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CITY OF SARATOGA SPRINGS COUNCIL MEETING

February 16, 2021

MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM

PRESENT:

- Meg Kelly, Mayor
- Lisa Shields, Deputy Mayor
- John P. Franck, Commissioner
- Michele Madigan, Commissioner
- Anthony Scirocco, Commissioner
- Robin Dalton, Commissioner
- Matthew Veitch, Supervisor



1           MAYOR KELLY: Good evening. Welcome  
2 to city council meeting Tuesday, February  
3 16th. It is now 6:55. Tonight, we have  
4 two public hearings. The first public  
5 hearing is Local Law Number 1 of 2021,  
6 defer scheduled payment of taxes.

7           And I'll turn it over to  
8 Commissioner Madigan.

9           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Thank you,  
10 Mayor.

11           The governor signed a bill that  
12 allows cities to have installment  
13 payments with deferments of up to 120  
14 days for tax payments, but the city must  
15 pass a local law to enact this action.  
16 We already have quarterly installment  
17 payments for city's tax payments, so we  
18 don't need to add installment payments.  
19 Some municipalities don't offer  
20 installment payments.

21           So at this time, we are proposing to  
22 enact Local Law 1 2021 that allows a  
23 sixty-day deferment for each of the first  
24 three installment payments. This allows  
25 tax payers a cushion of time, while



1 retaining city cash flow which has  
2 already been compromised by reduced  
3 revenue collections. The original due  
4 dates for collections are March 1st, June  
5 1st, September 1st, and December 1st.  
6 With the sixty-day payment extension on  
7 the first three quarters, the latest due  
8 date will be May 1st, August 1st, and  
9 November 1st. There will be no extension  
10 on the last installment. On May 2nd,  
11 August 2nd, and November 2nd, the penalty  
12 as set by the city charter will be  
13 assessed at nine percent on any unpaid  
14 installments. And every month after it  
15 will be 1.5 percent that will be added  
16 until it caps at 15 percent. The  
17 discount of 2.25 percent for paying for  
18 all four installments by March 1st  
19 remains intact. This payment is due by  
20 March 1st to receive this discount.

21 The hearing is going to be closed  
22 this evening, and I would like to vote on  
23 it, but I notice that the final agenda  
24 was only updated with the word  
25 announcement. So I'm hoping that we can



1 amend that on the agenda and actually do  
2 a discussion and vote for the local law  
3 for deferring the tax payments since  
4 March 1st is before our next city council  
5 meeting.

6 Thank you.

7 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you,  
8 Commissioner.

9 Anybody in the audience that would  
10 like to speak on Local Law Number 1 of  
11 2021, defer scheduled payment of taxes,  
12 please raise your hand at this time.

13 DEPUTY MAYOR SHIELDS: I don't see  
14 anyone, Mayor.

15 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Then we will  
16 close this public hearing, and we will be  
17 voting on it this -- this evening.

18 The second item for public hearing  
19 is to amend Chapter 58, alarm systems.

20 And I'll turn it over to  
21 Commissioner Dalton.

22 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Thank you,  
23 Mayor.

24 This is a discussion and vote, amend  
25 Chapter 58 of the city code entitled



1 alarm systems. This amendment is to take  
2 out the mention of fee amounts in Chapter  
3 58 and instead allow fees to be  
4 established by the council from time to  
5 time by resolution of the city council.

6 MAYOR KELLY: Great. Anybody in the  
7 audience that would like to speak on  
8 amending Chapter 58, alarm systems,  
9 please raise your hand at this time.

10 Lisa, do we have anybody for  
11 amending Chapter 58?

12 DEPUTY MAYOR SHIELDS: No, we don't.

13 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Thank you.

14 And Commissioner, we are closing  
15 this, this evening and voting on it,  
16 correct?

17 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Correct. Yes.

18 MAYOR KELLY: Great. Thank you.

19 With that, we'll move into our  
20 scheduled meeting.

21 Roll call, please?

22 SECRETARY TO CITY COUNCIL:

23 Commissioner Franck?

24 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Present.

25 SECRETARY TO CITY COUNCIL:



1 Commissioner Madigan?

2 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Present.

3 SECRETARY TO CITY COUNCIL:

4 Commissioner Scirocco?

5 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Here.

6 SECRETARY TO CITY COUNCIL:

7 Commissioner Dalton?

8 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Present.

9 SECRETARY TO CITY COUNCIL: Mayor  
10 Kelly?

11 MAYOR KELLY: Here.

12 SECRETARY TO CITY COUNCIL:

13 Supervisor Veitch?

14 SUPERVISOR VEITCH: Here.

15 SECRETARY TO CITY

16 COUNCIL: Supervisor Gaston? I don't see  
17 her yet.

18 MAYOR KELLY: She's absent tonight.

19 SECRETARY TO CITY COUNCIL: Okay.

20 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Please rise for  
21 the Pledge of Allegiance.

22 I pledge allegiance to the flag of  
23 the United States of America and to the  
24 republic for which it stands, one nation,  
25 under God, indivisible, with liberty and



1 justice for all.

2 Thank you.

3 Next on the agenda is our public  
4 comment period. I ask that you keep your  
5 comments brief, up to two minutes. There  
6 will be a bell to signify the end of your  
7 time. Public comment period will  
8 continue up to fifteen minutes.

9 As a reminder, public comment period  
10 is not a dialog or a discussion with the  
11 council members. However, at the end of  
12 each public comment period, any council  
13 member may respond.

14 So at this time if you wish to speak  
15 at public comment period, please raise  
16 your hand and wait to be entered into the  
17 meeting.

18 Okay. I believe Darlene McGraw  
19 (ph.) has her hand up, Lisa.

20 DEPUTY MAYOR SHIELDS: Yeah, Matthew  
21 Taylor (ph.) turned his camera on, so you  
22 may want to --

23 MAYOR KELLY: Okay.

24 DEPUTY MAYOR SHIELDS: -- do him  
25 first, and then Darlene.



1           MAYOR KELLY: Matthew, can you  
2 unmute yourself, please? Thank you.

3           MR. TAYLOR: Should I begin?

4           MAYOR KELLY: Yeah, state your name  
5 and your address, please.

6           MR. TAYLOR: Sure. Matthew Taylor,  
7 47 Van Dam Street, Saratoga Springs.

8           MAYOR KELLY: Yeah, go ahead.

9           MR. TAYLOR: Okay. Tonight I come  
10 to speak in support of the antiracism  
11 resolution that is before the council.  
12 This past month and year, we have  
13 witnessed multiple repulsive displays of  
14 white -- white supremacy throughout our  
15 nation. Systemic racism exists in our  
16 nation and our city, and I believe all  
17 council members have voiced their beliefs  
18 for equality and fairness.

19           Now in spite of all these recent  
20 events, I believe it is time to put these  
21 words into considerable action. I  
22 believe this pledge is an important  
23 component of all the work that must be  
24 done. I urge all council members to rise  
25 in support of this resolution.





1 Thank you.

2 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

3 DEPUTY MAYOR SHIELDS: So I don't  
4 know where Darlene went.

5 MAYOR KELLY: Darlene, are you  
6 there? If you are, can you turn your  
7 camera on and unmute?

8 MS. MCGRAW: It says that I can't  
9 turn my camera on.

10 MAYOR KELLY: I don't know why.

11 DEPUTY MAYOR SHIELDS: Tell her to  
12 try again.

13 MAYOR KELLY: Try again, Darlene.

14 MS. MCGRAW: Okay. Yes.

15 MAYOR KELLY: Great. There you go.

16 MS. MCGRAW: Thank you. Sorry.  
17 Having a little technical difficulties.

18 MAYOR KELLY: Yeah, that's okay. No  
19 worries. Go ahead.

20 MS. MCGRAW: I would like to  
21 discuss -- first of all with this ice  
22 storm, I wasn't out for very long today,  
23 but thank you to everybody for helping  
24 keep us safe during this storm.

25 On days previous to today, I would



1           like to see the City of Saratoga Springs  
2           do what other -- what some other  
3           municipalities do when there's snow and  
4           ice like this, do odd/even parking so  
5           that our local DPW snow plows can get  
6           through easily and do each side of the  
7           road, and we can make sure that our roads  
8           are safe. I don't believe the City of  
9           Saratoga Springs DPW and Department of  
10          Public Safety work together enough, and I  
11          would like to see a little bit more  
12          working friendliness together so that we  
13          can make these roads safer for us all,  
14          including our first responders.

15                 Thank you.

16                 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

17                 Now, we'll go to Shaun Wiggins.

18                 MR. WIGGINS: Okay. Thank you,  
19          Mayor.

20                 I would also --

21                 MAYOR KELLY: Can you --

22                 MR. WIGGINS: Oh, my name is  
23          Shaun -- Shaun Wiggins, 13 Lakewood  
24          Drive, Saratoga Springs.

25                 MAYOR KELLY: Yeah, thank you.



1           MR. WIGGINS: I would like to  
2           express my support as well for the  
3           resolution to the city council. I think  
4           it's important that the city makes a  
5           statement on the fact that they do  
6           contend race -- anti-race -- condemn  
7           racism bias as well, too. It's a very  
8           simple act. I don't think it takes a lot  
9           of effort, and I think that there's quite  
10          a bit of support within the community for  
11          this as well.

12           Thank you.

13          MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

14          Go to Katie (ph.) Anderson.

15          MS. ANDERSON: Hi. Thank you,  
16          Mayor.

17           Katie Anderson, 11 Chipmunk Chase in  
18           Saratoga. I am also here in support of  
19           the antiracism pledge, and my hope  
20           tonight is that the city council adopts  
21           that.

