

MINUTES – Homelessness Task Force Meeting, Monday November 27, 2023
Saratoga Springs City Hall, Third Floor Music Hall

Present: Tom Roohan (co-chair), Stephen Towne, Hannah Hurley, Lindsay Connors, Margaret Fronk

Meeting called to order 6:10 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dina Henke stated she has looked at the board’s minutes and wondered if all the documents submitted by people to the board have been included in the record. She stated she would like to again submit her documents this evening. .

John Dooley thanked the board for its work. He stated that he appreciates the recommendation of the 1000 foot buffer and hopes it will be established by the City Council as a requirement. He hopes we can find a place for homeless people.
[Meeting paused briefly – began again at 6:15]

Tom Roohan discussed the final report. He indicated he spoke with the Mayor-elect, who indicated he would be reviewing the report. Margaret Fronk moved to accept the final report.

Hannah Hurley stated that some votes establishing the ranking of recommended locations were taken without a full board present. Some of the ranked locations are far away to reach by walking. Tom Roohan stated that the Lake Avenue location ranked high in the report because it had water and sewer available and it is currently for sale.

Tom Roohan asked for a vote approving the final report. Ayes all.

Mayor Ron Kim thanked the board members. The members were a diverse group who came together to discuss the issue. The result isn’t perfect and the City Council will be discussing it further. He hopes the Council will take into account all the hard work this board did. Their work showed that we definitely need a homeless shelter in our city. Thanks to the board. The City owes you its gratitude.

Hannah Hurley thanked her colleagues on the Board.

[unidentified speaker steps up to microphone] – stated his thanks to the board. Asked if the Lake Avenue site was a “done deal”. Tom Roohan replied that the City Council would be discussing the issue further after the board’s report is filed.

Tom Roohan moved to adjourn. Ayes all.

Meeting adjourned 8:05 PM.

