematic design  
21 phase now so that when the economy  
22 recovers and the bond market and the  
23 interest rates are in a position for you  
24 to move forward, you can. But right now  
25 you are going to get the most competitive



1 design pricing that you're going to see  
2 in the next two years I think.

3 MAYOR KELLY: That's great. Thank  
4 you, Sean. That was a great  
5 presentation.

6 Any comments by the council?

7 COMMISSIONER DALTON: I also just  
8 wanted to point out that the importance  
9 of having the schematic design in place  
10 is that if we have these documents in  
11 place, we can then take them and go to  
12 our legislatures and apply for any monies  
13 that might be out there to fund a project  
14 like this. Like they're going to require  
15 some very specific and basic design plan.  
16 And if we don't have those, we can't  
17 start that process of trying to get grant  
18 money from the feds and from the state.

19 MAYOR KELLY: Right. I agree  
20 with --

21 MR. FORAN: That's correct.

22 MAYOR KELLY: Any other questions or  
23 comments?

24 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: I just want  
25 to thank you, Sean, for the presentation



1 and for, again, your attention to detail,  
2 especially on cost. I mean, even  
3 pre-COVID you were focused on cost. I  
4 mean, it's one of the reasons I, you  
5 know, was so taken in with your firm.  
6 And so thank you very much.

7 MR. FORAN: Thank you. I appreciate  
8 it.

9 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you, Sean.

10 MR. FORAN: All right. Are you guys  
11 done with me?

12 MAYOR KELLY: Yes, we are.  
13 Goodnight. Thank you.

14 MR. FORAN: Thank you so much, Mayor  
15 Kelly. I appreciate your time.

16 MAYOR KELLY: You bet.

17 Okay. Moving on, our agenda,  
18 there's no executive sessions tonight.  
19 The consent agenda, are there any  
20 comments or edits as published? I move  
21 that the city council approve the consent  
22 agenda as included with this agenda.  
23 This is a motion. Is there a second?

24 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Second.

25 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Second.



1           MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion? All  
2 those in favor say aye.

3           IN UNISON: Aye.

4           MAYOR KELLY: Any oppose? The  
5 matter passes.

6           On to the mayor's department. My  
7 first item is recent -- regarding recent  
8 events in Minneapolis. Recent days  
9 remind us that we all need to speak when  
10 we see injustice. The events in  
11 Minneapolis last week that saw a black  
12 man pleading for his life under the knee  
13 of an officer while several other  
14 officers either assisted or stood by can  
15 only happen again if each of us -- each  
16 of us forget our outrage.

17           All of us must galvanize our current  
18 feelings and demand change in our  
19 institutions that allow such racial  
20 discriminations. I know that Saratoga  
21 Springs is a city to lead this. And I  
22 just wanted to make this comment. I  
23 don't know if anybody else has any other  
24 comments. But I do believe that our  
25 police department is the leader of this,



1           you know, charge. They went out there.  
2           They took a knee with the protestors the  
3           other day. It was just something that,  
4           you know, our policemen and policewomen  
5           really know our community. And they --  
6           they work very hard at all relations.

7           COMMISSIONER DALTON: I agree. I  
8           want to second that, Mayor. I think you  
9           said it -- you articulated that  
10          perfectly. And I think the images that  
11          we've seen of our police department and  
12          the solidarity that they have shown with  
13          the protestors that we've had here in  
14          Saratoga really -- those pictures speak a  
15          thousand words to me.

16          And I'm just hoping that we can  
17          continue to calmly express our outrage in  
18          a way that doesn't lead to some of the  
19          rioting and physical destruction that  
20          we've seen in other cities because I know  
21          that's just not us. So I'm grateful that  
22          we have the police department that we  
23          have and that we're able to kind of send  
24          this message as a city.

25          MAYOR KELLY: Right. And I just



1 want to add, there's a few things. You  
2 know, I've been talking to the chief, as  
3 Commissioner Dalton was. And they've  
4 given me a list of training things that  
5 they do as a department. They bring in  
6 local and national speakers to speak  
7 about these types of incidents. They  
8 talk with all different people from all  
9 different walks of life, including  
10 different color races to understand and  
11 be able to communicate with them better.  
12 Our police department was the first in  
13 the area to utilize the body cameras  
14 which are very, very important in  
15 situations like this. They are used for  
16 all calls of service. We have 120  
17 cameras and monitors. We have monitors  
18 in the cars. We have -- we have cameras  
19 all over the city that we're constantly  
20 monitoring our downtown. So it's really  
21 hard to -- you know, to be a bad person  
22 in Saratoga Springs I'm going to tell you  
23 because you are being watched all over  
24 this city.

25 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Yeah. And



1 (indiscernible) said before about the  
2 training is really critical. And I know  
3 the department -- we're committing to  
4 continuing that training as best we can,  
5 given the budget situation we're in. But  
6 I just wanted to add that in as well.

7 Yes. The videos -- you are being watched  
8 like wherever you go here as well. So --

9 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: I remember  
10 back many years ago sitting in a budget  
11 workshop with Chief Veitch and talking  
12 about body cameras at the time. We've  
13 been using them for a long time now.  
14 Kudos to our police department. There  
15 had been some great pictures out on  
16 social media. Charlie Samuels who's, you  
17 know, a published photographer and the  
18 New York Times took some amazing picture  
19 of our police department, our chiefs with  
20 the peaceful protestors. I was proud to  
21 be with Commissioner Dalton and Mayor  
22 Kelly on Sunday with peaceful protestors.  
23 I saw a very touching post by Lt. Brisco  
24 (ph.) on social media talking about our  
25 police department and how we work well



1 with our community. Things do need to  
2 change in our country. And, you know,  
3 it's sad that -- it's unfortunate that  
4 it's coming at the tragic murder and  
5 death of George Floyd. But let's be  
6 hopeful that things are going to change.

7 But I will say that we have a  
8 phenomenal police department that works  
9 well with our community.

10 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you. Any other  
11 comments? Okay.

12 My next item is an announcement,  
13 2020 census self-reporting reminder. The  
14 city of Saratoga Springs' current  
15 self-response rate has been flat at sixty  
16 percent for the last few weeks. New York  
17 State self-response is currently at  
18 fifty-five percent. So we're ahead of  
19 the statewide average, but we'd like to  
20 see this rate increase even more.

21 It cannot be overstated how  
22 important that completing the census is  
23 for Saratoga Springs. The more  
24 information our city provides for the  
25 census, the more likely we will receive





1 critical funding over the coming years.  
2 Please complete the census. Visit  
3 2020census.gov.

4 My third item is an announcement,  
5 municipal smart city streetlight  
6 conversion and evolving technology  
7 guidebook is released. The county  
8 district transportation committee, the  
9 CDTC, commissioned the development of the  
10 municipal smart city streetlighting  
11 conversion and evolving technology  
12 guidebook as a part of their smart city  
13 communities program. The CDTC  
14 collaborated with the city of Saratoga  
15 Springs in 2019 to create the guidebook  
16 and to explore the potential benefits of  
17 smart streetlight conversions and the  
18 type of infrastructure and technology  
19 available.

20 Working on the guidebook led to a  
21 clear understanding of the benefits of  
22 the smart streetlighting and LED  
23 conversion. New streetlighting  
24 technology can improve public safety,  
25 make our neighborhoods and downtown safer



1 and more sustainable, and provide better  
2 public spaces such as access to free  
3 wireless internet. Making large  
4 investments in infrastructure will be  
5 difficult in the coming year. But this  
6 guidebook lays -- lays the framework for  
7 the next steps as we consider our  
8 options.

9 Saratoga Springs is a test case for  
10 this guidebook so other communities in  
11 the capital region can use the lessons we  
12 learn to understand their choices.

13 My next item is discussion and vote,  
14 community development block grant  
15 participation plan amendment. This item  
16 is being voted on. This was our public  
17 hearing, and this is what will go down in  
18 tonight. I move that the city council  
19 authorize the community development block  
20 grant participation plan amendment as  
21 included with this agenda. This is a  
22 motion. Is there a second?

23 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Second.

24 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion? All  
25 those in favor say aye.



1           IN UNISON: Aye.

2           MAYOR KELLY: All those in favor say  
3 aye.

4           IN UNISON: Aye.

5           MAYOR KELLY: Thank you. Any  
6 opposed? The matter passes.

7           My next item is a presentation,  
8 community development, citizens advisory  
9 committee, 2020 community development  
10 block grant consolidated plan priority  
11 recommendation.

12           Last week the city council received  
13 a memo from Lindsey Connors, the  
14 community development planner, outlining  
15 the committee's recommendations for the  
16 city's 2020 CDBG consolidated plan  
17 priorities. The committee's chair, Rich  
18 Ferguson, will formally present these  
19 recommendations to the council tonight.  
20 These recommendations are based on data  
21 and public input gathered in the fall and  
22 winter of 2019 and have been updated to  
23 include -- and include -- to include new  
24 community needs arising from the impacts  
25 of the coronavirus.



1           And at this time, I'll turn it over  
2           to Rich Ferguson, the chair of the  
3           committee.

4           MR. FERGUSON: Good evening. And  
5           thank you, Mayor, and all of you for  
6           giving me time this evening to discuss  
7           this.

8           I've been asked to read into the  
9           record the 2020 community development  
10          block grant consolidated plan priorities  
11          narrative. This has been amended to  
12          include COVID-19 related needs  
13          priorities.

14          "The U.S. Department of Housing and  
15          Urban Development requires all  
16          entitlement communities to create a  
17          Consolidated Plan. The Consolidated Plan  
18          identifies the City's housing and  
19          community development needs and presents  
20          a Strategic Plan establishing the City's  
21          housing and community development  
22          priorities for a 5-year period. Each  
23          year, the City solicits applications from  
24          organizations seeking funding for  
25          activities designed to address these



1 priorities.

2 "The Community Development Citizen  
3 Advisory Committee, the CDCAC, reviews  
4 all applications for eligibility and  
5 examines them with respect to the  
6 prioritized needs of the City's Strategic  
7 Plan. The Committee then offers its  
8 recommendations, that is the annual  
9 Entitlement Action Plan, to the City  
10 Council for approval.

11 "During the fall-winter of 2019, the  
12 City's Community Development Planner, in  
13 connection (sic) with the CDCAC,  
14 completed a data collection process to  
15 provide the basis to develop the funding  
16 priorities within the City's 2020  
17 Consolidated Plan. This data collection  
18 process included the creation of a  
19 comprehensive survey regarding CDBG  
20 eligible community development needs in  
21 the City. The survey was distributed to  
22 all service providers within the Saratoga  
23 North-Country Continuum of Care, the CoC,  
24 other local service providers, and the  
25 general public.



1           "Data considered by CDCAC to  
2           establish its priority funding  
3           recommendations include:

4           "The CDBG Consolidated Plan Survey  
5           results and public comments.

6           "Current continuum of care strategic  
7           plan.

8           "Successes and shortcomings of  
9           activities funded to address the prior  
10          Consolidated Plan priorities.

11          "Affordable housing added to local  
12          housing stock in the last five years.

13          "Profile of local homeless  
14          population via the continuum of care  
15          data, that being age, sex, race, family  
16          type, number of veterans, number of  
17          chronically homeless, and the number of  
18          disabled, et cetera.

19          "Current services and emergency  
20          shelter and transitional housing spaces  
21          available with consideration to placement  
22          restrictions.

23          "Current location of City's low-mod  
24          areas.

25          "And possible environmental impacts.



1           "Possible priorities were evaluated  
2 based on the following:

3           "Demonstrable need in the City.

4           "The existence of local agencies to  
5 address identified need.

6           "Potential for projects that are  
7 CDBG eligible.

8           "Potential for low environmental  
9 impact projects.

10           "Alignment with the CoC Strategic  
11 Plan.

12           "The Strategic Plan identifies the  
13 City's 'philosophy of investment' for  
14 CDBG funding and presents priority  
15 housing and non-housing community  
16 development needs.

17           "It is the City's intent to  
18 encourage collaboration among the private  
19 sector, the non-profit community, and  
20 local government to promote and fund  
21 activities that meet the needs identified  
22 in this Strategic Plan.

23           "Our guiding principles:

24           "The highest funding priority is for  
25 activities that address the 'continuum'



1 of housing needs from homelessness  
2 prevention to the creation of new,  
3 permanent affordable housing.

4 "Activities addressing 'high  
5 priority' needs have the greatest  
6 opportunity for funding; 'Medium  
7 priority' activities may be funded but  
8 must show substantial leveraged funding.