22           Thank you.

23          MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

24           Steve Hovey. Steve, can you unmute  
25           and turn your camera on, please?



1 MR. HOVEY: Ah, yeah. Yes. Thank  
2 you. Yeah, Steve Hovey, 1 Persimmon  
3 Drive (sic) in -- in Saratoga Springs.  
4 And I also very much support the  
5 resolution, and I -- I just think it  
6 would be really wonderful for the -- the  
7 City of Saratoga to show leadership in  
8 this very important issue.

9 Thank you.

10 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

11 Let's see. Linley (ph.), you're on.

12 MS. HICKOX: Yes. Yes. Can you  
13 hear me?

14 MAYOR KELLY: Yes, I can. Thank  
15 you.

16 MS. HICKOX: I'm also here --

17 MAYOR KELLY: Could you please state  
18 your name and address, please?

19 MS. HICKOX: -- to -- to --

20 MAYOR KELLY: Linley, you're  
21 breaking up.

22 MS. HICKOX: Sorry. Can you hear me  
23 now?

24 MAYOR KELLY: It's a little bit in  
25 and out.



1 MS. HICKOX: Oh, shoot.

2 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Well, I heard  
3 that.

4 MS. HICKOX: Okay. Lindley HICKOX,  
5 27 --

6 MAYOR KELLY: Yeah.

7 MS. HICKOX: -- Wedgewood Drive.

8 MAYOR KELLY: Yeah.

9 MS. HICKOX: Saratoga Springs. What  
10 was it? Wow, I forgot what I was going  
11 to say.

12 Yeah, I'm also here in support of  
13 the pledge. I think it does -- as Shaun  
14 said, it's a simple act, and it could  
15 make a huge difference to our community,  
16 especially making sure that our community  
17 is a welcoming community to all people.

18 MAYOR KELLY: Great. Thank you.

19 MS. HICKOX: Thank you.

20 MAYOR KELLY: Who else do we have  
21 here? Anybody else, raise your hand  
22 please.

23 DEPUTY MAYOR SHIELDS: I don't see  
24 any others right at this minute, but a  
25 couple people just joined us, Mayor.



1           MAYOR KELLY: Yeah. Saran Lawley  
2           (ph.), Karen (ph.), Holly (ph.). Anybody  
3           want to speak?

4           Okay. Then we will be closing  
5           public comment period. Does the council  
6           have any comments at this time?

7           COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Yes, Mayor,  
8           I've got --

9           MAYOR KELLY: Okay.

10          COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: I have a  
11          comment.

12          MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Sure. Go  
13          ahead, Commissioner.

14          COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: In regards  
15          to Darlene McGraw's concerns, we do have  
16          snow emergencies that we declare when we  
17          have three inches of snow or more where  
18          cars have to be moved to a clearing, and  
19          we do advertise it. Of course, and we  
20          also have a lot of streets to the city  
21          are already alternate parking, so their  
22          cars get moved every twelve hours  
23          anyways. And we work really closely with  
24          the Department of Public Safety. I mean,  
25          if you don't move your car, then they'll



1 give you a ticket and potentially tow  
2 you. So I think we're covered with that  
3 one.

4 And the other one, if I may real  
5 quick. Darlene McGraw did report at the  
6 last city council meeting that she had  
7 coliform in her water. Apparently, she  
8 went and she had tested her water, and  
9 she found that she had coliform. I told  
10 her last week, or two weeks ago, that I  
11 would send somebody over. I sent the  
12 water treatment plant supervisor over  
13 there to discuss the issue with her. He  
14 did discuss the issue with her. We did  
15 take samples from her water, and we sent  
16 them to our lab CNA, and they came back  
17 negative. So I'm not quite sure what the  
18 issue was just because -- I just wanted  
19 to give her some peace of mind that our  
20 water is absolutely safe to drink, and  
21 there's really no issues with it. So I  
22 think --

23 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you,  
24 Commissioner.

25 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: -- that



1 resolves her problem.

2 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

3 Any other comments?

4 Okay. Then we will move back onto  
5 the agenda. There are no presentations  
6 this evening. We did have an executive  
7 session this morning to discuss two  
8 items: collective bargaining  
9 negotiations PBA unit and acquisition of  
10 property. No action was taken by the  
11 council.

12 MAYOR KELLY: At this time, I'm  
13 going to ask Commissioner Dalton to bring  
14 her one item that I think most of the  
15 people are waiting for to the top of the  
16 agenda so they don't have to wait till  
17 the last of the agenda.

18 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Thank you,  
19 Mayor.

20 So yes, tonight I am bringing this  
21 equity in action, the pledge, before the  
22 city council. This was something that  
23 the community outreach committee that has  
24 been working on (indiscernible) by  
25 Saratoga Springs, specifically through





1 education and culture and awareness,  
2 developed because they were engaging with  
3 different elements in the city, whether  
4 it was the business community, different  
5 organizations, and who felt the need to  
6 support the social justice movement  
7 that's been going on over the last  
8 several months. But we're looking for a  
9 umbrella organization or a big  
10 organization to kind of talk about this  
11 and commit to antiracism, what that  
12 means, to give them an opportunity to,  
13 then, speak up on behalf as well, and so  
14 they were -- even in conversations with  
15 the community, just getting this kind of  
16 feedback again and again. And so  
17 ultimately it led us to put together an  
18 antiracism pledge that we are hoping that  
19 the city adopts. But not only that, I  
20 think we've heard a lot about things like  
21 antiracism pledges over the last several  
22 months, but really the critical part is  
23 the action after that.

24 And so what I really was impressed  
25 about with the committee was that not



1           only were they thinking about this pledge  
2           itself and the words in here and what  
3           they meant, but they were also thinking  
4           about what the actionable next steps were  
5           and making sure this wasn't just words  
6           but that it was put into action. And I  
7           think that's a really good thing. And I  
8           also think that reaffirming who we are as  
9           a community, who we believe we are as a  
10          city, is always a good thing to do, and  
11          this really does that.

12                 So I will go right into reading the  
13          resolution, unless the council has any  
14          questions beforehand.

15                 MAYOR KELLY: No, go ahead,  
16          Commissioner.

17                 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Okay. Whereas  
18          in December of 2016 this council issued a  
19          resolution in support of mutual respect  
20          community. That resolution plainly  
21          acknowledged that our city's strength is  
22          found in the character of its people and  
23          that we've always solved problems by  
24          bringing together different people from  
25          different opinions and ideas. The



1 resolution ended with a clear commitment  
2 to stand against, quote, any and all acts  
3 by any person or persons that are  
4 intended to demean, devalue, or  
5 intimidate others because of their race,  
6 ethnicity, nation of origin, religion,  
7 gender, sexual identity, disability, or  
8 political views. We will remain united  
9 as a council and as a community that  
10 safeguard the rights and the privileges  
11 of everyone in our city.

12 And whereas in the years since that  
13 resolution many of us have learned that  
14 some of -- that what some of us knew all  
15 along about the prevalence of racism in  
16 our country, racism exists in every  
17 community in the United States. It  
18 exists in Saratoga Springs. It is only  
19 by the unequivocal recognition of that  
20 fact that we began to address the problem  
21 together.

22 And whereas we already know that it  
23 is wrong to say and do racist things, but  
24 we have learned that even those of us who  
25 are not deliberate racists can accept and



1           tolerate the racist practice of others  
2           because we do not want to get involved or  
3           for the sake of our own comfort. We have  
4           learned that we may sometimes benefit  
5           from injustice, even though we never  
6           intended to. We have learned that white  
7           privilege is not an insult but a  
8           challenge. We acknowledge systemic  
9           racism is embedded in our institutions  
10          and must be challenged and eliminated,  
11          and we have learned that we can and must  
12          do better.

13                 Now therefore, be it resolved as  
14                 follows. Number one, the council will  
15                 exercise its authority as fully as  
16                 possible to promote racial equity and  
17                 fairness in our city and to eliminate  
18                 discriminatory systems and practices.

19                 Number two, we will act to develop  
20                 and cultivate a diverse and inclusive  
21                 culture that recognizes the strengths  
22                 that come from giving everyone the  
23                 opportunity to contribute, participate,  
24                 grow, and succeed.

25                 Number three, we will strive as a



1 government to do what is right and just  
2 for all people and to make our schools,  
3 our community, our country, and our world  
4 a better place.

5 And that concludes the resolution.  
6 So I would like to open up to any  
7 discussion from the council and then a  
8 vote.

9 MAYOR KELLY: So okay. Let's keep  
10 with, make a motion.

11 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Okay.

12 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Can you make a  
13 motion to accept the equality in action  
14 resolution?

15 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Yes. I would  
16 like to make a motion to accept the  
17 equity in action resolution.

18 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

19 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Second.

20 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

21 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Thank you for  
22 bringing this forward, Commissioner  
23 Dalton.

24 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Thank you.

25 All thanks goes to the committee. It did



1 a great job.

2 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: And the --

3 MAYOR KELLY: Okay.

4 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: -- committee,  
5 yes.

6 MAYOR KELLY: Yeah. All those in  
7 favor say aye.

8 IN UNISON: Aye.

9 MAYOR KELLY: The matter passes.

10 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Thank you all  
11 very much.

12 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you,  
13 Commissioner, for pulling it forward.  
14 And thank, Committee.

15 Okay. Back to our agenda, to the  
16 consent agenda. Are there any edits?

17 I move that the city council approve  
18 the consent agenda as included with this  
19 agenda, this is a motion.

20 Is there a second?

21 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Second.

