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CITY OF SARATOGA SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

August 4, 2020

MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM

PRESENT:

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



1           MAYOR KELLY: Good evening. Welcome  
2 to city council meeting, Tuesday, August  
3 4th, 2020.

4           I do want to tell -- ask everyone  
5 that's here for public comment -- I just  
6 want to separate the public comment from  
7 the public hearing. So at this time, we  
8 have one public hearing on the agenda,  
9 and that's the 2021-2026 requested  
10 capital program. The capital committee  
11 has completed its work and submits the  
12 requested 2021 capital budget and  
13 six-year program. The full request is  
14 attached to the last item on my agenda.

15           The public hearing will also be open  
16 through the next city council meeting  
17 with an anticipated vote on August 18th.  
18 Is there anyone in the public comment  
19 arena that wants to speak on the public  
20 hearing capital budget 2021-2026? Please  
21 raise your hand. Zoom hand. Raise your  
22 Zoom hand.

23           UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So far  
24 nobody.

25           MAYOR KELLY: Somebody is raising a



1 hand. I don't know.

2 Ellie, do you want to talk about the  
3 public hearing?

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Her audio is  
5 not connected yet. I don't know if she  
6 can hear you.

7 MAYOR KELLY: I see her.

8 Ellie, can you hear me? Can you  
9 unmute yourself?

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, she  
11 can't.

12 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Are you here  
13 for the public hearing? Okay.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: She nodded.

15 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Are you here  
16 for the public comment or the public  
17 hearing? That's what I need to know. I  
18 can't hear her.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Oh. Ellie  
20 will raise her hand if she's here for the  
21 public hearing.

22 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. If everybody is  
23 here for the public hearing, you need to  
24 raise your hand on your Zoom toolbar.  
25 This is the public hearing to speak about



1 the 2021-2026 requested capital program.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, so I  
3 don't see anybody as to that.

4 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Then we are  
5 going to keep this open. And we'll move  
6 on.

7 We do have the meeting that will  
8 start. So I'd ask for a roll call,  
9 please.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 2:  
11 Commissioner Madigan?

12 MAYOR KELLY: Lisa, I need to hear  
13 the council.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. I'm  
15 sorry. I got the --

16 MAYOR KELLY: Hang on, Michelle.  
17 Just one second.

18 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Present.

19 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 2: Thank you.  
21 Commissioner Scirocco?

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't see  
23 him.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 2: Don't see  
25 him.



1 Commissioner Dalton?

2 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Present.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 2: Mayor

4 Kelly.

5 MAYOR KELLY: Here.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 2: Supervisor

7 Veitch.

8 MAYOR KELLY: He's there? Yeah.

9 Yeah.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 2: And

11 Supervisor Gaston?

12 SUPERVISOR GASTON: Here.

13 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

14 SUPERVISOR VEITCH: Here.

15 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you. Please

16 rise for the pledge of allegiance.

17 (Pledge of allegiance)

18 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

19 Our 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 DALTON: Second.

25 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.



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

3           IN UNISON: Aye.

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

6           At this time, public comment period  
7 has been extended from fifteen minutes to  
8 one hour. The extra time allows up  
9 for -- to thirty people to join and  
10 provide their comments. Registrations  
11 were accepted on Zoom. And the first  
12 thirty requests were approved on a first  
13 come, first serve basis.

14           Please be respectful and address the  
15 council as a whole. The mayor will  
16 announce your name, and you will be able  
17 to unmute your audio. And please turn  
18 your video on if you have it so the  
19 council can see who we are -- who is  
20 speaking. We ask that you keep your  
21 comments brief, up to two minutes. The  
22 city attorney will be the -- have a timer  
23 and will let us know when your time is  
24 up.

25           At the end of your time, you will be



1 removed from the Zoom meeting, and we  
2 will invite you to continue watching the  
3 meeting via livestream on our website.  
4 If you would like to submit your comments  
5 in writing, you may do so by regular or  
6 electronic mail or by providing it to the  
7 city clerk. Written comments must  
8 include your name and address in order to  
9 be placed on the record.

10 And I do know that we did receive  
11 many, many comments by email, and they  
12 are -- will be attached to the record.

13 So anyone who wishes to address the  
14 council upon any issue may raise your  
15 hand under the participant controls,  
16 state your name and address, and provide  
17 your comments. Okay. Why isn't anybody  
18 raising your hand?

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 3: Somebody  
20 has to be first.

21 MAYOR KELLY: Did anybody hear me of  
22 the public comment? Anybody want --  
23 whoever wants to comment, press -- raise  
24 your hand on your toolbar. And we'll  
25 call your name. And I'll -- we'll unmute



1           you.

2                   UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. So all  
3 right. Here's somebody. Abby. Abby.

4                   MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Abby, you will  
5 be unmuted. And you're on. Thank you,  
6 Abby.

7                   MS. CULLORS: Hi. My name is  
8 actually Adia. A friend, Abby, signed up  
9 for me.

10                   But this is in reference to the  
11 point on the agenda that I read that is  
12 referencing the demonstrations in  
13 Saratoga. I would just like to ask --  
14 and I'll just go through this fast.

15                   Commissioner Robin Dalton posted on  
16 her Facebook --

17                   MAYOR KELLY: Excuse me. I'm just  
18 going to tell you that you -- this is  
19 public comment. This isn't a dialog. So  
20 we won't be commenting back. So you can  
21 give your comments. I just want to make  
22 that clear to everybody.

23                   MS. CULLORS: Oh, I'm aware. I'm  
24 aware. Thank you.

25                   MAYOR KELLY: Okay.





1 MS. CULLORS: Thank you for  
2 clarifying.

3 Commissioner Robin Dalton posted on  
4 her Facebook page that, "No tear gas,  
5 rubber bullets were used in the Saratoga  
6 Springs Police Department during last  
7 night's preference," in reference to the  
8 30th. No injuries were reported. Does  
9 she stand by the statement, despite the  
10 video footage and eyewitness testimony as  
11 well as photographs that clearly show use  
12 of tear gas, rubber bullets, and assaults  
13 against protestors?

14 And I'd also just like to know how  
15 you can justify blatant lies by one of  
16 your city officials. Thank you.

17 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you for your  
18 comments.

19 Can you give me your full name? I'm  
20 sorry. Can you unmute Abby again -- Adia  
21 I think it is.

22 MS. CULORS: Adia Culors.

23 MAYOR KELLY: Colors, C-O-L-O-R-S?

24 MS. CULLORS: C-U.

25 MAYOR KELLY: C-U. Thank you.



1 Thank you, Adia.

2 Yeah, okay. Okay. People have to  
3 start raising their hands if they want to  
4 speak. Okay. Thank you.

5 Sergia?

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Amal.

7 MAYOR KELLY: Amal. Okay.

8 MS. OMER: Am I unmuted right now?

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

10 MS. OMER: Yes. Okay.

11 So mine is in line with what Adia  
12 just raised. My comment/question, even  
13 though I know you said it's not a dialog,  
14 I do think it's important to frame them  
15 as questions to hold you all accountable.

16 How can you justify the actions of  
17 Saratoga Springs Police in supporting  
18 blue lives matter rallies, several of  
19 whom physically assaulted Black Lives  
20 Matter protestors, many of which were  
21 Skidmore students? I think that that's a  
22 disgrace. I think you all need to be  
23 held accountable. I think SSPD has  
24 always been a disgrace. And this is just  
25 more proof of that. And I'm honestly



1           ashamed to go to school in a town where  
2           this is existing. It exists in every  
3           town. The SSPD is notoriously racist.  
4           So that's my comment.

5           MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

6           UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And what was  
7           the name again?

8           MAYOR KELLY: Her name is Amal Omer.

9           MS. OMER: No, it's Amal.

10          MAYOR KELLY: Amal.

11          MS. OMER: A-M-A-L.

12          MAYOR KELLY: Amal. Sorry. Sorry.  
13          I'm so sorry. Thank you, Amal.

14          UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:  
15          (Indiscernible).

16          MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Thank you.

17          Lisa, are you seeing this?

18          UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't see  
19          anybody.

20          MAYOR KELLY: Okay. I have Sergia  
21          Coffey. She's raising her physical hand.

22          UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Ask  
23          her to unmute.

24          MAYOR KELLY: Okay. You're on,  
25          please.



1 MS. COFFEY: Hello. I'm Sergia  
2 Coffey. What's happening with the police  
3 in Saratoga Springs is unacceptable to  
4 have militarized police in military tanks  
5 on our streets. The horses are harassing  
6 people. There is video evidence of all  
7 of this. this is not allowed, should not  
8 be allowed. And you all must stand up to  
9 prevent this from happening.

10 Our police force has a long history  
11 of racism. On WAMC, we hear about  
12 harassment of African-American, black,  
13 and people of color students from  
14 Skidmore, a very important economic  
15 source in this town.

16 My son when he walks has walked with  
17 his friend who is black, has been picked  
18 up by the police. I've had to pick him  
19 up at the police station. This is years  
20 ago when they were younger and they were  
21 teens. But he was never bothered when he  
22 was with his white friends. But when  
23 he's with his black friends, I had to go  
24 down to the police station, no  
25 explanation why they were picked up. And



1           excuse me, but my white privilege didn't  
2           let me understand that the only reason  
3           that they were picked up that day was  
4           because one of them was a person of  
5           color.

6                         So we hear this over and over again.  
7           And then to have a militarized response  
8           to peaceful protestors, I haven't been to  
9           that protest because of the COVID-19, but  
10          I've been to many protests in this town  
11          and to some of your meetings. And this  
12          is unacceptable on every single level.  
13          Look at what we're showing the world  
14          Saratoga Springs is about. Everyone  
15          should be ashamed, especially the sheriff  
16          with his military equipment, especially  
17          the militarized police. There's no  
18          excuse for it. It wasn't needed and was  
19          unnecessary.

20                        MAYOR KELLY: Thank you. Thank you  
21                        for your comments.

22                        UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.  
23                        Malchijah Hoskins?

24                        MAYOR KELLY: All right. Put him  
25                        in.



1           MR. HOSKINS: Hi. I'm Malchijah  
2           Hoskins. And my comment is just to echo  
3           the statements that are made before and  
4           my disgust and complete lack of  
5           (indiscernible) the terrible  
6           (indiscernible) black and indigenous  
7           people of color have faced from the  
8           Saratoga Police and the gross use of  
9           violence during the protest.

10           Also, in reference to the  
11           declaration mayor made in the name of  
12           Solomon Northup, you all need to do much  
13           better on advocating for black people in  
14           Saratoga Springs beyond just  
15           acknowledging his name. I think you're  
16           disgracing his name by just simply  
17           acknowledging it and not actually putting  
18           policy that positively affects the lives  
19           of black people in Saratoga Springs.

20           MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

21           Evan maybe? Isa?

22           MS. HAGE: Hi. My name is  
23           pronounced Isa. My comment goes towards  
24           everybody who is working for the Saratoga  
25           County. I am very much urging you to



1 look at your community and county beyond  
2 just North Broadway. As someone who is a  
3 community member of Saratoga, it's really  
4 disappointing to see that you do nothing  
5 for the black and brown communities here  
6 and that you respond to peaceful protest  
7 by militarizing the police force.

8 I saw videos of the peaceful  
9 protests that happened last Thursday  
10 where there were blocks covered with  
11 police officers and police cars just to  
12 confront a line of very peaceful  
13 protestors that you then attacked  
14 multiple times which is completely  
15 unnecessary in your response to that.  
16 And acknowledgment of that was also  
17 inappropriate in did not encompass  
18 everything that it should have. And I  
19 urge you to do better for your community  
20 and for everyone in your community, not  
21 just the people that make it look good.

22 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you. Thank you  
23 for your comment.

24 MS. CRAMER: Hi. I was asked to  
25 unmute. I'm not sure. So -- now I can't



1 hear anyone. But in the statement issued  
2 by the SSPD, you list seven instances of  
3 explicit language and hate -- and hate  
4 speech and road blocking used by the  
5 Black Lives Matter protests, used by the  
6 Black Lives Matter activists. However,  
7 none of these points include any mention  
8 of explicit language, road blocking,  
9 fascist imagery, or violence that --  
10 violence that the black and blue rally  
11 use throughout their demonstration. How  
12 can you justify such blatantly biased and  
13 incorrect report of the events that  
14 transpired?

15 MR. MCDONAGH: Hi. My comment is  
16 addressing the history of silencing black  
17 voices, especially in regards to instance  
18 of racism in Saratoga Springs. At the  
19 last public safety dialog, voices for  
20 Black Lives Matter movement and black  
21 voices in general were silenced and muted  
22 on Zoom and not given time to speak and  
23 to -- to make their point.

24 I wanted -- I wanted to ask, are  
25 there any plans being made to listen to





1           those voices instead of silencing and  
2           ignoring them?

3           MS. MCDONALD: Hi. My name is Ellie  
4           McDonald. And I just want to echo a lot  
5           of the comments being made. What is SSPD  
6           and Saratoga Springs community doing  
7           going forward to support black lives and  
8           protect black lives and protestors in  
9           general? Thank you.

10          MS. KANE: Hi. My name is Emily.  
11          Can you -- my name is Emily. And I just  
12          want to voice my agreement with  
13          everything that has been previously  
14          stated by the other participants in this  
15          commentary such as Adia, Amal, and  
16          Malchijah. I understand that this isn't  
17          the space for a dialog currently, but  
18          this dialog does need to happen and  
19          continue to happen. I was at the protest  
20          on the 30th. And I was scared for  
21          myself, and I was scare for my peers and  
22          my friends who were also there. And all  
23          of us are white. And it was very clear  
24          that the black individuals at the protest  
25          were being targeted specifically and



1           aggressively by the police and the state  
2           police.

3                       So I just want to say that an  
4           immediate and effective change needs to  
5           happen now to show like how -- like the  
6           support that needs to exist for black  
7           community members. Yeah. Thank you.

