2019 STATE OF THE CITY
Presented by Mayor Kelly and the City Council
Tuesday, January 29, 2019
Looking Back at 2018

- 56 Agreements
- 53 Board Appointments
- 24+ Initiatives Drafted/Supported
- 100 Meetings Monthly

New York Racing Authority
Backstretch Employee Assistance Team
Saratoga Performing Arts
Saratoga Spa State Park
Department of Transportation
US Naval Support Activity at Saratoga Springs
New York Conference of Mayors
Skidmore College
Capital District Transportation Committee
Capital District Transportation Authority
Saratoga Builders Association
Saratoga Economic Development Corporation
Saratoga County Prosperity Partnership
Saratoga County EOC
Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce
Saratoga Springs City Center
Discover Saratoga
Saratoga Convention and Tourism Bureau
Saratoga Springs City School District
Saratoga Hospital
Saratoga Springs Public Library
Saratoga Springs Arts Council
Saratoga Springs YMCA
Yaddo
Senior Center
Franklin Community Center
Southwest Neighborhood Association
Wellspring
Downtown Business Association

Farmers Market
Code Blue
Shelters of Saratoga
Universal Preservation Hall
Affordable Housing Developers
Sustainable Saratoga
Local Restaurants
Local Banks
Local Businesses
Citizen Stakeholders

Thank You!
MAYOR’S DEPARTMENT

Mayor Meg Kelly
Deputy Mayor Lisa Shields

Recreation Department
Office of Planning and Economic Development
Building Department
Office of the City Attorney
Human Resources
Office of the City Historian

Presented by Mayor Meg Kelly
Tuesday, January 29, 2019

Recreation Department

2018:
- Summer Enrollments +7%
- New Pickleball League
- $190K Facility Improvements
Recreation Department

2019:
- Complete Recreation Master Plan
- Renovate Veterans Memorial Park Playground
- Increase Program Registration +3%

Planning and Economic Development

- $250M+ Est. Construction Value in ‘18
- Flat Rock Centre Concept Plan
- New Bikeshare Locations
- Economic Impact of Historic Properties Study (Saratoga Springs Preservation Foundation)
Planning and Economic Development

Community Development Program
- Administered $350K+ in Grants and Loans
- Assisted more than 1,000 people
- Housing, Job Creation and Public Services
- Affordable Housing Progress
- Intrada, The Link@SoBro, The Promenade

Parks, Open Lands, Historic Preservation and Sustainability
- $75K in New Grant Funding
- Also Managing $2.9M in Grants
- New Sustainability Landing Page – Partnership with Finance Office
- Saratoga Greenbelt Trail
  - Demonstration Days - Partnership with Complete Streets Advisory and DPS
- Electric Vehicle Charging Stations
- Natural Resource Inventory
Planning and Economic Development

2019 Activity
- Completion of Unified Development Ordinance
- Notable Developments: Downtown, West Side
- East Side Fire Station: Find Suitable Land
- Flat Rock Centre-2: Funding, Preliminary Design
- Public Arts Master Plan & Saratoga Artscape
- Completion of Geyser Road Trail

Building Department

Services and Trends
- 2018:
  - 1001 Permits Issued (+17%)
  - 2205 Inspections (+10%)
  - 370 COs Issued (+8%)
- 2X GROWTH IN:
  - Zoning Determinations & Compliance Work
    (compared to 4 years ago)
Building Department

2018 Highlights

- Average Time to Permit Reduced 37%
- Permit Backlog Reduced 50+%
City Attorney’s Office

- Full-time City Attorney = Reduce Outside Legal Fees
- Enforcement = Consistent Compliance
- 254 FOIL Requests = Transparency

Human Resources

- 2018: Coordinated Community Donations Program
- 2019: Establish Succession Planning
  Improve Recruiting Efforts

City Historian

- Opportunities for Sharing History of Saratoga Springs
- Brown Bag Program at Saratoga Springs Public Library
- 2019: Saratoga Collaborative County History Roundtable
Looking Forward

Collaboration
Consensus-Building
Partnership
Efficiency
Service

ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT

Commissioner
John P Franck

Deputy Commissioner
Maire Masterson

Presented by Commissioner John Franck
Tuesday, January 29, 2019
Peddling & Vending Legislation:
Exemptions for Minors

Exemption for minors who sell bottled water and/or writing instruments during the Saratoga Thoroughbred Racing Meet in the following areas adjacent to the Saratoga Race Track in the green space between the NYRA fence and the sidewalk:

- a. The east side of Frank Sullivan Place for a distance of five hundred fifty (550) feet south of its intersection with Lincoln Avenue.
- b. The north side of Lincoln Avenue for a distance of two hundred fifty (250) feet west of its intersection with Frank Sullivan Place.
- c. The east side of Nelson Avenue between Wright Street and Gridley Street, with the exception of fifty (50) feet from the intersection of Nelson Avenue and Wright Street where no vending will be allowed.