22 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

23 All those in favor say aye.

24 IN UNISON: Aye.

25 MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?



1           The matter passes.

2           On to the mayor's department. My  
3 first item is to set a public hearing:  
4 capital program and budget amendment,  
5 east and west side fields annual capital  
6 contribution school cap recreation  
7 improvement. Per the east and west side  
8 recreation fields use and maintenance  
9 agreement between the enlarged city  
10 school district and the City of Saratoga  
11 Springs approved by the city council on  
12 12/15/20, the annual capital contribution  
13 shall be in the amount of 40,000.

14           I move that the city council approve  
15 the capital programming budget, east and  
16 west side fields annual capital  
17 contribution school cap recreation  
18 improvement. This is a motion. Is there  
19 a second?

20           COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Second.

21           MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

22           DEPUTY MAYOR SHIELDS: Mayor?  
23 Mayor, this is just to set the public  
24 hearing.

25           MAYOR KELLY: Set the public



1 hearing.

2 DEPUTY MAYOR SHIELDS Yeah, you  
3 don't need a motion.

4 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. So that's  
5 right. I'm sorry.

6 DEPUTY MAYOR SHIELDS: I'm sorry.

7 MAYOR KELLY: So that'll be five  
8 minutes at the next meeting. Thank you.

9 SECRETARY TO CITY COUNCIL: That'll  
10 be March 2nd at 6:55.

11 MAYOR KELLY: March 2nd. Okay.  
12 Thank you.

13 Second item is discussion and vote,  
14 COVID-19 small business grant program  
15 award recommendations. As part of the  
16 action plan for expenditure of the third  
17 tranche of Cares Act funding received by  
18 the city via HUD, the community  
19 development department's COVID-19 small  
20 business grant program SBG was approved  
21 by council on November 2nd, 2020. SBG  
22 was allotted \$256,503 of CDBGCV funding  
23 to support the preservation of jobs held  
24 by persons of low income which would  
25 otherwise be lost due to economic impacts





1 of the COVID-19 pandemic. After careful  
2 review and deliberation, the community  
3 development citizens advisory committee  
4 provided its recommendations to the  
5 council, and they were attached to this  
6 agenda.

7 I move that the city council approve  
8 the COVID-19 small business grant program  
9 award recommendations as attached with  
10 this agenda. This is a motion. Is there  
11 a second?

12 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Second.

13 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

14 All those in favor say aye.

15 IN UNISON: Aye.

16 MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?

17 The matter passes.

18 My third item is discussion and  
19 vote, authorization for the mayor to sign  
20 agreement with LiveBarn, Inc. LiveBarn  
21 offers the ability to watch your favorite  
22 athletes from any electronic device with  
23 internet and never miss a lesson or a  
24 game-winning goal. The program allows  
25 anyone with a paid subscription to stream



1           what is going on on the ice rink and the  
2           gym at any given time. Parents and  
3           extended family can watch games and  
4           events in real time without traveling or  
5           having to miss an event because they are  
6           not in town, and offering a safe  
7           alternative for many.

8                        I move that the city council approve  
9           the signing of the agreement with  
10          LiveBarn, Inc. This is a motion. Is  
11          there a second?

12                       COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Second.

13                       MAYOR KELLY: Any --

14                       COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Second.

15                       MAYOR KELLY: -- discussion?

16                       All those in favor say aye.

17                       IN UNISON: Aye.

18                       MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?

19                       The matter passes.

20                       My fourth item is discussion and  
21          vote, grant of license agreement for Jill  
22          Fishon-Kovachick, 184 Phila Street. This  
23          is a license that would allow the  
24          homeowner at 184 Phila Street to continue  
25          and maintain a fence that has existed on



1 part of the city-owned land along Nelson  
2 Avenue. The fence has existed for more  
3 than twenty-five years. The license  
4 would allow the homeowner to extend the  
5 fence a short distance further onto her  
6 own property. The license only allows  
7 the fence to remain in its current  
8 location. The real estate committee has  
9 considered the matter and has not raised  
10 any issues. This is a license, not an  
11 easement, and does not give licensee any  
12 permanent rights on this city property.

13 I move that the granting of the  
14 license agreement be approved by the city  
15 council for Jill Fishon-Kovachick at 184  
16 Phila Street. This is a motion. Is  
17 there a second?

18 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Second.

19 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

20 All those in favor say aye.

21 IN UNISON: Aye.

22 MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?

23 The matter passes.

24 My next item is discussion and vote,  
25 grant of license agreement for Ballston



1 Ave. Partners, LLC, 96 Ballston Avenue.  
2 This is a license that would allow the  
3 property owner to occupy part of the  
4 city's owned paper Street that is next to  
5 their land. The property owner's use of  
6 the land will be in accordance to an  
7 approval by the city's planning board.  
8 The real estate committee has considered  
9 the matter and has not raised any issues.  
10 This is a license, not an easement. It  
11 does not give any licensee any permanent  
12 rights in this city property.

13 I move that the granting of -- I  
14 move that the granting of the license  
15 agreement be approved by the city council  
16 for Boston Ave. Partners, LLC for 96  
17 Ballston Avenue. This is a motion. Is  
18 there a second?

19 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Second.

20 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

21 All those in favor say aye.

22 IN UNISON: Aye.

23 MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?

24 The matter passes.

25 My next item is discussion and vote,



1 zoning amendment request for Marion  
2 Avenue/Maple Dell PUD.

3 I think we have -- I see Chuck  
4 Marshall (ph.) and Libby Carino (ph.)  
5 maybe on this call -- I don't know if  
6 they're here -- to give a brief update to  
7 the council about this application.

8 MR. MARSHALL: Good evening, Mayor  
9 Kelly. Thank you very much.

10 I submitted a zoning amendment  
11 application to the council that would  
12 effectively establish three zones on the  
13 Marion Ave./Maple Dell corridor. The  
14 three zones would be a professional  
15 office, a commercial intense, and a  
16 residential. And what we're attempting  
17 to do is we're attempting to relocate the  
18 store that's currently on Maple Dell onto  
19 Marion Ave. As was submitted in the  
20 zoning narrative, there's approximately  
21 12,000 cars a day that travel on the  
22 Marion Ave. corridor, and we feel some of  
23 those cars use Maple Dell. And it may be  
24 slightly unfair to the -- the neighbors,  
25 but additionally we can't expand the



1 store because the adoption of an overlay  
2 district prevents it. So what we're  
3 attempting to do is just make some  
4 historic, nonconforming properties  
5 conforming under the plan unit  
6 development legislation.

7 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

8 Any questions for Chuck while he's  
9 here?

10 I move that the city council  
11 determine the zoning amendment request  
12 for Marion Avenue/Maple Dell PUD has met  
13 for review and refers the application to  
14 the city and county planning board. This  
15 is a motion. Is there a second?

16 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Second.

17 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

18 All those in favor say aye.

19 IN UNISON: Aye.

20 MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?

21 The matter passes.

22 Thank you, Chuck --

23 MR. MARSHALL: Thank you very much.

24 MAYOR KELLY: -- for being here.

25 My next item is an update on the



1           mayor's department food drive held on  
2           February 11th through the 13th. The  
3           mayor's food drive took place over the  
4           three days last week and was a tremendous  
5           success. Mother Susan Anderson Women's  
6           and Children's Shelter has already  
7           received their share of donations and is  
8           fully stocked. Franklin Community Center  
9           estimates that the donations collected  
10          for their pantry will feed 925 families  
11          they serve for about two months.

12                 I would like to express my sincere  
13          gratitude and (indiscernible) to the  
14          community members and extra efforts of my  
15          fantastic team of volunteers and staff.  
16          It was a terrific three days, and we were  
17          totally overwhelmed. It was amazing.

18                 And that concludes my agenda.

19                 And I'll turn it over to  
20          Commissioner Franck. Thank you, council.

21                         COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Thank you,  
22          Mayor.

23                 We just have one item for this  
24          evening. It's a discussion resolution  
25          for outdoor seating to begin March 15th,



1           2021. On June 16th, 2020, the city  
2           council added Article 4-A, temporary  
3           outdoor seating area permits, to Chapter  
4           136 of the city code. This allowed the  
5           city to establish areas of public  
6           property for use by license eating and  
7           drinking establishments as temporary  
8           outdoor seating areas. The original  
9           expiration date for the outdoor seating  
10          permit under this article was September  
11          7th, 2020. We ended up extending it four  
12          times until the end of December 31st,  
13          2020. Outdoor seating normally starts  
14          April 1st of each year, but with the  
15          pandemic still in play I am suggesting  
16          that we put the outdoor seating back in  
17          place beginning on Monday, March 15th,  
18          2021.

19                   Attached to this agenda is a draft  
20                   resolution, the same resolution we have  
21                   passed before with the addition of the  
22                   temporary seating on March 15th this  
23                   year. I will also -- I will bring us  
24                   back to the -- this is just a discussion.  
25                   I'm going to bring this back at the next





1 meeting. Also in previous meetings,  
2 Commissioner Madigan said she might want  
3 to have somebody --.

4 There's a committee of four right  
5 now, so this gives us time, Commissioner  
6 Madigan, if you want to add somebody from  
7 your department to have five people on  
8 that committee. What I would call the  
9 subcommittee or the committee that makes  
10 the decisions will be meeting tomorrow  
11 morning, the four members. So if you  
12 want to get back to me, Commissioner  
13 Madigan, in the next day or two, we can  
14 move that person in from your department  
15 or --

16 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: I definitely  
17 will. Thank you.