8                       MR. SULZMAN: Hi, yes. This is  
9           Michael Sulzman. I also would like to  
10          echo a lot of what's been said and that I  
11          find it very disappointing that the City  
12          of Saratoga Springs has not taken  
13          responsibility for their part in the  
14          escalation of events on Thursday, July  
15          30th. I was also present. I was very,  
16          very close to where the violence actually  
17          began. And from my perspective, it  
18          seemed that the police became violent  
19          first in terms of making a violent  
20          takedown rather than issuing any kind of  
21          peaceful form of arrest. And there was  
22          no public announcement of any kind of,  
23          you know, danger of arrest. There were  
24          individuals who were approached and were  
25          spoken to and were told that they could



1           actually possibly be arrested. And then  
2           they did disseminate that information to  
3           some of us. There wasn't a lot of time  
4           between when that was first stated and  
5           when the actual violent takedown  
6           occurred. And then during that takedown,  
7           there were chemical balls that were  
8           fired, you know, at the individuals  
9           involved and that -- or takedown, you  
10          know, the people who were being arrested  
11          and the crowd as well.

12                        And there was no violence on the  
13          part of the -- by violence, I mean like  
14          actual physical harm or property damage  
15          or anything else. There was no -- there  
16          were no physical attacks and no property  
17          damage executed by protestors on July  
18          30th. And the police initiated violent  
19          action against the people. And there was  
20          nothing that had been thrown at them.  
21          There were no -- there was nothing that  
22          had been -- from what I saw, there was no  
23          attack on any police officers up to that  
24          point.

25                        And, you know, even subsequent to



1 all of that, there was one item that was  
2 thrown that was very, very short of the  
3 police line. It was much after that had  
4 all occurred. And it was not -- it was  
5 obviously very clearly not intended to  
6 hit anybody. It's just an expression of  
7 frustration.

8 MAYOR KELLY: That's your time, sir.  
9 Thank you.

10 MR. SULZMAN: Okay. It's just very  
11 disappointing that there's been nobody  
12 that's taken responsibility from Saratoga  
13 Springs and on all this.

14 MAYOR KELLY: All right. Thank you  
15 for your comments.

16 I do -- I have neglected to ask your  
17 name and address. So could you give me  
18 your address? I have your name on the  
19 screen, Michael.

20 MR. SULZMAN: And I can give you my  
21 email address. Why do you need my  
22 address?

23 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. If you don't  
24 want to give it, that's fine. Thank you.

25 And then we'll go on to the next. I



1 will be asking that though just to let  
2 people know. That's what I do. It's  
3 just different on Zoom.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So nobody is  
5 raising their hand.

6 MAYOR KELLY: Somebody needs to  
7 raise their hand if you want to speak.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Angie. Ask  
9 Angie to --

10 MAYOR KELLY: Angie, can you unmute?  
11 Angie, are you there?

12 MS. ANGIE: I'm here, but I don't  
13 have any comments.

14 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Then we're  
15 going to take you out of here. You can  
16 go to the livestream and watch.

17 MS. ANGIE: Oh, the --

18 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Thank you.

19 MS. ANGIE: (Indiscernible).

20 MAYOR KELLY: Yep.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Emily?

22 MAYOR KELLY: Emily, can you unmute?

23 MS. D'ANGELICA: Hi, yeah, I can  
24 unmute. My question is also echoing a  
25 lot of the comments that have been stated



1 on this Zoom call by past participants.  
2 And I just wanted to know in regards to a  
3 post on Facebook by Commissioner Dalton  
4 that said I've never been more proud of  
5 our mounted unit and our entire Saratoga  
6 Springs Police Department than I am right  
7 now. This was one day following the  
8 protest and -- that the same mounted  
9 police force threatened to run over  
10 protestors, many of whom were minors and  
11 young adults, with their horses. And I'd  
12 like to know how you would respond to  
13 your city officials so blatantly  
14 celebrating violence against people who  
15 live in Saratoga.

16 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you. Is that  
17 it?

18 MS. D'ANGELICA: Yeah, that's my  
19 whole --

20 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Thank you for  
21 your comment.

22 MS. D'ANGELICA: Yeah.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Jane Cole.

24 MAYOR KELLY: Jane, can you unmute,  
25 please?



1 MS. COLE: Hello. Yes. I'm also a  
2 Skidmore student. I have many of the  
3 same feelings that have already been  
4 expressed tonight. I too am feeling  
5 ashamed to go back to school this fall in  
6 Saratoga and be a community member here.  
7 I think that -- I was at the protest on  
8 Thursday. And I witnessed my peers and  
9 myself be exposed to pepper spray. And I  
10 witnessed extreme violence and  
11 intimidation tactics on the part of SSPD.

12 I think that's extremely  
13 disappointing and infuriating, frankly,  
14 that the police's press release regarding  
15 that night seems to tell lies. It does  
16 not match what I witnessed on Thursday.  
17 And I think that SSPD and Saratoga  
18 Springs City Council need to take  
19 accountability for what happened moving  
20 forward in order for any change to occur  
21 which obviously is extremely necessary.

22 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you. Thank you  
23 for your comment.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So Kimberly?

25 MAYOR KELLY: Kimberly, can you



1 unmute?

2 MS. NEE: Hi.

3 MAYOR KELLY: Hi.

4 MS. NEE: So my question is -- well,  
5 my comment is blue lives matter  
6 protestors also blocked off streets,  
7 sidewalks, and public parks as well. So  
8 why were only Black Lives Matter  
9 protestors treated with violence and  
10 abuse by the SSPD? I think it becomes  
11 more and more clear that the police  
12 department in Saratoga Springs is ridden  
13 with blatant racism. And I think that  
14 the only way to take accountability for  
15 that is to look at the power structure of  
16 Saratoga Springs and the power structure  
17 of city council and look at the voices  
18 that are missing in decision-making  
19 spaces, look at the voices and the people  
20 and the identities who are in this space,  
21 and then look at the people who are not  
22 here.

23 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Sanjna?

25 MAYOR KELLY: Sanjna, can you





1 unmute, please?

2 MS. MILLS: Hi. I'm here  
3 representing the Skidmore News. I just  
4 wanted to comment that we have --

5 MAYOR KELLY: Do you have video? Do  
6 you have video? I can't see you.

7 MS. MILLS: Sure, one second.

8 MAYOR KELLY: Yeah.

9 MS. MILLS: Hi. I just wanted to  
10 comment about the Saratoga Police  
11 Department. I've seen them almost every  
12 day outside the police station in large  
13 groups not wearing masks, not socially  
14 distancing. And they've been approaching  
15 and interacting with citizens not wearing  
16 masks. And I know you can't force  
17 anybody to be wearing a mask, but I think  
18 you should order them that they need to  
19 be wearing masks at the very least when  
20 they are on duty.

21 A lot of community members are  
22 looking up to the police department, and  
23 they follow them as role models. And I  
24 think they should be wearing masks. It  
25 protects everyone. It protects



1 themselves. And it's really important.

2 Robin Dalton, I'm also calling on  
3 your immediate resignation. You've shown  
4 a very clear biased towards Back the  
5 Blue. And you've shown complete  
6 disrespect to the Black Lives Matter  
7 protest and organizers. And it's very  
8 unfair. And I don't want a community  
9 safety commissioner who's going to show a  
10 bias towards community members and  
11 towards -- what?

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 3: State your  
13 name.

14 MS. MILLS: Also, I'm on a friend's  
15 Zoom profile. So my name is actually  
16 Sadie Mills, and I'm a Skidmore student.

17 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Thank you.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Sarah Marlin  
19 (ph.).

20 MAYOR KELLY: Sarah Marlin, can you  
21 unmute?

22 MS. MARLIN: Hi there. Hi. Just  
23 give me one second.

24 MAYOR KELLY: (Indiscernible) --

25 MS. MARLIN: Just give me one



1 second. Hi. Yeah. My name is Sarah  
2 Marlin. I'm a resident of Saratoga. I'm  
3 also a member of the Saratoga community,  
4 lived here for twenty-two years.

5 I just joined the meeting, so I  
6 apologize if this has already been  
7 mentioned. But in the statement issued  
8 by the SSPD, you listed some instances of  
9 explicit language and hate speech and  
10 road blocking used by BLM activists.

11 However, none of these -- none of  
12 these points include any mention of  
13 explicit language, road-blocking, fascist  
14 imagery, or violence, verbally and  
15 physically, that Back the Blue rally used  
16 throughout their demonstration. And I'm  
17 just wondering how you can justify such a  
18 blatantly biased and inaccurate report of  
19 the events that transpired.

20 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

21 MS. MARLIN: Thank you. Whoa, that  
22 was --

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Josiah --  
24 wait, let me pull up --

25 MAYOR KELLY: Um-hum.



1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

2 (Indiscernible) the last one.

3 (Indiscernible). Sorry, (indiscernible).

4 MAYOR KELLY: It still says it's  
5 connecting to audio.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Do you  
7 see that? I --

8 MAYOR KELLY: Yeah, I see it. Um-  
9 hum.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:  
11 (Indiscernible). Angie is already in --  
12 (indiscernible). She said she didn't  
13 want to talk. I believe she does. Ask  
14 Angie if she wants to talk to you.

15 MAYOR KELLY: Angie, are you  
16 commenting? Can you unmute so I can hear  
17 you?

18 MS. ANGIE: Oh, I'm sorry. I'm not.  
19 I'm --

20 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Then --

21 MS. ANGIE: -- trying to get to the  
22 other meeting.

23 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. I don't know if  
24 we can get Josiah in here.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:



1 (Indiscernible).

2 MAYOR KELLY: So I see that there  
3 might be some trouble with Josiah Jents  
4 (ph.) getting into this Zoom call. It's  
5 trying to connect, and it's not  
6 happening. So if Josiah's maybe friends  
7 hear us, that he can send his comment in  
8 by email. And we will attach them to the  
9 record.

10 Is there anybody else for public  
11 comment at this time? Okay. Then we are  
12 going to move out of -- I'm going to  
13 close public comment period. And we'll  
14 move on to our agenda.

15 There are no presentations at this  
16 meeting. We do not have any executive  
17 sessions.

18 At this time, we're going to move  
19 one item of Commissioner Dalton's to the  
20 top of the agenda. So I'll turn it over  
21 to Commissioner Dalton.

22 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Thank you,  
23 Mayor Kelly.

24 I am going to move my announcement  
25 about the demonstrations in Saratoga



1           Springs to the top of the agenda. And I  
2           appreciate your allowing me to do so.

3           So I am going to read through the  
4           press release that went out today  
5           regarding the demonstrations and then add  
6           a few comments of my own.

7           On 7/30/2020, the Saratoga Springs  
8           Police Department issued a press release  
9           on the outcome of the Back the Blue rally  
10          and a counter-protest by Black Lives  
11          Matters and All of Us. This press  
12          release is intended to further supplement  
13          the July 30th release.

14          The Back the Blue organizers had  
15          planned their event for more than a week.  
16          They communicated their intent and  
17          coordinated their demonstration with the  
18          city through their submission of a  
19          declaration of intent to demonstrate in  
20          accordance with Chapter 97 of the City  
21          Code. They stated it would be peaceful  
22          and requested the ability to march down  
23          Broadway.

24          The Back the Blue organizers had  
25          also requested the opportunity to have



1 their rally in the steps of City Hall.  
2 However, they were asked to abandon the  
3 idea because of the size of their group.

4 The police department has  
5 accommodated many groups over the years  
6 who have requested the right to  
7 peacefully demonstrates and treats all  
8 requests equally. On the recommendation  
9 of the police department, Back the Blue  
10 organizers were given the opportunity to  
11 march down Broadway with the assistance  
12 of the police department which is no  
13 different than any group that has  
14 protested, to Congress Park where they  
15 could continue their rally.

16 The Back the Blue organizers agreed  
17 to those conditions because of the safety  
18 concerns they could develop if all their  
19 supporters spilled into the roadway in  
20 front of City Hall.

21 The police assigned four patrol  
22 officers, two mounted officers, and one  
23 supervisor to assist with the rally group  
24 from High Rock Part up to Congress Park  
25 via Broadway. This had been a normal



1 assigned police coverage for previous  
2 protest over the last two months. The  
3 assigned police coverage was an addition  
4 to the normal staffing for an afternoon  
5 shift in July.

6 On July 29th, the police had been  
7 seeing social media posts from people  
8 representing the groups from Black Lives  
9 Matter and all of us to show up and  
10 counter-protest the Back the Blue rally.  
11 One of social media posts asks  
12 counter-protesters to be in Congress Park  
13 by 5:30 and stated it was time to really  
14 show them we mean business.

15 It was at this time that the  
16 decision was made to add assistance from  
17 the Saratoga County Sheriff's Department,  
18 New York State Police, and New York State  
19 Park Police. It was always the intention  
20 of the police department command staff to  
21 make sure that, regardless of what groups  
22 came to rally or protest, they had an  
23 opportunity to express their opinions in  
24 a peaceful way.

25 As planned, the Back the Blue group





1 started at 6 p.m. from High Rock Park to  
2 Broadway and Lake Avenue. By the time,  
3 the Black Lives Matter and All of Us  
4 group had formed in front of City Hall in  
5 the street.

6 The Black -- the Back the Blue group  
7 headed south on Broadway with the  
8 assistance of police. And once the last  
9 marchers had cleared the intersection of  
10 Broadway and Lake, the Black Lives Matter  
11 and All of Us group decided to follow  
12 them down to Broadway. Each group was  
13 trying to do the other -- outdo the other  
14 with their respective message.

15 At approximately 6:15, the Back the  
16 Blue group made their way into Congress  
17 Park via the main entrance of the park.  
18 At the same time, members of Black Lives  
19 Matter and All of Us made the decision to  
20 sit down in the middle of Broadway at the  
21 intersection with Spring Street and block  
22 traffic in all directions. This has  
23 unfortunately been a common theme with  
24 these groups. The roadway remained  
25 blocked for approximately five to seven



1 minutes. And then the Black Lives Matter  
2 and All of Us group headed east down  
3 Spring Street and entered Congress Park,  
4 made their carousel.

