

**A REGULAR** meeting of the Board of Public Safety was held on Thursday, August 14, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room, Hornell City Hall, 82 Main Street, Hornell, NY.

**PRESENT:** Honorable John J. Buckley, Mayor, Commissioner David Parmley, Fire Chief Frank Brzozowski, Police Chief Ted Murray, Deputy Mayor Jessica Cleveland, Neighborhood & Facilities Director Bud Burdett and City Clerk Holly Snyder.

**AND FROM THE MEDIA:** Brian O'Neil WLEA

**ALSO PRESENT:** Fire Captain Joe Guthrie, Firefighter Matt Donovan, Jordan Emo, Dale McMichael Jr., and three members of the public.

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Scott Richardson

BY: Parmley/Buckley

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the minutes of the last meeting, held July 10, 2025 be approved as read.

Carried – Ayes all

BY: Parmley/Buckley

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Reports of Fire, Ambulance, Codes and Police be approved as read.

Carried – Ayes all

BY: **Parmley/Buckley**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of Hornell Board of Public Safety hereby approves the appointment of Jordan E. Emo, of 8225 Wessels Hill Rd, Avoca, as a Firefighter for the City of Hornell effective 8/14/2025

Carried – Ayes all

BY: Parmley/Buckley

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of Hornell Board of Public Safety hereby approves the appointment of Dale R McMichael Jr, of 6969 State Route 21, Almond, as a Firefighter for the City of Hornell effective 8/14/2025

Carried – Ayes all

BY: Parmley/Buckley

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that claims in the amount of \$449,166.81 be approved and paid as audited.

Carried – Ayes all

### **Miscellaneous:**

Hornell Association Annual Shrimp Bake - Approved

Badgemanian – Tabled, need more information

Garcia's Back 2 School Bonanza – Approved

Chief Brzozowski gave an update on the Fire Department. We very excited to hire two new firefighters, Dale McMichael Jr. and Jordan Emo. Jordan came to us a while ago when he was in the process of trying to get through the civil service exam. He is very hard-working young lad, took and passed his EMT credentials which is one of the first hurdles. Dale has a wealth of experience in the volunteer ranks with North Hornell and Almond. He has interacted with our department multiple times. Dale has taken a lot of courses over the years and has his EMT credentials. We have the fire academy lined up the both of them. Firefighter Matt Donovan graduated from MCC community in the paramedic program and passed his national registry exam. He has to file with the state and then he will have his credentials. Firefighter Joshua N. Szarek is starting the paramedic class in about a week.

Bud Burdett gave an update on the codes department. He talked about the property on Washington Street that codes has been dealing with. It is a complete transformation, 100% better. Bud mentioned with no rain we don't have complaints about residents' yards being overgrown. The Steuben County tax auction is September 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup>. Twenty properties in Hornell are on the auction list. Some of the properties are vacant, the ones that aren't vacant the new owners will have to go through the eviction process.

Mayor Buckley talked about the Steuben County Land Bank. The Land Bank has agreed to take on 8 O'Connor Ave as a rehab project which would be nice and a huge benefit. There are a few other properties that are on the land banks radar. The land bank has been very successful over the last few years acquiring properties to either rehab or demo so we can put new homes on them. We did that on Madison Ave which is almost complete and will go on the market when it is ready.

Police Chief Ted Murray gave an update on the police department. We have had a very busy month. We are attempting to take care of the traffic issues on 36. We're bringing in extra people through some grant programs that we have. People seem to be going a little slower now which is really the message. We are having a lot of mental health calls we are dealing with. On the three to eleven shift, it's not unusual for us to have four, five or six mental health calls. The fire department assist us in these and bring people up to the hospital and the people are being release. Chief Murray has a meeting next week with the Steuben County Mental Health to try and acquire some more assistance so, when we call people, we can get somebody onto the scene. Steuben County Mental Health closes at five o'clock. If we have something after five you just can't get anybody. Chief talked about a recent event last Monday evening where an individual threatened people with a loaded firearm and barricade himself in a house with the firearm. The Hornell Police initialed a response to secure the area and began negotiation with the suspect. After several hours of de-escalation efforts, the suspect was safely taken into custody and we were able to get him help afterwards. The Hornell Police department was assisted by members of the Steuben County Sheriff's department and NYS Police. Our officers did a fantastic job, Sergeant Harrison lead the group of officers that were there. Kudos to the officers that were there.

Mayor Buckley mentioned the person was a former serviceman and that sounds like there might be some PTSD issues going on as well that added to it. That's a tough situation. A lot of those situations can go either way, it really depends on how they're handled. The department does a really good job at the de-escalation tactics. Mayor talked about spending some time at the police

department with Sergeant Harrison watching the interactions and the radio chatter. When the chief talks about mental health issues, it's real. A lot of the time when the calls come in the police are the tip of the spear having to deal with it. We talked with the county legislature earlier in the year and asked the county to expand their services in the metal health area, Chairwoman Kelly Fitzpatrick had pledged to do that. I think the county is taking active steps to add some more people and expand the capacity of their services. The more resources the county can provide certainly helps out the municipalities throughout the county.

BY: Parmley/Buckley

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that there being no further action, the meeting was adjourned at 9:36 a.m.

Carried – Ayes All

Respectfully submitted,

*Holly Snyder*

Holly Snyder

City Clerk