18 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Okay. Then at  
19 Thursday's safety committee, they were  
20 also going to be discussing this. So  
21 obviously, this is -- I'd like the  
22 subcommittee to go through this and  
23 figure this out and get this to the city  
24 council. Obviously, it's weather  
25 permitting. Right now it's kind of a



1           tough day to look out there thinking in  
2           four weeks the snow's going to be gone,  
3           and it may not. But the whole reason for  
4           bringing it up a little bit earlier is  
5           because we've heard from everybody who  
6           did it last year and some other eating  
7           and drinking establishments, and they're  
8           already calling and asking us if we're  
9           going to be doing this year and if we can  
10          open it a little earlier.

11                 So I didn't want to just put  
12           something up for vote. I wanted to bring  
13           it up. I wanted to bring Commissioner  
14           Madigan into this and see if there's any  
15           questions tonight so that the committee  
16           can bring that up in discussions  
17           tomorrow.

18                 MAYOR KELLY: So Commissioner, who  
19           is on the committee?

20                 I'm sorry, Commissioner.

21                 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Right now --

22                 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Okay.

23                 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: -- there's  
24           Aaron Dyer (ph.) on the commission,  
25           Marilyn Rivers (ph.), Mike Veitch, and I



1 forgot who -- oh, Vince DeLeonardis are  
2 the four people that were on the  
3 committee as of last year. And then I  
4 think we if add a fifth person, I think  
5 that would level it off a little bit  
6 more.

7 Last year, we were kind of just  
8 running loosey goosey trying to figure  
9 this out. We're trying to expedite and  
10 maybe get earlier registration. So if  
11 somebody already had it and we knew it  
12 was working and it was safe, they're not  
13 going to have to redraw plans and give us  
14 the information again. We should be able  
15 to get it pretty quickly. So --

16 MAYOR KELLY: (Indiscernible) --

17 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: -- pretty much  
18 every department's covered I think.

19 MAYOR KELLY: Good.

20 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: I would like  
21 to have someone on the committee, and at  
22 this point I am thinking Deputy Deirdre  
23 Ladd. And I've just asked her to maybe  
24 send you an email. Do you mind if she  
25 joins tomorrow, just so she's staying in



1 the loop even though it's not official at  
2 this point in time?

3 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Yeah. That's  
4 fine. And you can obviously change if  
5 you like. What I would -- I don't have  
6 the exact time they're meeting, but I  
7 think it's earlier in the morning  
8 tomorrow. So if she could -- I know my  
9 deputy will just be there for the first  
10 meeting. She's not a vote person for --

11 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Right.

12 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: -- for that.  
13 So if she --

14 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Yeah.

15 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: If she could  
16 get ahold of Maire Masterson this evening  
17 or tomorrow morning --

18 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Okay.

19 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: -- we'll make  
20 sure we -- I'm assuming it's probably  
21 going to be a Zoom meeting anyways, and  
22 we could get her into the meeting.

23 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: That'd be  
24 great. Thank you.

25 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: I just got a



1 text from Maire. It's 10 a.m. tomorrow  
2 will be the meeting.

3 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: 10 a.m. All  
4 right. And I believe Deirdre's on the  
5 line.

6 So 10 a.m. tomorrow, Deirdre.

7 Zoom or at city hall or --

8 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: That I'm  
9 not --

10 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: -- we'll  
11 figure that out?

12 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Yeah, as we  
13 go.

14 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Okay.

15 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: But I will --

16 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Those two can  
17 speak.

18 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Zoom. Maire  
19 just texted me that it would --

20 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Okay.

21 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: -- be Zoom.

22 So she'll reach out after I'm done with  
23 the agenda here, and we'll go from there.

24 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Great.

25 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Thank you



1 for --

2 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: I don't know  
3 that --

4 COMMISSIONER DALTON: --  
5 (indiscernible) a little early and  
6 prepping for this because I do think  
7 it's, like, really super important that  
8 the restaurants be able to do a similar  
9 expansion and be open as soon as  
10 possible, weather permitting, so thank  
11 you.

12 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Yeah. And I  
13 think we have to leave it flexible  
14 because if the track totally opens and  
15 everything totally opens and this thing  
16 hopefully dissipates, then there may be  
17 traffic issues and things like that. So  
18 we might have to pull back on it, but at  
19 this point I think we'll be able to do it  
20 at least through the summer. But we'll  
21 go from there.

22 And that concludes my agenda, Mayor.

23 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you,  
24 Commissioner.

25 On to finance, Commissioner Madigan.



1           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Thank you,  
2           Mayor.

3           So the first item on my agenda is an  
4           announcement: Matt McCabe Day, February  
5           20th, 2021. At the January 19th, 2021,  
6           city council meeting, a resolution was  
7           presented that established February 20th,  
8           2021, as Matt McCabe Day. We lost Matt  
9           McCabe, former commissioner of finance, a  
10          community force, friend to all, small  
11          business owner -- he owned Saratoga  
12          Guitar -- on January 12th, 2021.  
13          February 20th will be marked by an event  
14          at Caffe Lena. His life and work will be  
15          the subject of a virtual presentation,  
16          and celebration. Information about this  
17          event may be found at [caffelena.org](http://caffelena.org).

18          I'd hoped to have more information  
19          to present to the council and to the  
20          Downtown Business Association regarding a  
21          Gibson guitar installation on Broadway or  
22          Caroline. But this is taking a bit more  
23          time getting through to Gibson and Gibson  
24          Gives which is the charitable arm of  
25          Gibson and just kind of working through



1           some of the details. A lot of people are  
2           really involved and invested in this Matt  
3           McCabe Day at Caffe Lena. But I will  
4           keep the council apprised of what we're  
5           trying to do.

6           Item number two is a discussion and  
7           vote, a local law to defer scheduled  
8           payments of taxes during the COVID-19  
9           emergency. I understand that the agenda  
10          went out with the word announcement, but  
11          I would like to change this to a  
12          discussion and vote. I don't know if I  
13          need to go through any formal procedure  
14          for that. I don't know if Vince or Tony  
15          are on the line. Do I need to add  
16          something to the agenda to do that? The  
17          law was uploaded with this item, but it  
18          was uploaded as an announcement, not a  
19          discussion and vote.

20          MR. DELEONARDIS: Yeah, the legal  
21          notice that went out properly indicated  
22          that it was to adopt a local law, so  
23          you're covered there. With regard to the  
24          agenda, I think just for a formality and  
25          to be safe maybe make the motion to add





1 an item to the agenda for as a discussion  
2 and vote since it was listed as a  
3 discussion.

4 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Okay. So  
5 Council, I'd like to add a motion to  
6 the -- an item to the agenda. This is a  
7 motion.

8 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

9 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Second.

10 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

11 All those in favor say aye.

12 IN UNISON: Aye.

13 MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?

14 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Okay.

15 Maybe --

16 MAYOR KELLY: The matter passes.

17 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: -- I forgot  
18 to say exactly what I wanted to add when  
19 I made that motion.

20 Council, I'd like to add the item  
21 discussion and vote, a local law to defer  
22 scheduled payments of taxes during the  
23 COVID-19 emergency. I'd like to change  
24 that from announcement to discussion and  
25 vote. This is a motion.



1           MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

2           COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Second.

3           MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

4           All those in favor say aye.

5           IN UNISON: Aye.

6           MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?

7           The matter passes.

8           Go ahead, Commissioner.

9           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Thank you. I  
10          think that covers it.

11          So this is the item. It's now a  
12          discussion and vote, a local law to defer  
13          scheduled payments of taxes during the  
14          COVID-19 emergency. The governor signed  
15          a bill that allows the city to allow  
16          installment payments as well as deferment  
17          payments for up to 120 days for tax  
18          payments. The city's got to pass a local  
19          law to enact such action. We already  
20          have installment payments.

21          So at this time we propose to enact  
22          Local Law 1, 2021, that allows a sixty-  
23          day deferment on each of the first three  
24          installment payments. This allows tax  
25          payers a cushion of time while retaining



1 cash flow, which has already been  
2 compromised by reduced revenue  
3 collections. The city, again, already  
4 has quarterly installment payments for  
5 city tax payments. The original due  
6 dates for collections are March 1, June  
7 1, September 1, and December 1. With a  
8 sixty-day extension for the first three  
9 quarters, the due date will be May 1,  
10 August 1, and November 1. There will be  
11 no extension on the last installment at  
12 least at this time.

13 On May 2nd, August 2nd, and November  
14 2nd, the penalty as set by the city  
15 charter will be assessed at nine percent  
16 on any unpaid installments. And every  
17 month after it will 1.5 percent will be  
18 added until it caps at 15 percent. The  
19 discount that the city offers of 2.25  
20 percent for paying all four installments  
21 by March 1st remains intact. We are not  
22 extending that. If you pay your taxes in  
23 full by March 1, you receive a discount.  
24 And that payment due date is March 1st.  
25 The local law will be in place in time



1 for the first 2021 quarterly payment of  
2 March 1.

3 I move that the city council approve  
4 a local law to defer scheduled payments  
5 of taxes during the COVID-19 emergency,  
6 as included with the agenda, this is a  
7 motion.

8 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

9 Second.

10 Any discussion?

11 All those in favor say aye.

12 IN UNISON: Aye.

13 MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?

14 The matter passes.

15 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Thank you.

16 We'll have a press release out about that  
17 tomorrow, and we'll have more information  
18 up on the city website and social media  
19 to alert our tax payers.