5 By 5:30 p.m., all groups had  
6 converged to the same location, front  
7 west side of the casino building.

8 From 6:30 to 7:45, tensions were  
9 high. Words were exchanged on both  
10 sides. But the groups were separated by  
11 a wall of police officers and two SSPD  
12 horses.

13 The Saratoga Springs Police  
14 Department stands by its original press  
15 release associated with this event and  
16 respectfully disagrees with the narrative  
17 by All of Us leader and spokesperson in  
18 which he suggested that he and his group  
19 were targeted by the police and they were  
20 attempting a peaceful protest.

21 The police department is releasing  
22 video that depicts the events as they  
23 unfolded. The videos can be found on the  
24 Saratoga Springs City website which is  
25 Saratoga-springs.org. I'm not going to



1 show the videos at the city council  
2 meeting tonight. I had planned to. But  
3 at the advice of our counsel and  
4 attorneys, all of these videos do contain  
5 very explicit language. There's a lot of  
6 a hate speech. And there is a lot of  
7 imagery that is disserving.

8 So in lieu of putting it on tonight,  
9 if anyone wants to see it, it is on the  
10 homepage of our website. And you can  
11 access it at any time. But it walks  
12 through step-by-step the kind of  
13 culminating aggression and confrontation  
14 that we were seeing on Thursday night.

15 The Saratoga County Sheriff's  
16 Department MRAP vehicle was utilized  
17 during the evening of July 30th. It is  
18 not a tank but a light tactical vehicle  
19 that is used as a personnel and equipment  
20 carrier for a tactical team. This  
21 vehicle has been present in City Hall for  
22 all large protests, many large vessel  
23 events, and all emergency details at the  
24 racetrack such as the (indiscernible).

25 The available of outside agencies



1 with the proper personnel and equipment  
2 is paramount to the safety and security  
3 of the citizens of Saratoga Springs.

4 Three individuals were arrested on  
5 July 30th relating to the protests. The  
6 time and arrests -- the time of arrest  
7 and time of release are set forth below.  
8 We arrested a sixteen-year-old female  
9 from Saratoga Springs who was arrested at  
10 8:48 p.m., issued an appearance ticket,  
11 and released to her grandfather at 9:53  
12 p.m. when he arrived at the police  
13 station.

14 A seventeen-year-old male from  
15 Saratoga Springs was arrested at 8:49 and  
16 refused to cooperate with police. Once  
17 his identity and age were determined, he  
18 was transported by the police department  
19 to his parents at 11:59 and was issued an  
20 appearance ticket.

21 There is a nineteen-year-old male  
22 who was also arrested. His name is  
23 Andrew Simmons from Schenectady. He was  
24 arrested at 8:49 p.m. and released at  
25 9:24 p.m. on an appearance ticket.



1           I did not release the name of the  
2           two other individuals as they are under  
3           the age of eighteen.

4           Intelligence collected by outside  
5           agencies at various times on the day of  
6           July 30th reported the possibility that  
7           one of the protesters associated with  
8           Black Lives Matter and All of Us was  
9           armed with a handgun, and agitators from  
10          the outside area were going to be  
11          involved.

12          Observations by officer and backed  
13          up by video show some protestors wearing  
14          bulletproof vests and duty belts  
15          containing pepper spray. The use of OC  
16          spray and pepper projectiles is on the  
17          lower end of the use of force continuum  
18          and may be considered for use to bring an  
19          individual or group of individuals under  
20          control when they're about to or are  
21          engaged in violent behavior.

22          The chief of police authorized the  
23          use of pepper projectiles once the  
24          situation started turning violent which  
25          is shown in video 7. Zero injuries were



1 reported from the events detailed  
2 below -- or above rather.

3 The Saratoga Springs Police  
4 Department respects the rights of all  
5 individuals to peacefully protest, and we  
6 remain committed to working with all  
7 community groups in an effort to ensure  
8 that all protests are indeed peaceful.

9 The thing I wanted to add on to the  
10 statement is that when groups are willing  
11 to contact the city and work with the  
12 city to conduct a demonstration or  
13 protest, no matter what the cause is, it  
14 makes it considerably easier for us to  
15 keep you all safe as you participate in  
16 your demonstrational protest. We can  
17 block streets so you can walk down the  
18 sidewalks without interruption. We can  
19 keep you safe in the park.

20 When you don't work with the city  
21 and we don't know what route you're going  
22 to take and anyone, whether you're  
23 involved in a protest or a demonstration,  
24 goes into traffic, goes into an  
25 intersection where -- especially on a



1 main thoroughfare like Broadway or Lake  
2 Avenue, you put yourself in danger and  
3 you put everyone around you in danger.

4 And in the future, if anyone sits in  
5 an intersection, wanders through traffic,  
6 we will give you a verbal warning that  
7 you're putting your own safety at risk.  
8 If you do not leave and go to the  
9 sidewalk, we will arrest you. We are  
10 only arresting you for your own safety  
11 and for the safety of those around you.  
12 Our primary goal is to allow for protest,  
13 demonstrations to be peaceful and to keep  
14 everyone safe.

15 On that note, there were a few  
16 things I also wanted to respond to during  
17 public comment. But primarily, I do  
18 stand by the actions of the Saratoga  
19 Springs Police Department on the night of  
20 July 30th. I was there almost the entire  
21 time. I witnessed everything. It was an  
22 incredibly aggressive, hostile, intense  
23 environment not because of one group,  
24 because of two groups that were  
25 confronted together at the same time.



1           Prior to this, we have hosted thirty  
2 protests from Black Lives Matter groups  
3 or the All of Us groups. That's over two  
4 months. So we have hosted many, many,  
5 many, many peaceful protests in the city  
6 over the last two months and in the  
7 history of the city. This was one  
8 instance in which things did not end in a  
9 way any of us would have wanted them to  
10 end. However, we did our absolute best  
11 to protect all lives and make sure no one  
12 was injured. And I stand by everything  
13 that happened that evening.

14           So I'd love to open this up to any  
15 discussion by the counsel, questions,  
16 comments, concerns, anything I --  
17 anything I can address.

18           MAYOR KELLY: Any comments from the  
19 counsel?

20           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: I have a  
21 statement that I would like to read if  
22 that's okay.

23           MAYOR KELLY: Sure.

24           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: But I -- you  
25 know, Mayor, if anybody else has anything





1           they want to say first, you know, I'm  
2           happy to, you know, cede my -- cede the  
3           floor to someone else.

4           MAYOR KELLY: No, you can go. Go  
5           ahead.

6           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: All right.  
7           So, you know, I've been thinking about  
8           this a lot because I probably watched  
9           just about every single video that I  
10          could get my hands on based on the  
11          incident that happened on Thursday night.

12          And police officers and police  
13          departments, any police need to be sort  
14          of ready, able, and willing to protect  
15          themselves and protect our citizens. So  
16          I am both a supporter of our police  
17          department and the right to protest and  
18          the right to protest with civil  
19          disobedience which can mean the blocking  
20          of streets.

21          But typically, this is done in  
22          coordination with city government so that  
23          we can keep people safe. For example,  
24          any time I go down to, you know, a  
25          woman's march in DC or out to Seneca



1 Falls, you know, the government knows  
2 we're coming. Streets are blocked off.  
3 Now, those are very large protests. So,  
4 of course, you know, they're getting  
5 ready to, you know, host many people in  
6 their city streets. I mean, the goal is  
7 to keep people safe.

8 But on Thursday night, you know, we  
9 had two protests, one that at least  
10 coordinated or registered with the city.  
11 I guess that was the Back the Blue  
12 protest. And then we also had a  
13 counter-protest that led to having our  
14 police department, sheriff's office,  
15 state police, park police present on our  
16 city streets.

17 They were invited to be there by our  
18 city police department, as I come to  
19 understand. And I'm told that this is  
20 business as usual when we know there is  
21 going to be a protest and that that is  
22 coordinated with our police department.  
23 And these police officers are kept off to  
24 the side or staged and then called in if  
25 they're felt they're needed by our police



1 department.

2 I do not want to minimize what  
3 transpired on Thursday night I guess  
4 between 7:30 and 8:30 or 7:15 to 8:45 or  
5 so. And the outcome of this is that I  
6 think we all need to really come together  
7 with less force, less aggression, and  
8 less threatening behavior. We need to  
9 understand that this is not what we want  
10 in our city. We need to acknowledge that  
11 we haven't found a place where we can  
12 meet as nonadversaries. Behaving safely  
13 and security and expressing ourselves  
14 even when we don't agree is what we want  
15 for our community and for our city.

16 We may never agree with each other,  
17 but we need to come together as a  
18 community. We need to temper our use of  
19 force and aggression. We need to temper  
20 our responses to things that we might  
21 find are a bit aggressive. We all need  
22 to temper our aggressive messaging and  
23 our communication.

24 This evening the Mayor is going to  
25 discuss and unveil a taskforce for the



1 executive order 203 for police reform and  
2 reinvention collaborative. And I hope  
3 that we can make this taskforce a success  
4 because I want to see our community do  
5 better. Thank you very much.

6 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you,  
7 Commissioner. And that is correct. I  
8 am -- that is on my agenda tonight, the  
9 executive order 203, New York State  
10 Police reform and reinvention  
11 collaborative.

12 COMMISSIONER DALTON: I do also  
13 have --

14 MAYOR KELLY: Yes.

15 COMMISSIONER DALTON: -- one more  
16 thing to add if it's all right.

17 MAYOR KELLY: In one second, please.

18 So with that being said, I have  
19 reached out to the MLK organization. And  
20 I have been in contact with them. And we  
21 are going to be meeting in another week  
22 and -- to discuss what happened and how  
23 we can move forward together.

24 I've also been in contact with the  
25 president of Skidmore, Mark Connors. And



1 we're doing the same thing up at  
2 Skidmore. So I have been reaching out to  
3 the community. I would love to see us  
4 all come together and sit at the table  
5 and see if we can work through this.

6 I do believe that, you know, we're  
7 all Saratogians. And we can -- we've  
8 lived in harmony for -- as a long time.  
9 And if we need to make changes, let's  
10 make them now. Now is the time. And  
11 that's why this executive order is so  
12 important.

13 Thank you. Commissioner Dalton,  
14 you're up.

15 COMMISSIONER DALTON: I couldn't  
16 agree more. I agree with both  
17 Commissioner Madigan and Mayor Kelly's  
18 statements.

19 I have been meeting with black  
20 residents in our community for the last  
21 month and a half to hear their concerns,  
22 to talk about their experiences, and to  
23 see how I can take their voices of  
24 concerns and frustrations and we can work  
25 together as a group to create the



1 community that we all want to live in and  
2 feel safe in. And to that end, I have  
3 put together a group that is going to be  
4 a community outreach team. And I am  
5 inviting anyone from the public who wants  
6 to be a part of the solution to be on  
7 this team with us. If you're interested,  
8 you can email outreach@saratoga-  
9 springs.org.

10 I will post more information on this  
11 line, but I just wanted to let people  
12 know tonight that I would love for  
13 everyone who is interested and is  
14 passionate about this, upset about this  
15 to be a part of the solution and work  
16 together with us to create a better  
17 community for all.

18 So again, email outreach@saratoga-  
19 springs.org. And that about wraps it up  
20 for me.

21 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you. Is that --  
22 any other comment from the council?  
23 Okay.

24 Then we will move back to the  
25 Mayor's department. My first item is a



1           proclamation, Saratoga Hospital's 125th  
2           anniversary. Whereas back in the  
3           nineteenth century, most Americans  
4           received medical treatment at home.  
5           Doctors visited patients in their homes  
6           and even performed surgeries there.  
7           There were few hospitals outside of  
8           larger cities. And often they were  
9           poorly equipped and served patients who  
10          could not afford a personal doctor.

11                 To most Americans, a hospital was a  
12          place people went to die. The Village of  
13          Saratoga Springs was no exception. For  
14          years if a sick or injured person was  
15          deemed untreatable at home, he simply was  
16          taken to his designated room at the city  
17          police station.

18                 And whereas in 1895, a group of  
19          Saratoga Springs women had decided that  
20          there was a better way. The first  
21          Saratoga emergency hospital opened that  
22          year in the former residential home at  
23          the corner of West Harrison and Division  
24          Streets.

25                 In the years to follow, Saratoga



1 Hospital would become a leading  
2 healthcare provider in our county,  
3 consistently ranking high in our state  
4 for awarded winning high-quality care.  
5 It features the best and newest  
6 technology and highly skilled  
7 practitioners. Above all, it is a place  
8 of professionalism, innovation, and hope.

9 Now, therefore, I, Meg Kelly, Mayor  
10 of the City of Saratoga Springs, am  
11 pleased to join with my fellow  
12 Saratogians in expressing our thanks and  
13 appreciations to the doctors, nurses,  
14 technicians, medical professionals,  
15 administrators, volunteers, and staff of  
16 Saratoga Hospital and congratulate them  
17 on the hospital's first 125 years of  
18 invaluable service to our community.

19 My second item is a discussion and  
20 vote to port Saratoga County's grant  
21 application to Capital District Trails  
22 plan implementation. This is a  
23 discussion and vote to support the  
24 Saratoga County Planning's Department  
25 application for funding under the





1           2020-2021 Capital District Transportation  
2           Committee, CDTC Trail's plan  
3           implementation program to study the  
4           feasibility of extending the Zim Smith  
5           Trail from the trail's current terminus  
6           on Oak Street in the town of Ballston to  
7           the Saratoga Spa State Spark.

8                     I move that the city council votes  
9           to support the Saratoga County's grant  
10          application to the Capital District  
11          Trail's plan implementation as included  
12          with this agenda. This is a motion.

13                    Is there a second?

14                    COMMISSIONER DALTON: Second.

15                    COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Second.

16                    MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

17                    COMMISSIONER DALTON: The only thing  
18          I want to point out with trails --  
19          because I'm just getting feedback from  
20          some people about the maintenance and  
21          security of our trail system. So maybe  
22          at a future date we can talk about as we  
23          expand our trail system ways to make sure  
24          we keep it safe and also tidy.

