

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 11, 2024
7:00 PM

PRESENT: Mayor Sandra Magiera
Council Members: John Hill, Kylee Johnson, Barry Smith,
Michael Reed, Janet Koch
City Clerk: Tracy Chamberlain
Youth Bureau Director: Markie Phillips
Grant Administrator: Jay Bartoszek
Police Captain: Adam Carlson
Police Officer: William Hunt
City Comptroller: Robert Earley

Mayor Magiera called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Magiera asked for a moment of silence and read the attached in honor of 9-11.

Moved by Smith and seconded by Koch:

RESOLVED: That we hereby approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last regular meeting of August 14, 2024.

Adopted Ayes: Hill, Johnson, Smith, Reed, Koch
Nays: None

Moved by Johnson and seconded by Smith:

WHEREAS, local Non-for-Profit organization has requested to hold fundraiser in the intersection of Broad Street, Clinton Street and Main Street and intersection of Broad Street and Center Street, and

WHEREAS, the Police Commission has reviewed and advised that these locations are acceptable to hold the fundraiser, with caution, and

WHEREAS, the organization holding the fundraiser is required to use safety vests, have no children in the roadways, not unduly disrupt traffic and provide an insurance certificate naming the City as Additional Insured in the amount of \$1,000,000.00, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The City of Salamanca Common Council authorizes the following fundraiser to be held, subject to the conditions set forth above:
 - a. Salamanca Wrestling Club to hold a helmet drive September 8, 2024 between the hours of 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM, at the intersections of Broad Street, Clinton Street and Main Street and intersection of Broad Street and Center Street.

Adopted Ayes: Hill, Johnson, Smith, Reed, Koch
Nays: None

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Moved by Reed and seconded by Smith:

RESOLVED: That we hereby authorize Hannah Poling, Recreation Attendant for the Youth Center, to work additional hours (above the regular 15.5 hours) beginning September 9, 2024 for a maximum of 20.5 hours per week, at an hourly wage of \$18.03.

Adopted Ayes: Hill, Johnson, Smith, Reed, Koch
Nays: None

Moved by Hill and seconded by Koch:

RESOLVED: That we hereby authorize the closing of certain streets for the Falling Leaves Festival help on October 4, 5 & 6, 2024. A copy of the list is attached and made a part of these minutes.

Adopted Ayes: Hill, Johnson, Smith, Reed, Koch
Nays: None

Moved by Koch and seconded by Johnson:

RESOLVED: That we hereby establish the hours for “Trick or Treat” in the City as 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM on Thursday, October 31, 2024, with residents wishing to participate leaving their porch lights on and holding “Trunk or Treat” at the Jefferson Street Park and further authorize the closing of Main Street for the Halloween parade from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

Adopted Ayes: Hill, Johnson, Smith, Reed, Koch
Nays: None

Moved by Reed and seconded by Hill:

RESOLVED: That we hereby waive the agenda rule to consider other items.

Adopted Ayes: Hill, Johnson, Smith, Reed, Koch
Nays: None

Moved by Koch and seconded by Reed:

RESOLVED: That we hereby authorize the Salamanca VFW Post 5296 to sell beer in Jefferson Street Park during the annual Salamanca-Seneca Falling Leaves Festival on October 4, 5 & 6, 2024 as requested by the VFW.

It is noted such approval is contingent upon the VFW obtaining all necessary NYS Alcohol Board of Control permit and proof of insurance.

Adopted Ayes: Hill, Johnson, Smith, Reed, Koch
Nays: None

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Moved by Hill and seconded by Johnson:

RESOLVED: That we hereby approve the removal of Valorie Magara as Junior Accountant effective August 23, 2024, and authorize the benefit payout, attached to and made part of these minutes.

Adopted Ayes: Hill, Johnson, Smith, Reed, Koch
Nays: None

Moved by Hill and seconded by Reed:

RESOLVED: That we hereby approve the agreement between the Seneca Nation of Indians and the City of Salamanca for the Salamanca Board of Public Utilities to relocate utilities for the Broad Street and Iroquois Drive roundabout project.