9 "Special consideration is given to  
10 activities that serve high-risk or  
11 presumed benefit groups, such as domestic  
12 violence victims, at-risk youth, elderly,  
13 severely disabled adults, homeless  
14 persons, illiterate adults, persons  
15 living with AIDS, migrant farm workers,  
16 human-trafficking victims, and other  
17 populations as deemed appropriate by the  
18 CDCAC.

19 "Successful applicants for  
20 Entitlement Action Plan funding will:

21 "Specifically respond to the  
22 priority needs identified in this plan.

23 "Identify specific accomplishments  
24 to gauge project success.

25 "Include, on average, at least





1           twenty percent of funding leveraged from  
2           other resources.

3                 "Priority permanent housing needs.

4                 "The creation of affordable housing  
5           represents an overarching priority for  
6           the City. However, highest priority will  
7           be given to activities that fulfill this  
8           need through rehabilitation of existing  
9           buildings and/or acquisition of existing  
10          units for preservation as affordable,  
11          methods with little to no ground  
12          disturbance or environmental impact.  
13          High priority is also given to low-income  
14          homeowner housing rehabilitation.

15                "Affordable housing construction and  
16          rehabilitation should occur via a  
17          'whole-site approach' with attention to  
18          site location and layout, facade design,  
19          pedestrian movement and accessibility,  
20          adequate infrastructure provision, and a  
21          sensitivity to historic preservation.

22                "Of moderate priority is rental  
23          assistance, emergency assistance and  
24          security deposits.

25                "Special consideration will be given



1 to affordable housing projects which  
2 include supportive services.

3 "Priority Homeless Housing Facility  
4 Needs.

5 "Rehabilitation, improvements and  
6 creation of emergency shelters and  
7 transitional housing for homeless  
8 individuals, families with children and  
9 unaccompanied youth are of high priority.

10 "Transitional housing for mentally  
11 ill/substance abusers is of moderate  
12 priority.

13 "Priority Non-Housing Needs."

14 "Non-housing community development  
15 activities are integral in promoting a  
16 sound living environment and encouraging  
17 expanded economic opportunities for  
18 persons of low and moderate income. No  
19 infrastructure, economic development or  
20 planning activities have been categorized  
21 as high or moderate priority under this  
22 strategic plan, the CDCAC and City  
23 recognize the inherent value of such  
24 activities. Applications for these  
25 activities will be considered on a case



1 by case basis.

2 "Priority Public Service Needs."

3 "Although limited to an annual  
4 statutory funding cap, public service  
5 activities complement housing and non-  
6 housing community development activities  
7 in developing and promoting a sound  
8 living environment.

9 "Activities that prevent  
10 homelessness and promote successful  
11 transition from temporary housing to  
12 stable, productive living environments  
13 are identified as the highest priority.

14 "Of moderate priority are health  
15 services that specifically address elder  
16 care and mental health."

17 And we added COVID-19 Pandemic  
18 Related Needs.

19 "In light of emerging needs of the  
20 Saratoga Springs' low-moderate income  
21 population resulting from the COVID-19  
22 pandemic, the following priorities have  
23 been identified to prevent, prepare for  
24 and respond to the impacts of the  
25 coronavirus. Both the continuum of care



1 and Saratoga County Public Health  
2 Department were consulted in the  
3 development of these listed priorities.

4 "They are non-congregate housing for  
5 sheltered homeless population, outreach  
6 and opportunities for proper hygiene and  
7 social distancing among unsheltered  
8 homeless population, emergency rental  
9 assistance, eviction prevention, rapid-  
10 rehousing, domestic violence services,  
11 promotion and support for telemedicine,  
12 food services, internet access, and  
13 economic development activities  
14 supporting small businesses.

15 "Activities undertaken to address  
16 the above-stated needs should be approved  
17 and conducted within both current and  
18 future regulations and guidance issued by  
19 HUD."

20 That's the updated five-year  
21 consolidated plan priorities narrative.

22 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you, Richard.  
23 That was very thorough. And that is our  
24 five-year plan.

25 So on to my next item is to set a



1 public hearing for the 2020 community  
2 development block grant consolidated plan  
3 priorities. The public comment for these  
4 recommendation will open this evening.  
5 The city will be utilizing the pandemic-  
6 related HUD issue waiver which reduces  
7 the required public comment period from  
8 thirty-day minimum to a five-day minimum.  
9 The public comment period will open for a  
10 period of fourteen days, ending after the  
11 public hearing on June 16th.

12 My next item is another  
13 presentation. The Community Development  
14 Citizens Advisory Committee 2020  
15 community development block grant annual  
16 action plan recommendations.

17 Last week the counsel received a  
18 memo from Linsey Connors, the community  
19 development planner, outlining the  
20 committee's recommendations for the 2020  
21 CDBG annual action plan. The committee  
22 chair, Rich Ferguson again, will present  
23 these formally to the counsel this  
24 evening. Funding applications for the  
25 2020 program year were evaluated and



1 based on the proposed 2020 consolidated  
2 plan priorities. And I'll turn it over  
3 to Rich again.

4 MR. FERGUSON: Thank you again.

5 The 2020 annual action plan

6 Following the Community Development  
7 Department's re-opening of the 2020 CDBG  
8 Program Year award application period due  
9 to new needs arising from the coronavirus  
10 pandemic, fifteen applications totaling  
11 \$410,009.56 in funding requests were  
12 received. Available 2020 entitlement  
13 funding totals \$315,495.56, including the  
14 308,753 2020 CDBG allotment and \$6,738.56  
15 in reprogrammed funds from the previous  
16 years.

17 Our committee met and had two public  
18 meetings for application presentations  
19 followed by four private meetings, two  
20 sets of two, and much discussion. The  
21 Citizen Advisory Committee makes the  
22 following funding recommendations to city  
23 council:

24 For CAPTAIN Community Human  
25 Services, coordinated entry, 16,000



1           dollars, funding for a CE coordinator to  
2           facilitate the local coordinated entry  
3           system of the Saratoga-North Country  
4           continuum of care housing services  
5           network.

6                     For Mother Susan Anderson Emergency  
7           Shelter, shelter case manager, 13,900  
8           dollars, funding to provide a part-time  
9           case manager at this emergency shelter  
10          for women and children who will assist  
11          the residents in obtaining the services,  
12          housing, and healthcare that they need.

13                    The Legal Aid Society of  
14          Northeastern New York, their homelessness  
15          prevention project, 9,915 dollars,  
16          funding for a homelessness prevention  
17          program to provide free legal advice,  
18          referrals, and representation to prevent  
19          unwarranted or illegal evictions of  
20          persons of low and moderate income in  
21          Saratoga Springs.

22                    The Saratoga Senior Center,  
23          essential services, 7,554 dollars,  
24          funding to support response to increased  
25          demand for essential senior support



1 services during the coronavirus pandemic.

2 Wellspring, environmental  
3 improvements, 6,000 dollars, funding to  
4 support domestic violence agency office  
5 modifications, adhering to guidance from  
6 OSHA, CDC, and NYSDOL for prevention of  
7 coronavirus transmission.

8 Rebuilding Together of Saratoga  
9 County, housing rehabilitation, 100,000,  
10 funding to support this housing  
11 rehabilitation program, serving low to  
12 moderate income city homeowners.

13 Wellspring, handicap accessibility,  
14 40,000 dollars, funding to support  
15 renovations to update aging emergency  
16 domestic violence shelter bathroom and  
17 bring the ADA compliance.

18 Shelters of Saratoga, low-income  
19 housing safety improvements, 31,446  
20 dollars, funding for design services  
21 required for repairs any upgrades to  
22 address safety issues at two low-income  
23 housing residences.

24 The Mother Susan Anderson Emergency  
25 Shelter, for shelter rehabilitation,





1 18,675 dollars, funding to support  
2 chimney repair and window replacements.

3 AIM Services, Finley Street bathroom  
4 renovation, 10,000 dollars, funding to  
5 support bathroom renovations, improving  
6 accessibility.

7 Saratoga Affordable Housing Group,  
8 Allen Drive maintenance, 6,510 dollars,  
9 funding to continue the rehabilitation of  
10 forty apartments of affordable housing.

11 And the Community Development  
12 Program Administration, \$55,491.56.  
13 These funds finance the Community  
14 Development operating budget to cover the  
15 cost of payroll, fringe, and  
16 program/office expenses.

17 That is the list of  
18 recommendations.

19 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you again,  
20 Richard.

21 Any comments from the counsel?

22 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: I want to  
23 thank Richard. Richard, I'm in my ninth  
24 year here. And all nine years you've  
25 made this presentation you've been chair



1 of the CDBG committee for all these  
2 years. But I have to assume that you  
3 have been doing this for longer than  
4 these nine years. So I just want to  
5 thank you and also ask, how long have you  
6 been doing this very important job on  
7 behalf of the city?

8 MAYOR KELLY: Do you want to tell us  
9 or not?

10 MR. FERGUSON: Twenty-seven years.

11 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Oh, my God.

12 MAYOR KELLY: That's awesome.

13 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: It is.

14 MAYOR KELLY: That's awesome.

15 MR. FERGUSON: Thank you.

16 MAYOR KELLY: And I thank you for  
17 your -- you know, I think that your  
18 community service, you know, is top-  
19 notch. And I appreciate all the work you  
20 do.

21 MR. FERGUSON: Thank you.

22 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Thank you.

23 MAYOR KELLY: So on to my next item  
24 is to set a public hearing for the 2020  
25 community development block grant annual



1 action plan. The public comment period  
2 for these recommendations will be open  
3 this evening. The city will be utilizing  
4 the pandemic-related HUD issued waiver  
5 which reduces the required public comment  
6 period from thirty days to a minimum of  
7 five days. The public comment period  
8 will be open for a fourteen-day period  
9 ending after the public hearing is closed  
10 on June 16th.

11 My next item is a presentation,  
12 Community Development citizens advisory  
13 committee 2019 community development  
14 block grant, substantial amendment and  
15 recommendations, CDBG-CV CARES Act  
16 funding. The substantial amendment to  
17 the 2019 CDBG action plan is required in  
18 order to utilize the CDBG-CV funds  
19 allocated to the city under the CARES  
20 Act. Last week the council received a  
21 memo from Lindsey Connors outlining the  
22 committee's recommendations for the  
23 substantial amendment. The committee  
24 chair, Richard Ferguson, again, will  
25 present this to the counsel this evening.



1 And I'll turn it over to Rich.

2 MR. FERGUSON: Thank you again.

3 This is the committee's  
4 recommendation for the special CDBG  
5 coronavirus funding.

6 The city has been allocated  
7 additional CDBG funding by HUD through  
8 the CARES Act to prevent, prepare for,  
9 and respond for the coronavirus pandemic.  
10 This CDGB-CV funding totals 181,629  
11 dollars. It must be used for COVID-19-  
12 related activities benefitting the low-  
13 moderate income population. This funding  
14 will be made available to the city  
15 through the passage of a substantial  
16 amendment to the city's 2019 CDBG annual  
17 action plan.

18 Nine applications totaling 410,410  
19 dollars in funding requests were received  
20 for this application.

21 After two private meetings and,  
22 again, much discussion, the ten-member  
23 committee makes the following funding  
24 recommendations to city council:

25 The City Community Development



1 Department COVID-19 Emergency Housing  
2 Assistance Program, 110,589 dollars,  
3 funding to support rapid rehousing and  
4 emergency rental assistance needs of  
5 Saratoga Springs residents related to the  
6 COVID-19 pandemic.

7 To Legal Aid Society of Northeastern  
8 new York in their homelessness prevention  
9 project, 21,485 dollars, funding for a  
10 homelessness prevention project to  
11 provide free legal advice, referrals, and  
12 representation to prevent unwarranted or  
13 illegal evictions related to the  
14 coronavirus pandemic of low-moderate  
15 income persons in Saratoga Springs.

16 The Saratoga Senior Center,  
17 essential services, 7,555 dollars,  
18 funding to support response to increase  
19 demand for essential senior support  
20 services during the coronavirus pandemic.

21 The Salvation Army, essential  
22 services, 6,000 dollars, funding to  
23 support coronavirus transmission  
24 prevention among the City's street  
25 homeless population and increased food



1 pantry and delivery services to those  
2 affected by the economic impacts of the  
3 pandemic.

4 And 36,000 dollars for the CDBG  
5 COVID administration. And again, those  
6 funds finance the Community Development  
7 Department's operating budget to cover  
8 the cost of payroll, fringe, and  
9 program/office expenses.

