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CITY OF SARATOGA SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

January 18, 2022

Held at

474 BROADWAY

SARATOGA SPRINGS, NEW YORK 12866

PRESENT:

RON KIM, Mayor

STACY CONNORS, Deputy Commissioner of
Accounts

DILLON MORAN, Commissioner of
Accounts

MINITA SANGHVI, Commissioner of
Finance

ANTHONY "SKIP" SCIROCCO, Commissioner
of Public Works

JAMES MONTAGNINO, Commissioner of
Public Safety

ANGELA RELLA, Deputy Mayor

HEATHER CROCKER, Deputy Commissioner
of Finance

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1 MAYOR KIM: I'm going to -- it's 10
2 o'clock. I'm going to call the meeting
3 to order. This is a pre-agenda City
4 Council meeting. Morning, everyone.
5 Hope you all had a good weekend.

6 And I -- I think we'll start. So
7 the -- the first item on the agenda is
8 we do have a public hearing. It's a --
9 on the -- it's Weibel Avenue PUD that's
10 been left open and then there's a -- the
11 -- the next item is our public comment
12 period, which will be 15 minutes.

13 Then we have a presentation from
14 Tina Carton of my staff to discuss
15 Saratoga Greenbelt Trail Downtown
16 Connector. So then the next matter is
17 the consent agenda and then our -- the
18 mayor's agenda, we have an announcement
19 about the city attorney.

20 We also have an announcement about
21 sidewalk links and then an announcement
22 about the Infrastructure Committee.
23 That's changed from an appointment to
24 announcement.

25 Will -- it's my understanding most

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1 of the Commissioners have made an
2 appointment, but we're -- we're just
3 going to discuss the work plan and the
4 mission statement of the Infrastructure
5 Committee.

6 My fourth item is we're going to be
7 appointing to the land use boards -- to
8 both planning and zoning board and we'll
9 announce those appointments. Fifth item
10 is a discussion and vote on the state of
11 the city date.

12 Just a little bit about that, so
13 that all the council members are aware.
14 We'd like to do this in person, rather
15 than do it via Zoom, but because of the
16 current situation with the pandemic, we
17 -- we -- we believe that the best thing
18 would be to postpone it.

19 The charter does require a certain
20 time and if -- but the City Council is
21 empowered to change the vote. So we'll
22 be offering a -- a resolution to delay
23 that event, so that we can do it in
24 person at a time when it's less -- when
25 the pandemic is -- allows us.

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1 Our -- our next item number 6 is
2 discussion to vote on the recreation
3 department part-time seasonal personnel.
4 Seven is discussion and vote on our --
5 the -- the recs department scholarship
6 application and approval.

7 And then our eighth item is a
8 discussion and vote on the authorization
9 for me to -- me to sign a change in a
10 contract with -- for missing sidewalk
11 links.

12 And then the final thing is we're
13 going to set a public hearing for the
14 presentation that we're going to have
15 earlier in the meeting for the downtown
16 connector.

17 So that's the city -- the -- the
18 mayor's agenda and I'll pass it on to
19 the accounts department. And Stacy
20 Connors.

21 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER CONNORS: Good
22 morning. Dillon's trying to get on. He
23 said he's not -- he needs somebody to
24 let him onto the Zoom. Just wanted to -
25 - he's trying to -- he's trying to

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1 access -- access Zoom and he says he
2 needs permission.

3 MAYOR KIM: Why don't we do this,
4 is why don't we go with the Finance
5 Department's agenda and loop back, if
6 that's okay with everyone else? And
7 that'll give a little time for us to get
8 Dillon on, Commissioner Moran. Oh, here
9 he is. I'm seeing him there.

10 COMMISSIONER MORAN: Hello,
11 everybody.

12 COMMISSIONER SANGHVI: Hi Dillon.

13 MAYOR KIM: Good morning. You're
14 up Commissioner Moran.

15 COMMISSIONER MORAN: Oh, well.

16 MAYOR KIM: Perfect timing.

17 COMMISSIONER MORAN: All right. I
18 don't even have a document in front of
19 me, so you're going to have to bear with
20 me one second.

21 MAYOR KIM: Oh, I'd be happy to not
22 put you on the spot but move to Minita -
23 -

24 COMMISSIONER MORAN: That would be
25 great.

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1 MAYOR KIM: -- the Commissioner
2 (indiscernible) and then come back to
3 you. How's that (indiscernible)?

4 COMMISSIONER MORAN: I appreciate
5 that. Thank you -- thank you mayor.

6 COMMISSIONER SANGHVI: Yes, sure.
7 No worries. I'm happy to go, Mayor Kim.
8 All right. The items on our agenda,
9 first up will be remarks by the Finance
10 Department.

