

## RESOLUTION

On this 22 day of August, 2020, at a meeting duly called of the Saratoga Springs Democratic Committee, hereinafter SSDC, at which a quorum was present,

WHEREAS, the murders of George Floyd in Minneapolis and Breonna Taylor in Louisville, among others, have re-ignited anger, frustration and desperation and shone a spotlight on systemic racism; and

WHEREAS, within the City of Saratoga Springs, in recent history, the unexplained deaths of two African American men, Bobby Ford and Darryl Mount, have not been investigated by the City or any outside agency or department; and

WHEREAS, the families of these individuals and our community deserve a transparent and independent review of the circumstances that lead to each of their deaths; and

WHEREAS, numerous protests have taken place within our City demanding action and accountability of our elected officials and police force; and

WHEREAS, the invitation of Saratoga County special operations and use of pepper pellets during a peaceful protest has not been justified; and

WHEREAS, despite repeated requests by the public to create a Citizen's Review Board, to date the City of Saratoga Springs has failed to form a Citizen's Review Board or create any independent citizen review process for allegations of police misconduct; or use of excessive force; and review of City public safety policies; and

WHEREAS, it is the mission of the Saratoga Springs Democratic Committee (SSDC) to promote the principles of the Democratic Party in the open and inclusive governance of Saratoga Springs for the maintenance and continued improvement of the well-being and quality of life for all city residents; and now

It is RESOLVED that the SSDC believes that it is in the best interest of the City that a Citizen's Review board be established as an independent body free from bias and interference from the public safety department; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the SSDC supports that the Citizen's Review Board should be developed with procedures for receiving, reviewing and commenting on completed investigations of complaints made by citizens against officers of our City for alleged misconduct or use of excessive force.