10 Those are the recommendations. And  
11 if I could just quickly, I'd like to  
12 thank Lindsey Connors. She expertly  
13 guided our committee through a number of  
14 meetings and then assisted us with the  
15 new dollars. And the difficult  
16 funding -- difficult-to-understand  
17 funding requirements. She did it  
18 seamlessly, and she kept us all in line.  
19 She did a great job. So Lindsey, thank  
20 you.

21 MAYOR KELLY: Yeah. I'd like to  
22 thank Lindsey too. This has been --  
23 Lindsey and I work together. She's in my  
24 department. And she's been on this  
25 whirlwind since coronavirus hit. And



1 she's been doing a tremendous amount of  
2 work and helping so many people in our  
3 community. And I really feel that, you  
4 know, you are so appreciated by me and  
5 the community. So I thank you.

6 MS. CONNERS: Thank you. It's my  
7 pleasure.

8 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: And me too.  
9 Thank you, Lindsey.

10 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Thank you,  
11 Lindsey.

12 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: You're a rock  
13 star. I know how hard you've been  
14 working.

15 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Thank you.

16 MAYOR KELLY: So I appreciate you  
17 both.

18 I'm going to move on to my next  
19 item, and that's to set another public  
20 hearing 2020 community development block  
21 grant substantial amendment, CDBG-CV  
22 CARES Act funding. The public comment  
23 period for these recommendations will  
24 open this evening. The city will be  
25 utilizing the pandemic-related HUD issued



1 waiver that reduces the required public  
2 comment period from thirty days to a  
3 minimum of five days. The public comment  
4 period will open tonight for fourteen  
5 days, ending after the public hearing on  
6 June 16th. And I think that is all we  
7 have. So we can let Rich go and Lindsey  
8 go. And I thank you both.

9 My next item is discussion and vote,  
10 authorization for the mayor to sign  
11 addendum 2 to the visitor centers'  
12 management agreement. As a result of the  
13 current COVID-19 pandemic and the  
14 unprecedented impact on businesses and  
15 public entities, the City of Saratoga  
16 Springs and the Saratoga Convention and  
17 Tourism Bureau agree to suspend all  
18 operations, programming, and facility  
19 rental at the visitor center, commencing  
20 on June 2nd, 2020, and continuing and  
21 including December 31, 2020.

22 This city shall be required -- the  
23 city shall not be required or responsible  
24 for providing any fees to Saratoga County  
25 and Tourism Bureau during the period from





1 June 2nd through December 31, 2020. The  
2 city and the Saratoga Convention and  
3 Tourism Bureau further agree that on or  
4 before December 31, 2020, they will  
5 revisit the issues outlined herein and,  
6 if continuing, may extend the period of  
7 suspension for an additional six months  
8 subject to a mutual written agreement  
9 between the parties.

10 This addendum 2 is a supplement to  
11 the original June 2nd, 2015 agreement and  
12 the October 19th, 2017 addendum 1. It is  
13 incorporated and made part of those  
14 documents. All other terms and  
15 conditions of the original agreement and  
16 in addendum 1 remain the same and in full  
17 force and effect.

18 I move that the city council  
19 authorize the mayor to sign addendum 2 to  
20 the visitor center management agreement  
21 as included with this agenda. This is a  
22 motion. Is there a second?

23 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Second.

24 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

25 I just want to say that, you know,



1 with everything that's going on here, I  
2 think this is a good move. We're going  
3 to do it to the end of the year. Let's  
4 see where things are at.

5 I do want to say, Commissioner  
6 Scirocco, we talked about the maintenance  
7 of the building. And they still will be  
8 going in and checking the building and  
9 doing everything according to their  
10 contract. So I don't know if you have  
11 any questions, Commissioner.

12 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: No. I did  
13 talk with them.

14 MAYOR KELLY: Okay.

15 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: And we -- we  
16 have some work to do in there too. So --

17 MAYOR KELLY: Okay.

18 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: -- it'll be  
19 good opportunity for us to get in there  
20 and, you know, get stuff done that we've  
21 been planning on doing. So --

22 MAYOR KELLY: Great.

23 Any other comments? All those in  
24 favor say aye.

25 IN UNISON: Aye.



1           MAYOR KELLY: Any oppose? The  
2 matter passes.

3           My next item is discussion and vote,  
4 authorization to release workforce  
5 housing restrictions for 289 Jefferson  
6 Street, Unit 20, pursuant to Section 6 of  
7 declaration of covenants and  
8 restrictions.

9           The owner of one of the workforce  
10 housing program units on Jefferson Street  
11 has experienced difficulty in selling  
12 this unit under the current program  
13 restrictions. Under Section 6 of the  
14 declaration of covenants and  
15 restrictions, the owner must actively  
16 market the unit under said restrictions  
17 for a period of four months and then  
18 allow the city to actively market the  
19 unit for a period of two additional  
20 months or state its intent to purchase  
21 the unit before the workforce  
22 restrictions can be lifted.

23           The city has actively marketed the  
24 unit concurrently with the seller's  
25 required marketing (indiscernible).



1           Given the concurrent -- the current  
2           economic client, the city's lack of  
3           available funds to purchase this unit,  
4           and the undue financial hardship this is  
5           causing the workforce seller, the  
6           Community Development Department is  
7           requesting these restrictions be lifted  
8           on June 12th after four months of  
9           actively being marketed by both the  
10          seller and the Community Development  
11          Department.

12                   Once the workforce housing  
13          restrictions are lifted, the unit may be  
14          sold on the free market. The city will  
15          receive four percent of the final sale  
16          price.

17                   I move that the city council  
18          authorize to release the workforce  
19          housing restrictions for 289 Jefferson  
20          Street, Unit 20, pursuant to Section 6 of  
21          the declaration of covenants and  
22          restrictions and included with this  
23          agenda. This is a motion. Is there a  
24          second?

25                   COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Second.



1 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Second.

2 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion? All  
3 those in favor say aye.

4 IN UNISON: Aye.

5 MAYOR KELLY: Any oppose? The  
6 matter passes.

7 My thirteenth item is discussion and  
8 vote, authorization for the mayor to  
9 accept a donation from Scott Earl of Twin  
10 Bridges Waste and Recycling.

11 Scott Earl of Twin Bridges Waste and  
12 Recycling would like to make a donation  
13 to the city's homelessness efforts. The  
14 donation will replenish the city's HUD  
15 revolving loan amount in the amount of  
16 61,960 dollars. I have personally  
17 received a lot of criticism for using,  
18 quote, city taxpayers' dollars for this  
19 effort. This is not true. This was HUD  
20 money that was used. And it was not city  
21 taxpayers' dollars. This was reported  
22 incorrectly.

23 Scott has provided a quote which I  
24 will read to you now.

25 "After reading the recent piece in



1 the Times Union, I was inspired to make a  
2 donation to both the City of Saratoga  
3 Springs and the Shelters of Saratoga. I  
4 was excited to see that the city  
5 government is doing their best to protect  
6 the vulnerable during the COVID-19  
7 pandemic. This donation from is from the  
8 heart. I am incredibly pleased to be  
9 able to close the loop on this matter of  
10 funding."

11 I cannot thank Scott Earl enough for  
12 his generous donation. We have -- we  
13 have done all we can to help protect  
14 Saratoga Springs' most vulnerable  
15 populations during this pandemic, the  
16 homeless being one of those most  
17 vulnerable. We acted quickly and  
18 decisively to help the homeless being  
19 housed by Shelters of Saratoga when the  
20 pandemic broke out. And now our action  
21 is being brought -- is being both  
22 recognized and funded.

23 But I can't -- I can't say enough  
24 about the team effort by this council and  
25 Shelters of Saratoga, the Holiday Inn,



1 and all working together and now with  
2 Scott Earl closing this gap that, you  
3 know, I personally have taken a lot of  
4 heat on which was ridiculous because I  
5 will do it again and again and again to  
6 save somebody's life. So that's what we  
7 do as this council, and I'm proud of very  
8 one of you for staying with me. So I'd  
9 like to thank Scott for that donation.

10 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Mayor, I have  
11 a comment. We did the right thing. You  
12 know, we moved quickly back when we moved  
13 on this. And we put some funds to a good  
14 community use. We did move those funds  
15 from the revolving loan fund into the  
16 Community Development block grant fund.  
17 I can't thank Scott Earl enough myself  
18 because now we've been able to replenish  
19 the revolving loan fund which allows us  
20 to be able to give more to our nonprofits  
21 as we just had a presentation on, you  
22 know, community development block grants.

23 So, you know, we did the right  
24 thing. Thank you. And thank you to  
25 Scott Earl for stepping up and helping



1 out the city and helping out our  
2 nonprofits even more.

3 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Yeah. That's  
4 a tremendous donation. I'm really moved  
5 by that generosity. So thank you to  
6 Scott Earl. That's pretty incredible.

7 MAYOR KELLY: I move that the city  
8 council authorize the mayor to accept the  
9 donation from Scott Earl of Twin Bridges  
10 Waste and Recycling. This is a motion.  
11 Is there a second?

12 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Second.

13 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion? All  
14 those in favor say aye.

15 IN UNISON: Aye.

16 MAYOR KELLY: Any oppose? The  
17 matter passes.

18 And with that, this concludes my  
19 agenda, my longest one almost to date.  
20 On to accounting.

21 COMMISSIONER DALTON: May I ask for  
22 like a sixty-second bathroom break, guys?  
23 I didn't realize that we were going to go  
24 this long. I literally need sixty  
25 seconds before -- I don't want to miss





1 anything from anyone's agenda. Is that  
2 all right?

3 MAYOR KELLY: Sixty seconds. I'm  
4 counting.

5 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Sixty seconds.  
6 I'll be super-fast.

7 (Recess)

8 MAYOR KELLY: Oh, Robin is back.  
9 Thank you.

10 COMMISSIONER DALTON: I'm back.

11 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Very good.

12 Back to accounting. Commissioner  
13 Franck?

14 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Thank you,  
15 Mayor.

16 First item on my agenda this evening  
17 is discussion and vote, accept donation  
18 of hand sanitizer from Cooperstown  
19 Distillery. The City has received  
20 another donation from Cooperstown  
21 Distillery of 300 eight-ounce bottles and  
22 600 four-ounce bottles of hand sanitizer.  
23 We distributed the eight-ounce bottles to  
24 Wesley and the (indiscernible)  
25 businesses. The four-ounce bottles went



1 to the fire department. And again, we --  
2 as last time, we'd like to thank  
3 Cooperstown Distillery.

4 Therefore, I move to accept the  
5 donation of hand sanitizer from  
6 Cooperstown Distillery at a value of  
7 2,700 dollars. And that's a motion.

8 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

9 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Second.

10 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

11 COMMISSIONER DALTON: They're just  
12 overwhelming me with their generosity,  
13 Cooperstown Distillery. I just -- I'm  
14 so, so grateful. They've continued to  
15 step up and provide hand sanitizer,  
16 especially in these little bottles. It's  
17 one of the hardest things for us to  
18 source. So I'm just incredibly grateful  
19 to them and their generosity and look  
20 forward to supporting them with lots of  
21 beer purchasing in the future.

22 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. All those in  
23 favor say aye.

24 IN UNISON: Aye.

25 MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed? The



1 matter passes.

2 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Thank you,  
3 Mayor.

4 The second item is an announcement,  
5 a grievance day update. Grievance Day  
6 was held on May 26th which was Tuesday.  
7 We had another successful year. We had a  
8 little bit of an uptick. We had sixty-  
9 five taxpayers and a total of seventy-  
10 three properties that were grieved. Last  
11 year we had forty-three taxpayers and  
12 fifty properties. And this uptick is --  
13 was obviously because of the COVID-19.  
14 There was a lot of hotels, et cetera,  
15 that came in this year. But still much  
16 lower than past years.

17 I would like to thank Camille  
18 Daniels, Sheila Spurling (ph.), Joe Regus  
19 (ph.), and Jim Martines (ph.) for  
20 volunteering their time on the board of  
21 assessment review.

22 Mayor, if possible, I would like to  
23 add an item to my agenda to set up a  
24 public hearing to amend Chapter 136 of  
25 the City Code. And I would need to have



1 a motion on that in order to add that  
2 item to my agenda.

3 MAYOR KELLY: Is --

4 COMMISSIONER DALTON: I'll make the  
5 motion.

6 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: That's a  
7 motion. And a second?

8 COMMISSIONER DALTON: I'll second  
9 the motion. Thank you.

10 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion? All  
11 those in favor say aye.

12 IN UNISON: Aye.

13 MAYOR KELLY: Any oppose? The  
14 matter passes.

15 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Thank you,  
16 Mayor.