11 I will be providing updates on city
12 finances, and I plan to do this
13 regularly, so we'll be doing that. The
14 second item is the announcement of the
15 retirement of our information technology
16 systems director, our long standing IT
17 tech systems, Kevin Kline, will be
18 retiring around the end of this week.

19 His remarkable service to the city
20 deserves more than a mention which I
21 will provide this evening. His
22 successor has been hired and we welcome
23 Michael to City Hall.

24 The third item on my agenda is the
25 appointment into Infrastructure

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1 Committee. The mayor has requested
2 appointments to the Infrastructure
3 Committee from each council member.

4 I will make my announcement this
5 evening. The fourth announcement is the
6 discussion and vote for a Civil Service
7 Commission appointment. I will ask the
8 council to approve a new member for
9 Civil Service Commission.

10 There is currently a vacancy and
11 we're hoping to fill this. The city
12 Charter Title 2 Section 2.5 states that
13 this requires a council vote and that no
14 two members of the commission shall be
15 affiliated with the same political
16 party.

17 My recommendation we currently have
18 a dem and a republican, so my
19 recommendation fulfills this
20 requirement. And finally, there are no
21 restrictions regarding who brings this
22 recommendation to the council
23 (indiscernible).

24 So that's the fourth item on my
25 agenda. The fifth item on my agenda

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1 will be a discussion and vote resolution
2 for a nonunion full-time employee civil
3 service.

4 The resolution for a nonunion full-
5 time employee covers those employees who
6 are not included in the city union.
7 This is similar to the management
8 confidential PERB coverage system. In
9 the 2022 budget process, the civil
10 service coordinator was unanimously
11 approved for an increased salary to
12 bring the title closer to parity with
13 similarly situation positions.

14 The city is being reimbursed for 50
15 percent of these costs from the school
16 district received on a yearly lag. For
17 payroll to release these wages, it not
18 only requires the budget appropriation
19 but also the authority to distribute the
20 wage and union contracts and reach
21 resolutions provide that authority.

22 Accordingly, the resolution that
23 covers the civil service coordinator has
24 been revised to cover the salary
25 increase and I will present this to

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1 council this evening for vote.

2 Finance brings the resolution for
3 nonunion full-time employees to council
4 annually for review, revision, and vote.
5 Finance continues to include this on its
6 agenda as changes are made throughout
7 the year.

8 The sixth item on our agenda is
9 discussion and vote resolution for
10 assignment for COVID safety purchases
11 City Hall -- for City Hall personnel.
12 Assignments are similar to reserves
13 except that they're more flexible, both
14 allowed to set aside funds usually from
15 unassigned unrestricted fund balance to
16 be used in a budget for a particular
17 purpose as stated therein.

18 This assignment allows that \$50,000
19 will be set aside from the city's
20 current unassigned unrestricted fund
21 balance for COVID safety purchase for
22 City Hall employees.

23 This will help keep the city
24 employees safe and will be available to
25 serve the public and therefore they will

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1 be available to serve the public as
2 masking other recommendations
3 requirements change in light of recent
4 COVID developments and research.

5 Budget amendment is required to
6 make these funds available for
7 expenditure. My department will provide
8 assistance with this going forward. I
9 believe this is also on Commissioner
10 Moran's agenda, and I'm hoping that the
11 two of our departments can work together
12 to, you know, make our city and our City
13 Hall safer for all employees.

14 Items seven to 11 are resolutions
15 for the use of reserves which cover
16 funds that are included in the 2022
17 budget from various reserves. In
18 addition to the budget appropriation,
19 the city is required to obtain council
20 approval to use the reserve by the way
21 of these resolutions.

22 This is done each year in January
23 after the budget has been approved. So
24 we have discussion and vote resolution
25 for the use of the retirement reserve,

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1 discussion and vote resolution for the
2 use of the reserve for the payment of
3 bonded indebtedness, discussion and vote
4 resolution for the use of the recreation
5 trust, discussion and vote authorization
6 for mayor to sign agreement with armory
7 associates for actual -- actual --
8 actuarial services and discussion and
9 vote to approve 2021 purchase
10 requisition for 2021 purchase order for
11 ClearGov for cloud based budget
12 transparency program.

13 I will be asking council to allow a
14 purchase requisition for a purchase
15 order from the 2021 funds relating to a
16 contract that was approved at the 21st
17 December 2021 City Council meeting.