25                    MAYOR KELLY: I agree.



1 All those in favor say aye.

2 IN UNISON: Aye.

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

5 Okay. My next item is discussion of  
6 revocable license for city use of  
7 Saratoga Springs' ice rinks, the ice  
8 rinks agreement template with updates  
9 revised.

10 I move that the city council approve  
11 the revocable license for the use of the  
12 city of Saratoga Springs' ice rinks, ice  
13 rinks agreement template as included with  
14 this agenda. This is a motion.

15 Is there a second?

16 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Second.

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

19 IN UNISON: Aye.

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

22 My next -- I'm going to turn it over  
23 to Commissioner Madigan for an award of  
24 bid before my next item.

25 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Yes. I think



1           that's this one. Award of bid, I'm  
2           reading the accounts agenda this evening.  
3           Commissioner Franck is not with us this  
4           evening.

5                        So his item number 4 is an award of  
6           bid, Vernon ice rink chiller replacement  
7           to Postler & Jaeckle Corp. Upon the  
8           recommendation of the Mayor's department,  
9           I move to award the bid for the Vernon  
10          ice rink chiller replacement to Postler &  
11          Jaeckle Corp. for an amount not to exceed  
12          99,000 dollars. This is a motion.

13                       MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

14                       COMMISSIONER DALTON: Second.

15                       MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

16                       All those in favor say aye.

17                       IN UNISON: Aye.

18                       MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed? The  
19          matter passes. Thank you, Commissioner.

20                       Back to my four item, discussion  
21          about authorization for the Mayor's  
22          contract with Postler & Jaeckle for ice  
23          ring chiller. I move that the city  
24          council authorize the mayor to sign a  
25          contract with Postler & Jaeckle for ice



1           rink chiller as included with this. This  
2           is a motion. Is there a second?

3           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Second.

4           COMMISSIONER DALTON: Second.

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

7           IN UNISON: Aye.

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

10           Our next items is discussion about  
11           authorization for the mayor to sign  
12           printer lease agreement with National  
13           Business Technologies for civil service.  
14           I move that the city council authorize  
15           the mayor to sign the printer lease  
16           agreement with National Business  
17           Technology civil service as included with  
18           this agenda. This is a motion. Is there  
19           a second?

20           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: 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           My next item is authorization for  
2           the mayor to sign printer lease agreement  
3           with National Business Technologies,  
4           building and planning department, as  
5           included with this agenda. I move that  
6           the city council authorize the mayor to  
7           sign the agreement -- authorize the mayor  
8           to sign the printer lease agreement with  
9           National Business Technologies, building  
10          and planning, as included with this  
11          agenda. This is a motion. Is there a  
12          second?

13           COMMISSIONER DALTON: Second.

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

16           IN UNISON: Aye.

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

19           My next items I discussion about  
20          COVID-19 emergency housing assistance  
21          program. Lindsey Connors in the  
22          community development office emailed  
23          details of this program to the council on  
24          Monday.

25           The COVID-19 emergency housing



1 assistance program to be administered by  
2 the city's Office of Community  
3 Development was funded by the U.S.  
4 Department of Housing and Urban  
5 Development via the city's CARE Act  
6 (indiscernible) allocation. The  
7 Department recognizes that preventing  
8 homelessness as well as rehousing our  
9 homeless population in a noncongregate  
10 setting is the best practice for the  
11 prevision and mitigation of the spread of  
12 COVID-19.

13 The program will fund up to three  
14 months of emergency housing needs for low  
15 to moderate income Saratogians preventing  
16 homelessness for those at risk and rapid  
17 rehousing for those without adequate  
18 housing.

19 The program also provides support to  
20 participating nonprofit human service  
21 providers who work with citizens in needs  
22 of housing assistance to facilitate the  
23 application process and to provide  
24 supportive services during the experience  
25 of homelessness, eviction process, and



1 housing stabilization period.

2 I move that the city council  
3 authorize -- I move that the city council  
4 approve the COVID-19 emergency housing  
5 assistance program as included with this  
6 agenda. This is a motion. Is there a  
7 second?

8 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Second.

9 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Second.

10 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

11 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Oh, I just  
12 wanted to say I read the details and was  
13 really, really impressed. And I think  
14 this is like a terrific, terrific thing  
15 for our community. I've been really  
16 worried about how the rise in -- the  
17 rising homelessness we were going to see  
18 as a result of COVID. So kudos to you  
19 and your department to getting this out.  
20 I think it's fantastic.

21 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

22 All those in favor say aye.

23 IN UNISON: Aye.

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



1           My next item is discussion about  
2           template memorandum of understanding for  
3           COVID-19 emergency housing assistance  
4           program participating providers.

5           This template MOU is related to the  
6           previous item. Any nonprofit human  
7           services agency operating within the City  
8           of Saratoga Springs with the demonstrated  
9           capacity to fill the role and  
10          responsibility as outlined within the  
11          program guidebook and the MOU is eligible  
12          to contract with the city as a  
13          participating provider of the COVID-19  
14          emergency housing assistance program.

15          Participating providers will provide  
16          program applicants with application  
17          assistance and wraparound services  
18          consistent with their established  
19          services to ensure individuals and  
20          families remain stably housed.

21          I move that the city council approve  
22          the template memorandum of understanding  
23          for COVID-19 emergency housing assistance  
24          program participating providers as  
25          included with this agenda. This is a





1 motion. Is there a second?

2 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Second.

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

5 IN UNISON: Aye.

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

8 My next item is an announcement,  
9 executive order 203 New York State Police  
10 Reform and Reinvention Collaborative. On  
11 June 12th of this year, Governor Cuomo  
12 issued an executive order 203 entitled  
13 New York State Police Reform and  
14 Reinvention Collaborative.

15 The executive order issued in  
16 response to the protests and  
17 demonstrations which have occurred  
18 throughout New York State and indeed  
19 throughout our nation requires that  
20 municipalities with a police department  
21 must perform the comprehensive review of  
22 police force, including deployment,  
23 strategies, policies, procedures, and  
24 practices, and develop a plan to improve  
25 them.



1           As the mayor of Saratoga Springs, I  
2           am responsible for convening a group of  
3           individuals consisting of our police  
4           chief and stakeholders in the community  
5           to develop such a plan. I have requested  
6           that each of my fellow councilmembers  
7           assist me in establishing this important  
8           group. Each of them have provided me  
9           with names of two individuals to serve.  
10          Those individuals, together with four  
11          individuals that I have selected and the  
12          police chief, will result in thirteen --  
13          a thirteen-member committee that will  
14          include the following people:

15                 Shane Crooks is our chief of police.  
16                 He's mandated to be on this committee  
17                 through the executive order.

18                 Our city attorney, Vince  
19                 DeLeonardis, is appointed by me and will  
20                 chair this committee.

21                 Winston Grady-Willis, Skidmore  
22                 College, director of black studies, is  
23                 appointed by myself.

24                 Terry Degari (ph.), Saratoga  
25                 Immigration Coalition, is appointed by



1           myself.

2                   Chuck Caputo, Saratoga Pride, is my  
3           last appointment.

4                   Deyjah Harris associated with the  
5           Martin Luther King Association is  
6           Commissioner Michelle Madigan's  
7           appointment, along with Kristen Dart  
8           (ph.) is also Commissioner Madigan's  
9           appointment.

10                   Jason Golub and Andrew Seefus (ph.)  
11           are Commissioner Robin Dalton's  
12           appointments.

13                   Cecilia Hayes and Camille Daniels  
14           are Commissioner John Franck's  
15           appointments.

16                   Steven Boxley (ph.) and Kimberly A.  
17           Galvin (ph.) are Commissioner Skip  
18           Scirocco's appointments.

19                   Vince DeLeonardis will serve as the  
20           chair of the committee with Camille  
21           Daniels serving as vice chair.

22                   It is expected that the committee  
23           will convene and consider evidence-based  
24           policing strategies in consultation with  
25           members of the community, interested



1           nonprofit, and faith-based community  
2           groups, the District Attorney's Office,  
3           the Public Defender's Office, local  
4           elected offenders, and membership of our  
5           police force. The committee will create  
6           a plan to improve police force  
7           deployments, strategies, policies,  
8           procedures, and practices which are  
9           tailored to specific needs of our  
10          community and are intended to promote and  
11          improve police and community  
12          relationships based on trust, fairness,  
13          accountability, and transparency and  
14          would seek to reduce any racial  
15          disparities in policing.

16                 The committee will present their  
17          recommendations to the city council and  
18          to the public. After consideration of  
19          all public comments and input, the city  
20          council will be required to adopt a plan  
21          by local law or resolution on or before  
22          April 1, 2021 and implement the  
23          recommendation.

24                 The first meeting will be on  
25          Wednesday, August 19th. This meeting



1 will be held at the city center 5:30 to  
2 7:30. And all meetings will be open to  
3 the public. And there will be a  
4 designated time for public comment at  
5 each meeting. Each meeting will also be  
6 videotaped and uploaded onto our website.

7 And I don't know if anybody had any  
8 comments on that, but --

9 COMMISSIONER DALTON: I, of course,  
10 do.

11 MAYOR KELLY: What's that?

12 COMMISSIONER DALTON: I, of course,  
13 do, if you don't mind.

14 MAYOR KELLY: Sure.

15 COMMISSIONER DALTON: I wanted to  
16 thank the mayor for all of her efforts in  
17 putting this committee together. And I  
18 want to say on behalf of the Saratoga  
19 Springs Police Department that we welcome  
20 and embrace any opportunity to improve as  
21 a police department and really look  
22 forward to this dialog and  
23 recommendations from this committee.

24 I also wanted to personally thank  
25 Jason Golub and Andrew Seefus for



1           accepting this position because -- as  
2           well as everyone who accepted this  
3           committee appointment because this is  
4           going to be a lot of work. But their  
5           acceptance, to me, really demonstrates  
6           their commitment to the community and  
7           being a part of the solution. And so I  
8           thank everyone who's participating on  
9           this committee. And I look forward to  
10          seeing the results.

11                 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

12                 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Similarly, I  
13           want to thank everyone who agreed to  
14           serve on the taskforce. This is going to  
15           be a very important group meeting  
16           regularly to assist us in lots of the  
17           issues that have, you know, come forward  
18           over the last few months really that have  
19           come to a head. Very pleased with the  
20           two people that I've recommended for the  
21           committee, Kristen Dart, Deyjah Harris.  
22           But I am thrilled and want to really  
23           think everyone who has agreed to serve on  
24           this very important taskforce.

25                 I see this as important as when we



1 have -- when we convene a comprehensive  
2 plan review committee. And this is going  
3 to -- you know, a lot of good work is  
4 going to come out of this group. So  
5 thank you. You got a -- you got a lofty  
6 agenda ahead of you. Thank you.

7 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you. Thank you  
8 both. Okay.

9 My next item on the agenda is the  
10 2021-2026 requested capital budget. The  
11 materials are posted and attached to the  
12 agenda. I just wanted to make that  
13 comment. Yes, I did. Yeah.

14 I would like to add an item to my  
15 agenda. I move to add an item to the  
16 agenda, appointment zoning board of  
17 appeals. This is a motion. Is there a  
18 second?

19 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Second.

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

22 IN UNISON: Aye.

23 MAYOR KELLY: Any oppose?  
24 Abstentions? The matter passes. My  
25 appointment to the zoning of board of



1 appeals -- tonight I am appointing  
2 Terrance Galody (ph.) to the ZBA -- to  
3 the Zoning Board of Appeal who will  
4 complete the term of Susanne Morris. His  
5 term will run from August 4th, 2020  
6 through December 31, 2021.

7 Terrance graduated from Seton Hall  
8 University with a BA/JD. For the past  
9 seven years, he has practiced corporate  
10 law with some of the largest and most  
11 well-respected firms in New York State.  
12 And I thank him for serving on this  
13 board.

14 And with that, it concludes my  
15 agenda. And I'll turn it over to  
16 Commissioner Madigan who is going to take  
17 over for Commissioner Franck's agenda.

18 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Thank you,  
19 Mayor.

20 The first item on the accounts  
21 department agenda is a discussion and  
22 vote approval of resolution to appoint a  
23 marriage officer. This resolution is to  
24 allow Matthew J. Jones to officiate a  
25 wedding in October of 2020. I move for





1 the city council to approve the  
2 resolution allowing Matthew J. Jones to  
3 officiate a wedding in October of 2020.  
4 This is a motion.

5 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

6 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Second.

7 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion? All  
8 those in favor say aye.

9 IN UNISON: Aye.

10 MAYOR KELLY: Any oppose? The  
11 matter passes.

12 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Item number 2  
13 is an appointment, commissioner of deed.  
14 Commissioner Franck is appointing five  
15 police officers listed with the agenda as  
16 commissioner of deeds.

17 Item number 3 is a discussion and  
18 vote, resolution to extend temporary  
19 outdoor seating areas to October 5th,  
20 2020. Due to the success of the  
21 temporary outdoor seating, the accounts  
22 department would like to extend the  
23 resolution until October 5th of 2020. I  
24 move for the city council to approve the  
25 resolution to extend the temporary



1 outdoor seating to October 5th, 2020 as  
2 attached with the agenda. This is a  
3 motion.

4 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

5 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Second.

6 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

7 COMMISSIONER DALTON: I just want to  
8 thank DPW and Public Safety and the  
9 accounts department for, again,  
10 collaborating on this project, and  
11 especially our code enforcement officers  
12 who have been really fantastic working  
13 with businesses, and the committee that  
14 has been reviewing all these outdoor  
15 plans. Everyone has done a magnificent  
16 job. It's been a herculean effort, but I  
17 think it's really paid off. So thanks to  
18 everybody.

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

21 IN UNISON: Aye.

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

24 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: So I just  
25 finished the accounts agenda. And my



1 agenda is up next, so I'll just keep  
2 going.

3 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you,  
4 Commissioner.

5 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: So item  
6 number 1 is an announcement. City and  
7 community mascot Saratoga campaign.

