

PUBLIC HEARING on the proposed 2008-09 City of Hornell General Fund Budget was held on Monday, March 22, 2010, at 6:15 p.m. in Council Chambers at 82 Main St., Hornell, N.Y.

PRESENT: Honorable Shawn D. Hogan, Mayor; Aldermen Bob Murray, Chris Koehler, Bill Norton, Angelo Sciotti, Joe Foreman, Joe Testani, Jean Shepard, Glen Hann, John Buckley, John Carbone; and City Clerk Barbara M. Perrott.

AND FROM THE MEDIA: Bob Clark of The Evening Tribune.

ALSO PRESENT: Vicki Dempsey, Leonard Fucci, Rich Dunning, Kim Courtney, Heather Kaszynski, Tolly Pelych, Jeff Johnson, Tina Lee and Joe Duffy.

Mayor Hogan opened the hearing by noting that the City has been through a six year reevaluation. The city's total assessed property value increased from \$222,244,803 to \$231,331,948, an increased assessed value of approx. \$9 million. Without the reevaluation, there would have been a reduction in the tax rate to 1.67% percent instead of the proposed 5.37% decrease.

The Mayor recognized the department heads for foregoing a raise last year and three of the unions agreeing to a contract with no raise this year. This budget projects an increase of 3 percent in sales taxes received, according to Mayor Hogan.

City Attorney Pelych's salary has been raised from \$20,550 to \$30,550. Attorney Pelych will be working one day a week in City Hall to assist Code Enforcement with the implementation of legal issues. Alderman Buckley questioned the increase and inquired as to how many more hours Pelych would be putting in. Hogan said Pelych would work at least one full day in City Hall.

A \$10.00 per year surcharge will be added to water bills to cover capital improvements. This surcharge will be per unit.

Pension and insurance costs rose. Pension increase is mainly due to police and fire retirements.

Alderman Koehler commented on the increase in sales tax revenue. Mayor Hogan attributed the increase to the opening of Lowe's and Applebee's.

There being no further comment, the public hearing was closed.

Shawn D. Hogan
Mayor

Barbara M. Perrott
City Clerk