Such agreement is attached to and made part of these minutes.

Adopted Ayes: Hill, Johnson, Smith, Reed, Koch
Nays: None

Moved by Hill and seconded by Smith:

RESOLVED: That we hereby approve the lease agreement between the Gina Hill and the City of Salamanca for the first-floor office space at 123 Main Street, with rent of \$350.00 per month, one month rent toward security deposit and the tenant responsible for utilities and any needed repairs, as prepared by the City Attorney.

Council Member Koch stated it is nice to see a new business coming in.

Adopted Ayes: Hill, Johnson, Smith, Reed, Koch
Nays: None

Moved by Johnson and seconded by Hill:

RESOLVED: That the bills be paid as warranted and recommended by the appropriate Commissions and/or Department Heads, the City Comptroller and City Clerk and that the report of the Police Chief and Dog Control Officer for the month of July 2024 and Clerk, Comptroller, Police Chief, Fire Chief and Judge for the month of August 2024 are hereby accepted and filed.

Vendor Number	Vendor Name	Payment Date	Payment Amount	Number
1003	CSEA, INC.	07/26/2024	1,181.65	3697
0429	VALPRO SANITARY SUPPLIES, INC.	07/26/2024	717.84	3698
0415	ADAM'S SERVICES, LLC	07/30/2024	139.73	3699
1244	ALICIA FISKE	07/30/2024	60.97	3700

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1361	FIREMATIC SUPPLY CO. INC.	08/22/2024	175.57	3801
1088	FLEXLUME	08/22/2024	7,565.00	3802
1330	HOME DEPOT CREDIT CARD SERVICES	08/22/2024	855.99	3803
0307	JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	08/22/2024	10,648.10	3804
1423	KAYLA TAYLOR	08/22/2024	25.00	3805
1134	PROFESSIONAL AMBULANCE BILLING LLC	08/22/2024	3,977.03	3806
0638	RANDOLPH VETERINARY CLINIC	08/22/2024	648.00	3807
1069	TIM HAYNOSKI	08/22/2024	460.38	3808
0285	TINA DARLING	08/26/2024	844.00	3809
0915	BLUE COLLAR WORKWEAR	08/27/2024	189.00	3810
1012	CATTARAUGUS COUNTY DPW	08/27/2024	205.09	3811
0625	ROCK-N-RESCUE/J.E. WEINEL, INC	08/27/2024	386.38	3812
1064	TOLLS BY MAIL PAYMENT PROCESSING CENTER	08/27/2024	7.50	3813
1035	ULINE	08/27/2024	2,304.86	3814
0807	ZOLL MEDICAL CORPORATION	08/27/2024	118.00	3815
1238	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	08/27/2024	396.31	3816
1097	BREEZELINE	08/27/2024	152.47	3817
1496	LEIGH WHITE	08/27/2024	25.00	3818
0831	METROPOLITAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS	08/27/2024	2,386.93	3819
0396	SALAMANCA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT	08/27/2024	13,120.82	3820
0570	SCOTT J COLLINS	08/27/2024	1,459.00	3821
1069	TIM HAYNOSKI	08/27/2024	115.31	3822
1388	UBEO, LLC	08/27/2024	12.68	3823
0415	ADAM'S SERVICES, LLC	08/27/2024	181.13	3824
1482	CATTAUGUS COUNTY DPW - TIPPING FEES	08/27/2024	10.00	3825
0571	CYNCON EQUIPMENT, INC	08/27/2024	496.00	3826
0191	GERNATT ASPHALT	08/27/2024	977.87	3827
0164	GRAINGER	08/27/2024	65.15	3828
0277	JAMESTOWN MACADAM, INC	08/27/2024	7,740.14	3829
0175	JAMESTOWN SOAP & SOLVENT, INC.	08/27/2024	111.98	3830
0129	JOE JOHNSON EQUIPMENT LLC	08/27/2024	1,005.40	3831
1405	KISS MY GRASS LAWN CARE LLC	08/27/2024	6,000.00	3832
0683	LANDPRO EQUIPMENT LLC	08/27/2024	227.00	3833
0248	NATIONAL FUEL	08/27/2024	224.65	3834
0568	NEW ENTERPRISE STONE & LIME CO., INC	08/27/2024	808.81	3835
0515	NOCO ENERGY CORP.	08/27/2024	14,412.36	3836
0575	SHERWIN-WILLIAMS	08/27/2024	1,096.35	3837
1494	SHERWIN-WILLIAMS (ROAD PAINT)	08/27/2024	1,169.00	3838
0385	SOUTHERN TIER ELECTRIC SUPPLY INC	08/27/2024	44.58	3839
1244	ALICIA FISKE	08/30/2024	56.28	3840
0248	NATIONAL FUEL	08/30/2024	19.46	3841
1255	SHANNON SMITH	08/30/2024	25.00	3842
1205	HIGHMARK BCBSWNY (MEDICARE 286543)	08/29/2024	415.00	3843
0384	SALAMANCA PUBLIC LIBRARY	08/29/2024	2,500.00	3844
1281	LUIS CASTELLO	09/06/2024	25.00	3845