18 While the request was submitted to
19 the purchasing department in a timely
20 fashion, given the turnover and holiday
21 schedule, it did not correctly reach
22 purchasing, so it could not be processed
23 in 2021.

24 Accordingly, purchasing requires
25 council approval. This will enable

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1 finance to use 2021 appropriations that
2 were specifically earmarked for this
3 project.

4 The 12th item on our agenda is a
5 discussion and vote regarding budget
6 transfers for payroll. This is the last
7 item for budget transfers among payroll
8 lines, which are not included on the
9 consent agenda for transparency and best
10 financial practices.

11 This concludes my section and it's
12 back to you, Mayor Kim.

13 MAYOR KIM: Thank you,
14 Commissioner. Welcome, Commissioner
15 Scirocco. We're going back to
16 Commissioner Moran, because we skipped
17 him, and then we'll get to your agenda
18 items, Commissioner Scirocco. Go ahead.

19 COMMISSIONER MORAN: Really nice to
20 see you Skip. Weren't sure how soon it
21 was going to come, so it's -- it's very
22 relieving knowing that you're there.
23 Really good to see you.

24 Thank you, Mr. Mayor. First will
25 be just the announcement of a public

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1 hearing on the Weibel Avenue PUD
2 amendment. This is opened several
3 months ago and remains open as the
4 council is awaiting an amendment by the
5 applicants attorney.

6 Has anybody on your end, Ron, seen
7 anything from them?

8 MAYOR KIM: No, I don't believe so.

9 COMMISSIONER MORAN: Okay.
10 Yourself, Skip? I know they were
11 talking to you as well. Did you see
12 anything come out of Stewart's as it
13 relates to the Weibel Avenue PUD?

14 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Wait,
15 Weibel.

16 COMMISSIONER MORAN: No, that's not
17 the Stewart's one. The Weibel One is
18 related to --

19 MAYOR KIM: Yeah, that's different,
20 I think, Commissioner.

21 COMMISSIONER MORAN: Yeah, no --
22 let me get some background on that. I'm
23 not certain with that one is related to.

24 SECRETARY TO THE CITY COUNCIL:
25 Commissioner, the Weibel Avenue one

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1 relates to amendment over by the Kohl's
2 -- behind Kohl's and Hannaford.

3 COMMISSIONER MORAN: Oh, that's
4 right. They're looking to do some kind
5 of self-storage or something, right?

6 SECRETARY TO THE CITY COUNCIL:
7 Yes.

8 COMMISSIONER MORAN: Yeah. Okay.
9 Great. Thank you. Appreciate that.
10 Next, we'll move into a discussion vote
11 adopting a resolution for K-95 and N95
12 style masks.

13 Essentially, this follows directly
14 the resolution that -- that Commissioner
15 Scirocco last put forward in August of
16 2021. All we're really doing is just
17 adding implicit definition as to what a
18 mask means and we're only defining that
19 for city employees.

20 We fully intend to supply and have
21 supplies to be able to equip everyone
22 that's in city service with a KN-95.
23 mask. One important factor has been
24 brought up by Commissioner Sanghvi and
25 I've talked to a few other folks.

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1 It seems as if, obviously, people
2 are different. So we have some -- some,
3 perhaps, some size requirements we need
4 to look into and as soon as this meeting
5 is over this evening, HR is going to be
6 pushing out a request to see if anybody
7 has issues with an ill-fitting type
8 scenario, with the mask they already
9 have in hand.

10 I think it's going to be a managed
11 by exception situation where we're going
12 to have 15, 20, maybe, folks who need a
13 little extra attention, and we order the
14 right size masks for them.

15 Seems like vendors are various in
16 terms of the fit but one thing that we
17 do know, and we now have two direct
18 examples from our City Council itself,
19 that wearing a mask works.

20 It protects others, you know. I
21 would love to open it up to the floor
22 just to -- if -- if either of the
23 Commissioners want to share their
24 personal story, I think it will be very
25 powerful.

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1 In as much as, again, wearing of
2 the mask protects others from yourself.
3 It can also protect you, but primarily
4 it's protecting others from you and so I
5 think we have, you know, a very good
6 story to tell about the efficacy of
7 masks and we want to do the best thing
8 we possibly can to keep folks healthy
9 and well as they -- as they move, you
10 know, through their day.

11 We have a lot of folks who are
12 customer facing and we need to make sure
13 their interests are our primary and our
14 thought. So basically, you can see the
15 language there.

16 It is essentially exactly what was
17 previously passed, except we added in
18 the KN or N95. So with that what I will
19 be following up that with is just a
20 little bit of a -- of a PSA in that, you
21 know, emphasizing the fact that we are
22 in a -- a very tough straits right now.