8 In connection with the announcement  
9 and to expedite this projected, I  
10 presented for vote at the pre-agenda  
11 meeting yesterday morning items number 4  
12 and 9 on my agenda. These items include  
13 a transfer of funds to cover the campaign  
14 and authorization of the mayor to sign an  
15 agreement for marketing services. And  
16 I'll recap these as they appear on my  
17 agenda just briefly.

18 But just to let the public know, we  
19 did convene a group that consisted of the  
20 Downtown Business Association, the  
21 Saratoga Chamber of Commerce, Discover  
22 Saratoga, and some other representatives  
23 so that we could start thinking about a  
24 mascot Saratoga signage campaign in our  
25 city streets. It's going very well. We



1           actually already have material to look at  
2           which is excellent. And we are  
3           considering and going to be doing some  
4           public service education announcements  
5           that we will share through social media  
6           of key stakeholders in our cities. We  
7           want to maybe do a PSA with some nurses,  
8           a PSA with the mayor, and some other key  
9           members of the community.

10                    I kind of want to do one with -- has  
11           anybody seen Spidey out and about on the  
12           streets, old mascot? I'd love to have  
13           Spidey do a PSA for us for masking up.

14                    It is serious. We are hoping that  
15           this fun and informative campaign will  
16           sort of unite us all together in  
17           something that's a little bit more  
18           exciting than, you know, just having to  
19           wear your mask because of COVID but, you  
20           know, really bring the community together  
21           around -- around this campaign and using  
22           education to hopefully encourage people  
23           to wear masks and social distance and  
24           wash their hands. So a lot more good  
25           things to come.



1           I don't know -- Commissioner Dalton,  
2           you were at the meeting -- if you wanted  
3           to say --

4           COMMISSIONER DALTON: I just wanted  
5           to say -- yes. And I said this  
6           yesterday. And I know I'm full of a lot  
7           of thank yous tonight. But the Public  
8           Safety Department has wanted to do this  
9           for a while, but we've been completely  
10          overwhelmed. And so the fact that  
11          Commissioner Madigan stood up and said I  
12          would take this on and lead this effort  
13          just means the world to me. And so I'm  
14          so grateful to her for organizing this.  
15          And I'm so excited about the imagery that  
16          we have come up with already thanks to  
17          Baker PR, Commissioner Madigan. And I  
18          really think this is going to be a great  
19          thing for public health.

20          So thank you, Commissioner Madigan.  
21          Thank you to everyone involved, Discover  
22          Saratoga, DBA, Chamber. I think this is  
23          going to be great.

24          COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Excellent.  
25          And you know who I should be thanking?



1 Deputy Commissioner Deirdre Ladd --

2 COMMISSIONER DALTON: That's --

3 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: -- because --

4 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Thank you --

5 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Well, it's a  
6 lot of work. So thank you very much.

7 And if I haven't said it before,  
8 very happy to have you back. Thank you.

9 She's here in my office with me.

10 All right. So more information.  
11 We'll do a major unveiling, probably like  
12 a press conference once we -- once we  
13 have prototypes of all the signs  
14 designed. Okay.

15 So item number 2, back to the day-  
16 to-day, is a presentation, second quarter  
17 2020 financial report. The second  
18 quarter financial report, I've provided  
19 much of this data with my regular updates  
20 on city finances. Please be aware that  
21 the -- that this includes dates regarding  
22 final cash collections actually received  
23 as of June 30th.

24 So revenues in the general fund,  
25 property taxes in the general fund are



1 recognized as revenue for the full amount  
2 levied at the time the tax roll is posted  
3 to the general ledger. An adjustment is  
4 made at yearend to defer to future years  
5 the amount not collected.

6 The finance office has reviewed the  
7 payments made as of 6/30/20. And  
8 seventy-one percent has been collected,  
9 or 11,450,000 dollars. Last year at this  
10 time, sixty-nine percent was collected.  
11 Historically, collection rates for the  
12 second quarter have averaged seventy  
13 percent. The property taxes can be paid  
14 in four installments with the first  
15 quarter due March 1st. However, the city  
16 offers a discount of 2.25 percent if the  
17 full year is paid on or before March 1st.  
18 This accounts for the greater than fifty  
19 percent collection rate after only the  
20 second due date has passed.

21 This quarter slightly higher than  
22 normal collection rate may have to do  
23 with a law that denies basic star  
24 benefits for property owners with  
25 delinquent taxes. The city provided a



1 list of delinquent taxpayers in late  
2 April to the county. The county then  
3 provided the list to New York State. New  
4 York State notified delinquent homeowners  
5 in May that they needed to pay their  
6 taxes in full within thirty days or they  
7 would lose their star benefit.

8 On or about July 31st, New York  
9 State will notify assessors and county  
10 directors of properties not eligible for  
11 star in 2020.

12 As of 6/30/20, many of the city's  
13 larger revenue items are received on a  
14 lag months after they have been earned.  
15 The LT was received on June 30th in the  
16 amount of 1,860,473 dollars. This was a  
17 twenty-percent reduction. The city  
18 budgeted 2,325,592 dollars. So 465,118  
19 dollars has not been received. And at  
20 this time, the city is not certain when  
21 or if it will receive the remaining  
22 twenty percent.

23 Sales tax figures include only four  
24 months since May and June collections are  
25 not distributed to the city from New York





1 State Taxation and Finance until July and  
2 August respectively. The amount received  
3 on 6/30/20 was 3,303,771 dollars. And as  
4 of 6/30/19, it was 4,224,000 dollars.

5 As of June 30th, actual sales tax  
6 received is down twenty-two percent from  
7 2019.

8 The city originally budgeted  
9 13,550,000 dollars for 2020. It was  
10 revised downward on 6/20/20 to  
11 10,280,000 dollars, about a twenty-four  
12 percent reduction.

13 Hotel occupancy taxes paid to the  
14 city from the county on a quarterly  
15 basis, the first quarterly payment for  
16 2020 was received in April. The second  
17 will arrive in mid-July.

18 At this time, occupancy tax receipts  
19 are 64,200 dollars, a decrease of 9,160  
20 dollars or twelve percent from 2019.  
21 This line is budgeted at 676,000 dollars.  
22 And I do not expect that to meet the  
23 budget.

24 County surplus distribution is paid  
25 on a quarterly basis too with the first



1 payment made in April. These amounts are  
2 expected to meet the 2020 budget.

3 NYRA admissions tax is paid annually  
4 after the racing season has closed.  
5 Since there are no fans being admitted to  
6 the race course, I expect the entire  
7 budget of 723,300 dollars not to be  
8 received.

9 The bulk of franchise taxes paid  
10 annually in the last quarter of the year  
11 as of 6/30/20, receipts are 142,000  
12 dollars, a two percent increase from  
13 2019.

14 The state aid revenue sharing is  
15 distributed in two installments,  
16 September and December, with the largest  
17 share received in December.  
18 Disbursements at this time are expected  
19 to be reduced by twenty percent.

20 Ambulance transport fees as of  
21 6/30/20 were 514,430 dollars and were  
22 573,894 dollars as of 6/30/19. At this  
23 time, I do not expect reimbursements to  
24 meet budgeted amounts.

25 Mortgage taxes paid semi-annually in



1           May and November, as of June 30th, the  
2           mortgage tax receipts are consistent with  
3           the prior year. Mortgage tax will most  
4           likely meet the 1.6 million budgeted for  
5           2020.

6                        As of 6/30/20, 630,203 dollars was  
7           received. As of 6/30/19, 623,000 dollars  
8           was received.

9                        On June 18th, 2020, the city issued  
10          a tax anticipation note for 6,300,000  
11          dollars. Taking into consideration the  
12          property tax revenue recognition issues,  
13          approximately forty-six percent of  
14          revised revenues were actually received  
15          as of 6/30/20. The activity is a  
16          decrease from prior years when revenues  
17          collected were about fifty percent as of  
18          June 30th.

19                       Water and sewer revenues, the first  
20          quarter water and sewer bills for 2020  
21          were mailed in April for a May 15th due  
22          date. And second quarter will be mailed  
23          in July for an August 15th due date.

24                       Capital revenues, the city closed on  
25          a general obligation bond on June 18th,



1           2020 to finance various 2020 capital  
2           projects for 7,428,164 dollars.

3           Expenses in the general fund, the  
4           finance office, the discount on taxes is  
5           a final figure. For all other  
6           departments, liability insurance has been  
7           paid in full for the year. Additional  
8           expenses would be for claims or  
9           additional coverage. Also, most  
10          departments' total expenses are running  
11          at about forty-seven percent which is  
12          consistent with prior years. Variances  
13          are due to seasonal expenses, and grants,  
14          retirement expenses have only been paid  
15          for three months in 2019. The remaining  
16          nine months will be paid in December.  
17          That's going to be a large payment.

18          Capital expenses, capital expenses  
19          are usually larger in months where the  
20          weather is more conducive to  
21          construction.

22          Community development. Since the  
23          community development block grants are  
24          awarded on a different schedule than the  
25          city's fiscal year, no budget is



1 established.

2 So that concludes the second quarter  
3 finance report. This can be found on the  
4 city website under government,  
5 departments, finance department.

6 My third item is an update 2020 city  
7 budget and city finances. Many locations  
8 across the United States have reopened --  
9 that have reopened have found it  
10 necessary to close again due to the  
11 resurgence of COVID-19.

12 Cases have been steadily declining  
13 and stabilizing in New York. While  
14 Saratoga County and the city have seen a  
15 slight uptick, some of this is due to  
16 out-of-state employees working for nearby  
17 businesses that are utilizing Saratoga  
18 Hospital.

19 At the federal level, senate  
20 republicans presented a new proposal, the  
21 Heals Act, in the amount of one trillion  
22 last week and left session without  
23 discussion or vote. Regrettably, this  
24 contains no funding for local  
25 governments.



1           The house democrats' proposal, the  
2           HEROES Act, was released in May. And  
3           that was in the amount of three trillion  
4           and provided one trillion for state and  
5           local governments. Federal action will  
6           ultimately dictate what New York does  
7           next, if anything.

8           If the federal government delivers  
9           the assistance the governor has  
10          requested, the New York's budget -- New  
11          York's budget will be balanced and no  
12          action is necessary. If the federal  
13          government fails to provide the funding  
14          requested, the State will need to  
15          consider revenue raising concepts and  
16          spending reductions.

17          We know the legislature is extremely  
18          reluctant to cut aid to schools, health  
19          care, and local governments, and is  
20          already considering various revenue  
21          raising options.

22          Things remain fluid, but we cannot  
23          count on federal or state aid to balance  
24          our 2020 or 2021 budgets.

25          While downtown is certainly more



1           populated than it has been this summer,  
2           you know, with COVID, we cannot expect  
3           revenues to rise to former levels for  
4           months, if not years. It will be  
5           sometime before the new economy  
6           establishes itself. In addition, social,  
7           behavioral, consumer changes, closed  
8           businesses, widespread unemployment, and  
9           other results of COVID-19 will continue  
10          to affect revenue collection well into  
11          the future.

12                 The city's cashflow, from January to  
13          June, city's reserves, assignments, and  
14          revenue collections diminished. In  
15          contrast, expenditures continued in  
16          accordance with the 2020 budget plan that  
17          did not account for this.

18                 Through May we absorbed this using  
19          fund balance. June was our breakpoint.  
20          We had several millions in expenditures  
21          due. And we issued the tax anticipation  
22          note.

23                 I've said this before. This city's  
24          next breakpoint will be November,  
25          December. It is projected that the



1 ending balance after revenue collection  
2 and expenditure disbursements will not be  
3 sufficient to meet payroll and pay bills  
4 owed in November. The deficiency  
5 anticipated in the last month of the year  
6 is 5.3 million dollars.

7 Please note that these deficiencies  
8 are cashflow shortages. This means that  
9 we won't have sufficient cash to make  
10 payroll or pay our bills. And this  
11 should be distinguished from a budget  
12 deficit which merely signals that the  
13 city's plan has gone awry.

14 In the absence of any sign of  
15 federal or state assistance, finance is  
16 considering two options: a revenue  
17 anticipation loan. This is similar to  
18 the tax anticipation loan that the city  
19 obtained in June except that it is backed  
20 by anticipated revenue rather than  
21 anticipated tax collection. Like the  
22 TAN, it is a short-term loan due one year  
23 from the date of signing. In addition to  
24 the 6.3 million-dollar TAN, the RAN will  
25 also have to be budgeted for repayment in





1 2021.

2 Deficit financing. Deficit  
3 financing allows the -- a jurisdiction to  
4 bond an amount equal to its projected  
5 budget deficit and pay this back over a  
6 ten-year period. New York State local  
7 finance law, article 2, title 1, section  
8 10.10, a municipality must receive  
9 authority from the state to initiate  
10 deficit financing, which in this case  
11 requires a home rule bill introduced by  
12 both the senate and assembly, passed by  
13 the state legislature, and approved by  
14 the governor.

15 Subsequently, the amount of the  
16 deficit must be certified by the state  
17 comptroller. We have reduced  
18 expenditures, borrowed funds, depleted  
19 fund balance and reserves, and delayed  
20 capital needs. We will complete the year  
21 2020 and face 2021 with exhausted  
22 financial resources.

23 Finance has reached out to our state  
24 legislatures to introduce this bill, the  
25 state comptroller's office to confirm the



1 process for obtaining certification for  
2 the proceeding, city bond council, and as  
3 well as the city attorney for guidance.  
4 Deficit financing may be an important  
5 option for stabilizing the city over the  
6 next few years as the new economy is  
7 established and the city rebuilds its  
8 resources because the city will rebuild  
9 its resources.

10 The prudent course is for the city  
11 to have this legal authority at its  
12 disposal should the need arise in the  
13 near future. So that's one thing I'm  
14 really looking into right now and  
15 spending a lot of time on.

16 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Commissioner  
17 Madigan, I'm sorry to interrupt you guys.  
18 Something popped up on my computer,  
19 saying a system patching is occurring.  
20 And it's counting down for a like a  
21 minute. So if I get logged off, that's  
22 why. So keep going. We're trying to fix  
23 it right now. But --

24 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Okay.