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1143	SHAUNA GROFF	09/06/2024	25.00	3846
1069	TIM HAYNOSKI	09/06/2024	69.99	3847
0778	BRADFORD PUBLISHING COMPANY	09/13/2024	112.56	3848
0085	CATT CO DEPT OF HEALTH	09/13/2024	264.04	3849
0218	CITY OF SALAMANCA BPU	09/13/2024	11,671.43	3850
0709	HODGSON RUSS, LLP	09/13/2024	9,549.00	3851
1499	HOUSE OF PRAYER	09/13/2024	75.00	3852
0286	MICHAEL FOREMAN	09/13/2024	91.79	3853
1488	MORRIS MASONARY RESTORATION	09/13/2024	41,833.25	3854
1380	PITNEY BOWES BANK INC PURCHASE POWER	09/13/2024	2,024.75	3855
0638	RANDOLPH VETERINARY CLINIC	09/13/2024	50.00	3856
0776	RICOH USA, INC. (PO BOX 827577)	09/13/2024	104.63	3857
0414	SOUTHERN TIER WEST REGIONAL	09/13/2024	40.00	3858
1059	STAPLES	09/13/2024	634.45	3859
1497	SUNNYDALE FENCERY	09/13/2024	3,700.00	3860
1069	TIM HAYNOSKI	09/13/2024	59.99	3861
0367	VERIZON WIRELESS	09/13/2024	1,598.50	3862
1060	W.B. MASON CO. INC	09/13/2024	214.09	3863
1238	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	09/13/2024	293.74	3864
0432	BEICHNER WASTE SERVICES, INC.	09/13/2024	735.54	3865
0915	BLUE COLLAR WORKWEAR	09/13/2024	659.05	3866
0571	CYNCON EQUIPMENT, INC	09/13/2024	528.03	3867
0697	EMERLING CHRYSLER DODGE JEEP RAM	09/13/2024	356.34	3868
0191	GERNATT ASPHALT	09/13/2024	175.10	3869
0164	GRAINGER	09/13/2024	119.78	3870
0277	JAMESTOWN MACADAM, INC	09/13/2024	1,665.00	3871
1405	KISS MY GRASS LAWN CARE LLC	09/13/2024	3,000.00	3872
0476	MAC TOOLS - PETER BOLDT	09/13/2024	69.99	3873
1033	MAC TRUCK PARTS	09/13/2024	102.40	3874
1023	RANDOLPH AUTO SUPPLY	09/13/2024	1,979.93	3875
1081	SUPERIOR AUTO SUPPLY INC	09/13/2024	548.18	3876
0833	U & S SERVICES INC	09/13/2024	7,705.00	3877
0491	UNIFIRST CORPORATION	09/13/2024	297.25	3878
1489	VALPRO SANITARY PRODUCTS INC.	09/13/2024	229.82	3879
0017	ACME BUSINESS MACHINES	09/13/2024	81.32	3880
0581	BOUND TREE MEDICAL, INC.	09/13/2024	414.89	3881
0092	CHAUTAUQUA BRICK CO., INC	09/13/2024	197.51	3882
1361	FIREMATIC SUPPLY CO. INC.	09/13/2024	1,191.05	3883
1261	TARGETSOLUTIONS LEARNING, LLC	09/13/2024	2,327.00	3884
0098	WORTH W SMITH	09/13/2024	554.62	3885
1029	10-75 EMERGENCY VEHICLES	09/13/2024	1,165.85	3886
1419	BLAIR TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS LLC	09/13/2024	26,912.88	3887
0193	GALLS PARENT HOLDINGS, LLC	09/13/2024	939.23	3888
1055	IDEMIA IDENTITY & SECURITY USA LLC	09/13/2024	3,119.00	3889
1498	JIM MURPHY CHEVROLET	09/13/2024	232.80	3890