17 So I'd like to set a public hearing  
18 to amend Chapter 136 of the City Code,  
19 lodging and eating and drinking  
20 establishments for the next meeting on  
21 June 16th at the city council. And it  
22 shouldn't take five minutes. You can  
23 lump it in if there's other ones.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's fine.  
25 Thank you.



1 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: That works?

2 MAYOR KELLY: Yeah. We'll do 6:55  
3 for all of them.

4 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Thank you,  
5 Mayor. And that concludes my agenda.

6 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

7 On to finance.

8 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Thank you,  
9 Mayor. Smart move, Commissioner Dalton,  
10 going to the bathroom because I have a  
11 lot to read tonight. Okay.

12 The first item on my agenda is  
13 announcement, the 2020 bond rating and  
14 sale. The City's bond rating was  
15 completed by Stand & Poor's rating  
16 service on May 14th, 2020. And S&P  
17 awarded the city a double A+ for 2020 and  
18 confirmed its prior double A+ rating on  
19 the city's outstanding bonds. This is a  
20 great rating for us and for any  
21 municipality. And it's the ninth  
22 consecutive year that the City has  
23 received the double A+ rating.

24 However, Standard & Poor's revised  
25 the city's outlook from stable to



1 negative. The revision and outlook  
2 reflects the city's dependence on  
3 economically sensitive revenue sources,  
4 including sales tax and occupancy tax  
5 which are experiencing a steep decline,  
6 given the national recession. The drop  
7 in revenue could pressure the City's  
8 finances and, in turn, affect overall  
9 credit quality.

10 S&P explains that its outlook  
11 incorporates the likelihood that a  
12 national economic recession and resulting  
13 revenue challenges will have a negative  
14 effect on performance and reserves. It  
15 warns that it could lower the rating if  
16 negative net operations cause the city's  
17 available general fund balance to  
18 substantially decline.

19 S&P notes that historically the City  
20 has maintained balanced operations with  
21 very strong budgetary flexibility and  
22 liquidity supported by its robust local  
23 economy centered on tourism and local  
24 attractions. It also notes that to  
25 counterbalance the City's dependence on



1 economically sensitive revenue, Saratoga  
2 Springs has maintained high levels of  
3 reserves to mitigate fluctuation in these  
4 revenue sources. However, in light of  
5 the current recession exacerbated by the  
6 COVID-19 pandemic which has led to a  
7 sudden stop in New York State's economy  
8 because of required stay-at-home orders,  
9 the city's tourism-dependent budget is  
10 under significant stress. And that is a  
11 quote from S&P.

12 In the course of its analysis of the  
13 city, S&P considered the following  
14 qualities: very strong economy, strong  
15 management conditions with good financial  
16 policies and practices, and adequate  
17 budgetary performance that may  
18 deteriorate as a result of the pandemic's  
19 impact on city revenue, very strong  
20 budgetary flexibility, very strong  
21 liquidity as well as strong access to  
22 external liquidity, strong institutional  
23 framework.

24 It is clear that the City and  
25 taxpayers are benefitting from excellent



1 policies, practices, budgeting, and  
2 fiscal management in the finance  
3 department. I plan to continue the  
4 conservative fiscal practices and  
5 sustainable city budgeting that protects  
6 the city's double A+ rating as we manage  
7 our way through the economic realities of  
8 the pandemic.

9           Given the condition of national,  
10 state, and local economies, the city's  
11 reliance on reserves, assignments, and  
12 fund balance to carry its general  
13 operating budget, S&P was clearly warned  
14 of a potential for slippage in the next  
15 several months. I am nonetheless pleased  
16 that the City retained its bond rating of  
17 double A+ to help sustain us during these  
18 difficult times.

19           Our double A+ rating held us in good  
20 stead today at our annual bond sale. The  
21 City's 7.4 million in public improvement  
22 serial bonds were all -- were sold this  
23 morning. The low bidder was Bank of New  
24 Mellon Capital Markets at a net interest  
25 rate of 2.115 percent. The City received





1 three bids. For reference, last year's  
2 bonds received a net interest rate of  
3 2.575 percent.

4 In addition, the 6.3-million-dollar  
5 tax anticipation note received six bids.  
6 And the lowest bidder was Adirondack  
7 Trust Company with a net interest rate of  
8 0.15 percent. This rate is significantly  
9 lower than what other local governments  
10 have received for recent TAN sales.

11 I'm thrilled that Adirondack Trust  
12 Company was the lowest bidder and  
13 appreciate their support. They continue  
14 to be a strong business partner of the  
15 City's. And I believe I can speak for  
16 the council, and I know for myself, when  
17 I offer our sincere appreciation and  
18 thanks to Adirondack Trust.

19 These interest rates demonstrate how  
20 important a good bond rating can be as we  
21 strive to sustain city infrastructure,  
22 maintain historic buildings, provide  
23 trails, recreation and open space, and  
24 keep the city safe.

25 I'd like to thank the director of



1 finance, Kristine Gilnat-Brown (ph.).  
2 She's a key part of this outstanding bond  
3 rating. And the City owes most of its  
4 financial fortitude to the excellent  
5 finance team that has been assembled.

6 I'd also like to thank our bond  
7 counsel, Walsh & Walsh, as well as Fiscal  
8 Advisors to -- for responding to all of  
9 my inquiries and coordinating with me to  
10 find the best solutions to assist the  
11 City through this difficult time. I'm  
12 sure our work is not yet finished, but  
13 their knowledge and expertise has made  
14 the process so much smoother.

15 I've called upon them numerous times  
16 over the last few months, looking for and  
17 evaluating options to sustain us  
18 financially. And their guidance has  
19 proved beneficial. And as always, I  
20 update the council and the public  
21 accordingly. Thank you. That completes  
22 that agenda item. I think we should all  
23 be really pleased with those interest  
24 rates.

25 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you,



1 Commissioner.

2 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Thank you,  
3 Mayor.

4 Item number 2 is an update, finance  
5 department's COVID-19 and city finances.  
6 There's little to report at the state and  
7 national level that is probably not  
8 already well known. National  
9 unemployment applications are over forty  
10 million as much of the country is  
11 starting to reopen. Reopen means  
12 different things in different states and  
13 varies within states as well. Several  
14 locations that have reopened have found  
15 it necessary to close again. There seems  
16 to be both enthusiasm and reluctance  
17 regarding reopening.

18 Governor Cuomo has initiated a  
19 phased-in reopening plan based on well-  
20 defined metrics. Different businesses  
21 may reopen within each phase. And safety  
22 plans required to do so.

23 The state has been divided into ten  
24 regions with Saratoga Springs in the  
25 capital district region. And that



1 includes Albany, Saratoga, Rensselaer,  
2 Schenectady, Warren, Washington,  
3 Columbia, and Green Counties. The  
4 capital district will be entering phase 2  
5 reopening on June 3rd, tomorrow, which,  
6 with numerous requirements such as social  
7 distancing masks, gloves, and  
8 disinfectant procedures.

9 Phase 2 businesses include offices,  
10 real estate, some in-store retail vehicle  
11 sales, leases and rental, rental repair,  
12 cleaning, commercial building management,  
13 hair salons, and barber shops. Phase 2  
14 does not include malls, dine-in or on  
15 premise restaurants or bar service,  
16 excluding takeout or delivery for  
17 off-premises consumption, large gathering  
18 event venues, gyms, fitness centers,  
19 exercise classes except for remote or  
20 streaming services, video lottery and  
21 casino gaming facilities, movie theaters  
22 except drive-ins, public places, public  
23 amusement places, whether indoors or  
24 outdoors.

25 In addition, the Government



1 announced that dentists are allowed to  
2 reopen statewide on June 1st. As with  
3 all medical offices, strict regulation is  
4 involved.

5 With that is some context of  
6 summarized revised revenue deficits, the  
7 city's cashflow situation, the remedies  
8 that are currently being utilized, and  
9 remedies for future consideration.

10 Revenue deficits are being adjusted  
11 regularly as we receive information about  
12 revenue actually received such as VLT  
13 which is due at the end of June. New  
14 programs such -- such as the next to be  
15 determined federal act, right now it  
16 seems to be the SMART Act which has  
17 federal bipartisan support, and the  
18 economic climate such as revenue upticks  
19 as business reopens under new  
20 regulations, all play into revisions that  
21 I provide on revenues.

22 At this time, finances projected an  
23 estimated fourteen to sixteen million.  
24 And then we revised that estimate to a  
25 fifteen to seventeen million revenue



1           shortfall. So we are still somewhere in  
2           the fourteen to seventeen million revenue  
3           shortfall for 2020 due to the COVID-19  
4           pandemic. Such a significant shortfall  
5           creates stresses to our budget and our  
6           cash flow.

7           Revenue deficits have been  
8           calculated as follows: As I've said  
9           before, January through June, and this  
10          does get a little complicated, seventy-  
11          five percent loss of a third of the  
12          City's revenues are most likely affected  
13          by the current situation. Then we looked  
14          at July through December, and we took a  
15          fifty percent loss of two-thirds of the  
16          City's revenues most likely affected by  
17          the current situation.

18          Exceptions to the above formula that  
19          we used are NYRA general admissions tax  
20          which we calculated at a total loss.  
21          Racetrack parking fees we calculated a  
22          total loss. Recreation summer facility  
23          and indoor rec facility rent, total loss.  
24          Summer program and field fees, total  
25          loss. Recreation fees, a ninety percent



1           loss. Carousel sales, a ninety percent  
2           loss. Casino rental fees, a ninety  
3           percent loss. Special events  
4           reimbursement for overtime for the fire  
5           department, a ninety percent loss.  
6           Special events reimbursement for overtime  
7           for the police department, a ninety  
8           percent loss. VLT aid, a twenty percent  
9           loss at this time. We'll see by the end  
10          of the month. State aid revenue share, a  
11          twenty percent loss. Chips state aid for  
12          local street and highway improvement,  
13          twenty percent loss. Property tax  
14          collection down by twenty percent.

15                 I'll spare you from reading through  
16                 the list of all our revenues and move on  
17                 to cashflow. The annual budget is the  
18                 money that we had planned to spend each  
19                 year. That's our 48.7-million-dollar  
20                 budget. Cashflow is the amount of money  
21                 we have in the bank to spend.

22                 Throughout my administration, we  
23                 have built -- and I use that for  
24                 simplicity purposes, that definition.  
25                 Throughout my administration, we have



1 built and maintained a healthy cashflow  
2 which contributes to our ability to  
3 retain a high bond rating, utilize  
4 matching and reimbursement grants, and  
5 buffer the monthly expenditure output to  
6 revenue collection. The expenditures  
7 made and the revenues collected affect  
8 cashflow every day, every month. Other  
9 than reserves, assignments, and fund  
10 balance, the City depends on regular  
11 revenue collection.

12 This year we're experiencing  
13 diminished reserves, assignments, and  
14 revenue collections. Thus far, we  
15 have -- we have absorbed this by way of  
16 using our fund balance which is also now  
17 depleting. June was our breakpoint. It  
18 is our breakpoint month. We have several  
19 millions in expenditures due which nearly  
20 total the amount available in our cash  
21 balance. Without a combination of the  
22 efforts we have outlined, we would not  
23 have been able to make payroll in July.

24 Since February, our revenue  
25 collections have fallen well below our





1           anticipated amounts while our expenditure  
2           rate has proceeded in accordance as if we  
3           were pre-COVID-19. Our cash balance in  
4           January 2020 was a healthy 8.2 million.  
5           You'll remember I outlined a lot of this  
6           to you in the annual report, this along  
7           with the anticipated revenue and  
8           expenditures were the basis for our 48.7-  
9           million-dollar budget. Without the  
10          infusion of the tax anticipation note, we  
11          face June with 11.4 million dollars in  
12          cash. However, in June, we have 11.9  
13          million in expenditures. And we  
14          anticipate only 800,000 in June revenue.  
15          By comparison, last year, 2019, the City  
16          received 6.6 million dollars in June  
17          revenue. This would have left the City  
18          with 340,000 dollars to face July payroll  
19          and all other expenditure obligations.  
20          The City's usual expenditures pursuant to  
21          the current forty-eight-million-dollar  
22          budget includes two million dollars in  
23          payroll and another 1.8 million in non-  
24          payroll expenditures.

25                           The City approved a tax anticipation



1 note, the TAN, in the amount of 6.3  
2 million at the 5/19/20 city council  
3 meeting. The TAN will increase the July  
4 cash available to 6.6 million. As stated  
5 previously, our TAN received six bids  
6 today. And the lowest bid was Adirondack  
7 Trust Company with an interest rate of  
8 .15 percent. The rate is significantly  
9 lower than what other local governments  
10 have received for recent TAN sales. TANs  
11 are short-term debt which must be repaid  
12 in full within one year of borrowing  
13 which is June of 2021.