25 COMMISSIONER DALTON: -- I just



1 wanted to let you all know.

2 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: I figured  
3 something was going on.

4 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Yeah, sorry.

5 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: So I'll talk  
6 a little bit about the 2021 general  
7 operating budget or next year's budget.  
8 2021 budget call letter was released on  
9 July 2nd. The call letter asked the  
10 departments to submit their budget  
11 requests by August 11th and provides  
12 guidelines for doing so.

13 The city is required to adopt a  
14 balance budget according to the charter,  
15 title 4, Section 4.4.6, which means that  
16 the total of anticipated expenditures  
17 must equal the total of anticipated and  
18 available revenue. Any reductions in  
19 revenue require equal reductions in  
20 expenses. Planning the budget for 2021  
21 fiscal year will be different than in  
22 years past. Finance has provided  
23 projected revenues that require greatly  
24 reduced expenses in order to craft a  
25 balance budget.



1           We had provided each department with  
2           these parameters. And I'm sure we are  
3           all struggling with this task. Please be  
4           assured that as the economy evolves,  
5           budget plans for 2021 will follow suit.  
6           Counsel has until November 30th to  
7           approve its 2021 budget. And finance  
8           will continue to look for ways to  
9           increase revenue.

10           Revenue in 2021 is currently  
11           projected to be about 7.8 million less  
12           than amounts estimated for 2020. Revenue  
13           projects were provided to each  
14           department. Each department has also  
15           been invited to provide finance with  
16           suggested revisions.

17           The fiscal year 2021 general  
18           operating budget revenue is anticipated  
19           to total 40.9 million which is 16.1 less  
20           than the 48.7 million budget adopted in  
21           2020.

22           A potential five percent tax  
23           increase has been considered. This is an  
24           estimate only. And I'll repeat that for  
25           clarity. That is a sample, an estimate



1           only. I'm not going to read through the  
2           sample. I'm sorry I even said that. I  
3           mean, I think it's too -- too much to  
4           read through the whole thing. But for  
5           example, a sixty-dollar annual increase  
6           on a home -- it'll be a sixty-dollar  
7           annual increase on a home assessed at  
8           200,000. And then let's say a 200-dollar  
9           annual increase on a home assessed for  
10          650,000.

11                 But with COVID, we want to consider  
12           a property tax increase. And very soon I  
13           will be bringing forward something for us  
14           to have -- be able to override tax cap if  
15           we indeed need to that if everything  
16           falls short with the federal government.

17                 It is important that we work  
18           together to prepare for the coming months  
19           and plan for 2021. Information changes  
20           every day. And I will continue to review  
21           new data and pursue new ideas as we  
22           manage to revamp and rebuild the city of  
23           Saratoga Springs. And thank you for  
24           allowing me to have this discussion every  
25           week with you and the public.



1           Item number 4 is a discussion,  
2           budget transfers contingency. The item  
3           was approved for -- a 4-1 vote at the  
4           8/3/20 pre-agenda meeting. There were  
5           objections to calling for a vote at the  
6           pre-agenda meeting because of the lack of  
7           public comment time. I ask the counsel's  
8           support because the issue is so critical  
9           to public health, safety, and welfare. I  
10          believe that we have paid sufficient  
11          respect the process and procedure, given  
12          the risk of illness or death due to the  
13          pandemic.

14                 But I want to reiterate what  
15          transpired yesterday at our pre-agenda  
16          meeting. And this did go out for notice  
17          on Friday with the pre- -- the actual  
18          pre-agenda. Lines 1 through 4,  
19          transferred funds from contingency to  
20          public safety for VMS signs to be placed  
21          at Saratoga Springs gateways to announce  
22          the mascot program as well as other  
23          events and other situations that may  
24          occur in our city. We'll be able to have  
25          these signs ongoing. So we will now have



1 three signs for our city for our three  
2 major gateway areas.

3 A finance department for  
4 professional services to cover the costs  
5 of the marketing services and printing  
6 for the Saratoga Spring city and  
7 community mascot program in the amount of  
8 6,160 dollars and 5,000 dollars  
9 respectively. 11,000 went to public  
10 safety for the VMS signs for a total  
11 amount of 22,160 dollars.

12 The contingency budget appropriation  
13 currently has a balance of \$90,145.39.  
14 Following the approval that we had  
15 yesterday, there is now \$67,985.39  
16 available.

17 Item number 5 is a discussion and  
18 vote, budget transfers, payroll for  
19 unemployment. Furloughs resulted in  
20 lower wage expenditures and increased  
21 unemployment expenditures. These  
22 transfers are to cover the increases in  
23 unemployment using unused wage  
24 appropriations. The cost of unemployment  
25 was less than the cost of the wages



1 savings. Lines 1 through 28 transfer  
2 funds from various department wage lines  
3 for employees who went out on furlough to  
4 unemployment lines to cover  
5 unemployment -- unemployment costs in the  
6 amount totaling \$126,007.88.

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

11 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

12 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Second.

13 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

14 All those in favor say aye.

15 IN UNISON: Aye.

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

18 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Thank you.

19 Item number 6, discussion and vote,  
20 budget transfers payroll. Lines 1  
21 through 27 transfer funds for public  
22 safety, public work and recreation  
23 department wage lines to reallocate wage  
24 expenditures through yearend. These  
25 transfers, the general water and sewer





1 funds, in the amount totaling  
2 \$136,442.48. I move that the city  
3 council approve the budget transfers  
4 payroll that's included with the agenda.  
5 This is a motion.

6 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

7 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Second.

8 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion? All  
9 those in favor say aye.

10 IN UNISON: Aye.

11 MAYOR KELLY: Any oppose? The  
12 matter passes.

13 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Thank you.

14 Item number 7, discussion and vote,  
15 budget amendments payroll, lines 1  
16 through 4, brings into the 2020 budget a  
17 reimbursement from the federal government  
18 of wage and social security for the Stop  
19 DWI program in the total amount of  
20 \$409.60. I move that the city council  
21 approve the budget amendments payroll  
22 that's included with the agenda. This is  
23 a motion.

24 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

25 Second.



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

3           IN UNISON: Aye.

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

6           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Item number 8  
7 is a discussion and vote, standard  
8 workday resolution. The standard workday  
9 resolution distributed with the agenda is  
10 to establish a standard workday for each  
11 councilmember or an appointee, a  
12 political appointee. Required by the  
13 State, it is necessary to ensure all  
14 elected officials' retirement is  
15 calculated properly. I move that the  
16 city council approve standard workday  
17 resolution that's included with the  
18 agenda. This is a motion.

19           MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?  
20 Second.

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

23           IN UNISON: Aye.

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



1           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Thank you.

2           Item number 9, discussion and vote,  
3 authorization for the mayor to sign  
4 agreement with Baker Public Relations for  
5 Saratoga Springs and community mascot  
6 program. And this is just a discussion.  
7 This is one of the items -- you know, so  
8 I'm sorry that it says discussion and  
9 vote. I don't know if the official  
10 agenda says it, but my notes do. So  
11 really, that should read discussion.

12           This item was approved 3-2 at the  
13 8/3/20 pre-agenda meeting. There are  
14 objections to calling per vote at the  
15 pre-agenda meeting because of the lack of  
16 public comment time and insurance issues.  
17 I ask for council's support because the  
18 issues are so critical to the public  
19 health, safety, and welfare of our  
20 community.

21           I believe that we paid sufficient  
22 respect to the process and procedure,  
23 given the risk of illness or death due to  
24 the pandemic.

25           To recap, in response to an RFQ,



1 Baker Public Relations was chosen to lead  
2 the marketing team for Saratoga Springs  
3 and community mask-up campaign for a fee  
4 of 6,160 dollars. Baker PR is a small  
5 regional firm located in the capital  
6 district with firsthand knowledge of our  
7 local experience. We are very happy to  
8 have them join the Saratoga -- join  
9 Saratoga Springs community mask-up  
10 campaign.

11 The city's standard agreement calls  
12 for certain insurance coverages,  
13 including cyber privacy liability and  
14 professional liability insurance per  
15 occurrences aggregate of five million  
16 dollars. Baker PR has met all of the  
17 requirements except for these two. It  
18 has no cyber privacy liability coverage.  
19 And its professional liability coverage  
20 aggregate is in the amount of two  
21 million.

22 So I ask the council to approve this  
23 agreement with the insurance that had  
24 been provided. Baker PR will be working  
25 with graphic design services and public



1 service announcements.

2 Additionally, while they will be  
3 assisting with the social media part of  
4 the mask campaign, Facebook, city  
5 website, et cetera, these tools are not  
6 in any way tied to our internal secured  
7 servers. And everything will have final  
8 approval by someone from the city, a  
9 commissioner, et cetera.

10 Again, even for our social campaign,  
11 in terms of design and production,  
12 (indiscernible) and fit for Facebook, et  
13 cetera. They will in no way touch our  
14 server which I think is fairly key.

15 You know, I'm just realizing that I  
16 neglected to invite both our supervisors  
17 to our initial mask-up campaign meeting  
18 because everything was transpiring so  
19 quickly. But I would like to pull both  
20 of you into the loop so that you can see  
21 what we're doing. We just started this,  
22 but I promise I will make sure I pull you  
23 both into the loop. So I do apologize  
24 about that as I'm sitting here looking at  
25 your faces talking about this campaign on



1 the computer. And I think you're going  
2 to be very pleased with where we're  
3 headed. So I do -- again, I apologize.

4 So that does complete my agenda  
5 except I would like to add, Mayor, an  
6 announcement to my agenda this evening.  
7 It was not included with my agenda  
8 because we just received word today.  
9 It's good financial news. And I think we  
10 deserve to be informed sooner or later.  
11 And if you don't mind, I'd like to make  
12 the motion.

13 I move that the city council approve  
14 the addition of an announcement,  
15 successful bond refunding results and  
16 substantial savings. This is a motion.

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

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

21 IN UNISON: Aye.

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

24 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: So now I'm on  
25 to my announcement on my agenda. Today



1 the city refinanced its 2011 and 2012  
2 bonds. The aggregate budgetary savings  
3 over nineteen years is \$1,230,509.58.  
4 This is an average of 60,000 dollars  
5 annually. It's even better than we had  
6 originally anticipated. And interest  
7 rates were lower than expected. And the  
8 market had ample cash to invest.

9 So I'm very, very pleased. And on  
10 that note, my agenda is concluded. I'm  
11 tired of even hearing my own voice right  
12 now. Thank you, Mayor.

13 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you,  
14 Commissioner.

15 Now, on to public works,  
16 Commissioner Scirocco.

17 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Thank you,  
18 Mayor. I have three items on my agenda.

19 The first item is discussion and  
20 vote. This is authorization of the mayor  
21 to sign change order number 3 with  
22 Bellamy Construction for the route --  
23 yeah, for Kaydeross Avenue West and  
24 Nelson Avenue water main replacement.  
25 This change order number 3 with Bellamy



1 Construction adjusts the contract price  
2 to account for unused contract quantities  
3 and allowance funds. The associated cost  
4 savings is \$52,192.73. Therefore, I move  
5 for the mayor to sign change order number  
6 3 with Bellamy Construction for the  
7 Kaydeross West Avenue and Nelson Avenue  
8 water main replacement for a credit to  
9 the city in the amount of \$52,192.73.  
10 And I put that before in a motion.

11 MAYOR KELLY: Second? Second.

12 Any discussion? All those in favor  
13 say aye.

14 IN UNISON: Aye.

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

17 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: The second  
18 item on my agenda is discussion and vote.  
19 This is to establish a title and grade  
20 for Department of Public Works dispatch  
21 supervisor. This position will provide  
22 overall supervision of the DPW dispatch  
23 operation and assist the DPW  
24 administration with meeting departmental  
25 goals.





1           The new position will be responsible  
2           for preparing schedules in a coordination  
3           of all DPW dispatch activities. Now more  
4           than ever one of the most important  
5           duties will be ensuring that security  
6           cameras are constantly monitored to  
7           prevent vandalism and damage to the  
8           city's infrastructure, parks, and  
9           historic artifacts.

10           DPW dispatch supervisor will ensure  
11           that dispatchers are trained and  
12           responsible for monitoring and logging  
13           the camera live feed and contacting the  
14           police department immediately to prevent  
15           damage.

16           The supervisor -- the dispatch  
17           supervisor will also be responsible for  
18           coordination of the installation and  
19           maintenance of the fleet management  
20           global positioning system between the DPW  
21           administration, staff, and automotive  
22           service manager. The position will  
23           provide ongoing assistance and inventory  
24           management of the GPS system.

25           The supervisor will also be the



1 point of contact for maintaining daily  
2 work logs, the coordination, ordering,  
3 and payment of accounts for a variety of  
4 DPW items and serving as an inventory  
5 control point at the DPW garage.

6 Finally, this position provides  
7 direct support in operational planning to  
8 the DPW administration.

9 I'm proposing that this title --  
10 this title, Department of Public Works  
11 dispatch supervisor, be set as starting  
12 pay \$29.65 an hour. Funding is within  
13 the DPW budget. And again, we sent a  
14 description of the duties. And it was  
15 previously distributed with the agenda.

16 So therefore, I move for the council  
17 to approve establishing the title DPW  
18 dispatch supervisor at a starting pay of  
19 29.65 an hour. And I put that in the  
20 form of a motion.

21 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Do you have  
23 an effective date?

24 MAYOR KELLY: Do you have an  
25 effective date, Commissioner?



1           COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: I think it  
2 would be -- if we -- you know, if we  
3 approve this --

4           MAYOR KELLY: Okay.

5           COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: I think  
6 that's how it works.

7           MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Is there a  
8 second? Second.

9           Any discussion?

10          COMMISSIONER DALTON: I'm confused.  
11 Is this a new position or a promotion?

12          COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: It's  
13 actually a new position. I already have  
14 a person, you know, in my department who  
15 is the -- who's kind of doing some of  
16 this stuff, working out of grade. She's  
17 been really good. She's -- you know,  
18 she's taken on a lot -- a lot of extra  
19 work. And, you know, we've given her  
20 some -- some additional work. And she's  
21 come up with a lot of good ideas. And I  
22 think, you know, this position is needed.  
23 We now have -- now have three dispatches,  
24 so we can do 24/7. We could only do five  
25 days a week right now.