20 Item number three is an  
21 announcement, tax payments to be made at  
22 city hall vis-a-vis a new drop-off box.  
23 For tax payers' convenience, the city has  
24 a new drop box located at the handicapped  
25 entrance to city hall for tax payments



1 and other mail to the finance department,  
2 as it has not been able to open to the  
3 public due to the pandemic.

4 And I'd like to thank the Department  
5 of Public Works for installing the drop  
6 box on the wall for tax payers. Thank  
7 you.

8 Item number four is an announcement,  
9 city hall department addresses and suite  
10 numbers. I announced at the prior city  
11 council meeting and I'm going to just  
12 repeat it here. This is mostly for  
13 internal purposes, but we want to make  
14 sure externally people know what we're  
15 doing with our mail.

16 The city mail receptacle will be in  
17 place. We'll be using it beginning March  
18 1st, will now allow to include department  
19 suite numbers. Departments, please use  
20 these numbers for all mail going forward.  
21 These are posted on the city website, and  
22 they will improve accurate delivery. If  
23 anyone has any questions, please contact  
24 Rachel Petryna, communications, at  
25 extension 2576. And we'll have an all-



1 employee email going out on this process  
2 and making sure everybody understands and  
3 knows what their department suite numbers  
4 are. We also worked with the Department  
5 of Public Works on this to establish  
6 suite numbers for everyone at city hall.

7 Item number five is an update,  
8 federal fiscal stimulus funding. I'm  
9 going to just provide a brief update on  
10 some information that was released by  
11 Senator Tonko's office regarding amounts  
12 in the President's Federal Stimulus Act  
13 distribution for local jurisdictions. So  
14 you know it's about a 1.9-trillion-dollar  
15 package. Of that package, it looks like  
16 Saratoga County is scheduled to receive  
17 49,867,173 dollars to be distributed. I  
18 don't know; there's probably something  
19 that comes along with that. And that's  
20 for public services in Saratoga County.

21 Saratoga Springs is separate and  
22 aside. They're using a modified  
23 community development block grant formula  
24 based on population. And since we are a  
25 city that falls under a population



1 threshold of 50,000 dollars, our  
2 disbursement as it stands right now will  
3 be released to New York State. Once New  
4 York State receives what our disbursement  
5 will be, we will have up to thirty days  
6 to receive that from New York State.

7 Based on the calculations that I've  
8 reviewed and in conversations I've had  
9 with Congressman Tonko's office, it looks  
10 like the city is scheduled to receive  
11 approximately seven million dollars. I  
12 need to be very cautious about that  
13 because it has not passed through the  
14 Senate at this point in time. So I  
15 wouldn't expect it to be any more than  
16 seven million dollars, but it certainly  
17 could be potentially less than seven  
18 million dollars.

19 The rescue package overall delivers  
20 about 440 million dollars in direct  
21 federal COVID-19 relief funding to  
22 counties, cities, towns, and villages in  
23 New York's 20th Congressional District,  
24 which is represented by Congressman  
25 Tonko, to maintain essential services and



1 staff, including teachers, nurses,  
2 firefighters, water systems managers, and  
3 countless others in the capital region.

4 So that sort of summarizes where we  
5 would be for the City of Saratoga  
6 Springs. I really don't have any further  
7 details, only that we need to be  
8 cautious, that this number, this amount,  
9 is still really an unknown until it gets  
10 through the full House and the Senate.

11 Thank you. But --

12 MAYOR KELLY: (Indiscernible).

13 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: -- kind of  
14 big news. I'd be happy with seven  
15 million dollars right now.

16 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: That's good  
17 news.

18 MAYOR KELLY: Yes, we would be very  
19 happy.

20 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Great news.

21 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Yeah. Yes.  
22 Yes --

23 COMMISSIONER DALTON:  
24 (Indiscernible).

25 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: -- I'm very





1 happy with it. Yeah. So happy to report  
2 that, right? It's like we've been  
3 waiting for it for it feels like the  
4 entire year.

5 All right. So item number six is an  
6 update on VLT aid. As you know, the  
7 governor's executive 2021-2022 executive  
8 budget once again eliminated VLT aid to  
9 the City of Saratoga Springs. Typically,  
10 we receive 2.3 million dollars for the  
11 past several years. While we only  
12 budgeted half this amount for 2021, about  
13 1.15 million, it's still a substantial  
14 loss of revenue for the city that  
15 maintains numerous expenses for the  
16 infrastructure and security of the track.  
17 Regardless of whether it's open to the  
18 public, we rely on these funds, right?  
19 We rely on these funds. We've hired for  
20 these funds. We do important things with  
21 these funds. And that's pretty much what  
22 the mayor and I told the joint  
23 legislature when we went down to meet  
24 with them.

25 So along with the mayor, we did take



1 the opportunity to testify to the  
2 legislature and their hearing on local  
3 government. Specifically, we were there  
4 to discuss VLT. My testimony  
5 basically -- oh, I gave them an overview  
6 of the budget that we first presented and  
7 that I presented on October 6th, the  
8 reductions that I was calling for at  
9 fifteen percent in public safety and  
10 twenty-five percent in public works and  
11 ten percent reductions across the board.

12 We were in a really tough spot at  
13 the beginning of October. And then as we  
14 learned a little bit more about vaccines  
15 coming out and what we could do with the  
16 retirement payment which was still a big  
17 five-million-dollar move into the next  
18 year, we were able to restore a lot of  
19 those services. But I didn't want them  
20 to come away thinking that by any means  
21 we were out of the woods on COVID. I  
22 discussed with them the fact that our  
23 sales tax collection in Saratoga Springs  
24 for 2020 -- and I'm not sure if I've even  
25 officially reported this to the full



1 council, but for 2020 it was down 17.1  
2 percent compared to 2019. That's very  
3 significant. It was I think, outside of  
4 New York City, the largest significant  
5 drop in all of the state. So clearly we  
6 had been very much impacted by the  
7 pandemic in terms of tourist-related  
8 dollars. So yeah, it was I think the  
9 single largest outside of New York State.  
10 Maybe there was one other community. I  
11 was able to --

12 MAYOR KELLY: I think White Plains  
13 beat us.

14 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: White Plains,  
15 yeah. That's it, White Plains.

16 Inform them of strategic planning  
17 and budgeting that we had been able to  
18 maintain service levels but that it was  
19 difficult. And to say that, it is an  
20 understatement. I thanked them for their  
21 support last year restoring this aid, and  
22 the only thing I can say is we'll see how  
23 it goes. The mayor and I are scheduled  
24 to meet with our consultants on Friday to  
25 continue our work on making sure that



1           this aid is restored. And wouldn't it be  
2           terrific if it got restored at 2.3  
3           million, and maybe the governor does what  
4           he did last year and only holds back  
5           twenty percent. We'll see.

6           Mayor, I don't know if you have  
7           anything you'd like to add.

8           MAYOR KELLY: No, I think that was a  
9           good overview, and I think that we'll  
10          just keep pushing. That's what we do.  
11          We're pushing for the city.

12          COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: That's right.

13          MAYOR KELLY: Thank you.

14          COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: That's right.  
15          Thank you.

16          Item number seven is a discussion  
17          and vote, update on city fees, recreation  
18          department open gym. The recreation  
19          department has submitted a change to its  
20          open gym fees as it has revised the  
21          services it may provide in 2021. In  
22          2020, fees were set at zero dollars, as  
23          the gym was not open. In 2021, they will  
24          be four dollars for a city resident and  
25          five dollars for a nonresident.



1           I move that the city council approve  
2 the update to city fees, recreation  
3 department open gym as included with the  
4 agenda, this is a motion.

5           MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

6           COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Second.

7           MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

8           All those in favor say aye.

9           IN UNISON: Aye.

10          MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?

11          The matter passes.

12          COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Item number  
13 eight is a discussion and vote,  
14 authorization for the mayor to sign  
15 agreement with Carousel Industries for  
16 maintenance on the Avaya Telephone  
17 System. This contract in the amount of  
18 \$24,455.51 covers the maintenance and  
19 technical support cost for the city  
20 telephone service. It has been approved  
21 by the legal, purchasing, risk and  
22 safety, and finance departments.

23          I move that the city council  
24 authorize the mayor to sign agreement  
25 with Carousel Industries for maintenance



1 of Avaya Telephone System as included  
2 with the agenda, this is a motion.

3 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

4 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Second.

5 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

6 All those in favor say aye.

7 IN UNISON: Aye.

8 MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?

9 The matter passes.

10 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Thank you.

11 Item number nine, budget transfers  
12 contingency, lines 1 through 2, transfer  
13 funds from contingency to the accounts  
14 department to cover eScriber contract  
15 cost for verbatim meeting transcriptions  
16 pursuant to state order in the amount of  
17 \$7,650 for services prescribed by the  
18 state under COVID-19 requisites for  
19 verbatim transcripts of each city council  
20 meeting.

21 Lines 3 through 4, transfer funds  
22 from contingency to the finance  
23 department to cover February storage  
24 costs for building, accounts, and finance  
25 department documents that are awaiting



1 the renovation of city hall basement  
2 storage. The contingency budget  
3 appropriation currently has a balance of  
4 \$244,635.83. Following approval of this  
5 transfer, there will be \$236,485.83  
6 available.

7 I move that the city council approve  
8 the budget transfers contingency as  
9 included with the agenda, this is a  
10 motion.

11 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

12 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Second.