14 Without any other expenditure  
15 changes, the City will struggle to meet  
16 payroll and warrant expenditures by  
17 October of 2020. And we'll have a cash  
18 deficit of 5.3 million by December of  
19 2020. This is sobering news. Finance  
20 has made recommendations to remediate.  
21 And counsel has approved several. We  
22 will continue to make more  
23 recommendations over the next several  
24 weeks and months.

25 So our remedies that we are -- that



1 are being utilized to kind of summarize,  
2 the following is available to address our  
3 revenue shortfall: the 6.3-million-  
4 dollar tax anticipation loan. We are  
5 also implementing a 3.4-million-dollar  
6 departmental expense reductions. Each  
7 department was asked to submit  
8 expenditure reductions. These budget  
9 amendments are included on my agenda this  
10 evening. And I'd like to thank each  
11 department for the hard work that went  
12 into those considerations. They totaled  
13 3,378,000 dollars.

14 We have an additional 277,000  
15 pursuant to the voluntary furlough  
16 program. The City negotiated with the  
17 unions to initiate a voluntary furlough  
18 program. The program lasts for eleven  
19 weeks. Employees will retain healthcare  
20 benefits and be able to collect New York  
21 State unemployment. Employees also  
22 receive an additional 600 dollars per  
23 week through July 31st and federal  
24 funding through the CARES Act. About  
25 forty-five employees volunteered. The



1 City, again, will save 277,000.

2 We did hear though recently payroll,  
3 finance department, payroll brought to my  
4 attention that under the federal CARES  
5 Act, the federal government may pay up to  
6 fifty percent of unemployment costs due  
7 to COVID-19. So the savings may be  
8 increased to 381,000 or an additional  
9 104,000 dollars.

10 We're also using 6.5 million in the  
11 city's assigned, unrestricted fund  
12 balance. At the close of 2019, I  
13 reported the 8. -- I said 8.2 earlier --  
14 it's 8.2 to 8.4 million -- available as  
15 unrestricted fund balance. Pursuant to  
16 our fund balance policy, it is required  
17 to maintain a minimum of 4.9 million  
18 dollars in fund balance, leaving -- I  
19 have stated though that I am willing to  
20 go below our minimum threshold. This  
21 will have consequences. It will require  
22 a plan to replenish, as our fund balance  
23 policy states. And it may put Saratoga  
24 Springs on the comptroller's list of  
25 financially distressed cities. And S&P



1 has warned that it could likely affect  
2 our bond rating.

3 During my tenure, I established  
4 several assignments pursuant to a new  
5 regulation put into place by the  
6 Governmental Accounting Standings Board,  
7 GASB. These are for self-imposed savings  
8 for special needs but unlike reserves can  
9 be readily terminated.

10 At the last city council meeting, I  
11 recommended and the council approved the  
12 termination of seven city assignments  
13 totaling almost one million dollars.  
14 This is included in the 6.5 million that  
15 we are using to assist with our cashflow  
16 needs.

17 Please be aware fund balance is a  
18 fluid calculation reviewed annually at  
19 yearend. 8.4 million was calculated as  
20 of 12/31/19. Each month since then, the  
21 city has made expenditures that have not  
22 been replenished by anticipated revenue.  
23 In order to pay these expenditures, it  
24 has been necessary to drag down on fund  
25 balance. If revenue collections pick up,



1 fund balance may be increased again.

2 Okay. So the total package, 6.3  
3 million the TAN, 3.4 million in expense  
4 reductions, the 277,000 in furloughs, the  
5 104,000 we anticipate we'll get back from  
6 the CARES program and unemployment, and  
7 6.5 million in fund balance brings us to  
8 16,581,523 dollars. This still leaves us  
9 with a projected revenue shortfall of  
10 about 1.1 million. If we do not use our  
11 entire 6.5 million unassigned,  
12 unrestricted fund balance, which his  
13 highly advisable, the short fall could  
14 increase by several million.

15 Other remedies that may be  
16 available, we still have the option to  
17 issue a budget and deficiency note.  
18 Further expense cuts, employee wages,  
19 including but not limited to a second  
20 round of furloughs, layoffs, deferred  
21 raises, payment on a lag, retirement  
22 incentives.

23 And I would like to thank the  
24 Mayor's office, city attorney, and our  
25 human resources coordinator, director as



1           they continue to meet with the unions and  
2           updates have been provided. And I think  
3           that the -- and I want to thank the  
4           negotiation team for their ongoing work  
5           in working with the unions on some of  
6           these other issues that I've outlined.

7                     Federal programs yet to emerge, but  
8           it looks like the SMART Act will be  
9           introduced as a bipartisan act. So I  
10          still remain hopeful that we'll have  
11          something come down from the federal  
12          government, but I wouldn't anticipate  
13          anything maybe near the end of June into  
14          early July.

15                    There are several programs that have  
16          been passed by the state legislature that  
17          are waiting the governor's action. And I  
18          only received word of these late last  
19          night. So I'm not going to go into great  
20          detail, but there are a few that I would  
21          like to highlight.

22                    One that's awaiting the governor's  
23          signature is a budgetary flexibility for  
24          local governments. And part of that  
25          authorizes local governments and school



1 districts to temporarily transfer money  
2 from capital reserve funds to pay for  
3 operating costs associated with COVID-19.  
4 This would allow us to break our  
5 reserves, but we would have to have a  
6 payment plan to pay them back. But I'll  
7 tell you -- you know, I don't know how  
8 much we really have left in our reserves  
9 because I am planning to use many of them  
10 in our 2021 budget. But still, it'll  
11 give us flexibility through 2020 if we  
12 need it. So I still need to do some more  
13 analysis there.

14 There's this extension of building  
15 permits and planning and zoning  
16 approvals, extension of property tax  
17 exemption deadlines that I need to  
18 review, IDA loan authorizations, a  
19 moratorium on termination of utility  
20 services, electronic absentee balance  
21 authorization, and this one, property tax  
22 deferment and installment payments.

23 Earlier today Government Cuomo  
24 issued executive order 202.36 which,  
25 among other things, extends the interest-





1 free period for the payment of property  
2 taxes for twenty-one days for thirty-  
3 seven more local governments whose chief  
4 executive officer made such a request to  
5 the governor. And Saratoga Springs is on  
6 the list with one other city, Peekskill.  
7 And we will further evaluate how to  
8 implement that. I received word of that  
9 literally while I was in the city council  
10 meeting. But there is something in the  
11 legislature also about property tax  
12 deferment and installment payments that  
13 does not allow -- it allows you to defer  
14 property tax payments for a period not to  
15 exceed 120 days past the original tax  
16 payment due date and also allows  
17 municipalities to set up installment  
18 payments as necessary.

19 So in an effort to search for ways  
20 to accommodate taxpayers during this  
21 challenging time, I had been researching  
22 municipal options regarding the waiver of  
23 deferral of payments, fees, and penalties  
24 as they relate to their tax bills. And  
25 it looks like there may be something



1           there for us.

2                         In closing, we made a great deal of  
3           progress and have more work to complete  
4           thanks to all city council, city  
5           employees, our New York State  
6           representatives, and our federal  
7           representatives for the tremendous  
8           efforts of our -- you know, helping us --  
9           helping cities and local governments  
10          manage the fiscal uncertainty of the  
11          COVID-19. And a big thanks to our local  
12          businesses and our citizens too.

13                        Our next task is the 2021 budget.  
14          The call letter will be released at the  
15          end of June. We cannot expect  
16          anticipated revenue to be 48.7 million  
17          that was anticipated for 2020. To quote  
18          the New York State governor, Governor  
19          Cuomo, remember that reopening does not  
20          mean that we're going back to the way  
21          things were. Life is not about going  
22          back. Nobody goes back. We go forward.  
23          And it is going to be different. And  
24          this is about reopening to a new normal,  
25          a safer normal. And I have a strong



1 feeling our 2021 budget is going to be a  
2 new normal type of budget.

3 Thank you.

4 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you. You said  
5 you didn't have a lot to say on that, but  
6 boy, you've been doing your homework. So  
7 I appreciate it.

8 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Thank you.

9 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Yeah.  
10 There's a lot there. Well, there's not a  
11 lot that's changed state and federally,  
12 but there's a lot that we're looking at  
13 and evaluating. So thank you.

14 My next two items are 2020 budget  
15 amendments that reflect expense reduction  
16 submitted by the departments. These do  
17 not include the additional savings from  
18 furloughs. I thought yesterday that they  
19 did, but we're not there yet with those  
20 budget amendments. We'll bring those  
21 probably to the next city council  
22 meeting. And these will all be submitted  
23 separately.

24 So item number 3 is a discussion and  
25 vote, budget amendments, department



1 reductions, non-payroll. These budget  
2 amendment the non-payroll expense  
3 reductions submitted by each department,  
4 and they are summarized as follows:

5 The mayor's office, 66,500 dollars;  
6 finance, 113,060 dollars; public works,  
7 341,408 dollars; public safety, 241,564  
8 dollars; accounts, 91,794 dollars;  
9 recreation, 119,091 dollars; DPW  
10 recreation, 79,253 dollars; for a total  
11 of \$1,052,672.40.

12 I move that the city council approve  
13 budget amendments department reductions  
14 non-payroll as included with the agenda.  
15 This is a motion.

16 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?  
17 Second.

18 Any discussion? All those in favor  
19 say aye.

20 IN UNISON: Aye.

21 MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed? The  
22 matter passes.

23 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Item number 4  
24 is a discussion and vote, budget  
25 amendments, department reductions



1 payroll. These budget amendment reflects  
2 the payroll expense reduction submitted  
3 by each department. These include  
4 savings from replacement of new hires  
5 that were planned but not -- but will not  
6 be filled as well as the release of  
7 nonessential part-time employees.  
8 Savings from furloughs are not included  
9 here but will be submitted separately.

10 Tonight's payroll amendments are  
11 summarized as follows. And I'm rounding  
12 these off; I'm not giving you the  
13 pennies.

14 Mayor, 61,396 dollars; finance,  
15 89,215 dollars; public works, 402,665  
16 dollars; public safety, 1,380,339  
17 dollars; accounts, 91,794 dollars;  
18 recreation, 264,033 dollars; DPW  
19 recreation 36,619 dollars; for a total of  
20 2,326,064 dollars.

21 I move that the city council approve  
22 budget amendments department reductions  
23 payroll as included with the agenda.

24 This is a motion.

25 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?



1 Second.

2 Any discussion? All those in favor  
3 say aye.

4 IN UNISON: Aye.

5 MAYOR KELLY: All those in favor say  
6 aye. I can't hear.

7 IN UNISON: Aye.

8 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you. Any  
9 oppose? The matter passes.

10 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Thank you.

11 I am going to remove item number 5  
12 from my agenda for further consideration,  
13 given that the police department has had  
14 some overtime issues related to this  
15 weekend's advocacy and protest activity.  
16 And to be honest with you, I'm just no  
17 super comfortable driving contingency all  
18 the way down to zero at this point in  
19 time during the budget year. So if we  
20 find we have the need to do that, I will  
21 do that. But I'd like to keep something  
22 in contingency for the city council and  
23 the city.

24 So with that, where am I?

25 MAYOR KELLY: Budget transfers



1 payroll.

2 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Yes. I just  
3 wanted to say that the total expense  
4 reductions achieved by all departments,  
5 and excluding contingency, is  
6 approximately 3,300,000 dollars. So  
7 thank you very much.

8 So my next item includes a standard  
9 budget transfers for customary budget  
10 adjustments. Item number 6 is a  
11 discussion and vote, budget transfers,  
12 payroll. Lines 1 through 2 transfer  
13 funds to overtime recreation employees'  
14 health insurance opt-out payments from  
15 health insurance used to cover a deficit  
16 in the amount of 4,400 dollars.

17 Lines 3 through 5, transfer of funds  
18 to wage and social security costs for a  
19 part time laborer in the public safety  
20 traffic control from pavement marking  
21 materials to cover an essential employee  
22 in the amount of 8,139 dollars. This  
23 employee was released pursuant to the  
24 4/17/20 council consensus to stop wages  
25 for all part-time employees except for



1           those deemed essential. Public safety  
2           has informed us that without this  
3           employee, the traffic control department  
4           will be unable to complete its required  
5           pavement striping due to an insufficient  
6           number of crew laborers.