1           But, you know, it's important that  
2           we get the feed for the cameras for  
3           Congress Park and the parking deck and  
4           all that over there. And somebody needs  
5           to kind of keep track of all this stuff.  
6           And she's the -- she would be the person  
7           to do it. This person would be the one.

8           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: We usually do  
9           these things through the budget. I don't  
10          know how I missed it. But this wasn't  
11          approved through the 2020 budget, so I'm  
12          not sure why it's on the agenda right  
13          now. I mean, the IT security position  
14          was actually approved in the budget, and  
15          that didn't make it through the agenda.  
16          This position was not approved in the  
17          2020 budget.

18          COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Okay.  
19          Neither was the communications person.  
20          Neither was the budget person at your  
21          office.

22          COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: That -- yes,  
23          it was. That was in the budget.

24          COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Well, I'm  
25          not going to argue with you. I'm only



1 telling you that --

2 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: I'm telling  
3 you --

4 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: This is the  
5 third time -- this is the third time I've  
6 brought this -- this -- and you know  
7 we've discussed this position at budget  
8 time and just before the budget. We put  
9 it in the budget. It was taken out of  
10 the budget along with --

11 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Yeah,  
12 (indiscernible) --

13 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: -- a few  
14 other positions. It was taken out of the  
15 budget. It was in the budget. It was  
16 taken out of the budget.

17 COMMISSIONER DALTON: So since I  
18 haven't been here for like --

19 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: It's --  
20 Commissioner, let me finish.

21 COMMISSIONER DALTON: All right. Go  
22 ahead.

23 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: It's  
24 important that we have somebody watching  
25 these cameras over there. Now, I can



1 tell you that we did get an email from  
2 the police department. They're not  
3 watching the cameras. Nobody is looking  
4 at the cameras. We have cameras in the  
5 park. Nobody is looking at them. We --  
6 we -- we've had numerous vandalisms over  
7 there. I mean, it's cost the city a ton  
8 of money for what reason.

9 We need somebody there to be able to  
10 watch the cameras, to look at it. And  
11 this person would be in charge of that  
12 whole process. That's all I'm saying.  
13 Listen, if you don't want it, I don't  
14 care. It's a position that I don't  
15 think -- I would never bring a position  
16 to the table if I didn't think it was  
17 necessary, especially now. It just -- it  
18 makes more sense to do it now than ever.

19 So it's a matter of 2,000 dollars  
20 for the year. It's like 2,900 dollars  
21 for the year. That's all it is. So, you  
22 know, and it's a lot of work and a little  
23 bit of money for that -- for that  
24 particular -- for all that  
25 responsibility.



1           So look, if you don't want to okay  
2           it, don't okay it. I really don't care.  
3           But we did have this position in the  
4           budget, unlike some of the other  
5           positions that we -- that I even voted in  
6           favor of because I thought we needed it.  
7           So I'll make the motion. And, you know,  
8           and we -- I think we got a second. I  
9           don't know if anybody else has any  
10          comments. But --

11           COMMISSIONER DALTON: I --

12           MAYOR KELLY: Commissioner Dalton?

13           COMMISSIONER DALTON: Yeah. The  
14          only reason I was asking is that this  
15          is -- maybe I missed something, but this  
16          is just new to me as of tonight. And so  
17          I would love to be able to talk about the  
18          position more and how it's going to  
19          coordinate with the police department  
20          before I vote on it if possible. I'm not  
21          against adding this position. I think  
22          the -- I think there's a necessity for  
23          it. I just -- this is just the first  
24          time I'm hearing about it.

25           COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Okay. I



1 brought this position at a meeting. It  
2 was a few months ago.

3 COMMISSIONER DALTON: I must not  
4 have --

5 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: A few months  
6 ago.

7 MAYOR KELLY: -- been present for  
8 it. I don't know.

9 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Were told --  
10 were told bring it -- look. If I don't  
11 have the support here, just tell me I  
12 don't have the support. And I'll move  
13 on.

14 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Let me just  
15 take a vote.

16 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: I'm okay  
17 with it. And I'm telling you right now,  
18 all the vandalism, everything that's been  
19 going on in the city, DPW is getting, you  
20 know, the -- a bad rap here and it's not  
21 because we're not trying.

22 COMMISSIONER DALTON: No. I  
23 (indiscernible) --

24 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Because of  
25 the lack -- let me finish. It's because





1 of the lack of the responsibility for the  
2 council not to take on something like  
3 this. It makes no sense. We just spent  
4 70,000 or 60,000 dollars for a mask-on  
5 campaign or a mask-up campaign when we  
6 can't afford to do that because we had  
7 nothing but bad news from the  
8 Commissioner of Finance that we don't  
9 have any money. At the end of the year,  
10 we could be facing layoffs.

11 So the last time that happened I was  
12 sitting in the seat. And we had  
13 dispatchers over there. We didn't have  
14 the problems that we're having right now  
15 on Congress Park or over at the park deck  
16 or any place else. The last thing I want  
17 to see is any more -- any more, you know,  
18 vandalism or any more of that kind of  
19 thing down in the park.

20 Nobody is watching the cameras.  
21 Nobody is -- the cameras are only good to  
22 people that watch them. We need to take  
23 the responsibility and make sure that  
24 that gets done and log it along with some  
25 of the other responsibilities. That's



1 all I'm trying to do here. But --

2 MAYOR KELLY: Okay.

3 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: -- if you  
4 don't want to do it, I'm okay with that.  
5 But when the residents come -- when then  
6 residents come to meetings or when  
7 they -- you know, when they respond,  
8 listen, it's not me who doesn't care,  
9 it's the council who doesn't care.  
10 That's all I'm saying.

11 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Okay. I take  
12 offense to the comment --

13 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Going about  
14 it or not, we -- I -- this is the third  
15 time I brought this thing to the table.

16 COMMISSIONER DALTON: What I'm  
17 trying to find out is where --

18 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN:

19 (Indiscernible) --

20 COMMISSIONER DALTON: --  
21 (indiscernible) now. Are the feeds being  
22 routed somewhere now that the police  
23 department is missing them or not  
24 watching them? That's what I'm trying to  
25 figure out.



1           COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: You're the  
2 commissioner of public safety. How come  
3 you don't know that?

4           COMMISSIONER DALTON: Okay.

5           MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Let's just take  
6 it --

7           COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: I'm telling  
8 you -- I'm telling you --

9           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: This isn't  
10 how we do things. This was taken out of  
11 the budget. It wasn't approved in the  
12 budget. You keep bringing it. I have a  
13 position that was approved in the budget,  
14 and I tried to bring it. You wouldn't  
15 support it.

16           And don't be comparing this to a  
17 mask campaign for the public health  
18 during a pandemic.

19           COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Why not?  
20 You just --

21           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Give me a  
22 break.

23           COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: You just  
24 spent 60,000 dollars of tax --

25           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: That's



1 being --

2 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: -- when

3 we --

4 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: How about

5 (indiscernible) --

6 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: 60-plus.

7 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: How about

8 (indiscernible)?

9 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: 60-plus.

10 COMMISSIONER DALTON: 6,600 dollars.

11 6,600 dollars.

12 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Whatever.

13 You bought two signs.

14 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: This is the

15 wrong way to do it.

16 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: You bought

17 two signs.

18 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: You do

19 (indiscernible) --

20 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Wrong way,

21 right way. Listen, I'm not going to take

22 any responsibility for any more vandalism

23 that happens in there. I'm doing

24 everything I can to stop it.

25 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN:



1 (Indiscernible) --

2 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: If you  
3 people don't care, then I don't care.  
4 I'm telling you it's the wrong thing to  
5 do by not supporting this position, by  
6 not having somebody in charge. That's  
7 all I'm saying. You can do whatever you  
8 want to do, but I'm done. I'm done. We  
9 just had a statue that was -- that was  
10 vandalized in there. Nobody knows what  
11 happened.

12 If we were -- if we had somebody  
13 that was in charge that was sitting  
14 there, even if we just had the feed over  
15 there -- I've been trying to get the feed  
16 over at dispatch. I can't even get the  
17 feed over there. Don't ask me why. I  
18 don't know. Ask IT.

19 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Because it  
20 costs money and we don't have any.

21 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Oh, no, but  
22 we've got money for a campaign for a  
23 mask. That makes absolutely no sense.  
24 That --

25 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: You



1 (indiscernible) so you can feel good  
2 about it. And I'm not --

3 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: You just  
4 made no sense. I'm good -- I'm --  
5 listen --

6 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Well, thank  
7 you for answering my question about --

8 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: I'm good.

9 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Now I know  
10 that the police department doesn't have  
11 access to the feed. That's all I wanted  
12 to clear up.

13 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: They have no  
14 access.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER 3: The police  
16 department does have access.

17 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Can we take  
18 this to vote, please? All those in favor  
19 say aye.

20 Aye.

21 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Aye.

22 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Aye.

23 MAYOR KELLY: Those opposed?

24 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: No. But this  
25 is a completely wrong way to go about



1 getting a new position. And if this is  
2 how we're going to do it, then what's the  
3 point of the budget? This was not  
4 approved in the budget. And I'm  
5 disappointed that my councilmembers went  
6 in support of it.

7 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Oh, this  
8 is --

9 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: This is not  
10 supported in the budget.

11 And frankly, you know, I mean, like  
12 if really this is the way people are  
13 going to do business --

14 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Yeah, just  
15 like we did yesterday.

16 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: -- why don't  
17 I just give all the people raises?

18 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. The matter  
19 passes. Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: We'll all  
21 give everybody --

22 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Thank you,  
23 Mayor.

24 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: -- a raise.

25 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Third item



1 on my agenda -- and thank you, council.

2 Third item on my agenda, discussion  
3 and vote, approval to pay invoice  
4 IN01049446 in the amount of \$2,348.02 to  
5 Ross Valve. This invoice is the result  
6 of an emergency repair to two pilot bells  
7 at the Geyer Crest wellfield's main pump  
8 station. These pressure reducing valves  
9 were not functioning properly. And there  
10 was an issue with water pressure there.

11 So therefore, I move for approval to  
12 pay invoice number IN01049446 in the  
13 amount of \$2,348.02 to Ross Valve. And I  
14 put that in the form of a motion.

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

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

19 IN UNISON: Aye.

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

22 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Thank you.  
23 That concludes my agenda.

24 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you,  
25 Commissioner.





1           On to public safety. I can't hear  
2           you, Robin.

3           COMMISSIONER DALTON: I had one  
4           quick comment on Commissioner Madigan's  
5           item 9 on her agenda that I was hoping to  
6           have permission to express. Is that  
7           allowed? Yes, no?

8           MAYOR KELLY: (Indiscernible).

9           COMMISSIONER DALTON: Okay.

10          MAYOR KELLY: Are you okay with  
11          that, Commissioner Madigan?

12          COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Yeah.

13          MAYOR KELLY: Okay.

14          COMMISSIONER DALTON: So I just  
15          wanted to say that I think that -- I  
16          really think that it's important that we  
17          support local businesses when we're  
18          outsourcing services like public  
19          relations. But I think that asking a  
20          small business to carry a professional  
21          liability insurance coverage policy of  
22          five million dollars is extraordinarily  
23          high.

24          And I'd like to ask this council to  
25          revisit the insurance -- the insurance



1 coverage that we're asking the small  
2 businesses to carry. I think a two-  
3 million-dollar insurance policy for  
4 professional liability should be  
5 sufficient. I think that asking five  
6 million is -- really precludes us from  
7 using a lot of local businesses. So just  
8 one comment on that. That's all.

9 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you,  
10 Commissioner.

11 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: I agree. I  
12 mean, it's too much for small regional  
13 businesses if we want to be able to do  
14 business with them. And then it leads to  
15 having one commissioner who just won't  
16 support because, you know, his department  
17 sets the insurance standards.

18 I mean, I think we typically do a  
19 lot of bids for like construction and  
20 water and sewer, and it makes sense to  
21 have that kind of insurance requirements.  
22 But for small local regional -- you know,  
23 like a mask campaign that is very  
24 valuable because we're in a pandemic and  
25 people are dying and we want to encourage



1 people to wear their masks, I think it's  
2 well worth -- well worth working with a  
3 small regional company. And they're  
4 never going to have five million dollars  
5 in liability insurance.

6 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Especially  
7 when the bid is for 6,600 dollars. I  
8 just want to be clear.

9 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Yeah. 6,000.

10 MAYOR KELLY: Can we move on to your  
11 agenda, please?

12 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Okay. So the  
13 first item on my agenda -- thank you,  
14 Mayor -- is a discussion and vote for the  
15 authorization for the mayor to sign a  
16 lease agreement with Rico (ph.). This is  
17 for a printer-copier in our office to  
18 replace a machine that was broken and  
19 could not be repaired. I make a motion  
20 to authorize the mayor to sign the lease  
21 agreement with Rico. This is a motion.

22 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?  
23 Second.

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



1           IN UNISON: Aye.

2           MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed? The  
3 matter passes.

4           COMMISSIONER DALTON: The second  
5 item on my agenda is an announcement  
6 about the Saratoga Preservation  
7 Foundation award. I'd like to make the  
8 council and public aware that the project  
9 to replace the doors on fire station 1 on  
10 Lake Avenue has been completed. I am  
11 pleased to announce that the Saratoga  
12 Springs Preservation Foundation has  
13 selected this project for a restoration  
14 initiative award. I'd like to recognize  
15 and thank retired fire chief Robert  
16 Williams for initiating and spearheading  
17 this project. And I'd like to take a  
18 quick second to read this award that we  
19 received as it's a piece of good news  
20 that I was excited to share.

21           The project completed at fire  
22 station 1 has been selected for a  
23 restoration initiative award. Each year  
24 the Saratoga Springs Preservation  
25 Foundation recognizes individuals in



1 organizations that have completed  
2 preservation projects in the last year  
3 that reflect a commitment to preserving  
4 historic resources of Saratoga Springs.