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1178	LEXIPOL LLC	09/13/2024	13,406.59	3891
0526	PATROLPC	09/13/2024	412.35	3892
1333	PLYLER ENTRY SYSTEM	09/13/2024	661.00	3893
1023	RANDOLPH AUTO SUPPLY	09/13/2024	952.45	3894
0931	RICOH USA (PO BOX 41564)	09/13/2024	57.89	3895
0765	SEWING TECHNOLOGY UNIFORM INC	09/13/2024	2,575.32	3896
0300	SIRCHIE	09/13/2024	272.09	3897
0774	URBAN AUTO CENTER	09/13/2024	261.98	3898

Special Accounts – Private Purpose

Vendor Name	Payment Date	Payment Amount	Number
FLF – BLITZ AGREEMENT	08/14/2024	900.00	1032
FLF – ELAN FINANCIAL (WPIX)	08/22/2024	432.00	1033
FLF – SCHUBERT ENTERPRISE	08/22/2024	510.44	1034
FLF – ELAN FINANCIAL (WPIX)	08/22/2024	34.56	1035
YOUTH CENTER SPECIAL ACTIVITIES – PESPI	08/28/2024	316.30	1036

Adopted Ayes: Hill, Johnson, Smith, Reed, Koch
Nays: None

Discussion on Public Safety:

- Clerk Chamberlain stated documents were available for distribution. Such documents are attached to these minutes:
 1. Addressing Community Safety and Stability Proposed Plan of Action Combating Homelessness, Drug-Related Activity, and Public Disorder
 2. Sample letter and addresses for NYS Government Officials
 3. Link to Change.org - Petition to Revise New York State Bail Reform Laws.
- It was noted Brooke Skiba also started an online petition at Change.org regarding NYS Bail Reform. She noted that the petitions should be shared and signed by residents and non-residents for support.
- Resident Lauren Law stated she is very upset with the number of strange walkers in her neighborhood and does not feel safe.
- It was noted that residents attended the Town of Salamanca Council meeting regarding issues. The Mayor stated the Supervisor has requested to have street lights installed in the Town portion of Erie Street and Newton Street.
- There was discussion regarding various issues throughout the City.
- Mayor Magiera stated the Police Chief is working on the Neighborhood Watch program and the City has a shortage of Police Officers to cover the City.
- It was noted the SNI received Tribal OPID Settlement funds.

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- Mayor Magiera stated she hopes to start care packages for the homeless in coordination with Community Action. There was discussion regarding assistance for the homeless.
- Kathi Gimbrone asked questions regarding various code violations and the things in the City are affecting the sale of homes.
- Council Member Hill stated if there is illegal activity call Police Department.
- Lauren Law asked what the residents can do to support the police and help get funding.
- Council Member Hill thanked everyone for coming and voices concerns. The Council is as concerned and working on things.
- There is concern with the new pawn shop in the City, which is being investigated to be closed down.
- John Bach asked that the sidewalk be looked at for repair on Broad Street across for Park Avenue near the stairs.

Moved by Johnson and seconded by Hill:

RESOLVED: That the Mayor and Council enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining negotiations under the provisions of the State's Open Meetings Law.