23 We really need to do things to test
24 ourselves before we go into congregate
25 settings to make sure that we're doing

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1 all we can, not to spread COVID or put
2 ourselves in positions perhaps where we
3 catch COVID.

4 So one of the things that we are
5 going to be doing is having our next
6 test distribution on Saturday the 22nd.
7 I've already met with Ryan McMahon.
8 We're going to be using the city center
9 parking garage, essentially cue them up
10 off of High Rock.

11 They can S up through the garage,
12 and then they'll exit out onto Maple. I
13 will be coordinating with -- with Deputy
14 Tetu. I think we'll probably want to
15 have two officers this time as well, one
16 at the bottom one at the top.

17 And then I'll be reaching out to
18 volunteers. Last time the Democratic
19 Committee had a bunch of people show up.
20 If there's other organizations that
21 anyone knows of that they want to invite
22 to have be volunteers, the more than
23 merrier.

24 I think, you know, opening the
25 activity up to -- to different

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1 organizations will probably benefit
2 their message as well. So certainly
3 feel free to do so.

4 The event will be from, again, 1:00
5 'til 3:00. Last time it took us about a
6 half hour to burn through all those
7 tests. It will be one test per adult
8 with proven city residency that is
9 present.

10 So we're going to try and do a much
11 better job of messaging this time as
12 well. People were running around,
13 putting messages out before the plans
14 were set.

15 That caused some confusion and as
16 we've talked about, we want to have a
17 unified means of communicating topics
18 like this to the public that we then as
19 individuals perhaps can distribute to
20 our -- our user groups, but that being
21 said, it has to start with the city.

22 We can't be running off on our own.
23 It just doesn't look right. So I'm
24 hoping that I can work with Deputy
25 Rella. We'll fashion a good invite that

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1 really just, you know, delineates all of
2 the -- the -- the details and we'll do
3 it quickly.

4 And so it'll be up on the website,
5 it'll be on Facebook and then obviously
6 individuals within their spheres of
7 influence can distribute it out and make
8 sure we get participation.

9 It's anticipated we're going to
10 have about 1,200 tests this time. We
11 won't know 'til they arrive. I'm
12 proposing that we have the vast majority
13 of them go directly to the citizens as
14 opposed to how we kind of spread it out
15 amongst different groups plus the
16 citizens last time.

17 I'd like to hold back some for the
18 city and our uses. I'm -- I'm saying
19 two boxes, which is a 180 tests, that
20 leaves over a 1,000 going out to the
21 public.

22 Any concerns with that? No? Yes.
23 Okay.

24 MAYOR KIM: And Commissioner, I
25 think the purpose of the agenda meeting

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1 is, and certainly Commissioner Scirocco
2 could chime in on this. I think it's
3 really just to review it, not to go
4 through in depth what we're talking, you
5 know, what we're going to present
6 tonight to see if anybody has questions.

7 I -- I -- that's my recollection of
8 this that, you know, it's -- it's a
9 meeting that really should go about a
10 half hour at the most.

11 COMMISSIONER MORAN: Okay. Sorry,
12 Mr. Mayor.

13 MAYOR KIM: So -- so -- no -- no
14 worries. It's just that I think all of
15 us have some schedules that we've
16 already -- so we just have to --

17 COMMISSIONER MORAN: For sure.

18 MAYOR KIM: (Indiscernible) -- I --
19 I think we can just sort of --

20 COMMISSIONER MORAN: I had
21 questions marked on my agenda, so I just
22 wanted to make sure --

23 MAYOR KIM: Right.

24 COMMISSIONER MORAN: -- I was
25 giving some folks some details.

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1 MAYOR KIM: Great.

2 COMMISSIONER MORAN: So in their
3 spirits, they could start to express
4 that. The next one is award of bid
5 actuarial services to Armory Associates.
6 It's an NTE \$24,750 bid.

7 I'm just going to announce office
8 hours one more time, because last time
9 we didn't have it in the written record,
10 so I'm putting it forward, so people can
11 find the instructions for that.

12 I'll have another announcement.
13 I'm going to do an outdoor dining
14 meeting with the business community.
15 I'm scheduling a Zoom for January 25th,
16 to start to collect insight as it
17 relates to what worked, what didn't,
18 what can we do to make it better?

19 Those types of enhancements in
20 pursuant to bringing this forward for
21 formal codification. And then I have
22 last two announcements are appointments,
23 one for the Infrastructure Committee,
24 and the second for the Board of
25 Assessment Review.

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1 So that will conclude my agenda.