5 As we seek a sense of community and  
6 find comfort in our surrounding now more  
7 than ever, we are particularly honored to  
8 recognize your project. Traditionally we  
9 would recognize all of the preservation  
10 recognition recipients at our annual  
11 meeting. But due to COVID-19, we will be  
12 celebrating your accomplishment  
13 virtually.

14 We greatly appreciate the investment  
15 and commitment you have made to preserve  
16 Saratoga Springs. People like you help  
17 make our community a wonderful place to  
18 live, work, and visit. And that is  
19 signed by Samantha Bosshart, the  
20 executive director of the Saratoga  
21 Preservation Foundation. So just wanted  
22 to say thank you for that recognition.  
23 We really appreciate it. And that  
24 concludes my agenda.

25 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you,



1 Commissioner.

2 On to supervisor. Supervisor  
3 Veitch?

4 SUPERVISOR VEITCH: Okay. I can  
5 unmute myself now. So all right. Thank  
6 you.

7 All right. So first on my agenda, I  
8 actually have one quick comment before I  
9 start. I just wanted to say that  
10 today -- or actually it was yesterday I  
11 was out -- out in the neighborhood here,  
12 in the southwest neighborhood, and I saw  
13 a sign that says they're going to be  
14 repaving Adams Road over the next week.  
15 So I just want to thank Skip for doing  
16 that project sorely in need of repair.  
17 So I appreciate you doing that. And my  
18 bicycle also thanks you. So I appreciate  
19 that work happening next week.

20 So first on my agenda is the  
21 reopening committee from Saratoga County.  
22 We last met on July 22nd. Basically,  
23 just few quick things. So the main thing  
24 that we are still getting from the  
25 sheriff's office are complaints for mask



1 compliance. About eight-five percent of  
2 the complaints are for mask compliance  
3 that they get every week at the sheriff's  
4 office. We also get some lesser  
5 complaints on people who are not  
6 quarantining from states that are on the  
7 quarantine list. So they've -- neighbors  
8 noticed they travel, they come back, and  
9 they're not quarantining. So we're  
10 getting some complaints on that as well.

11 We also actually discussed the mask-  
12 up idea at the county reopening committee  
13 as well. And basically, we did form a  
14 small subcommittee of our reopening  
15 committee which is myself, Supervisor  
16 Gaston, Todd Shimkus from the chamber,  
17 Eric Connelly (ph.) from the town of  
18 Ballston, and at the time Kathy Duncan  
19 (ph.) but she's -- she's no longer with  
20 us anymore. She retired from public  
21 health last week. So we're going to have  
22 to have somebody else in there.

23 But again, Commissioner Madigan,  
24 we're happy to work with you on this and  
25 try to see where the county and the city



1 can work together to maybe do an even  
2 larger mask-up campaign in the county. I  
3 think it's important that we do that.  
4 And I appreciate the work that the city  
5 is doing at kind of a rapid pace to get  
6 this started.

7 The county has a -- has a knack for  
8 over-committee'ing things and taking a  
9 long time to get things done. And we're  
10 kind of doing that here. So hopefully we  
11 can speed things up and kind of join with  
12 the city on this project and do it with  
13 you. So I appreciate that.

14 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: And I'll get  
15 you guys (indiscernible).

16 SUPERVISOR VEITCH: Okay. Thank  
17 you.

18 Second on my agenda is just a quick  
19 update on the public safety facility at  
20 the county. It is largely completed.  
21 The probation department moved in to the  
22 facility as well as the public health  
23 department. So they are out of their  
24 offices at the -- at their normal  
25 locations and moved in to that new





1 office.

2 The Office of Emergency Services and  
3 the sheriff's department is next to move  
4 into the building. It looks like the  
5 final move will be the 911 center, and  
6 that will not move in until probably  
7 around October. But we are going to be  
8 doing an opening ceremony at the  
9 building. And we are scheduling that  
10 right now for August 20th at 10 o'clock  
11 in the morning. It'll be a ribbon  
12 cutting of the new facility. And  
13 basically we're going to be giving tours  
14 to the public, an open house if you will  
15 of the new facility.

16 So if you're interested in seeing  
17 the various departments and what's going  
18 to be going on down there, come on down.  
19 It's at the County Farm which is located  
20 in the town of Milton. If you know where  
21 the animal shelter is -- hopefully you  
22 don't know where the jail is. But if you  
23 know where the animal shelter is, you  
24 can -- you will find that building. It's  
25 right across the street from it. So come



1 on down and check us out.

2 Next on the agenda is just a quick  
3 update on the Saratoga Casino and Hotel  
4 Foundation. We had a meeting today. The  
5 mayor is on that foundation, so thank  
6 you, Mayor, for meeting today. We met  
7 and had our meeting for 2020. The  
8 unfortunate news from the Saratoga Casino  
9 and Hotel Foundation is that we will not  
10 be doing our program this year due to  
11 COVID-19. The casino has been, as you  
12 know, closed since March. And they have  
13 a massive loss of revenue over there.  
14 They're one of the last things to be  
15 reopened in the state. So they're  
16 currently not able to fund the program  
17 this year, as well as the Harness  
18 Horsemen's Association who are also  
19 struggling this year as well. So we did  
20 not ask the horsemen for any funding this  
21 year. And the casino just could not --  
22 could not come up with it. So -- which  
23 is totally understandable. And then we  
24 understand why that -- that's the case.

25 So the casino and hotel will be



1 putting out a press release today or  
2 tomorrow just to announce that we're  
3 going to be putting the program on hold  
4 and also updating the website to make  
5 sure that those organizations understand  
6 why we cannot have the program. So  
7 again, our apologies to everyone, but we  
8 completely have a unique year this year.  
9 And we're not able to do the casino and  
10 hotel foundation. So I just wanted to  
11 make that announcement at the meeting.

12 So, again, thank you, Mayor, for  
13 attending today and nominating me for  
14 chair and -- I don't know what we'll be  
15 doing, but we'll be paying a few bills,  
16 but that's about it. So thank you.  
17 Thank you for that.

18 Next on my agenda is just a quick  
19 update on the National Association of  
20 Counties. We did have our northeast  
21 regional conference meeting and selected  
22 our new northeast regional  
23 representative. And I'm happy to say  
24 that we did elect Mark Poloncarz, the  
25 Erie County executive, as the northeast



1 regional representative for NACo. Again,  
2 I was the rep from New York State. We  
3 nominated him although there was a few  
4 other reps there who kind of wanted to  
5 try to nominate him, but only one person  
6 could do that. And that was myself.

7 So it's great that we have New York  
8 representing as the representative for  
9 the entire northeast region. We have big  
10 challenges right now as mentioned before.  
11 The bill in congress for local relief is  
12 so necessary. And basically, our state,  
13 as well as the northeast region, is going  
14 to be lobbying all of our congress  
15 people, senators, and representatives to  
16 get that local funding down to the county  
17 and to the local level so that we can  
18 meet our budgets if we -- if possible. I  
19 know it's always a challenge in  
20 Washington, but, you know, having a guy  
21 from New York be our regional  
22 representative is very important. So I  
23 was happy to do that and glad that that  
24 occurred.

25 And then last on the agenda in an



1 update from the New York State  
2 Association of Counties. Today we  
3 actually had our public safety committee  
4 meet virtually on a Zoom meeting. We  
5 only had one resolution which was  
6 regarding the governor's executive order  
7 203 which is the committee that was  
8 appointed earlier today by the council  
9 regarding the local departments and  
10 police reform.

11 So the resolution we passed really  
12 is urging the governor and the Division  
13 of Budget to help with the financial  
14 assistance and to aid counties with  
15 compliance and implementation measures  
16 that are taken in regards to the  
17 executive order. So, you know, every  
18 county, every city, every department is  
19 going to have to make some changes and  
20 updates. And, you know, some departments  
21 can probably handle some of those changes  
22 financially if they require extra  
23 funding. And so that's kind of what  
24 we're asking the State to do for us, if  
25 is -- you know, to some extent it's a



1 mandate or an unfunded mandate from the  
2 state. And if there is funding that's  
3 needed, we're looking for some help from  
4 the state to do that. But that was  
5 really the only resolution that we have.  
6 If there is any interest at the city  
7 level to looking at that, I'm happy to  
8 share it with the commissioner or whoever  
9 to take a look at it.

10 We also have canceled our September  
11 conference already. So it was scheduled  
12 to be in Lake Placid this year, but we're  
13 not going to have that conference in  
14 September. And all the resolutions will  
15 be voted on by the full -- or full NYSAC  
16 executive committee in September. So  
17 with that, that concludes my agenda. And  
18 thank you.

19 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

20 Supervisor Gaston?

21 SUPERVISOR GASTON: The first item  
22 on my agenda is just a discussion about  
23 COVID-19. As was said earlier, we  
24 continue to go up by a few cases every  
25 day. Fortunately, our hospitalization



1 rate has remained stable relatively for  
2 the past couple of days. And the percent  
3 of tests that are coming out as positive  
4 is dropping. So that is good. So we're  
5 seeing some positive signs, although I do  
6 really appreciate the city working with  
7 the county on the mask-up campaign. I  
8 think that there's a lot of evidence that  
9 that has been useful in various parts of  
10 the country.

11 And I think we can do that here,  
12 especially to -- to connect with those  
13 who are maybe visiting the city from  
14 elsewhere and are not as familiar with  
15 how well our city has otherwise been  
16 doing. So I think this will really  
17 capture that group and make sure that we  
18 can -- everybody can stay safe and  
19 healthy.

20 In addition though, our Director of  
21 Public Health, Kathy Duncan, has left us  
22 for a much deserved rest. Our overseer  
23 of patient services, Kathy Mettic (ph.),  
24 is quite capable and has taken over until  
25 a new commissioner of health is hired.



1           So rest assured we still have someone who  
2           has been leading the march against COVID  
3           the entire time. And all public health  
4           services remain open as they have been.

5           The second item on my agenda is an  
6           update from NACo. Last city council  
7           meeting I updated regarding receiving  
8           vice chairmanship appointments to a  
9           couple of committees, but I was delighted  
10          to get my appointment letter and find out  
11          I've also been appointed to the  
12          immigration reform taskforce which I  
13          think is an interesting committee for me  
14          to be on as one of the few  
15          representatives from outside of the west  
16          or southern states.

17          We have unique immigration needs  
18          here in New York and particularly with  
19          our tourism. So this will be very  
20          interesting. And I -- I'm really  
21          grateful that we have some -- some  
22          representation on there to talk about  
23          that and talk about our needs. I hope to  
24          work closely with Commissioner Dalton on  
25          what our particular city concerns are as





1 well as with the sheriff.

2 And also, I was appointed to the  
3 Geospatial Information Systems Committee  
4 which means I have a lot of work to do to  
5 figure out exactly the best way to use  
6 that. It's -- I know the Department of  
7 Public Works here in the city. And the  
8 county uses a lot of GIS for making sure  
9 that they can keep track of where things  
10 are, repair things. And any way that we  
11 can do that in a more efficient and cheap  
12 way to provide services will be  
13 beneficial. So excited about moving  
14 forward on that.

15 The third item is also a New York  
16 Association of Counties update. I am a  
17 member of the public health and mental  
18 health committee on NYSAC. And we met  
19 today. And the two resolutions that were  
20 most important to us were, one, asking  
21 the governor to please keep public health  
22 and mental health out of any cuts that  
23 are put forward in state budgets,  
24 particularly when you're talking about a  
25 pandemic. Now is not the time for public



1 health on the state level to receive a  
2 twenty-percent cut. That definitely  
3 trickles down to the county government  
4 and our services throughout the city as  
5 well.

6 And we also put forward a resolution  
7 that I'd love to hear not necessarily now  
8 but at a later date the concerns of the  
9 commissioners. We are requesting that  
10 the governor sign a bill, it is past both  
11 houses, that will provide a taskforce for  
12 trauma especially related to first  
13 responders and frontline personnel in  
14 responding to issues such as COVID.  
15 There's a lot of secondary trauma in our  
16 hospital providers, in our public health,  
17 individuals in our police and fire  
18 department as they are responding to  
19 things that they are not used to. And  
20 this will help inform our ability to  
21 support them and keep them working  
22 because we don't want the trauma to  
23 become so severe that they are unable to  
24 function anymore. We love our police and  
25 fire working as well as they can.



1           The fourth item on my agenda is I  
2           had previously scheduled a public  
3           hearing -- sorry, public forum for this  
4           week. And due to my own need to utilize  
5           Saratoga Hospital's 125 years of service,  
6           I am not going to be having that this  
7           week. Instead I will be undergoing  
8           surgery on Friday.

9           And I will move the public forum  
10          to -- as soon as I make sure that I am up  
11          and running again as well as a matter --  
12          I did post this on my supervisor, my  
13          official page, because, obviously, one  
14          never knows with medical procedures. I  
15          may be a little bit slower to respond.  
16          Please still reach out, and I will make  
17          sure everything is monitored. And if  
18          there's anything urgent, mark it as such  
19          so that I can make sure to get to it as  
20          soon as possible.

21          And that concludes my agenda.

22          MAYOR KELLY: Thank you, Supervisor.

23          Any other business from the counsel?

24          COMMISSIONER DALTON: I have one  
25          thing to add. Can you hear me?



1                   MAYOR KELLY: Yes.

2                   COMMISSIONER DALTON: I realize that  
3 I'm the junior member of this counsel.  
4 And I know that we're all going to have  
5 disagreements and have questions. But I  
6 just want to ask in general if we can all  
7 treat each other with a little more  
8 respect when we do have questions or  
9 disagreements. I know I would really  
10 appreciate it.

11                   MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

12                   COMMISSIONER DALTON: Thank you.

13                   MAYOR KELLY: All right. We are  
14 adjourned. Thank you.

15                   (Meeting adjourned)

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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.



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Michael Drake (CER-513, CET-513)

AAERT Certified Transcriber

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