

REGULAR meeting of the Hornell Common Council was held on Monday, Oct. 11, 2004, at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers, 82 Main St., Hornell, N.Y.

PRESENT: Honorable Shawn D. Hogan, Mayor; Aldermen Flaitz, 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; and Hornell High School students Kori Dunn, Brianna Dunn, Chris Dailey, Calvin Weaver, Anthony Cuddebeck, Jaime George, Nate Smith and Christine Stiles.

ABSENT: City Attorney Joseph Pelych.

INVOCATION: Mayor Hogan.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: Alderman Testani.

By W. Hogan/Sciotti:

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

Carried – Ayes all (10)

Absent – None

By Shepard/Koehler:

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

Carried – Ayes all (10)

Absent – None

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: None

RESOLUTIONS:

#1 – ACCEPTING SMALL CITIES GRANT – HN-04-64

By W. Hogan/Shepard:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Hornell hereby accepts the 2004 Small Cities grant in the amount of \$369,100.

Carried – Ayes all (10)

Absent – None

ON THE QUESTION: Mayor Hogan said the city had received more than 128 applications for funding under the grant, but that the 15 properties in the worst shape and are the most financially qualified will be funded. It is questionable if the funding can be done in time for repairs for winter, the mayor said. The hope is to have this become a multi-year program, but in response to a question from Alderman Smith, Mayor Hogan said the ones not chosen this year will not automatically move up for the next funding cycle. Instead, the mayor said, funding will go to those properties most in need of repair and those property owners who are most economically disadvantaged.

#2 – SETTING HALLOWEEN HOURS – HN-04-65

By Smith/Sciotti:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Hornell hereby sets trick-or-treating hours for 6-8 p.m. on the night of Sunday, Oct. 31.

Carried – Ayes all (10)

Absent – None

#3 – CANCELING CITY TAXES ON THREE PROPERTIES – HN-04-66

By Lewis/Shepard:

WHEREAS, the City of Hornell is purchasing the following properties from the County of Steuben:

29 Crosby St.

33-35 Crosby St.

97 Fourth St.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2003 city taxes owed on the above properties be hereby canceled.

29 Crosby St.	#166.06-02-085	\$ 797.35
33-35 Crosby St.	#166.06-02-087	71.90
97 Fourth St.	#166.33-03-009	1,490.13

Carried – Ayes all (10)

Absent – None

PETITIONS: None

CLAIMS: None

NEW & UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Paving is completed at the city's developing Yard Waste Facility, Mayor Hogan said. A barricade will be put up there, and the site will be monitored, he said. Those dumping off materials will be grass in one section, brush in another, stumps in a third, and so on. All will be ground up to make compost for residents. The mayor said policy, procedures and hours of operation would be established for the new facility; it appears now the facility will run Wednesday through Sunday. Also to be established is a fee schedule for non-city residents.
- Mayor Hogan updated the Council on the Gateway project. He said he received many positive comments on the project, and thanked the Council for its support.
- Mayor Hogan said the City of Hornell hopes to put in \$50,000 to \$60,000 to complement the value of the land donated as in-kind service to the Shawmut Park development. Alderwoman Shepard said she would like to see local clubs help develop ballfields and other sites there. Mayor Hogan said before that could happen, the site will have to have proper drainage. Plans call for putting in new bathrooms, walking paths, and cleaning up the retention pond, in addition to new ballfields. The mayor said the work should start next spring, with completion by the end of 2005.
- The mayor reported on three properties – 211 Seymour St., 78-80 Catherine St., and 437 S. Division St. – that were purchased sight-unseen by Blue Moon Capital LLC. Little to no work was done on the properties, and Mayor Hogan said the city suggested to Blue Moon that it donate the properties to the City of Hornell in lieu of having the homes condemned. Blue Moon has agreed to do so, so the city will raze the properties. Some of the lots may support rebuilding of a new home, he said. Interest remains high in vacant lots on Jane and Front streets, and Erie Avenue, he added. "Slowly but surely, we keep hammering at it and we'll take back our neighborhoods," the mayor said.
- Rebuilding of Riverside Place took place in record time, the mayor said, considering the street had to be lowered considerably.
- Alderman Hogan said he has received a number of complaints about a lack of color and other problems associated with Big Fox-Channel 5 on the Time Warner cable system. If poor reception continues, Alderman Hogan said, he would like to see Big Fox dropped in favor of WNEW, the Fox affiliate in New York City. Mayor Hogan said cable companies drop New York City stations in favor of local ones in order to save money.
- Alderman Hogan said he has received complaints – and has checked out for himself – about parking gridlock on Canisteo Street, caused by the new Dancing on Edge studio there. He said parents parking to pick up their

children from dancing lessons have resulted in the street being barely wide out to allow an average vehicle to pass, with not enough room for an emergency vehicle. He asked the city Board of Public Safety to look at the issue. Parking may have to be restricted on one side of the street, the mayor said.

By Shepard/Flaitz:

RESOLVED, that the Common Council adjourn at 7:33 p.m.

Carried – Ayes all (10)

Absent – None

Shawn D. Hogan
Mayor

Robert J. Roberts
City Clerk