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CITY OF SARATOGA SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

March 16, 2020

474 BROADWAY

SARTOGA SPRINGS, NY 12866

PRESENT:

- Meg Kelly, Mayor
- Michele Madigan, Commissioner
- John Franck, Commissioner
- Skip Scirocco, Commissioner
- Robin Dalton, Commissioner



1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. It is
2 4:22 on March 16th, 2020, city council
3 meeting.

4 MAYOR KELLY: Yes.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Roll call.

6 Commissioner Franck is not here.

7 Commissioner Madigan?

8 MAYOR KELLY: No. Commissioner
9 Franck --

10 COMMISSIONER DALTON: No. He's
11 on --

12 MAYOR KELLY: -- is on the line.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He's on the
14 line?

15 MAYOR KELLY: Yep.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Commissioner
17 Franck is on the line.

18 MAYOR KELLY: Yep.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Commissioner
20 Madigan?

21 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Present.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Commissioner
23 Scirocco?

24 MAYOR KELLY: On the line.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: On the line.



1 Commissioner Dalton?

2 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Present.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Mayor Kelly?

4 MAYOR KELLY: Here.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:

6 Commissioner -- Supervisor Veitch. Not
7 present.

8 MAYOR KELLY: Absent.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Supervisor
10 Gaston. Not present.

11 MAYOR KELLY: Absent.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Please rise
13 for the flag.

14 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. Thank you.

15 (Pledge of allegiance)

16 MAYOR KELLY: Okay. You guys can
17 sit down now.

18 There is no presentations. This is
19 a special city council meeting.

20 One item on the mayor's department.
21 It's discussion and vote, Senior Center
22 emergency shelter.

23 So at this time, I was approached by
24 Shelters of Saratoga and asked if we can
25 help finding more space for their



1 population which is one of the most at-
2 risk populations during the current
3 pandemic. We have decided that the
4 Senior Center will serve as an emergency
5 shelter for the homeless to help prevent
6 the spread of COVID-19. We are taking
7 this step in adherence to the Center for
8 Disease Control prevention guidelines.

9 Since there is not yet a vaccine for
10 COVID-19, the best way to prevent this is
11 avoiding exposure to this virus. The
12 virus is thought to spread mainly from
13 person to person between people who are
14 in close contact with one another less --
15 within six feet through respiratory
16 droplets produced by infected persons
17 coughing or sneezing. These droplets can
18 land in mouths, noses of people who are
19 nearby or possibly inhaled into the
20 lungs. This is especially important for
21 people who are at higher risk of getting
22 very sick which is the homeless
23 population.

24 The Senior Center is both available
25 for the city as an emergency shelter and



1 is large enough to accommodate these
2 guidelines. So I have two motions for
3 this. And I want to just have a couple
4 of comments here, that in the lease with
5 the Senior Center, the City or its agents
6 or officials shall have the right to
7 enter the premises as the City's
8 discretion. The parties acknowledge that
9 the premises may be utilized as an
10 emergency shelter by the City. The City
11 will provide notification to the tenant
12 regarding such use as soon as reasonably
13 practical.

14 I have been in contact with the
15 Senior Center, and they have been
16 notified that this is coming. We are
17 working through some logistic operations
18 as I speak. So moving into my first
19 motion, I move that the City immediately
20 begin use of the building at 5 Williams
21 Street for the emergency shelter in
22 accordance with the current lease and
23 that written notice of the City's
24 decision to use the premises as an
25 emergency shelter be sent to the Senior



1 Center immediately. This is a motion.

2 Is there a second?

3 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Second.

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

6 IN UNISON: Aye.

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

9 My next motion is to move that the
10 City enter into an agreement with the
11 Shelters of Saratoga to allow shelters to
12 operate an emergency shelter at 5
13 Williams Street. The agreement shall be
14 made in writing and approved by the City
15 Attorney's Office and the Office of Risk
16 and Safety and further to authorize the
17 mayor to sign this agreement. This is a
18 motion. Is there a second?

19 COMMISSIONER MADIGAN: Second.

20 COMMISSIONER DALTON: Second.

21 MAYOR KELLY: Any discussion?

22 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Do we have a
23 timeline on that? Do we know how long
24 that this is going to be?

25 MAYOR KELLY: I have no idea. You



1 know, everything, as you know,
2 Commissioner, is in fluid motion. And
3 things are changing rapidly. I think at
4 this time, we're looking -- I know the
5 Senior Center has been closed already for
6 two weeks.

7 COMMISSIONER SCIROCCO: Right.

8 MAYOR KELLY: So they're not
9 operating in there as a senior center at
10 this time. They -- so, you know, this is
11 a day-by-day motion. I don't know -- you
12 know, I wish I had a magic, you know,
13 wand to say what it's going to be, but I
14 don't have that -- I don't want to put
15 myself into a box here.

16 Any other thoughts?

17 COMMISSIONER DALTON: I just wanted
18 to thank the Senior Center for working
19 with us on this.

20 MAYOR KELLY: Absolutely.

21 COMMISSIONER DALTON: I think it's
22 really important. And I'm really happy
23 we have them as a partner in this.

24 MAYOR KELLY: Right. I mean, right
25 now the homeless population is twelve



1 inches from person-to-person. It's a
2 very unsafe environment. And this is
3 something that, you know, we have to do
4 for this population to make everyone
5 safe.

6 COMMISSIONER DALTON: And the Code
7 Blue facility specifically.

8 MAYOR KELLY: Right, in the Code
9 Blue, yep. Um-hum.

10 Okay. All those in favor say aye.

11 IN UNISON: Aye.

12 MAYOR KELLY: Any oppose?
13 Abstention, the matter passes.

14 And this concludes this agenda.
15 Thank you all for coming in. And this
16 meeting is adjourned.

17 IN UNISON: Thank you.

18 MAYOR KELLY: Thank you, guys.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Meeting
20 adjourned at 4:27.

21 (Meeting adjourned)

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

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



Michael Drake (CER-513, CET-513)

AAERT Certified Transcriber

eScribers

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Date: October 5, 2020

CC Approved: 10/6/2020

Vote: 4 - 0

