

**REGULAR** meeting of the Hornell Common Council was held on Monday, Nov. 27, 2006, at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers at 82 Main St., Hornell, N.Y.

**PRESENT:** Honorable Shawn D. Hogan, Mayor; Aldermen Flaitz, Koehler, Norton Sciotti, Foreman, 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:** Father Tom Gramley; Scoutmaster Dan Lee and 10 Boy Scouts; and Hornell High School students Matt Wood, Ashley Bottomley, Heather Williams, Zac Bergquist, Mike Nicoloff, Ben Ellis, Cory Walker, Jamie Petrilli, Eric Dinwoodie, Nick Gallicchio, Tyre Kepner, and Ali Chaudhry.

**ABSENT:** Aldermen Sciotti and Testani.

**INVOCATION:** The Rev. Tom Gramley of Christ Church.

**PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:** Alderman Norton.

By Hann/Shepard:

**RESOLVED**, that the minutes of the Nov. 13, 2006, regular meeting and the public hearing of Nov. 13, 2006, be approved as read.

Carried – Ayes all (8)

Absent – Sciotti, Testani (2)

By Carbone/Foreman:

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

Carried – Ayes all (8)

Absent – Sciotti, Testani (2)

**REPORTS FILED:** BPW Minutes 10/26/2006; DPW 10/2006; Sewer 10/2006; WTP 10/2006; WPCP 10/2006.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:**

Nov. 21, 2006

To: Honorable Shawn D. Hogan  
and Members of the Common Council

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Audit Committee met and audited bills at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 21, 2006. Bills were audited and approved by members Jean Shepard, Glenn Hann, and Christopher Koehler, Chairman.

Bills audited and approved:

CC	\$204,788.02
CD	3,590.00
PAYROLL	<u>83,973.36</u>
TOTAL	\$292,351.38

Respectfully submitted,  
Christopher Koehler  
Chairman, Audit Committee

By Foreman/Flaitz:

**RESOLVED**, that the Reports of Committees be accepted and placed on file.  
Carried – Ayes all (8)  
Absent – Sciotti, Testani (2)

## **RESOLUTIONS:**

### **#1 – WAIVE AGENDA – HN-06-65**

By Koehler/Norton:

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Common Council does hereby agree to waive the agenda in order to discuss Resolution HN-06-66, dealing with a Business Airports Development Program Grant.

Carried – Ayes all (8)

Absent – Sciotti, Testani (2)

**ON THE QUESTION:** Mayor Hogan noted this resolution arrived today in the mail, which explains why it was not on the agenda.

### **#2 – BUSINESS AIRPORTS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GRANT – HN-06-66**

By Carbone/Koehler:

*(Authorizing the implementation, and funding in the first instance of the State AIR 99 Program-aid [and State administered federal program-aid] eligible costs, of an Aviation project, and appropriating funds therefore.)*

**WHEREAS**, a Project for the City of Hornell, PIN 6902.80 (“the Project”) is eligible for funding under New York State’s AIR 99 Program administered by the New York State Department of Transportation (“NYSDOT”); and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Hornell desires to advance the Project by making a commitment of advance funding of the non-local share and funding of the full local share of the costs of the Project; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Common Council, duly convened does hereby

**RESOLVE**, that the Common Council hereby approves the above-subject project; and it is hereby further

**RESOLVED**, that the Common Council hereby authorizes the City of Hornell to pay in the first instance 100% of the federal and non-federal share of the cost of design work for the Project or portions thereof; and it is further

**RESOLVED**, that the sum of \$1,381,070 be applied for through the Business Airports Development Program and made available to cover the cost of participation in the above phase of the Project; and it is further

**RESOLVED**, that in the event the full federal and non-federal share costs of the Project exceeds the amount appropriated above, the Common Council of the City of Hornell shall convene as soon as possible to appropriate said excess amount immediately upon the notification thereof, and it is further

