There are deep structural deficits in our society caused by systemic racism and bias. The abuse of power by a few has again led to another senseless act of violence. This time it was the killing of George Floyd.

Sadly, this is not the first black or brown life to be taken, fearfully it will not be the last. We stand in solidarity for the demand of justice, end of abuse, and denounce the vitriolic hatred. Some will say, “What about…” In this moment we are focused on seeing, hearing, and standing with our black and brown community. It does not negate other injustices.

Systemic racism perpetuates not only violence but lack of access to housing, health care, and education in our black and brown community. We are committed to making the Town of Plattsburgh a safe and inclusive community in all areas. It cannot be achieved by anyone of us alone but can be embraced by the heart, mind, and actions of all of us. Together we can secure real social and justice reform locally, statewide, and nationwide.

Plattsburgh Town Board

Michael S. Cashman Meg E. LeFevre Thomas E. Wood

Barbara E. Hebert Charles A. Kostyk