2 MAYOR KIM: Commissioner Moran,
3 just to clarify then, you're going to
4 add a seventh item too, which is the
5 appointment of your infrastructure --

6 COMMISSIONER MORAN: Yeah, somehow
7 that didn't get captured.

8 MAYOR KIM: No worries. Great.
9 Just wanted to make sure we get it on
10 there. Okay.

11 COMMISSIONER MORAN: Yeah.

12 MAYOR KIM: Thanks. Thank you.
13 And now Commissioner Scirocco.

14 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Thank you,
15 mayor. Great to be back here.
16 Everything went well and it's great to
17 see all your faces again. I have four
18 items on my agenda.

19 First item is a discussion and
20 vote. This is authorization for the
21 mayor to sign a contract with Adirondack
22 Tire for Tires, Tubes and Services. The
23 second item on my agenda is just a
24 discussion and vote, authorization for
25 the mayor to sign a contract with

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1 Palette Stone for Crushed Gravel.

2 The third item on my agenda is
3 authorization for the mayor to sign a
4 contract with Core and Main for LP for
5 Sensus products. Those are water
6 meters.

7 And the final item on my agenda is
8 discussion and vote, authorization for
9 the mayor to sign addendum number 1 with
10 designated engineer firms for
11 engineering services.

12 And if anybody has any questions,
13 and that concludes my agenda.

14 MAYOR KIM: Thank you,
15 Commissioner. And next, Commissioner
16 Montagnino.

17 COMMISSIONER MONTAGNINO: Thank
18 you, Mr. mayor. Good morning,
19 everybody. I have four items on the
20 agenda, discussion and vote to approve
21 payment of an invoice for polygraphs
22 services that were provided in the
23 police department.

24 Second item, three purchase
25 requisitions. One is for office

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1 furniture for the training room at the
2 police station. The other is for
3 equipping a new van that's been
4 purchased for emergency services.

5 And the third is for lights for 14
6 patrol rifles. These three items were
7 originally requested in early December
8 of '21. Number three is discussion and
9 vote to approve payment to Jeff Cornick.

10 It's a \$40 amount. He purchased a
11 laser pointer with his own funds and is
12 seeking reimbursement for that. And
13 number four, is the most important item
14 on the agenda.

15 It's -- it's a request for the
16 authorization for the mayor to sign a
17 grant application for the Safer Grant
18 for funds for hiring firefighters. This
19 is a FEMA sponsored grant that last year
20 provided significant amount of money to
21 a number of fire departments in the
22 State.

23 Just by way of one example, the
24 City of Yonkers got \$1,000,000 from the
25 Safer Grant to hire additional

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1 firefighters. This comes at an
2 opportune time for us with station
3 number three on the way to getting
4 built.

5 We need to start thinking right
6 away about training our firefighters
7 because they're all EMTs if you're
8 aware, and so that training process,
9 it's a lengthy one.

10 The reason that's a requirement of
11 the approval of the council is that with
12 the grant comes a commitment from the
13 city, not to lay off the firefighters
14 that are being hired with the Safer
15 funds, once those funds are exhausted.

16 And that concludes my agenda. Does
17 anyone have any questions?

18 MAYOR KIM: Thank you,
19 Commissioner. And as we did last
20 meeting, we'll have the supervisor's
21 agendas first for our meeting, so we'll
22 move those up.

23 And I believe that's all the -- on
24 everyone's agenda for the -- the City
25 Council meeting tonight. Is there any

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1 other additions, comments, questions
2 from any of the Commissioners?

3 (Indiscernible) --

4 COMMISSIONER MORAN:

5 (Indiscernible) I -- I would just like
6 to give you a call to catch up on what
7 your agenda was, having missed it.

8 MAYOR KIM: Oh, sure. Happy to do
9 that, Commissioner. We -- we have a
10 meeting in a -- in a -- but noon would
11 probably work for me.

12 COMMISSIONER MORAN: Okay. I'll
13 give you a buzz. Thanks.

14 MAYOR KIM: Thanks -- thank you,
15 Commissioner. Anything else? Hearing
16 none, we'll adjourn the agenda meeting
17 and I'll see you all tonight. Good to
18 see you Skip. Great to hear you're --
19 you're back.

20 COMMISSIONER MORAN: See you
21 everybody.

22 COMMISSIONER SANGHVI: It's -- it's
23 good to see you Skip. Bye -- bye.

24 (End of audio)

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CERTIFICATION

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



Hector Solomon

ANP Transcriptions
405 WEST 7TH STREET #507
CHARLOTTE, NC 28202

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Approved: 2/1/2022

Vote: 4 - 0