**RESOLVED**, that the Mayor of the City of Hornell be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests for Federal Aid and/or AIR 99 Program Funding on behalf of the City of Hornell with NYSDOT in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project and providing for the administration of the Project and the municipality’s first instance funding of project costs and permanent funding of the local share of federal-aid and all Project costs that are not so eligible; 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 (8)

Absent – Sciotti, Testani (2)

**ON THE QUESTION:** Mayor Hogan noted the City has received a grant of about \$300,000 through Air 99 funding, but it is not enough to build a sizable hangar at Hornell Municipal Airport. The City is seeking another \$1.38 million to fully fund the work. The local share will be about \$70,000 of a total \$1.5 million project, Mayor Hogan said in response to a question from Alderman Carbone. “But we will not commit to anything because unless we get the balance, nothing is being built,” he said.

**PETITIONS:** None.

**CLAIMS:**

By Koehler/Flaitz:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that claims in the amount of \$292,351.38, as audited by the Audit Committee of the Common Council of the City of Hornell, be approved and authorized paid as audited.

Common Council	\$ 204,788.02
CD	\$ 3,590.00
Payrolls	<u>\$ 83,973.36</u>
TOTAL	\$ 292,351.38

Carried – Ayes all (8)

Absent – Sciotti, Testani (2)

**NEW & UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- Wayne Drescher of the auditing firm of Drescher & Malecki gave a presentation at 6:30 p.m. on the audit of City finances for the financial year that ended March 31, 2006. Mr. Drescher focused on the fund balance of \$1.88 million, of which \$1.1 million is reserved for special purposes. The City's undesignated/unreserved fund balance is about 7 percent of the total budget, "which to be honest with you, for a small city these days, is pretty good," Mr. Drescher said. The Water Budget shows a \$296,000 fund balance, of which \$128,000 is undesignated/unreserved. The City is in a stable financial position, said Mr. Drescher. In 2005-2006, the City took in \$9.8 million in revenues and
- spent less than \$9.6 million, which helped build the surplus. The General Fund balance grew by \$120,057 while the Water Fund balance grew by more than \$83,000. "A positive fiscal year," Mr. Drescher said. On the expenditure side, the largest segment is public safety, Mr. Drescher said, but the fastest-growing part is employee benefits [e.g., retirement and healthcare]. Mr. Drescher noted the recommendations in the management letter include the Common Council not reserving ambulance fees anymore "because the reserve is beginning to dwarf the unreserved." He suggested those funds be put in the General Fund budget. In addition, he said, "there is not a lot of backup" to replace Chamberlain Thelma Pelych when she retires. He asked the Council to consider how it can replace her. Alderman Foreman noted that voters several years ago rejected a clerk-treasurer appointed proposition. Mr. Drescher said the chamberlain's job was getting very complex, and Mayor Hogan noted the new round of GASB requirements that are looming.

Later, in the regular meeting, Mayor Hogan went over the results of the audit for the high school students and Boy Scouts in attendance. "We are holding our own in a very tough environment," the Mayor said. He added that he agrees with Mr. Drescher's recommendation to not reserve all outside-city

ambulance fees. Mayor Hogan also said he will talk with the Council's Finance Committee about succession planning, and asked City Attorney Joseph Pelych to look into a City Charter change that either takes the chamberlain out of an elected position or changes the requirements of the job to mandate degrees in municipal-related accounting. Alderman Koehler suggested going back to the voters, while Alderman Foreman wondered if new requirements would dissuade people from not running for chamberlain. The Mayor also noted the Charter states the mayoral salary is \$25,000 annually, which he said would not encourage anyone to run for that demanding position.

By Shepard/Flaitz:

RESOLVED, that the Common Council adjourn at 7:27 p.m.

Carried – Ayes all (8)

Absent – Sciotti, Testani (2)

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Shawn D. Hogan  
Mayor

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Robert J. Roberts  
City Clerk