

*Whereas, the Saranac Lake Village Board of Trustees and the Saranac Lake Village Police Department, denounce and mourn the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, MN, while in custody of that city's police department and;*

*Whereas, George Floyd's death is an example of police brutality in the United States, and;*

*Whereas, we denounce police brutality, which is defined as "unwarranted, excessive and often illegal force used against citizens by a police force," Which has disproportionately and overwhelmingly impacted the black community in America.*

*Whereas, we recognize that this death is a national tragedy that underscores the charge of institutional racism in our country that permeates many aspects of daily life, and;*

*Whereas, the Village of Saranac Lake and the Saranac Lake Village Police Department are committed to fostering and protecting a diverse and inclusive community, and;*

*Whereas, we recognize that creating a diverse and inclusive community is an ongoing process that requires a sustained constructive dialog among our community members;*

*Therefore, be it resolved that, the Village of Saranac Lake and the Saranac Lake Village Police Department reaffirm their commitment to advancing a police force culture that emphasizes de-escalation of physical force and; that its use of force policies continue to promote peaceful and unbiased resolutions to all conflicts, and;*

*Let it be further resolved that, the Village Board and Saranac Lake Village Police Department will co-host a public forum at a time and date to be decided to continue its commitment to openness and dialog within the community, and; that this public forum will be the first of other community dialogues speaking to the issue of diversity and inclusivity.*