Adopted Ayes: Hill, Johnson, Smith, Reed, Koch
Nays: None

Moved by Smith and seconded by Koch:

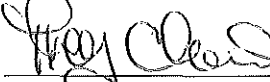
RESOLVED: That the Mayor and Council reconvene after approximately forty minutes in executive session.

Adopted Ayes: Hill, Johnson, Smith, Reed, Koch
Nays: None

No formal action was taken.

Moved by Koch and seconded by Reed:

RESOLVED: That we hereby adjourn – 9:10 PM.
Carried.

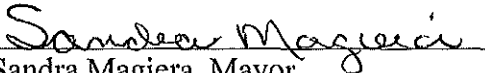


Tracy Chamberlain, City Clerk

Dated: September 16, 2024

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THE ABOVE RESOLUTIONS, AS ADOPTED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL,
ARE HEREBY APPROVED.


Sandra Magiera, Mayor

Dated: September 24, 2024

Here are the roads that we need closed for the Salamanca-Seneca Falling Leaves Festival 2024:

Friday October 4th - Sunday October 6th - the following roads will need to be closed all day and night:

Jefferson Street from South Main Street to Park Avenue

The left side of Park Avenue - the right side will remain open for Emergency Vehicles only.

Sunday October 6th - The parade will begin at 1:00 PM. The streets will need to be closed at 11:30 AM until after the parade has ended to allow for pedestrian safety.

Main Street from Rochester Street to Broad Street

Atlantic Street from Main Street to Chestnut Street

Church Street from Main Street

Broad Street from Main Street to High Street



ROBERT EARLEY
CITY COMPTROLLER

225 WILDWOOD AVE
SALAMANCA, NY 14779

Employees Name:
Separation Type
Date of Separation

Valorie Magara
Termination
8/23/2024

Separation Payouts are as followed as of:

	Hours	Allowed	Rate	Payment
Sick Time		60%		\$0.00
Vacation Time	68.75	100%	26.90	\$1,849.38
Comp Time		100%		\$0.00
Holiday Time		100%		\$0.00
Total Separation Payment				\$1,849.38

Council President's Signature

[Signature]

Supervisor's Signature

Date

9/4/24

Date

Mayor's signature

[Signature]

Comptroller's signature

Date

9/4/24

Date

* Signature means that there is an agreement with these amounts.

AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT made on the ___ day of September, in the year 2024, by and between

Seneca Nation of Indians
12837 Route 438
Irving, New York 14081
(Hereinafter referred to as "Nation")

-and-

City of Salamanca Board of Public Utilities
225 Wildwood Avenue
Salamanca, New York 14779
(Hereinafter referred to as "City")

WHEREAS, the Nation's Department of Transportation is undertaking a capital project on its Allegany Territory to install a roundabout at Broad Street and Iroquois Street within a portion of the City of Salamanca that lies within the Nation's Allegany Territory (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, to facilitate the Project, the Nation requests that the City Board of Public Utilities ("BPU") assist by modifying the current approach in order to feed Iroquois Dr. from Front Ave., allowing the BPU to eliminate the feed from Broad St. pole #53 (Phase One); and

WHEREAS, representatives of the Nation and the City have discussed this matter, and the Nation has agreed to reimburse the City BPU for the work necessary to relocate such primary feed; and

WHEREAS, the Nation and City wish to memorialize their agreement herein;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Nation and City, in consideration of the mutual covenants herein set forth, agree as follows:

1. The City BPU is hereby authorized to relocate the utility pole(s) at issue. The City BPU shall be fully responsible for providing whatever labor and materials are necessary for the relocation of the utility pole(s), and the Nation shall have no responsibility whatsoever for the completion of this work.
2. The Nation shall pay the City BPU for phase one not to exceed the amount of \$14,189.69 no later than 30 days following completion of the relocation of the utility pole(s), as reimbursement for the time and materials necessary for the BPU to complete such work.
3. The City BPU shall complete phase one of the utility pole(s) no later than 90 days following full execution of this Agreement.
4. The City BPU shall relocate the entirety of phase one in full compliance with all applicable

laws and regulations, and shall be fully responsible for any permits, other governmental approvals and costs associated with this work.