13 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

14 All those in favor say aye.

15 IN UNISON: Aye.

16 MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?

17 The matter passes.

18 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Item number  
19 ten, budget transfers payroll, lines 1  
20 through 2, move funds from the building  
21 department professional services  
22 appropriation for its overtime  
23 appropriation to maintain acceptable  
24 response times for the copious amount of  
25 permit and planning board requests



1 requiring its services.

2 I move that the city council approve  
3 the budget transfers payroll as included  
4 with the agenda, this is a motion.

5 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

6 Second.

7 Any discussion?

8 All those in favor say aye.

9 IN UNISON: Aye.

10 MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?

11 The matter passes.

12 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Item number  
13 eleven is budget transfers benefits,  
14 lines 1 through 4, move funds from the  
15 hospitalization, insurance costs, the  
16 flexible spending, and Social Security  
17 costs.

18 I move that the city council approve  
19 the budget transfers benefits as included  
20 with the agenda. This is a motion.

21 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

22 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Second.

23 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

24 All those in favor say aye.

25 IN UNISON: Aye.





1           MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?

2           The matter passes.

3           COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Thank you.

4           Item number twelve is an  
5 announcement. It's an appointment to  
6 climate-smart committee. I am appointing  
7 Anita Morzilla (ph.) to the climate-smart  
8 committee. Her term will run for three  
9 years from February 27th, 2021, through  
10 February 26th of 2024. Anita was born in  
11 and grew up in Saratoga and is a graduate  
12 of Saratoga Springs High School. After  
13 living in many locations in the United  
14 States, she was excited to return to  
15 Saratoga Springs a few years ago and  
16 become involved with service within the  
17 city.

18           She has almost thirty years of  
19 professional experience in natural  
20 resources and environmental management,  
21 has worked in the educational, research,  
22 private, corporate, and government  
23 sectors. She is a researcher with a  
24 focus on public preferences for  
25 environmental management and how people



1           make decisions about environmental and  
2           natural resource issues, including those  
3           for which the climate-smart task force is  
4           charged to pursue. She's also taught  
5           courses in multiple aspects of natural  
6           resources and environmental management  
7           with a consistent focus on diverse public  
8           opinions about such issues.

9           So I want to welcome Anita, and I  
10          want to thank her for stepping up to the  
11          public service for the City of Saratoga  
12          Springs.

13          And with that, that completes my  
14          agenda. Thank you.

15          MAYOR KELLY: Thank you,  
16          Commissioner.

17          On to public works, Commissioner  
18          Scirocco.

19          COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Thank you,  
20          Mayor.

21          The first item on my agenda is a  
22          discussion and vote. This is  
23          authorization for the mayor to sign an  
24          agreement number 5 with the Saratoga  
25          County Arts Council. As a result of the



1 current COVID-19 pandemic and  
2 unprecedented impact on businesses and  
3 public entities, City and Saratoga County  
4 Arts Council agree to extend the  
5 suspension of payments of rent an  
6 additional six months for the period of  
7 January 1st, 2021, through June 30th,  
8 2021.

9 So therefore, I move for the mayor  
10 to sign a lease agreement, addendum 4,  
11 with Saratoga County Arts Council to  
12 suspend the rent payments for the period  
13 of January 1st, 2021, through June 30th,  
14 2021.

15 SECRETARY TO CITY COUNCIL: Excuse  
16 me, Commissioner. Did you say addendum  
17 4? That should be --

18 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: I meant  
19 addendum 5 I believe.

20 SECRETARY TO CITY COUNCIL: Okay.  
21 Thank you.

22 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: I just  
23 caught that one myself.

24 MAYOR KELLY: Is that a --

25 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: And that



1 would -- I want to put that for a motion.

2 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Is there a  
3 second?

4 Second.

5 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Second.

6 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

7 All those in favor say aye.

8 IN UNISON: Aye.

9 MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?

10 The matter passes.

11 Thank you, Commissioner, for doing  
12 that.

13 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: You're  
14 welcome, Mayor.

15 My second item on the agenda I'm  
16 going to take off the agenda. There's  
17 concern with the resolution.

18 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Thank you.

19 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: So I'll move  
20 on to my third item, which is the  
21 resolution for the Champlain Hudson Power  
22 Express Project. The State of New York  
23 has issued a certificate of environmental  
24 compatibility in a public meeting for the  
25 Champlain Hudson Power Express Project,



1           which will provide clean, renewable  
2           hydroelectricity through a buried high-  
3           voltage direct current transmission line  
4           that will roam from an existing  
5           hydrosystem in Canada to New York City.  
6           A small portion of the transmission line  
7           will run through the City of Saratoga  
8           Springs and will be buried along with the  
9           city right-of-way. This resolution  
10          grants the city's consent to construct  
11          the project through the city-owned  
12          streets and right-of-way, subject to the  
13          terms and conditions of a road use and  
14          crossing agreement we negotiated, but we  
15          will substantially -- in the form of the  
16          document annex to the resolution.

17                 The city attorney and the director  
18                 of risk and safety have reviewed these  
19                 documents and find them to be in  
20                 acceptable form. Accordingly, I move  
21                 that the city council adopt this  
22                 resolution in support of the Champlain  
23                 Hudson Power Express Project. And this  
24                 is a motion. Thank you.

25                 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second --



1 oh.

2 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Okay.

3 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

4 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Second.

5 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

6 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: And I think  
7 I'd have to read the resolution or at  
8 least that portion of it. I wanted to  
9 ask Vince about that. Everybody did get  
10 a copy of the resolution.

11 MR. DELEONARDIS: Yeah, the  
12 resolution was uploaded with the agenda,  
13 Commissioner. You don't need to read the  
14 resolution.

15 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Okay. Okay.

16 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. All those in  
17 favor say aye.

18 IN UNISON: Aye.

19 MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?

20 The matter passes.

21 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Thank you.

22 The fourth item on my agenda is  
23 discussion and vote. It's the approval  
24 to pay invoice number 01012021 with  
25 Mahoney Notify Plus, Incorporated in the



1 amount of 1,400 dollars. Mahoney Notify  
2 Plus contract was approved at the  
3 December 15th, 2020 city council meeting  
4 but could not submit for 2021  
5 requisitions until January 1st, 2021.

6 In prepping the purchase  
7 requisitions, it was discovered that  
8 there was an oversight in budgeting  
9 preparation, and there was insufficient  
10 funds in the budget line. That has since  
11 been corrected for the remainder of the  
12 contract period.

13 So therefore, I move for approval to  
14 pay invoice number 01012021 with Mahoney  
15 Notify Plus, Incorporated in the amount  
16 of 1,400 dollars and put that in the form  
17 a motion.

18 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

19 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Second.

20 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

21 All those in favor say aye.

22 IN UNISON: Aye.

23 MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?

24 SECRETARY TO CITY COUNCIL:

25 Commissioner, is the amount 1,450 dollars



1 or 1,400 dollars?

2 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: 1,400  
3 dollars.

4 SECRETARY TO CITY COUNCIL: Okay.  
5 The agenda item said 1,450 dollars. Can  
6 I suggest that we --

7 MAYOR KELLY: Well, let's --

8 SECRETARY TO CITY COUNCIL: --  
9 motion to pay up to that amount, up to  
10 1,450 so we can make sure you're covered?

11 MAYOR KELLY: Yeah, that's a good  
12 idea.

13 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Okay.

14 MAYOR KELLY: Okay?

15 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: We can go  
16 with that.

17 MAYOR KELLY: So we'll change it to  
18 that. Thank you.

19 Thank you, Lisa.

20 All those in favor say aye. Let's  
21 do that --

22 IN UNISON: Aye.

23 MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?

24 The matter passes.

25 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Item number





1 five is discussion and vote. This is  
2 approval to pay -- approval to issue 2020  
3 funded purchase order in 2021 to Systems  
4 Management, Incorporated. In June of  
5 2020, PO00200439-00 was issued to Systems  
6 Management Planning, Incorporated for  
7 fabric extenders for city hall. Due to  
8 the billing error with Systems  
9 Management, a double payment was made in  
10 the amount of \$1,291.70 on this PO. In  
11 order to submit a budget amendment for  
12 refund to revenue line H10342702-1141,  
13 the council must approve to issue 2020  
14 funded purchase order in 2021.

15 Therefore, I move for the approval  
16 to issue 2020 funded PO in 2021 to  
17 Systems Management. And I put that in  
18 the form of a motion.

19 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

20 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Second.

21 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

22 All those in favor say aye.

23 IN UNISON: Aye.

24 MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?

25 The matter passes.



1           COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Thank you.

2           Item number six, discussion and vote  
3           to establish title and grade for the  
4           Department of Public Works  
5           welder/fabricator. This position was  
6           approved by Civil Service in January of  
7           2020. And I had intended to bring it to  
8           the council, but at the time VLT aid was  
9           in question, and then the pandemic  
10          disrupted all of our work.

11          The welder/fabricator position  
12          represents duties that are currently not  
13          included in any of the titles in the DPW  
14          unit. However, two employees have been  
15          performing these duties beyond the scope  
16          of their current job titles. Without  
17          establishing a title for this work, there  
18          will be union grievances and/or DPW would  
19          need to hire an outside contractor to do  
20          work at a greater cost. DPW would be  
21          able to pay these employees for this out-  
22          of-grade work while they are conducting  
23          the work.

24          Therefore, I move for the council to  
25          approve establishing the title of DPW



1 welder/fabricator at a starting pay of  
2 \$28.65 an hour. And I put that in the  
3 form of a motion.