Peddling & Vending Legislation:
Exemptions for Minors

Minors must:
- Be accompanied by a parent or guardian if under the age of fourteen (14); OR
- Provide a copy of their working papers if over the age of fourteen (14);
- Sell water bottles or “lucky pencils” during the track meet between the hours of 7:00AM and 7:00PM;
- Complete and submit an application with their parent or guardian’s permission; AND
- Provide proof of age.
Federal Highway Authority – NYS DOT ADA Programming

- Web based program has been developed by Risk and Safety Interns that allows onsite GIS Mapping and cataloguing of the City’s infrastructure
- Accessibility for all is a priority for both residents and visitors
- Catalogue streets and sidewalks for potential public and private funding initiatives
- Goals are safety and connectivity
- Goal for 2019 is to map the City’s infrastructure to assist other City Complete Streets Initiatives

Safety Committee Emergency Management Programming

The Office of Risk and Safety works in partnership with the Saratoga Countywide Emergency Preparedness Committee and Saratoga County Local Emergency Planning Committee to develop protocols for:
- Community-wide Hazard Mitigation Programming
- Community Emergency Preparedness
Special Event Programming

- Department staff continue to work with the community and its business leaders for event programming
- Streamlined application procedures with fillable online forms

Assessment Department

- 2018 saw the least number of grievances at 41
- Lowest area denial of Senior Exemptions
- Annual Grievance Class
- Local Law Article 10, Chapter 212 City Code – Cold War Veteran’s Exemption
- For the 2019 tax year we will be using the 2017 Tax Return - the same one we use for Enhanced STAR exemptions.
- Will NOT Reassess the City in 2019
Records Retention

- Working with Finance and IT to automate the "Cash Receivable Process" thereby eliminating the annual accumulation of 12 cubic feet of records going forward.
- Obtained estimates for the professional scanning of various records that have permanent or long-term retention. These proposals will be used in 2019 to move toward the digitization of as many of our permanent records as possible. We have updated the City's Laserfiche Program to accommodate an anticipated large quantity of digitized records in 2019.
- Completed the scanning into Laserfiche of all of the minutes and important attachments of the Recreation Commission, resulting in the streamlining of those files and the disposal of 12 cubic feet of obsolete and duplicate records. The minutes are now text searchable and will soon be a portal to all of the records in Laserfiche available through the City's website.
- Fully utilizing and accessing previously scanned images of the City's birth, death, marriage and genealogy records in order to efficiently serve the taxpayers of this City. It is no longer necessary to require community members to go to Albany to obtain their birth certificate.

Accounts Department Team

- One Part-Time Staff Member:
  - Records Retention Coordinator
- Seven Full Time Staff Members:
  - Assistant Assessor
  - Assistant Purchasing Agent
  - Deputy Registrar
  - Director Risk and Safety – Safety and Compliance Officer
  - Secretary to the City Council
  - Senior Assessment Clerk
  - Assistant City Clerk
Accounts’ Department
Future Initiatives

- Community Driven
- Conserving Taxpayer Dollars
- Making the “Numbers” Work for YOU

FINANCE DEPARTMENT
Commissioner Michele Madigan
Deputy Commissioner Mike Sharp

Finance Department
- Budget Chairperson
- Payroll Administrator
- Receiver of Taxes
- Internal Auditor
- Health Benefits Coordinator

IT Department
- Network Security
- Hardware Management
- Internal Support
- Process Automation
- Disaster Recovery

Presented by Commissioner Michele Madigan
Tuesday, January 29, 2019
### Finance: City Finances

#### Financial Review
- Maintained AA+ bond rating from S&P
- Continued streak of positive audit reports
- Healthy fund balance and reserves
- Continued IT improvements

#### Budgetary Focus
- City Hall Renovation
- Efficiencies
- Healthcare

#### Adopted Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
<td>$46.1M</td>
<td>$47.1M</td>
<td>+2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Budget</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined</td>
<td>$7.0M</td>
<td>$9.3M</td>
<td>+32.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Rates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Inside</td>
<td>$6.0553</td>
<td>$6.0763</td>
<td>+0.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Outside</td>
<td>$5.9844</td>
<td>$6.0094</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>$6.0199</td>
<td>$6.0428</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 2018 SotC Review
- 2019 Budget
- City-wide Fiber Infrastructure
- Economic Development
  - Arts & Culture
  - Affordable Housing
- Energy Initiatives
  - Short-term Rentals
  - Community Solar
Finance: Energy & Sustainability

**Spa Solar Park**
- 2.5 MW solar array energized 8/22/17
- Generated 3.6M kWh of electricity as of December 2018
- $60k+ of utility savings

**Energize NY PACE Finance**
- Financing program for green non-residential projects
- Approved by City Council April 2018

**Community Outreach**
- Joint-initiative with the Mayor’s Office to provide a centralized hub on energy programs and projects
**Finance: Smart City**

**Smart City Commission**
- Reorganize & Refocus
- Membership

**2019 Goal:** Identify and take action on 1-2 transformative project(s)

**Smart City Events**
- Economic Development Lunch & Learn Series
  - The AI Opportunity (Jan. 24)
  - Blockchain: The Future of Everything (Feb. 28)
  - Innovation Centers / Open Labs / Makerspaces (Apr. 25)
  - Energy / Environment / Connected Street Lights (Jun. 13)