5. To the fullest extent permitted by law, the City shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Nation (to include the Nation's subsidiaries, directors, officers, agents, representatives and employee), from and against all claims, damages, liabilities, losses and expenses, including but not limited to attorneys' fees, arising out of or in any way connected with City's performance under this Agreement, provided that any such claim, damage, liability, loss or expense is attributable to bodily injury, sickness, disease or death, or physical injury to tangible property including loss of use of that property, and arise out of any actual or alleged:
- Act or omission of the City or anyone directly or indirectly retained or engaged by it or anyone for whose acts it may be liable (including acts or omissions based on negligence); or
 - Violation of any statutory duty, regulation, ordinance, rule or obligation by the City provided that the violation arises out of or is in any way connected with City's performance under this Agreement.
6. The City shall maintain insurance coverage in no less than the types and amounts set forth in the attached certificate of insurance, and shall name the Nation as an additional insured on a primary and non-contributory basis.
7. By entering into this Agreement, the Nation does not intend to waive its sovereign immunity, and nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as a waiver of any kind of the Nation's sovereign immunity.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have hereunto made and executed this Agreement on the day and year first written above.

FOR THE CITY:

By: _____
Sandra Magiera, Mayor

Date _____

By: _____
Dennis P. Hensel, Board of Public
Utilities General Manager

Date _____

FOR THE NATION:

By: Rickey L. Armstrong, Sr.
Rickey L. Armstrong, Sr.
President

Date 9/4/24

RECEIVED
2024 SEP 11 PM 1:11
CITY OF CHICAGO

City of Salamanca: Addressing Community Safety and Stability
Proposed Plan of Action: Combating Homelessness, Drug-Related
Activity, and Public Disorder

The City is committed to restoring the safety, dignity, and well-being of our community. Below is a detailed action plan outlining the steps we will take to address these critical issues.

1. Collaborate with the Seneca Nation

We will work closely with the Seneca Nation to resolve issues that fall within their legal jurisdiction and affect our community. This partnership will explore collaborative solutions to maintain safety and address shared concerns.

2. Strengthen Code Enforcement

We will intensify our enforcement of local code violations, focusing on illegal dumping, unkempt properties, and housing infractions. This will improve neighborhood safety by holding property owners accountable.

3. Demolish Problem Properties

The City and Seneca Nation will identify and demolish abandoned or unsafe homes that have become hotspots for illegal activity. This step will eliminate opportunities for crime and improve neighborhood appearance.

4. Community Solidarity Events

We will encourage residents to organize events, vigils, and rallies to bring the community together, showing a united front against these challenges. These gatherings will build community strength and engagement. For example, a National Night Out event, bringing community members together with Salamanca Police, Fire Department, and the Seneca Nation Marshalls to foster trust and cooperation.

5. Launch a Community Neighborhood Watch Program

In coordination with the Salamanca Police Department, we will launch a Community Neighborhood Watch program. This initiative will empower residents to actively monitor and report suspicious activity.

6. Youth Engagement and Activities

We will work with the Salamanca Youth Bureau and school district to expand opportunities for youth engagement by offering more activities that connect young people with positive community outlets, reducing the likelihood of exposure to illegal behavior.

7. Increase Police Presence in Problem Areas

We will increase police patrols in known problem areas, such as Hogan's Alley, to deter crime and ensure quicker responses to incidents.

8. Encourage Private Property Protection

We will encourage residents to increase “No Trespassing” signs on their properties, helping to deter unlawful entry and assist law enforcement in taking swift action.

9. Monitor and Enforce Electric Bike Regulations

We will monitor and enforce local ordinances regarding electric bike use, issuing tickets for violations to curb improper use linked to criminal activities.

10. Expand the Police Force

We have/will hire more police officers to enhance our ability to address crime and maintain public safety more effectively, dependent on funding.

11. Public Safety Notifications

The City will publish more frequent public safety notifications to keep residents informed about ongoing issues and the steps being taken to address them. We will increase the use of our website and social media platforms to keep residents informed about public safety and upcoming community events.