4 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

5 Second.

6 Any discussion?

7 All those in favor say aye.

8 IN UNISON: Aye.

9 MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?

10 The matter passes.

11 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: And item  
12 number seven, I'm going to pull that one  
13 off my agenda, too. I got a call from  
14 our HR person today, had some questions  
15 about that --

16 MAYOR KELLY: Okay.

17 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: -- request.

18 So that concludes my agenda.

19 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Thank you,

20 Commissioner.

21 On to public safety, Commissioner  
22 Dalton.

23 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Thank you,

24 Mayor.

25 The first item on my agenda is a



1 COVID-19 update. So I'm just going to do  
2 a quick review of the numbers because  
3 they are positive for once. They are  
4 awesome -- or getting better at least,  
5 close to awesome. So in the last seven  
6 days in Saratoga County, we've had 306  
7 new COVID-19 cases. Our seven-day  
8 rolling average testing positivity rate  
9 is 2.2 percent. Yay, that's huge.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Great.

11 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Beginning of  
12 January to mid-January, we were over  
13 eleven percent, so that is a huge and  
14 dramatic drop, and it's something we  
15 should all be proud of.

16 Currently, there are 2,098 active  
17 cases for the county and 29 people who  
18 are hospitalized. In terms of other  
19 COVID-19 updates, the only significant  
20 changes we've seen to code and  
21 restrictions and openings is that  
22 restaurants are now available to stay  
23 open until 11, so it's an extra hour.  
24 Not super exciting, but getting slowly  
25 back to where we hope to be, kind of.



1           There has also been an announcement  
2           about the sports venues and arenas. And  
3           depending on the size of the sporting  
4           arena or venue, they can have ten percent  
5           of their capacity -- and open back with  
6           ten percent of the capacity of that  
7           arena. (Indiscernible) do both fall in  
8           that category, and so it's exciting that  
9           we're starting to think about reopening  
10          those venues come the summer, hopefully  
11          at a much higher percentage, if we're all  
12          healthy.

13          And then lastly, vaccinations seem  
14          to be really what's on everybody's mind  
15          the most. We had an eligibility group  
16          open up on Sunday for people with  
17          comorbidities. That increased the  
18          eligibility tremendously of people in the  
19          state that put a lot of pressure on a  
20          system that already had a lot of pressure  
21          on it. And so every time we have a new  
22          (indiscernible) of eligibility open, we  
23          tend to see this kind of bottleneck of  
24          appointments where there's just nothing  
25          available. It's very frustrating. It's



1 very challenging. I'm watching it myself  
2 every second of the day. I've never seen  
3 a scare -- like, biggest scarcity of  
4 appointments as we're seeing right now.  
5 It's really, really challenging. So for  
6 people who are out there looking for  
7 appointments that are frustrated, take a  
8 breath, wait a few days. Things will  
9 open up a little bit more. Just right  
10 now because of that eligibility round  
11 opening on Sunday, things are really  
12 tight.

13 I also encourage people to pick up a  
14 phone -- it's this crazy concept -- and  
15 do the old-fashioned method of calling  
16 the vaccination hotline, the New York  
17 State vaccination hotline. I was with  
18 someone today who was looking for an  
19 appointment. Called them, had someone on  
20 the phone in five minutes, had her  
21 appointment set up in Albany within  
22 fifteen minutes. It was easy breezy  
23 compared to what's went on online.

24 So then lastly, we have created a  
25 page on Facebook, was posting a lot of



1 information about these vaccines on  
2 Facebook. And I noticed in the comments  
3 people were kind of like swapping stories  
4 about how they'd gotten their  
5 appointment, what their experience had  
6 been, and kind of helping everybody else  
7 find an available spot. And we just  
8 decided it would be a really good thing  
9 to have a group, a Facebook group, that  
10 was specifically a community page for  
11 people to offer help, what works, what  
12 didn't work for them, if they just  
13 spotted a group of appointments that had  
14 opened up at a Walgreens or CVS. It's a  
15 place for everyone to share that  
16 information. And so it is called the  
17 COVID-19 Vaccine Community Help Group.

18 So COVID-19 Vaccine Community Help  
19 Group, it's on Facebook. Anyone can  
20 join, and there's been a lot of really,  
21 really great information that's been  
22 shared on that. So if you're having a  
23 hard time finding an appointment or you  
24 had a really easy time and you want to  
25 share your experience, go ahead and do it



1 right there. There's been all these  
2 appointments that have been set up based  
3 on other people's experiences in the  
4 fight for this. And the system is so  
5 challenging that it does a lot of people  
6 (indiscernible) and so this has been  
7 really a good thing and a nice way to  
8 help everybody else who is also in the  
9 same struggle. So I encourage everyone  
10 to go on there and check it out if they  
11 are looking for a vaccination  
12 appointment.

13 Does anyone have any questions  
14 before we move on?

15 MAYOR KELLY: No.

16 COMMISSIONER DALTON: No? Great.

17 Okay. Second item on my agenda is  
18 discussion and vote, amend Chapter 58 of  
19 the city code entitled alarm systems.  
20 This amendment is to take out the mention  
21 of fee amounts in Chapter 58 and instead  
22 allows fees to be established by the  
23 council from time to time by resolution  
24 of the city council.

25 I make a motion for council approval





1 to amend Chapter 58 of the city code.

2 This is a motion.

3 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

4 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Second.

5 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

6 All those in favor say aye.

7 IN UNISON: Aye.

8 MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?

9 The matter passes.

10 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Thank you,  
11 Mayor.

12 The third item on my agenda is  
13 discussion and vote, authorization for  
14 the mayor to sign contracts with New York  
15 State Master Contract for Grants. The  
16 fire department provided over thirty  
17 hours of service for New York State  
18 providing COVID screening in the state  
19 park. To recoup the money, we need to  
20 sign on to what's called the Grants  
21 Gateway. Once this contract is signed,  
22 we provide the cost of our services and  
23 get reimbursed.

24 I make a motion to authorize the  
25 mayor to sign contract with New York



1 State Master Contract for Grants. This  
2 is a motion.

3 MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

4 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Second.

5 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

6 All those in favor say aye.

7 IN UNISON: Aye.

8 MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?

9 The matter passes.

10 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Thank you.

11 The fourth item on my agenda is a  
12 discussion and vote, accept donation from  
13 Martin, Harding, and Mazzotti to purchase  
14 a new police K-9. I have a letter about  
15 this that I'd like to read into the  
16 record.

17 The police department is asking the  
18 city council to accept the donation of  
19 8,500 dollars for the purchase of a new  
20 police K-9. The police K-9 program,  
21 September 2014 when the police department  
22 purchased two K-9s and paired them with  
23 two patrol officers, would pass a very  
24 extensive physical fitness testing  
25 program as well as other department



1 requirements. K-9 Officer Riki was  
2 partnered with Patrolman Tom Sartin, and  
3 K-9 Officer Nero was partnered with  
4 Patrolman William Arpei. The respective  
5 K-9s and their handlers completed the  
6 very difficult public training program  
7 that included things such as narcotic  
8 detection, missing person searches,  
9 building searches, (indiscernible)  
10 techniques, and much more.

11 In 2016, the police department added  
12 Police K-9 Officer Mo, and he was  
13 partnered with Patrolman Kyle VanWagner.  
14 K-9 Officer Mo is trained in explosive  
15 detection. All three police K-9 officers  
16 have done an outstanding job and have  
17 been a tremendous asset to the City of  
18 Saratoga Springs.

19 Unfortunately, in 2021 K-9 Officers  
20 Riki and Nero will be retiring. K-9  
21 Officer Riki will be retiring when his  
22 handler, Patrolman Sartin, retires in  
23 2021. K-9 Officer Riki will be spending  
24 his retirement days living with Patrolman  
25 Sartin. K-9 Nero will be retiring



1           sometime in the summer of 2021 for  
2           medical reasons. K-9 Officer Nero will  
3           be spending his retirement days living  
4           with Patrolman Arpei.

5           The loss of these two K-9 officers  
6           leaves a big hole in the police K-9  
7           program. But the very generous donation  
8           from Martin, Harding, and Mazzotti will  
9           allow one of the K-9s to be replaced.  
10          The new K-9 officer will be teamed with  
11          Patrolman Arpei and they'll begin the  
12          twelve-week training program in April  
13          2021.

14          So a big thank you to Martin,  
15          Harding, and Mazzotti, and this is a  
16          motion to accept their donation.

17          MAYOR KELLY: Is there a second?

18          COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Second.

19          MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

20          All those in favor say aye.

21          IN UNISON: Aye.

22          MAYOR KELLY: Any opposed?

23          The matter passes.

24          COMMISSIONER DALTON: Thank you.

25          And we've already gone through



1 number five, so that concludes my agenda.

2 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you,  
3 Commissioner.

4 Now on to supervisors. Supervisor  
5 Gaston is not here tonight, so Supervisor  
6 Veitch, you're on for both of you.

7 SUPERVISOR VEITCH: Right. Thank  
8 you, Mayor. I do have a statement from  
9 Supervisor Gaston that I'll read after my  
10 agenda.

11 So first on my agenda is just a  
12 couple of quick updates from the county.  
13 First is on the government review and  
14 efficiency committee, which had its first  
15 meeting this month a couple of weeks ago.  
16 Basically, this is a new committee at the  
17 county that has been formed because I  
18 believe over the past couple of years or  
19 so we've been finding that there's a lot  
20 of out-of-date code, policy, local laws,  
21 things that just haven't been really kept  
22 up to date in the county when it comes to  
23 basically our policy and governmental  
24 operation. Things needed to be updated,  
25 so a new committee was formed, and I



1 was -- I don't know -- lucky to chair the  
2 committee. But there's a lot of things  
3 that we're going to tackle this year,  
4 such as records management process, how  
5 we accept bids, things like looking at  
6 our departments and seeing if we need to  
7 shift any functions between departments  
8 or consolidate, look at basically every  
9 part of county operation just to see how  
10 it's working. And working with all the  
11 other departments and the other standing  
12 committees at the county for varied  
13 issues, basically anything.