7           I move that the city council approve  
8           the budget transfers. Payroll is  
9           included with the agenda. This is a  
10          motion.

11          MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

12          COMMISSIONER DALTON: Second.

13          MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

14          COMMISSIONER DALTON: Thank you all  
15          for recognizing the essential nature of  
16          having our streets striped. Appreciate  
17          it.

18          COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: You got it.

19          MAYOR KELLY: All those in favor say  
20          aye.

21          IN UNISON: Aye.

22          MAYOR KELLY: Any oppose? The  
23          matter passes.

24          COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Thank you.

25          Item number 7 is a discussion and





1 vote, 2020 City fees update building  
2 department.

3 The mayor's department has requested  
4 a revision to the 2020 fee to the cost of  
5 plumbing permits. Plumbing permits are  
6 included with building department fees.  
7 The revision deletes a redundant line  
8 describing a fee of 400 dollars for major  
9 fees -- for major and minor alterations  
10 otherwise remain intact.

11 I move that the city council approve  
12 2020 City fees update building department  
13 as included with the agenda. This is a  
14 motion.

15 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?  
16 Second.

17 Any discussion? All those in favor  
18 say aye.

19 IN UNISON: Aye.

20 MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed? The  
21 matter passes.

22 I can't hear you saying aye. So if  
23 everybody could speak up, I'm kind of --  
24 I'm sitting here and not hearing you.  
25 Thank you.



1           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Okay. Thank  
2           you.

3           Item number 8 is a discussion and  
4           vote, authorization for mayor to sign  
5           addendum 2 with NYSTEC for IT security  
6           services and smart city consulting at no  
7           cost. NYSTEC provides the city with  
8           invaluable IT security and smart city  
9           consulting services. Its contract  
10          expires on 6/30/20. And this amendment  
11          extends it through 12/31/20. The  
12          original agreement is for -- up to 40,000  
13          dollars. About 12,000 has been expended.  
14          And there's no additional cost for this  
15          extension.

16          I move that the city council  
17          authorize the mayor to sign addendum 1  
18          with NYSTEC for IT security services and  
19          smart city consulting as included with  
20          the agenda. This is a motion.

21          MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

22          COMMISSIONER DALTON: Second.

23          MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion? All  
24          those in favors ay aye.

25          IN UNISON: Aye.



1           MAYOR KELLY: Any oppose? The  
2 matter passes.

3           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: And I need to  
4 add an item this evening to my agenda at,  
5 according to the city charter, 2.2. I  
6 need to ask if I can add this item to my  
7 agenda. The item is a discussion and  
8 vote, approval to apply for Empire State  
9 Development, ESD, smart city test,  
10 including authorization for the mayor to  
11 sign all documents associated with the  
12 application. This was not included with  
13 the agenda because I was recently  
14 apprised of the deadline for this matter.  
15 The matter is time-sensitive as the  
16 application must be completed prior the  
17 next city council meeting.

18           I move that the city council approve  
19 the addition of a discussion and vote  
20 approval to -- discussion and vote,  
21 approval to apply for Empire State  
22 Development, ESD, smart city test,  
23 including authorization for the mayor to  
24 sign all documents associated with the  
25 application. This is a motion.



1           MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

2           COMMISSIONER DALTON: Second.

3           COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Second.

4           MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion? All  
5 those in favor say aye.

6           IN UNSION: Aye.

7           MAYOR KELLY: Any oppose? The  
8 matter passes.

9           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Thank you.  
10 So now onto my item which is a discussion  
11 and vote, approval to apply for Empire  
12 State Development, ESD, smart city test,  
13 including authorization for the mayor to  
14 sign all documents associated with the  
15 application. The mission of Empire State  
16 Development, ESD, is to promote a  
17 vigorous and growing state economy,  
18 encourage business investment and job  
19 creation, and support diverse, prosperous  
20 local economies across New York State  
21 through the efficient use of loans,  
22 grants, tax credits, real estate  
23 development, marketing and other forms of  
24 assistance. ESD, in collaboration with  
25 the Israel Innovation Authority, is



1 launching a smart cities innovation  
2 partnership, a pilot program to  
3 facilitate the development and  
4 integration of emerging technologies into  
5 public services. Under this program, ESD  
6 and IIA, the Israel Innovation Authority,  
7 will each provide up to one million  
8 dollars in funding to support local  
9 projects that improve government services  
10 and resident quality of life by using  
11 smart city's technologies.

12 The program will designate up to  
13 five smart cities to connect with  
14 technology companies and academic experts  
15 throughout this state using emerging  
16 technologies to improve government  
17 services and resident quality of life.

18 Applicants propose up to three  
19 projects per grant and work with an  
20 anchor institution to implement their  
21 proposed project. NYSTEC has offered to  
22 be the city's anchor institution,  
23 providing project management and guidance  
24 through the grant process and its city --  
25 smart city efforts ever since the city



1           formed the Smart City Commission in 2016,  
2           helping the city build consensus across  
3           key stakeholders on its smart city vision  
4           and helped develop the smart city  
5           roadmap.

6           The city anticipates projects that  
7           build on ongoing smart city efforts,  
8           including street lights and energy  
9           management solutions. If funded, these  
10          projects will help current staff manage  
11          ongoing tasks more efficiently and  
12          effectively, saving both time and money.  
13          Each grant may be up to 200,000 dollars.  
14          There's a match of fifty percent which is  
15          a portion between the city and its anchor  
16          institution as they see fit. The match  
17          can be all in kind services and requires  
18          no cash outlay.

19          I move that the city council approve  
20          the request to apply for Empire State  
21          Development, ESD, smart city test,  
22          including authorization for the mayor to  
23          sign all documents associated with the  
24          application. This is a motion.

25          MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?



1 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Second.

2 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion? All  
3 those in favor say aye.

4 IN UNISON: Aye.

5 MAYOR KELLY: Any oppose? The  
6 matter passes.

7 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Thank you,  
8 Mayor. That concludes my agenda.

9 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you,  
10 Commissioner.

11 On to public safety.

12 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Do you want to  
13 do public works first or no?

14 MAYOR KELLY: Sure. Yes. Sorry,  
15 Skip.

16 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: It's all  
17 right.

18 MAYOR KELLY: On to public works.  
19 Commissioner Scirocco, you're on.

20 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Thank you.  
21 Thank you.

22 The first item on my agenda is just  
23 a discussion. It's in regards to the  
24 Flat Rock parking center, the north lot.  
25 I know that the -- I believe it was at



1 the last city council meeting that I  
2 heard one before I discussed the issue of  
3 turning that parking lot into a parking  
4 lot for city employees and city vehicles.

5 I don't know if you're aware of it,  
6 but between the police and all the rest  
7 of the departments, we have at least  
8 sixty vehicles that are used on a daily  
9 basis, you know, by our employees right  
10 out of City Hall. So without any -- any  
11 sort of parking down there that would  
12 give the -- you know, the employees at  
13 least the ability to go out and get into  
14 the car and do their job, it would be an  
15 issue.

16 So a couple weeks ago, I did meet  
17 with Tom Roone (ph.). And he has no  
18 problem with the -- with the idea. I  
19 know I submitted a copy of the -- the  
20 parking lot, the schematic. I think  
21 everybody got the copy. We can gain  
22 probably thirty-eight to thirty-nine  
23 spaces. And that's after the Green Bell  
24 Trail is built. And that's with the  
25 possibility of having at least two or





1 three spaces where we could park cars  
2 parallel to the Green Bell Trail.

3 If, obviously, before the trail is  
4 built, we'll -- we could have forty-three  
5 spaces there. So that's a considerable  
6 amount of parking. And that's just the  
7 one parking lot. That's the -- that's  
8 the north lot. That still leaves that --  
9 the -- well, I call it the south lot.  
10 That's the two-hour -- two-hour parking  
11 lot. And that's probably got the same  
12 amount of space. So we're probably going  
13 to gain probably between the two lots,  
14 oh, maybe seventy spaces I'm going to  
15 guess, somewhere along those lines. And  
16 I think we need it.

17 And again, it's for -- the employee  
18 parking, it's for parking for, you  
19 know -- for the commissioners. And, you  
20 know, we're kind of waiting for them to  
21 reduce the amount of dirt that's in  
22 that -- in that location. They're going  
23 to use some of it for -- to fill in  
24 the -- you know, the space in the back of  
25 the parking deck. So again, when they --



1           you know, when they do that, we have also  
2           made some other recommendations where  
3           the -- well, it's hard to explain. But  
4           the parking lot is actually going to --  
5           going to raise up. You know, we're  
6           talking about putting some sort of a  
7           retaining wall at the -- at the northern  
8           end of the parking lot that we would --  
9           we would be using.

10                 All and all, the meeting went really  
11           well. And I'm just going to continue  
12           to -- you know, to meet with them. And  
13           hopefully we can get that -- you know, we  
14           can get that dirt out of there and we  
15           can -- we can utilize that lot for --  
16           for, you know, our own city vehicles,  
17           city employees. And again, you know,  
18           like I said, they really have no problem  
19           with that.

20                 I don't know if there's any  
21           questions or there's any concerns in  
22           regards to that but --

23                 MAYOR KELLY: Well, I'm going to  
24           say -- I'm just -- I'm not going to get  
25           into the discussion. I think everybody



1 on this council and the city knows where  
2 I stand.

3 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Right.

4 MAYOR KELLY: I just -- I don't  
5 agree with this. I think it's a bait-  
6 and-switch. So I just --

7 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Well, you  
8 can call it what you want, Mayor. But  
9 it's --

10 MAYOR KELLY: I am.

11 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: --  
12 absolutely necessary that we have parking  
13 for our own --

14 MAYOR KELLY: I'm not going to --  
15 you don't have to argue with me.

16 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: I'm not  
17 arguing with you. I'm just telling you  
18 it's absolutely necessary that we have  
19 parking for our own city-owned vehicles.  
20 These are vehicles that we use every day.  
21 Whoever negotiated the lease negotiated a  
22 lease that --

23 MAYOR KELLY: You agreed to it, sir.

24 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: I'm not --  
25 let me --



1           MAYOR KELLY: You agreed to it.

2           COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Negotiated  
3 parking from 8 o'clock in the morning  
4 until 5:30 at night which really doesn't  
5 help any of us or the businesses for that  
6 matter because I think we want to leave  
7 the parking deck, you know, free for  
8 businesses to park and all the other  
9 parking spaces free. You don't want  
10 city-owned vehicles parking in all those  
11 other -- those other lots. We want to  
12 save those -- that parking, again, for,  
13 you know -- for the people that do  
14 business in the city. So --

15           COMMISSIONER DALTON: So can I ask a  
16 question?

17           COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Yes.

18           COMMISSIONER DALTON: So the -- the  
19 only -- my only concern was that when  
20 this was described to be the process of  
21 changing this, it would -- the way Vince,  
22 our city attorney, described it, it would  
23 kind of kick off another round of  
24 required public forums. And it would  
25 create like a time delay because we'd



1           have to have another round of input from  
2           the public on this change. Do you know  
3           if that's the case or not or is this  
4           something we can --

5                    COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: It said  
6           that -- it said that it would revert to  
7           the current use. I think -- you know,  
8           even Tom Roone agreed that, you know,  
9           they -- the green space that was going to  
10          be put there was just going to be green  
11          space. It was going to be actually on  
12          the -- on the hill. It's -- it's Maple  
13          Avenue. It's part of Maple Avenue.

14                   As far as the rest of it is  
15          concerned, it was going to be -- going to  
16          be utilized according to the lease in its  
17          current use. So the current use was a  
18          parking lot. That's what it actually  
19          was. To convert it into just green space  
20          makes absolutely no sense, at least at  
21          this point in time. I don't believe that  
22          the city council -- and maybe somebody  
23          else has got some ideas on exactly  
24          what -- you know, what they want to do  
25          there. But I don't believe we have



1           any -- you know, any plans to do anything  
2           at this point in time. So until we do, I  
3           think we utilize it as, you know, a city-  
4           owned parking lot. And then when we come  
5           up with phase 2, that's my understanding,  
6           then we can do whatever we need to do  
7           there. But I think until we do that, it  
8           makes more sense for us to utilize it for  
9           city-owned and employee just parking just  
10          for our own -- our own particular -- you  
11          know, our own use there. Otherwise, we  
12          have no -- no -- on place to park. We've  
13          got -- you know, there's probably thirty  
14          police cars there that are on Maple  
15          Avenue right now.