12. Child Protective Services Involvement

We will collaborate closely with Child Protective Services to ensure the safety of children involved or impacted by drug abuse.

13. Advocate for Bail Reform Changes

We will advocate for changes to NYS Bail Reform laws by working with state politicians to implement reforms that better protect our community.

14. Anonymous Reporting Hotline

We will explore the possibility of establishing an anonymous hotline for residents to report violators without fear of retaliation.

15. Establish New City Ordinances

We will evaluate and establish new ordinances to give law enforcement more tools to address the specific problems facing our community.

16. Ongoing Problem-Solving Meetings

We will continue to hold regular community meetings focused on problem-solving and working together to create meaningful change.

Dear *[Official's Name]*,

We, the concerned citizens of the City of Salamanca, are writing to you out of a deep sense of frustration, alarm, and disillusionment over a growing problem that has profoundly affected our community. Over the past several years, our city has experienced an influx of transient individuals, many of whom are homeless, addicted to drugs, and engaging in illegal and disruptive behaviors that threaten the safety and well-being of our community. This is a problem that was virtually nonexistent 20 years ago, yet it has become an ever-present issue today, causing serious concern among long-term residents and those who have called this city home for generations.

The Problem

The number of transient individuals in Salamanca has risen dramatically. These individuals, many of whom are not from our community, have banded together and engaged in dangerous, illegal activities such as:

- Drug trafficking and public drug use
- Vandalism and destruction of property
- Theft, breaking and entering, and other property-related crimes
- Violent incidents, including assaults
- Excessive noise and rowdy gatherings that disturb the peace
- Illegal encampments within and just outside the city, contributing to unsightly and unsafe environments

The effect on our community has been devastating. Long-time residents, particularly our elderly population, feel unsafe as these individuals traverse private properties without permission, using them as thoroughfares for criminal activities. Local businesses and families are also impacted as the environment created by these transient groups deters customers, affects property values, and leaves families afraid to let their children walk around the neighborhood. This is not the Salamanca we know and love.

Attempts to Address the Issue

Despite the best efforts of our city officials and the Salamanca Police Department, little has changed. Law enforcement's hands are tied due to state-level policies that make it nearly impossible to effectively address these individuals and their actions. Too often, police officers arrest people involved in criminal activities, only for them to be released almost immediately due to existing judicial policies. This revolving door emboldens criminal behavior and undermines any progress our local officials attempt to make.

The policies that were meant to provide compassion for those who are struggling have inadvertently created an environment that allows criminal activity to flourish. Our citizens are compassionate toward those genuinely in need, but Salamanca cannot continue to be a haven for individuals whose actions degrade the quality of life for everyone else.

Impact on Public Services

This crisis has also placed an immense strain on our local emergency services. Overdose incidents have skyrocketed, forcing our first responders to spend a disproportionate amount of time dealing with drug-related emergencies. This diverts their attention from their primary mission of keeping the community safe, leaving other critical needs unaddressed.

Effect on the Local Economy and Quality of Life

Salamanca, a small and beautiful community on the banks of the Allegheny River, is known for its proximity to beloved landmarks such as Allegany State Park, Holiday Valley Ski Resort, and the Seneca Allegany Casino. We regularly welcome visitors who contribute to our local economy, but the current

state of our city is embarrassing and alarming to those passing through. We are witnessing fewer visitors and reduced local spending as people avoid our city, fearing the criminal element now so prevalent here. The sight of transients riding electric bicycles through town, often more visibly present than local residents, contributes to a negative perception that impacts both tourism and business.

Other Communities Facing Similar Problems

Our concerns are not unique. Many communities across New York State and beyond are grappling with the same issues:

- **Increased homelessness and substance abuse:** Many small towns and cities across the state are witnessing a surge in homelessness and drug use, fueled by opioids and other substances. The prevalence of drug overdoses and associated crime is overwhelming local healthcare and law enforcement resources.
- **Housing instability:** The lack of affordable housing options and mental health services exacerbates these problems, leading to greater instability. Housing is often a root cause, as the transient population struggles to find stable living conditions.
- **Strained social services:** Public resources, including food banks, shelters, and community clinics, are stretched beyond capacity in communities like ours. Without state-level intervention, these services will continue to buckle under the pressure.
- **Lack of sufficient mental health and addiction services:** Many individuals caught in this cycle of homelessness and addiction are left without proper care. While local charities and services do their best to help, they lack the funding and infrastructure to address the problem comprehensively.

