REGULAR meeting of the Hornell Common Council was held on Monday, Nov. 13, 2006, at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers at 82 Main St., Hornell, N.Y.

PRESENT: Honorable Shawn D. Hogan, Mayor; Aldermen F
laitz, Koehler, Norton Sciotti, Testani, Shepard, Hann, Lewis, and Carbone; City Attorney Joseph Pelych; Stenographer Karen Schu; and City Clerk Robert J. Roberts.

AND FROM THE MEDIA: Stephen Hernacki of The Evening Tribune.

ALSO PRESENT: The Rev. Dan Fuller; residents Laurie Sciotti and Joe Duffy; Canisteo student Erin Flaitz; and Hornell students Danielle Troy, Everett Reffitt and Chris Seigel.

ABSENT: Alderman Foreman.

INVOCATION: The Rev. Dan Fuller of Hornell Bible Church.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: Alderman Koehler.

By Hann/Koehler:
RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Oct. 23, 2006, regular meeting and the public hearing of Oct. 23, 2006, be approved as read.
Carried – Ayes all (9)
Absent – Foreman (1)

By Shepard/Norton:
RESOLVED, that the Reports of Officers be accepted and placed on file.
Carried – Ayes all (9)
Absent – Foreman (1)

REPORTS FILED: Environmental Review Report for Alstom's Small Cities Funding Application [see Appendix O]; Clerk 10/2006; General Expenditures 10/2006; Water Expenditures 10/2006; General Revenue 10/2006; Water Revenue 10/2006; BPS Minutes 10/12/2006; HPD 10/2006; HFD 10/2006; Codes 10/2006; Humane Society 10/2006.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: None

RESOLUTIONS:

#1 – APPOINT COLLETTE CORNISH AS CITY HISTORIAN – HN-06-63

By Koehler/Flaitz:
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Common Council of the City of Hornell hereby appoints Collette E. Cornish, of 41 Hartshorn St., the official City Historian.
Carried – Ayes all (9)
Absent – Foreman (1)

ON THE QUESTION: Mayor Hogan said the previous City Historians were Bob Oakes and, later, his wife Marian. The job has been vacant for some time since the passing of Marian Oakes, Mayor Hogan said. Collette Cornish has helped the City out as an archivist with the City railroad museum, where Mayor Hogan said she has "really done a great job." The job carries a small stipend, he added.

#2 – ACCEPT AIRPORT GRANT – HN-06-64

By Lewis/Hann:
(Authorizing acceptance of a Grant offer from the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) for work at the Hornell Municipal Airport described as "Rehabilitation of T-Hangar Taxi Lanes and Airport Master Plan Update," PIN 6902.17(the "Project").

WHEREAS, the NYSDOT has offered a matching grant to federal grant 6902.16; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hornell desires to advance the Project by committing funds for the local match, the funding shares being federal (FAA): $338,757, State $8,915; Local $8,914; and Total $356,586; and

WHEREAS, if the City of Hornell and/or the FAA notifies the NYSDOT that the City of Hornell has requested and received an increase in Federal funding for the Project based on increase eligible costs and has authorized the proportionate increase in local funding, the State share noted above shall be increased proportionately up to a maximum increase of 15 percent.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Common Council does hereby

RESOLVE, that the Common Council hereby approves the above subject Project; and it is hereby further

RESOLVED, that the Mayor of the City of Hornell be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements on behalf of the City of Hornell with NYSDOT in connection with the Project, and it is further

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project; and it is further

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.
Carried – Ayes all (9)
Absent – Foreman (1)

PETITIONS: None.

CLAIMS: None

NEW & UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mayor Hogan said he has returned from a two-day New York Conference of Mayors meeting in Albany, where local government leaders established an agenda for the upcoming session of the state Legislature. Mayor said the prime issue is to continue the trend of increasing state aid to municipalities, along with a formulate that will allow municipalities to know how much they can count on receiving from year to year. Also important is the number of unfunded mandates imposed in New York State. Mayor Hogan said examples of these unfunded mandates are the Wicks Law and binding arbitration for public safety, both of which he said can add unnecessary expenses to municipalities. He reviewed a newly released NYCOM report entitled "Connecting the Dots," which addresses the issues facing communities like Hornell today.

Mayor Hogan reviewed this past weekend's problems with a 20-inch-diameter water main break at the Shawmut Park. The Mayor said a water loss was detected this past summer, but the source could not be found. Last week, Water Treatment Plant Chief Operator Leonard Fucci found he could not keep his tank filled and had to use his well. A search was lunched for a leak and it was discovered – despite the lack of telltale signs – at Shawmut Park. The decision was made to repair on Friday, which meant depressurizing the ductile-iron line, which has been underground for a century. Repairs were done by late afternoon, Mayor Hogan said, but it would not hold when the pressure was turned back on. Another rubber-lined collar had to be found and installed. Shortly before midnight Friday, the main was turned back on and this time it held. "Our guys performed very well. I was very proud of them," said Mayor Hogan. "They did yeoman-like work in not-so-good conditions." There were some areas of the City without water, but not more than five hours at most. Mayor Hogan said the City would have to come up with a plan on how to communicate with residents during an emergency, such as posting a message on local TV channel 6. "Some people called here today, and it was almost like someone planed this. They had no patience, no understanding," said Mayor Hogan. " … It was a wild and wooly Friday and our guys did a great job. They are to be commended and know we are proud of them." Replacing the line or running a parallel pipe to it will cost millions of dollars, the Mayor said. Alderman Koehler asked if there had been a previous repair in the section of the present breach; Mayor Hogan said there had, but it had

occurred long before the present DPW staff was around. Alderman Flaitz supported Mayor Hogan's plan to have communications with residents in emergencies.

Alderman Koehler noted his previous efforts to honor former City council member and historian and newspaper columnist Bob Oakes, and suggested the City do something to honor him.

Alderwoman Shepard commended the City crews on the water line, and also praised the efforts of SpellBounds owner Leon Babcock to beautify the back of his building, as well as the home repair at the corner of Leach Avenue and East Main Street. Mayor Hogan agreed with all three. He also said that in next year's Restore New York grant, the City will see if it can partner with downtown building owners to apply for funds to get more use out of the upper floors in the business district, such as building a common elevator as called for in the City's Downtown Master Plan.

By Shepard/Flaitz:
RESOLVED, that the Common Council adjourn at 7:30 p.m.
Carried – Ayes all (9)
Absent – Foreman (1)

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Shawn D. Hogan
Mayor

Robert J. Roberts
City Clerk