PUBLIC HEARING to review the property assessment list and project details of the City of Hornell's 2009 Restore New York Grant application was held on Monday, April 27, 2009, at 6:45 p.m. in Council Chambers at 82 Main St., Hornell, N.Y.

PRESENT: Honorable Shawn D. Hogan, Mayor; Aldermen Bob Flaitz, Chris Koehler, Bill Norton, Angelo Sciotti, Joe Testani, Jean Shepard, Glenn Hann, Les Lewis, and John Carbone; City Attorney Joseph Pelych; Stenographer Karen Schu; and City Clerk Robert J. Roberts.

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

ALSO PRESENT: June Pieklo of Hornell Partners for Growth; the Rev. Mike Childs; Joe Duffy; and Hornell High School students Jacob Hill, Stephanie Bergquist, Brianne Sexton, Brian O'Toole, Rachel Woolever, Brittany Guarglia, and Adam Dwyer.

Mayor Hogan opened the hearing by noting this was the third round of the Restore New York program. The City of Hornell applied in the second round for work on the Federation Building, but was not funded because it was deemed there was not enough development money in the proposal. This project has been expanded, Mayor Hogan said, to include the former Ponderosa restaurant acquired by the City. The City is seeking up to $2.5 million.

Mayor Hogan reviewed details of the project: creation of 12 loft apartments and development of existing tenant space, as well as establishing the Hornell Arts Center. He noted there is considerable interest in this from diverse groups in the community, including a theater group looking to offer performances there to Southern Tier BOCES' culinary program, which would like to open a sweet shop.

This fits in with the City's Master Plan, which calls for development of unused space, Mayor Hogan added. He noted prospective developer Peter Krog and architect Clinton Brown Company are well known and established in the field of preserving historic buildings.

"This gives us the opportunity to take two underutilized buildings and turn them into a center-city showcase," said Mayor Hogan.

Mayor Hogan answered several questions from those in attendance about the project, and received positive comments in support of the City's application.

There being no further comment, the public hearing was closed at 7:08 p.m.

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Shawn D. Hogan
Mayor

Robert J. Roberts
City Clerk