Our Request

We believe that the time for action is now. The citizens of Salamanca are mobilizing. Community groups are forming, and there is a growing sense that we must work together to demand change from our government. We are asking for the State of New York to take immediate action to help our community in the following ways:

- **Increased law enforcement resources:** We need more funding and resources for our local police to better address criminal activity. Furthermore, the state needs to re-evaluate policies that prevent police from keeping dangerous individuals off the streets.
- **Strengthened judicial measures:** Local courts need the authority to detain individuals engaging in repeated criminal activity. Loopholes in the legal system that allow these offenders to be released immediately must be addressed.
- **Mental health and addiction services:** There is a dire need for increased access to mental health and addiction recovery services in our community. More facilities, more specialists, and more outreach programs are necessary to curb the root causes of these issues.
- **Support for local businesses and tourism:** Our economy is suffering as a direct result of this crisis. We request economic support programs aimed at revitalizing our local economy and promoting tourism that highlights the positive aspects of our community.

We love Salamanca. We want to see it thrive again. But we cannot do it alone. We need the State of New York to step up, fulfill its obligations to its citizens, and work with us to find real, lasting solutions to the problems we are facing.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. We trust that you will give this serious issue the consideration it deserves. The future of our community depends on it.

Sincerely,

This is the list of names and addresses that people should write to and ask that Bail Reform be looked at and changed. Unless this happens we have no way of keeping people in JAIL when they are arrested. Police officers can only give appearance tickets in many circumstances and then most of the time no one shows up at court.

Please reach out to these officials and ask for CHANGE

**N.Y.S. Governor
Kathleen C. Hochul
State Capital Executive Chamber
Albany, N.Y. 12224
Phone -585-474-8390**

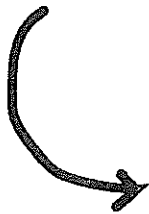
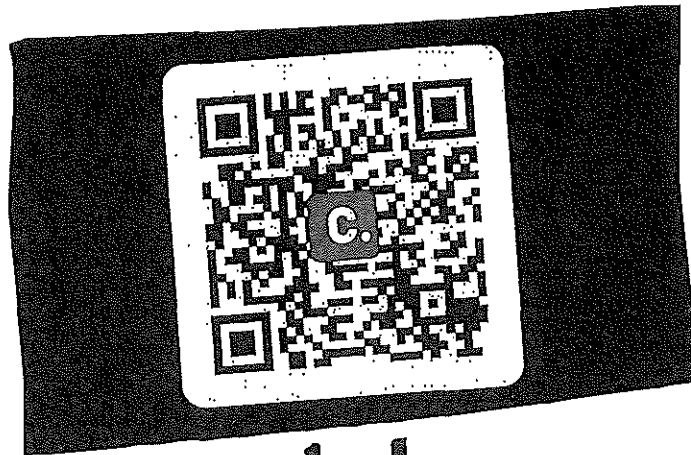
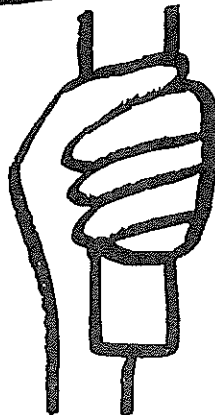
**N.Y.S. Assembly
Joseph M. Giglio
700 W. State Street
Olean, N.Y. 14760
Phone 518-455-5241**

**N.Y.S. Senate
George M. Borrello
700 W. State Street
Olean, N.Y. 14760
Phone 716-372-4901 1-800-707-0058**

**N.Y.S. Attorney General
Letitia James
N.Y.S. Dept. Of Law
State Capital Executive Chamber
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PETITION TO REVISE NEW YORK STATE BAIL REFORM LAWS

SCAN TO SIGN PETITION



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