16                    And like I said, there's another  
17                    twenty-five or thirty city-owned vehicles  
18                    that will have no place to park, let  
19                    alone the city employees. Again, I don't  
20                    want to push those cars into the parking  
21                    decks, into the -- into the other parking  
22                    lots because that's what's going to  
23                    happen. So it's best if we keep them,  
24                    you know, for use at least, you know, on  
25                    our own property, at least for now



1           anyways. So that's the direction that --  
2           you know, that I'm moving. And again,  
3           I'm meeting with them, you know, the  
4           people with the city center. And they're  
5           perfectly fine with it.

6                        As far as any -- any legal or any --  
7           any lawsuit, I'm going by what the lease  
8           says. The lease is pretty -- pretty  
9           clear. It says the current use. Current  
10          use, you know, it was currently used as a  
11          parking lot.

12                      COMMISSIONER DALTON: Got it. Thank  
13          you.

14                      COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Did you say  
15          you sent us something?

16                      COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Yes. I --  
17          yeah. You sent -- I send you the -- the  
18          parking lot, the schematic, for the --

19                      COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Can I just  
20          ask whoever has their cellphone on like  
21          to mute it or something, whatever the  
22          ding is?

23                      COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: I don't --

24                      COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: It comes over  
25          really loud into my -- my computer.



1           So is this a project? I mean, is  
2           this -- is there -- we're going to have a  
3           project plan. Is this going to cost us a  
4           lot of money? What I --

5           COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: No. It's  
6           going to cost nothing. It's not going to  
7           cost anything. It's just a matter of us,  
8           you know, putting a curb cut. Again, if  
9           you look at the schematic, there's a curb  
10          cut that's going to go in at the -- oh,  
11          it's -- I'm going to call it -- well,  
12          it's High Rock. It's the High Rock part.  
13          But the most northern -- northern -- or  
14          southern part of the -- of that -- of  
15          that parking lot which is down on High  
16          Rock Avenue. That'll be the way we'll  
17          get in and out of that particular parking  
18          lot. And it's just -- that's it. The  
19          striping is pretty much already there.  
20          You know, I mean, what's going to happen  
21          when --

22          COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: I haven't  
23          gone -- I mean, I haven't been down to  
24          High Rock in like forever.

25          COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Well --





1           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN:  So -- so it's  
2           not all jackhammered up or anything  
3           from --

4           COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO:  No, no.

5           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN:  -- from the  
6           construction that's going on?  Because I  
7           think they were going to remove all the  
8           black top.  And then they were going to  
9           start it, right?

10          COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO:  Yes.

11          COMMISSIONER MADIGAN:  But all the  
12          black top is there?

13          COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO:  The black  
14          top is all there.  Everything is there.  
15          The only thing we have to do is put a  
16          curb cut in and basically sweep it.  The  
17          lines are all still there.  Everything is  
18          still there.  So, you know, it just makes  
19          more sense to me to utilize it for now as  
20          a city-owned parking lot.  I mean, when  
21          you think about it, when you -- when we  
22          move back in there, there is not going to  
23          be any place for us to park.  Even -- I  
24          mean, I know we've got sixty spaces in  
25          the parking deck.  But the parking deck



1 is not done. So again, you know, it's  
2 going to benefit everybody.

3 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: I'll go back  
4 and look for your information --

5 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Yes.

6 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: -- and look  
7 through it. Unfortunately, I missed it.  
8 I apologize. I try to stay up on emails.

9 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Yeah. I can  
10 reset it. I can have Rachel resend it to  
11 you. But it was actually -- it was the  
12 schematic. It was outlining just that  
13 one -- that one parking lot and how we  
14 were going to do it. There as an issue  
15 of whether or not -- the first schematic  
16 didn't have the Green Bell Train in  
17 there. Well, it's not because we're  
18 taking it out because we just didn't --

19 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Okay.

20 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: You know, we  
21 just didn't put it in. But the second --

22 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: I think I did  
23 hear something --

24 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Okay.

25 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: -- about the



1 Green Bell Trail over the last few days.

2 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Yeah. Yeah.

3 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: So that was  
4 just -- okay. So now this is all  
5 starting to come back.

6 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Yeah.

7 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: So that was a  
8 misstep.

9 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Yes.

10 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Okay.

11 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Yeah. So I  
12 can have -- I can have him resend it to  
13 you. But like I said, we're waiting for  
14 him to get some of that dirt out of there  
15 so we can go in there and clean it up and  
16 do the curb cut and, you know, at least  
17 utilize it for a parking lot for now.  
18 And then, you know, when phase 2 comes  
19 along, if it ever comes along, then we  
20 can do whatever we needed to do there.

21 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: And the city  
22 centers is okay with this?

23 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Yeah.

24 I've -- yeah. I'm working with Tom Roone  
25 on it. Yes. Yeah. And the lease pretty



1 much stipulates that it goes back to his  
2 current use. It was used currently as a  
3 parking lot if you read the lease. So,  
4 you know, he was just concerned about  
5 where we were going to put the curb cut.  
6 He didn't want any confusion with the  
7 public when they came in to actually go  
8 into his -- you know, into the parking  
9 deck which would be the existing curb cut  
10 that's down there now where -- you know,  
11 where you go in and out of -- in and out  
12 of the parking lot down there on High  
13 Rock. And that's -- that was really the  
14 only -- the only concern that he had.  
15 And, you know, when we proposed the --  
16 you know, the curb cut as -- on the  
17 farthest, you know -- this -- the  
18 farthest southern corner of High Rock --  
19 you got to look at the schematics. And  
20 that's -- that's actually where it's  
21 going to be cut. And it was fine. You  
22 know, we can put a sign there.

23 We can -- you know, we can just say,  
24 you know, employee -- city parking  
25 vehicles only. We can use a permit



1 process. I mean, there's a lot of things  
2 we can do to -- you know, just to keep  
3 people out of there, keep the public out  
4 of it for the most part and have -- you  
5 know, direct them to the parking deck or  
6 to some of the other -- some of the other  
7 parking areas. But for now, I can tell  
8 you right now there is no parking down  
9 there, absolutely none, no parking on  
10 Maple Avenue and no parking in that  
11 parking lot. There's no place for  
12 anybody to park, City Hall employees or  
13 anything.

14 The parking lot is not done yet, the  
15 parking deck. So even with those sixty  
16 spaces that were negotiated, we no place  
17 to park. We're ready to move in in the  
18 next, you know, couple weeks I think.  
19 Where are you going to park?

20 MAYOR KELLY: People can walk.

21 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: From their  
22 house?

23 MAYOR KELLY: Oh, Skip, come on. I  
24 would hope that we were as busy as that  
25 right now.



1           COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: I don't know  
2           about you, Meg, but I got people from --  
3           from out of town that, you know, that  
4           work for me. And it's just not going to  
5           -- that's not going to work.

6           MAYOR KELLY: Well, they can walk  
7           from another parking lot or another  
8           parking garage. I mean --

9           COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: The thing is  
10          you don't want to take all the city-owned  
11          vehicles and start putting them in the --  
12          in the -- you know, the city-owned  
13          parking lots and clog those parking lots  
14          so when -- you know, when the businesses  
15          open up, they're not going to have -- the  
16          patrons are not going to have a place to  
17          park.

18          COMMISSIONER DALTON: I don't mean  
19          to be rude, but do you think there's any  
20          chance we can move on to the next item  
21          only because I have so much to do  
22          tonight. I don't mean to cut everyone  
23          off. Do you think we could perhaps table  
24          this and move on?

25          COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Well, again,



1 I'm ready to move forward on it. And I'm  
2 just going to do what I need to do. I  
3 mean, I don't believe I don't need  
4 council approval to do it. And I think  
5 it's important that we move forward.  
6 It's not going to cost anything. There's  
7 no -- there's no cost. We can -- we're  
8 all going to -- we're going to do it  
9 in-house. And basically that's it. I  
10 mean, if there's -- if there's an issue,  
11 then let me know. I mean, because you're  
12 not going to have a place to park when  
13 you go -- when you go into City Hall.  
14 That I can tell you.

15 So again, all right, I'll move on.

16 My second item is a discussion and  
17 vote, and that's to accept the donation  
18 from the Saratoga Springs Preservation  
19 Foundation. The City of Saratoga Springs  
20 will be accepting a donation of fifty  
21 geraniums. And that's a value of 750  
22 dollars from the Saratoga Springs  
23 Preservation Foundation to be planted  
24 around the Spirit of Life and the Spencer  
25 Trask Memorial.



1           Again, I want to personally thank  
2           the foundation for its generous donation.  
3           Samantha Blasshart (ph.), I mean, she --  
4           you know, they've been great to work  
5           with. This gift will help ensure that  
6           the duty of the Spirit of Life and  
7           Spencer Trask Memorial is maintained and  
8           can serve as a reminder that better days  
9           are ahead. So therefore, I move for the  
10          city council to accept the donation of  
11          fifty geraniums at a value of 750 dollars  
12          from the Saratoga Springs Preservation  
13          Foundation.

14                 And again, just so you know, we did  
15          cut back on the -- you know, the  
16          geraniums that -- we usually plant 150.  
17          So we only -- you know, we're going to  
18          plant 100 this year. So they stepped to  
19          the plate. And they're working with  
20          deans. And, you know, they decided that  
21          they would donate the 750 dollars for the  
22          additional fifty geraniums. And I thank  
23          them very much for doing it. And, I  
24          mean, that's something that -- that's  
25          very nice of them. So --





1           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: That is nice  
2 actually. That's very nice.

3           COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Yeah. Yeah.  
4 Did I make the motion?

5           MAYOR KELLY: I don't know.

6           COMMISSIONER DALTON: No, you  
7 didn't.

8           COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Did I make  
9 the motion?

10          COMMISSIONER DALTON: No, I don't  
11 think so.

12          COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Therefore I  
13 move for the city council to accept the  
14 donation of fifty geraniums at a value of  
15 750 dollars from the Saratoga Springs  
16 Preservation Foundation. And I put that  
17 in form of a motion.

18          MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

19          COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Second.

20          COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Second.

21          MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion? All  
22 those in favor say aye.

23          IN UNISON: Aye.

24          MAYOR KELLY: Any oppose? The  
25 matter passes.



1           COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: And that's  
2 the end of my agenda.

3           MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Thank you,  
4 Commissioner.

5           On to public safety.

6           COMMISSIONER DALTON: Okay, you  
7 guys. I'm going to try to be fast and  
8 furious here. But I just want to let you  
9 know that ding is my computer getting a  
10 text message, and there's no way to turn  
11 it off and not unmute myself. So I'm  
12 really, really sorry. If everyone could  
13 stop texting me while I talk, we will  
14 have no problem.

15          COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: It comes  
16 through my computer so loud. That's --

17          COMMISSIONER DALTON: I'm sorry, but  
18 there's nothing I can do.

19          COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: It's hurting  
20 my right ear. But I'm --

21          COMMISSIONER DALTON: I'm really  
22 sorry. If I mute that, I have to mute me  
23 entirely.

24          COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Got you.

25          COMMISSIONER DALTON: Anyway, so no



1 one text me and we'll all be good.

2 Okay. So the first item on my  
3 agenda is an announcement with a virus  
4 update. Actually, Commissioner Madigan,  
5 you did a pretty fantastic job  
6 summarizing where we are in terms of our  
7 reopening. We are about to go into phase  
8 2 tomorrow which is fantastic. Yay phase  
9 2. I'm delighted to see our retailers in  
10 Broadway open again.

11 Joe Dolan who is the in-state  
12 commander for our COVID response, has  
13 written a formal update. I'm going to  
14 just submit this into the record but not  
15 read it tonight because it is primarily  
16 things we have already gone over in this  
17 meeting.

18 The one thing I just wanted to  
19 mention though was that, as we are caught  
20 up in all these reopening details, as  
21 stores are focused on their safety plans  
22 and getting all these details in place  
23 and then we have riots going on and  
24 protests going on, its' really easy to  
25 lose track of the fact that there is



1 still actually a virus present in our  
2 community. And today I was over at  
3 Saratoga Hospital. And I was watching  
4 the tent where you go, drive through for  
5 COVID diagnostic testing. And there was  
6 a steady stream of cars driving through  
7 that tent of people getting diagnostic  
8 testing for COVID. So I just don't want  
9 us to like keep -- you know, we all need  
10 to keep our eye on the ball here and  
11 realize that there is still a virus.  
12 It's still present in our community. And  
13 we have to really, really be vigilant as  
14 we continue these reopening phases so we  
15 can get to phase 3, we can get to phase  
16 4, and we can get back to some kind of  
17 normalcy. So that concludes my  
18 announcement. If anyone has any  
19 questions, feel free to ask.