---

**Finance: 2019 Priorities**

- **2020 Budget & Beyond**
  - Known initiatives include Flat Rock Park, East Side Fire/EMS, and Loughberry Lake Dam
  - Evolving City economy with new demands

- **City-wide Communications**
  - How resident get local news has changed, and the City needs to adapt

- **Continued Focus on Sustainability**
  - The City has shown these projects can be good environmentally and financially

- **Smart City Initiatives**
  - Leverage the City’s assets to be more proactive, nimble, and efficient
Department of Public Works

Rec Center Transition

A Collaborative Effort by All City Departments
• Transition Occurred Over a Five to Six Week Period
• Moved Building Contents in Three Weeks
• Special Recognition to DPW, IT, the City Electricians
Department of Public Works
City Hall Renovation – Four Phases

ON SCHEDULE

Phase I: Asbestos Abatement - In Progress
Phase II: Conceptual Design - 95% Complete
Phase III: Design Development & Bid - February - April 2019
Phase IV: Construction Renovation - Fourth Quarter 2019

Department of Public Works
City Hall Renovation Goals

• Effective and Useable Space in City Hall
• Resolve Court Administration Mandate
• Cohesive Police Department Space
• Updated IT Systems and Infrastructure
• Asbestos Free Building
• Safer City Hall for Residents, Visitors, and Employees
Department of Public Works
The Work in Public Works Continues

DPW Commissioner Scirocco, Deputy O’Neill, Supervisor Veitch and DPW workers re-open Deer Spring

Commissioner Scirocco, Deputy O’Neill, and DPW workers demonstrate new road repair equipment.
*Photo Credit: Francine Grinnell, The Saratogian

Saratoga Springs
New York

PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT

Peter R. Martin, Commissioner
John S. Daley, Deputy Commissioner

Chief of Police
Gregory Veitch

Fire Chief
Robert Williams
Joseph Dolan

Assistant Chief
John Catone

Assistant Chief
Peter Shaw

Presented by Commissioner Peter Martin
January 29, 2019
PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT

- Police Department
  - Parking Enforcement
  - Dispatch
- Fire Department
  - EMS
  - Code Enforcement
  - Fire Prevention
- Public Safety Administration
  - Traffic Maintenance
  - Administrative Unit

- 162 full-time employees
- 40 part-time employees

POLICE DEPARTMENT
Staffing

- 74 Officers
- Nearing full staffing for the first time in 10 years
- Promotions

Crime

- Crime remains low
- Foot patrols increased downtown

Crime in Saratoga Springs

- Violent
- Property
- Total
Citizens Advisory Board

- 10 member board, plus Department staff
- Will advise the Commissioner & Chief on policy and community relations
- Two-way line of communication

Training

- Over 4,200 Hours in 2018
- Types
  - Firearms/Armorers
  - Defensive Tactics
  - Taser
  - Active Shooter
  - CPR
  - Leadership/Supervision
  - Domestic Violence
  - Detecting Suspicious Behavior in Crowds
Traffic Maintenance & Enforcement

- Pedestrian safety grant opportunities
- Better experience for all modes of transportation
- Improvements coming in 2019
  - Added crosswalks in the downtown area
  - Added bike lanes

FIRE DEPARTMENT
Fire

- 63 fire fighters and officers.
- Response times remain stable.

Emergency Medical Response

- City provides EMS service, outside services provided by Empire Ambulance.
- Total EMS revenue of $1,323,735. Revenues increased by 26%.
Fire Station III

- The City continues conversations with numerous property owners
- We remain committed to a third fire station to better serve our Eastern Plateau residents

Code Enforcement & Fire Prevention

- Code Enforcement & the Office of Fire Prevention merged under the Fire Department
- Fire Prevention Battalion will be under the management of Battalion Chief Aaron Dyer
- Fire safety public education program
Code Enforcement & Fire Prevention

- Vacant Structures
  - Approaching 100% registration
  - Almost 90% of fees paid in 2018

- Goal: Eliminate unsafe structures and loss of historic structures

A Special Thank You

- Chief Robert Williams will retire on February 28
- 35 years of service
- Third generation firefighter, second generation chief
- Focus on technology and staffing
- Led response to City Hall fire
Chief Joseph Dolan

- Joseph Dolan assumes the role of Fire Chief in 2019
- 20 years of service to the Department

Department Initiatives

- Fire Prevention
- Community Policing
- Safer & Healthier Transportation
- Regulation of short-term rentals
- Improved parking
COUNTY SUPERVISORS

Presented by Supervisors Matthew Veitch and Tara Gaston
Tuesday, January 29, 2019

Supervisor Veitch

2018:
- Economic Development Committee Chair
- Prosperity Partnership & SEDC
- State & National Committee Work
- Define: County-wide Bike Route System

2019:
- Building & Grounds Committee Chair
- Adopt: County-wide Bike Route System
2018:
- Increased Social Media Presence
- Resolution: Full Representation on CDTA
- State & National Committee Work

2019:
- CDTA: Transportation Opportunities
- Focus: Opioid Crisis, Affordable Housing, Climate Change Costs, Early Voting Costs

Thank you for coming!