14 And it's a very large project, and  
15 it covers a lot. And I think at the end  
16 of the day the goal will be to make our  
17 county government work better for both  
18 itself and also more importantly for the  
19 public at large. So I will keep you  
20 posted as we move forward with changes  
21 and updates and things that we do at the  
22 county regarding this committee.

23 Second item --

24 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Supervisor  
25 Veitch?



1 SUPERVISOR VEITCH: Yes, sir?

2 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: If you need  
3 any assistance from our office, please  
4 feel free to reach out. Relating to bids  
5 or things like that, I don't know if  
6 we're behind you or ahead of you guys on  
7 that, but --

8 SUPERVISOR VEITCH: Probably ahead  
9 of us.

10 COMMISSIONER FRANCK: Yeah, we did a  
11 lot of updates over the years. So if  
12 your committee needs and if you're  
13 reaching out to other communities, we'd  
14 be more than happy to assist.

15 SUPERVISOR VEITCH: Great. Thank  
16 you very much, Commissioner. Appreciate  
17 the offer. So yes, I think we probably  
18 will reach out to you. Thank you.

19 All right. So moving on, next is  
20 the buildings and grounds committee. We  
21 had our meeting a couple of weeks ago on  
22 that as well and just a couple of things  
23 there. The main thing that we did -- we  
24 actually did two things. First was to  
25 put forward a renewal for the lease for



1 the Gateway House of Peace, which is on  
2 our airport property. They've been under  
3 a lease from us for the past ten years  
4 running their operation there, and we are  
5 going to move to have them also get  
6 another five-year extension with the  
7 ability to extend that for another five  
8 years, so a ten-year potential lease for  
9 them again going forward. They do a  
10 great job, and their services are really  
11 amazing there. I was on the board for a  
12 little while there, and they just do a  
13 great job. So glad to bring that  
14 forward.

15 We are also in the process of hiring  
16 an online auctioneer for the Woodlawn  
17 Avenue building. We have put forward  
18 Auctions International as a proposal to  
19 do that. They've run a couple of online  
20 county auctions already, so we are ready  
21 to vote for that at our board meeting.

22 And just to mention that in February  
23 our board meeting is the last week of  
24 February, so we haven't had our meeting  
25 yet this month. Usually, this council





1 meeting follows a county board meeting,  
2 but we haven't had that yet this month.

3 We're also having some preliminary  
4 discussions with our DPW commissioner on  
5 possibly looking at a community solar  
6 project this year, whether that's on the  
7 county farm which is located in the town  
8 of Milton over at the county airport. We  
9 did notice that Warren County is looking  
10 at doing that, so we're thinking  
11 potentially we may be able to do the same  
12 thing in Saratoga County. I'm working  
13 with the DPW chairman of that committee,  
14 which is Supervisor Barrett from Clifton  
15 Park, as well as our technology and  
16 resiliency chairman, which is Supervisor  
17 Gaston.

18 And I would like to ask, if  
19 possible, to maybe meet up with you,  
20 Commissioner Madigan, to see how the  
21 experience was with the city for  
22 community solar. I know that was a very  
23 successful project here, and we would  
24 potentially like to get some information  
25 from you about that.



1 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Well, we --

2 SUPERVISOR VEITCH: If possible.

3 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: -- really  
4 didn't do community solar so much as we  
5 did solar for the city, but we started to  
6 look at community solar. There's so many  
7 solar farms popping up.

8 SUPERVISOR VEITCH: Yeah.

9 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: I would like  
10 to have a conversation with you about it  
11 where --

12 SUPERVISOR VEITCH: Great.

13 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: -- I can at  
14 least let you know where I ended up  
15 there. Okay?

16 SUPERVISOR VEITCH: Perfect. Yeah,  
17 yeah. I know that in --

18 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Right.

19 SUPERVISOR VEITCH: -- Clifton Park  
20 they've done a couple of projects, too,  
21 and Supervisor Barrett as well as myself  
22 are talking about it. So maybe it'd be  
23 good to have that conversation with the  
24 city to see what they did as well, so I  
25 appreciate that.



1 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Yes.

2 SUPERVISOR VEITCH: So thank you.

3 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Okay. Sounds  
4 good. Any time. Yeah.

5 SUPERVISOR VEITCH: No problem.

6 Third on the agenda is just a notice  
7 that we're having a public hearing on a  
8 proposed local law for food delivery  
9 services. It is scheduled for March 10th  
10 at 3:45 p.m., but actually we're not  
11 having public coming into our meetings as  
12 the city is not as well. So the way that  
13 we're doing our public hearings is we're  
14 setting up an email address for public  
15 hearings, and that is -- basically, the  
16 email address is  
17 publiccomment@saratogacountyny.gov.

18 And just very quickly, this is a  
19 local law that we're trying to set up  
20 which will cap the fees on delivery  
21 services, for food delivery services.  
22 It's kind of been -- a couple of counties  
23 have been doing this around the state.  
24 As you know, the food delivery services  
25 like Door Dash and Uber Eats and Grub Hub



1 and whatever they charge the customers  
2 and the restaurant operators a fee for  
3 these services, which can sometimes be  
4 excessive and cut into the profits for  
5 the restaurants that serve our customers.

6 So the essentials of the law are for  
7 delivery services can only charge a  
8 consumer, a customer, a maximum of  
9 fifteen percent over the cost of their  
10 order. And delivery services can charge  
11 a restaurant a maximum of five percent  
12 over the cost of the online order. And  
13 if there's any credit card or processing  
14 fees, they can charge that as well, but  
15 it limits the amount that they can charge  
16 the establishment which should hopefully  
17 help some of our local businesses because  
18 we're doing a lot of takeout and a lot of  
19 online orders these days. And in our  
20 community, we have so many restaurants,  
21 so I'm sure it's an impact for here. So  
22 we're looking for support for this. I  
23 support this local law, and I'm hoping  
24 that we can get some of our downtown  
25 businesses and other restaurants to help



1 out and participate in the public comment  
2 so that we can get some support for this.

3 So just want to mention again, it's  
4 schedule for March 10th at 3:45 p.m.,  
5 which is really kind of the cutoff time  
6 for your public comment. And it's  
7 publiccomment@saratogacountyny.gov is  
8 where you can send those comments.

9 I do have one other item just  
10 quickly as a follow-up from last meeting.  
11 Saratoga County does have on their  
12 proposal for next week a resolution  
13 supporting the restoration of VLT funds  
14 at the county level. So when we have our  
15 meeting on next Tuesday, that resolution  
16 will be on the agenda to do that. The  
17 mayor had mentioned Supervisor Gaston and  
18 myself sending out letters to the  
19 governor and the speaker and the senate.  
20 They are ready to go, and we're going to  
21 send those out tomorrow. So it took us a  
22 little while, but we got it together and  
23 we'll make sure we get those out.

24 So thank you for your letter, Mayor,  
25 that you sent us as a draft. It was very



1 helpful, so thank you.

2 MAYOR KELLY: Did either of you go  
3 down to testify or no?

4 SUPERVISOR VEITCH: No, we did not  
5 testify. No. We didn't sign up for  
6 that, so no. But thank you for doing  
7 that.

8 So last on the agenda here is  
9 actually Supervisor Gaston's agenda, and  
10 she just has a quick statement for me to  
11 read. She had an issue today, and she  
12 could not make the meeting.

13 So I just want to say the following  
14 from Supervisor Gaston. "I am unable to  
15 make to tonight's city council meeting  
16 due to a family emergency. Thank you to  
17 Supervisor Veitch for his willingness to  
18 read a brief update on my behalf.

19 "At this time, Saratoga County  
20 continues to see decreasing rates of new  
21 COVID-19 cases, a rolling positivity rate  
22 of 2.2 percent which is excellent news.  
23 During this week's school break and  
24 beyond, public health asks residents to  
25 continue to follow guidance such as



1 wearing face coverings, maintaining  
2 physical distancing, and limiting groups  
3 and travel in order to maintain the  
4 downward trend. Additionally, if you do  
5 not feel well, please stay home and reach  
6 out to your medical provider and consider  
7 being tested for COVID-19. Vaccination  
8 to protect against COVID-19 is the item  
9 at the top of everyone's mind, and I want  
10 you to know that the county is working  
11 diligently to obtain and distribute  
12 vaccines as quickly as possible. We are  
13 holding a press conference tomorrow,  
14 February 17th, at 2 p.m. to provide  
15 information on the vaccination plan  
16 locally and share information about the  
17 Saratoga County public health services  
18 vaccine interest list.

19 "I will share the information on the  
20 other items of my agenda as soon as I am  
21 able to."

22 And thanking the council, myself,  
23 and Saratoga Springs for understanding  
24 her missing the meeting today. So that  
25 is from Supervisor Gaston, and that's it



1 for me, so thank you.

2 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Thank you,  
3 Supervisor.

4 Any other business from the council?

5 Thank you all. Be safe. It's icy  
6 out there. And have a good night.

7 (Meeting adjourned)

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

I, Amanda G. Stockton, certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.



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Amanda G. Stockton

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Vote: 5 - 0