20 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: he only thing  
21 I want to say is that I've gotten some  
22 inquiries about -- nail salons are not in  
23 phase 2.

24 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Correct.

25 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Okay. So --



1           COMMISSIONER DALTON: Nail salons  
2 are not in phase 2. That is correct.

3           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Okay.

4           COMMISSIONER DALTON: Okay. So  
5 moving on to my second item, it is a  
6 discussion and vote, an approval to play  
7 reimbursement for graphic design.

8           I have done probably ninety percent  
9 of the graphic design for the City since  
10 January, for the website, for social  
11 media and whatnot. That requires two  
12 different graphic design programs that  
13 I've been using. They're about 25  
14 dollars each per month. And so this is  
15 just a motion for the council's approval  
16 to reimburse me in the amount of \$604.83  
17 for the cost of these two graphic design  
18 programs that I purchased for the City's  
19 website and social media. This is a  
20 motion.

21           MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

22           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Second.

23           MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

24           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Thank you for  
25 doing some graphic design. It must be a



1 lot of work though. I'm getting better  
2 with Canva. I can help.

3 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Yeah. It --  
4 it is a lot of work. We do have five  
5 people on our Canva program which is  
6 awesome. So we've -- the whole point,  
7 you guys, is basically to build templates  
8 for graphics that all the same for the  
9 City. So whether it's me or somebody  
10 else in the future, they can come in and  
11 make graphics. And we don't need one  
12 individual to be doing the -- this job,  
13 to build templates so that anyone can  
14 come in and continue building these  
15 graphics for the city. It's not  
16 dependent on any one particular  
17 individual.

18 Anyway, I think I said this is a  
19 motion. Did I?

20 MAYOR KELLY: Yes.

21 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Yes, I did.

22 MAYOR KELLY: All those in favor say  
23 aye.

24 IN UNISON: Aye.

25 MAYOR KELLY: Any oppose? The



1 matter passes.

2 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Thank you.

3 The third item on my agenda,  
4 discussion and vote, authorization to pay  
5 an invoice to Saratoga Hospital. This  
6 invoice is for the annual physicals and  
7 testing for our firefighters. I'd make a  
8 motion to authorize a payment to Saratoga  
9 Hospital in the amount of 12,161 dollars.  
10 This is a motion.

11 MAYOR KELLY: Second?

12 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Second.

13 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion? All  
14 those in favor say aye.

15 IN UNISON: Aye.

16 MAYOR KELLY: Any oppose? The  
17 matter passes.

18 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Thank you.

19 That concludes my agenda.

20 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

21 On to Supervisor Veitch.

22 SUPERVISOR VEITCH: Thank you,  
23 Mayor. I only have one item on my  
24 agenda. It's just a quick report on the  
25 reopening committee that we have



1 established in Saratoga County. It -- we  
2 have met twice since the last council  
3 meeting, so once each week since the last  
4 council meeting, and two fairly lengthy  
5 meetings.

6 But basically, just a quick  
7 overview, the reopening committee is  
8 designed to be resource for businesses to  
9 put state resources, state guidelines and  
10 any processes for reopening in one place,  
11 trying their best to be a one-stop shop  
12 location for people who are looking to  
13 learn about reopening as well as really  
14 for businesses and what they need to do  
15 for reopening.

16 So it is a county-developed website.  
17 And the website address is  
18 reopeningsaratogacounty, all one word,  
19 .com. That links then to the county's  
20 website resource page. It's continually  
21 under development. It's basically being  
22 updated just about every day as new  
23 guidance is established. And, of course,  
24 with tomorrow's phase 2 reopening,  
25 there's going to be a lot of updates made





1 to that to talk about phase 2.

2 There's a -- there's a place on the  
3 website for questions. If you're -- if  
4 you're a business and you have some  
5 questions about whether or not you can  
6 open or the type of business that you are  
7 can open, you can submit those questions.  
8 Basically -- and again, I've gotten a few  
9 requests for some businesses that are  
10 kind of in a gray area. They don't know  
11 if it's something that would be able to  
12 open. You can get that request basically  
13 sent directly to Spencer Hellwig, our  
14 county administrator who is on the state  
15 control room. And he asks on the daily  
16 call that they have any of those requests  
17 that come through as to whether or not  
18 those businesses are able to open.

19 So again, I've actually personally  
20 received a few requests. I send them to  
21 Spencer. And then essentially, about  
22 within twenty-four hours, he gets back to  
23 me and tells me whether or not the state  
24 person from Empire State Development will  
25 say that that's allowed or not allowed to



1 open as a business.

2 So the next part of this is that  
3 we've been working with Saratoga County  
4 Chamber of Commerce. They've agreed to  
5 leverage their media and promotion  
6 network to promote this website and  
7 advertise to businesses. Basically, a  
8 proposal was made from the committee to  
9 spend 50,000 dollars on this. And it  
10 will go through our full committee  
11 process, so it's going to start at the  
12 economic development committee and then  
13 go through law and finance and then to  
14 the full board for a vote.

15 My opinion on this is I don't agree  
16 that 50,000 dollars is the right amount  
17 to spend on this. I think it's too much,  
18 too much for a website promotion. You  
19 know, with very little sales tax coming  
20 in, we must spend our money  
21 appropriately.

22 I think, you know, again, the amount  
23 of 50,000 dollars isn't something I'm  
24 against, but I think at least part of  
25 that money or maybe a large portion of



1           that money is probably better spent  
2           directly assisting business.

3           COMMISSIONER DALTON: I'm sorry. I  
4           don't mean to interrupt. 50,000 dollars  
5           is going just to develop this website?

6           SUPERVISOR VEITCH: Not develop but  
7           promote. So the --

8           COMMISSIONER DALTON: Oh.

9           SUPERVISOR VEITCH: -- chamber of --  
10          yeah. The -- well, again, it's not  
11          approved yet, so I wouldn't say it's  
12          going to anything right now.

13          COMMISSIONER DALTON: Right. That's  
14          an astronomical --

15          SUPERVISOR VEITCH: It's a proposal.  
16          So I think really it's more important  
17          that we have -- help businesses directly.  
18          As everybody somewhat knows from some of  
19          the requirements, the business are going  
20          to need to have personal protective  
21          equipment available for customers and for  
22          their employees, testing of employees.  
23          They're going to have to do a lot of  
24          testing of their own employees. There's  
25          some questions out there about how that's



1 going to be covered as far as costs are  
2 concerned. Increased cleaning and  
3 sanitation for their businesses. That  
4 could be -- that could be costly. And  
5 it's an extra -- it's an extra burden. I  
6 read today that -- or saw on the news  
7 today that for hair salons it's like  
8 every half an hour they've got to like  
9 clean their stations or something like  
10 that. So that's a -- becomes a large  
11 expense the more and more you have to do  
12 that.

13 And also, these businesses have  
14 already been closed for two months, so  
15 they don't really have the resources to  
16 now spend more resources to operate. So  
17 it really doesn't make sense. It's a  
18 burden. So I think at the county level,  
19 we should be assuming some of this and  
20 assisting these businesses. I would be  
21 supportive of spending at least part of  
22 that funds, if not a large portion of it,  
23 for that kind of expense rather than for  
24 the advertising part.

25 I think we need to do some



1 advertising. I'm not saying that. And I  
2 think we should spend some money on that.  
3 But I don't think we should spend 50,000  
4 dollars on that. I think that's an  
5 excessive amount for just promoting a  
6 website.

7 And I think that comes from a place  
8 of -- I don't know if the chair or the  
9 peopled involved in it just don't know  
10 what it takes to advertise and came up  
11 with a number and kind of throwing it out  
12 there and seeing what happens. So my  
13 plan is to propose changes to that  
14 expenditure for other things that I think  
15 are more important.

16 The next meeting of the committee is  
17 this Thursday at 3 o'clock. Right now I  
18 believe we have a scheduled -- it's not  
19 every -- not the same day every week, but  
20 it's every week. So we're going to be  
21 meeting weekly at least for the time  
22 being. And, of course, as was mentioned  
23 earlier today at this meeting, phase 2  
24 can start tomorrow. And so I'm looking  
25 forward to that. I'm looking -- looking



1 forward to my first haircut in two and  
2 half months, not that I need it in the  
3 front. But in the back it's certainly a  
4 problem.

5 And again, it's  
6 reopeningsaratogacounty.com. And if you  
7 want to go the state's website, it's  
8 forward.newyork.gov. So that's my  
9 agenda. And thank you very much.

10 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Can I just  
11 briefly say that I really appreciate your  
12 position on that, Supervisor Veitch?  
13 That 50,000 dollars is an exorbitant way  
14 over-the-top amount to promote a website.  
15 And so I really appreciate your position  
16 there. Thank you.

17 SUPERVISOR VEITCH: Not a problem.  
18 Thank you.

19 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you, Supervisor  
20 Veitch.

21 Supervisor Gaston?

22 SUPERVISOR GASTON: The first item  
23 on my agenda is an update for COVID-19  
24 for the county. Most importantly and  
25 most unfortunately, we just had to



1 recognize our sixteenth death in the  
2 county. We remain fortunate to not have  
3 a Saratoga Springs resident pass away  
4 from COVID-19 as of yet, but we regret  
5 any loss of life as a result of it.

6 We are working on building up  
7 testing in the county. We actually have  
8 an additional -- many people are familiar  
9 with Saratoga Hospital. But Multimed  
10 Emergent Care has been added as a  
11 resource for individuals to obtain  
12 testing within the county. They can do  
13 both antibody and diagnostic testimony.

14 For those who have insurance, there  
15 is no copay. Unfortunately, if you do  
16 not have insurance, all facilities are  
17 currently billing at this time. We are  
18 working on some advocacy to make sure  
19 that anybody has access to that testing,  
20 especially as gig workers and essential  
21 workers who do not have insurance are  
22 most likely to be exposed at this time.

23 If you have a concern about  
24 accessing testing, you are welcome to  
25 reach out to public health or myself or



1 I'm sure Supervisor Veitch to make sure  
2 that we can connect you with that.

3 We are also working with Saratoga  
4 Hospital and Multimed on seeing  
5 additional ways that we can hopefully  
6 increase the testing in the county so  
7 that as we open up, we can make sure any  
8 cases that do develop, any additional  
9 cases, can be traced quickly.

10 To that end, some questionable  
11 information was passed, information that  
12 has been misunderstood. And I want to  
13 make it clear. From Spencer Hellwig  
14 who's on the control room and Director  
15 Kathy Duncan, businesses in Saratoga  
16 County are not required to keep a listing  
17 of the individuals that attend their  
18 businesses. They are, however, expected  
19 to, if contacted by Public Health, assist  
20 in contract tracing any way that they  
21 can. That may mean going back through  
22 the ordinary course of business to see  
23 what records they do have. They are not  
24 required to maintain a list of  
25 individuals who come in. I know that was





1 a concern for a number of businesses that  
2 contacted me.

3 The second item on my agenda is  
4 county operations. Similarly, there are  
5 a lot of people who have questions for  
6 the county at this time. And we ask a  
7 little bit of your patience with us. In  
8 addition to the ongoing pandemic, the  
9 economic crisis has led -- or is  
10 potentially leading to some personnel  
11 changes as we shift things around. And  
12 hopefully very soon we're moving to a  
13 bright, shiny public safety building. So  
14 various aspects of the county are moving  
15 and reacting to all of the things that  
16 are taking place right now. The county  
17 is operating at a hundred percent. That  
18 does not mean all individuals are in the  
19 building, but we are operating at a  
20 hundred percent. So if you try and reach  
21 out and do not contact someone, they  
22 should be able to get back to you. If  
23 they do not, please reach out to us  
24 because we are your conduits to the  
25 county should there be any questions.



1           And we can generally get pretty quick  
2           responses. But I don't want anyone to go  
3           without the information that they need as  
4           a result of this.

5           The third item on my agenda is just  
6           to remind I have a public forum on June  
7           the 7th at 2 p.m. It will be on Facebook  
8           Live. That concludes my agenda.

9           MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

10          Any other business from the council?  
11          Then we are adjourned. Stay safe.

12          (Meeting adjourned)

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, Michael Drake, certify that the  
foregoing transcript is a true and  
accurate record of the proceedings.



---

Michael Drake (CER-513, CET-513)

AAERT Certified Transcriber

eScribers

352 Seventh Avenue, Suite #604

New York, NY 10001

Date: September 29, 2020

City Council Appr'd: 10/20/2020

Vote: 5 - 0

