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### PRESS RELEASE

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#### **City of Oneonta Delivers Survive, then Thrive Grants to 35 Local Businesses**

The City of Oneonta, through its Survive, then Thrive initiative announced grant awards, and delivered checks, up to \$3,000 to 35 local small businesses last week. The COVID-19 Reopening and Recovery grants, totaling more than \$105,000, will assist businesses in purchasing Personal Protective Equipment and other unanticipated capital expenses due to the COVID-19 pandemic. "Our Survive, then Thrive initiative continues to show how the Oneonta community has come together to overcome this previously unimaginable challenge", states City of Oneonta Mayor Gary Herzig, "I thank all the organizations and individuals who have helped to make this assistance possible and I applaud our small business owners for their perseverance, can-do attitude, and for the way they have come together in supporting each other."

Funds for these grants were provided by the City of Oneonta and the Community Foundation of Otsego County with administrative support provided by the Friends of Oneonta Foundation and the Otsego County Development Corporation. The Survive, then Thrive Reopening and Recovery Grant initiative was led by a committee appointed by Mayor Herzig and co-chaired by Jamie Reynolds, NBT Bank Regional Executive and Judy Pangman, City of Oneonta Community Development Director.

Additional Survive, then Thrive Finance Committee members included:

Michelle Catan, Small Business Development Center  
Jody Zakrevsky, Otsego Now  
Meaghan Marino, Otsego Now  
Len Carson, Council Member  
Barbara Ann Heegan, Otsego Chamber  
Ben Nesbitt, Future of Oneonta Foundation  
Rachel Jessup, Bank of Cooperstown

"When this committee was appointed," said Mayor Herzig, "my only request was that they remain results oriented. They certainly did and I applaud each of them for doing so".