

REGULAR meeting of the Hornell Common Council was held on Monday, March 8, 2004, at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers, 82 Main St., Hornell, N.Y.

PRESENT: Honorable Shawn D. Hogan, Mayor; Aldermen Koehler, Norton, Sciotti, Foreman, Testani, Shepard, Smith, Lewis and W. Hogan; Stenographer Karen Schu; and City Clerk Robert J. Roberts

ALSO PRESENT: Kyle Torok of The Evening Tribune; Bill Dubensky of WLEA; East Avenue resident Larry Bacon; the Rev. Philip Kuhn of Christ Episcopal Church; and 12 Hornell High School students.

ABSENT: Alderman Flaitz, due to illness; City Attorney Joseph Pelych.

INVOCATION: The Rev. Philip Kuhn of Christ Episcopal Church

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: Alderman Sciotti

By Smith/Shepard:

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the last meeting be approved as read.

Carried – Ayes all (9)

Absent (1) Alderman Flaitz

By Koehler/Foreman:

RESOLVED, that the Reports of Officers be approved and authorized filed.

Carried – Ayes all (9)

Absent (1) Alderman Flaitz

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

(P&D – attached)

Alderman Joseph Foreman reported that the Finance Committee met at 6:30 p.m. March 8, 2004, at City Hall. Discussion was held on the 2004-05-city budget, but no action was taken. The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.

By Koehler/Foreman:

RESOLVED, that the Reports of Committee be accepted and placed on file.

Carried – Ayes all (9)

Absent (1) Alderman Flaitz

RESOLUTIONS:

#1 – Appointment of Registrar of Vital Statistics

By Shepard/Sciotti:

RESOLVED, that Tina M. Lee be appointed Registrar of Vital Statistics for the City of Hornell.

Carried – Ayes all (9)
Absent (1) Alderman Flaitz

By Sciotti/Koehler:

#2 – Appointment of Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics

RESOLVED, that Robert J. Roberts be appointed Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics for the City of Hornell.

Carried – Ayes all (9)
Absent (1) Alderman Flaitz

PETITIONS: None

CLAIMS: None

NEW & UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Mayor Hogan updated the Common Council on the status of the 2004-05 City Budget, and noted a public hearing on the budget will be held at 9 a.m. March 20 at City Hall. The major problem facing city finances is uncertainty over what state government will do about soaring city contributions to the employee and police/fire retirement systems, which are estimated to rise from \$60,000 this year to about \$700,000 in 2004-05. The city will put off accepting the new budget as long as possible, Mayor Hogan said, to see if a proposal for pension reform by Gov. George Pataki will be accepted.
- Mayor Hogan noted there are now at least 140 applications received from residents for participation in a housing rehabilitation grant. The high number of applications from residents citywide strengthens the city's application in a competitive process, according to Mayor Hogan, and may mean funding over a two-year period.
- East Avenue resident Larry Bacon complained about excessive speed of motorists on his street, after a recent accident in which a motorist drove into his home. "Speed is a problem," Mr. Bacon said, adding that many motorists ignore the posted 15 mph speed zone by Bryant Elementary School. He asked for stop signs, but Mayor Hogan said police are reluctant about using stop signs as a form of speed control. Mayor Hogan said he would discuss the issue with Police Chief Paul Crowe on March 9, 2004, and that Chief Crowe was compiling statistics about accidents on East Avenue. Alderwoman Shepard concurred with Bacon, saying even 30 mph was too fast for the East Avenue neighborhood, especially with the presence of an ice cream stand that attracts young pedestrians. Shepard said she also would meet with Crowe.

- Alderman Smith said there are large potholes at the intersection of Hill and West streets, and on Clay Street. He asked that they be repaired.

By Shepard/Norton:

RESOLVED, that this Council adjourn at 7:37 p.m.

Carried – Ayes all (9)

Absent (1) Alderman Flaitz