

A regular meeting of the Hornell Common Council was held on Monday, August 17, 2026 at 6:59 p.m. in Council Chambers at 82 Main St., Hornell, N.Y.

PRESENT: John J. Buckley Mayor; City Attorney Timothy Rosell, Council members, Sutfin, Hancock, McKay, Peck, Warriner, Brown, Valentine, Bassage, Davis, and Carbone, Deputy Mayor Jessica Cleveland, Stenographer Ellen Kerr, and City Clerk Heather Lisi.

ALSO PRESENT: Kimberly Gilbert, Chief Ted Murray, Michael Nisbet and Michael Griffin of Hornell IDA

FROM THE MEDIA: N/A

ABSENT: N/A

INVOCATION: Reverend Bruce Incze

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: Mayor Buckley

BY: Sutfin/Brown

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Common Council meeting of July 20,2026 be approved as read.

Carried – 10 Ayes

Absent – N/A

BY: Peck/Warriner

RESOLVED that the Reports of Officers be and hereby are approved and placed on file.

REPORTS FILED:

Gen Fund Rev.- 7/2026; Water Fund Rev.- 7/2026; Gen Fund Exp.- 7/2026; Water Fund Exp.- 7/2026; City Clerk- 7/2026; BPS Minutes –7/2026; Fire/Amb-7/2026; Codes/Codes Log- 7/2026; Police- 7/2026; BPW Minutes – 7/2026; DPW/Sewer – 7/2026; WTP –7/2026; WPCP – 7/2026; Petro – 7/2026; Humane Society 7/2026; HAT Commission – N/A

Carried – 10 Ayes

Absent – N/A

BY: Davis/Brown

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

Carried – 10 Ayes

Absent – N/A

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Audit Committee

August 17, 2026

To the Honorable John J. Buckley, Mayor

And Members of the Common Council

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Bills were audited and approved by Audit Committee Members, Jim Bassage, Kevin Valentine, Steven Peck, Christina Hancock and Audit Committee Chairman John Carbone.

Bills audited and approved:

CC	\$ 279,510.10
CD	\$ 30,425.23
<u>PAYROLL</u>	<u>\$ 111,041.97</u>
TOTAL	\$ 420,977.30

Respectfully submitted,
John Carbone, Chairman
Audit Committee

Policies and Procedures Committee

August 17, 2026

To: The Honorable John Buckley, Mayor & Members of the Common Council

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Policies and Procedures Committee met on August 17th, at 6:25pm. The following members were in attendance; John Carbone, Joe McKay, Christina Hancock, Dan Warriner and Jim Bassage, Chair.

Excused-

Guests; Mayor Buckley, Jessica Cleveland, Deputy Mayor

The following items were discussed;

- I. Committee reviewed the final version of the City of Hornell Vehicle Use policy. With no further changes recommended a motion by Dan Warriner to approve the Vehicle use policy, and a second by Christina Hancock. All Ayes.

Motion to adjourn by John Carbone, second by Joe McKay. All Ayes.

Meeting was Adjourned at 6:35pm. Next meeting – TBD

RESOLUTIONS:**HN 26-43 Appoint Spicer Sub Registrar****BY:** Valentine/Peck

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Hornell, hereby appoints Patricia Spicer, of 30 Hartshorn Street, Hornell, N.Y., to fill the term of Sub Registrar of Vital Statistics, effective September 24, 2026 and expiring September 24, 2028.

Carried – 10 Ayes

Absent – N/A

HN 26-44 CDBG Exception to Conflict of Interest**BY:** Carbone/Davis

WHEREAS, the City of Hornell received approval for CDBG funding for a City-wide Housing Rehabilitation, as administered by the NYS Office of Community Renewal; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Hornell has received an application from Deborah Coates for assistance under the CDBG Program for housing rehabilitation to make essential improvement to her residence at 63 Bennett Street; and

WHEREAS, Deborah Coates has previously transferred the title to the house to her daughter, Justine Coates Muhleisen, while retaining life use for herself; and

WHEREAS, Justine Coates Muhleisen works in the City Chamberlain's Office, and is therefore subject to the CDBG regulations concerning conflict of interest issues; and

WHEREAS, the City Attorney has reviewed the case and issued an opinion that a conflict of interest under the regulations does exist and that the City should attempt to obtain an exception as provided for in the federal regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Community Development Office has provided a summary of the factors related to the case that would provide the basis for an exception.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council accepts the opinion of the City Attorney and the finding of the Community Development Office and authorizes Mayor John Buckley to submit a request to the NYS Office of Community Renewal for approval of an exception to the conflict-of-interest regulations for this case.

Carried- 10 Ayes

Absent- N/A

HN 26-45 SEQR-Shawmut Connector Road**BY:** Carbone/McKay

RESOLVED, that in accordance with the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act and its implementing regulations (6 NYCRR Part 617), the Common Council of the City of Hornell hereby designates itself as Lead Agency for purposes of conducting the environmental review of the proposed project known as the "Shawmut Connector Road."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Common Council, in its capacity as Lead Agency, has reviewed the Short Environmental Assessment Form (Short EAF) and supporting information prepared by Erdman Anthony for the Industrial Development Agency.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Common Council hereby determines that the proposed project is classified as an Unlisted Action under SEQRA.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that after careful review of the Short Environmental Assessment Form and supporting documentation, the Common Council finds that the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Common Council hereby issues a Negative Declaration, determining that the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required for the proposed City of Hornell Shawmut Connector Road project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Common Council acknowledges that portions of the project area may be subject to jurisdiction by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation under applicable environmental regulations, including potential freshwater wetlands or protection of waters requirements. Any disturbance to regulated wetlands, streams, or adjacent areas shall require review and approval by the Department, and the Applicant shall obtain all necessary permits and approvals prior to construction.

Carried- 10 Ayes

Absent- N/A

HN 26-46 Approve City of Hornell Vehicle Use Policy

BY: Peck/Hancock

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Hornell does hereby approve the City of Hornell Vehicle Use Policy.

Carried – 10 Ayes

Absent – N/A

CLAIMS:

BY: Valentine/Brown

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that claims in the amount of \$420,977.30, as audited by the Audit Committee of the Common Council of the City of Hornell, are approved and authorized paid as audited.

Common Council	\$ 279,510.10
Community Development	\$ 30,425.23
Payrolls	<u>\$ 111,041.97</u>
TOTAL	\$ 420,977.30

Carried – 10 Ayes

Absent – N/A

MISCELLANEOUS:

Mayor Buckley:

There will be a special Board of Public Safety meeting on Thursday, August 20th to address a home at 293 Canisteo Street. Ongoing drug activity, two unattended deaths and multiple codes violations have resulted in an accumulation of points against the property to be considered a nuisance. The quality of life and safety of the surrounding neighborhood is what's most important. The people living in the house have been given notice, allowing time to relocate and seek assistance from social services if necessary.

The Steuben County Land Bank is wrapping up work on a property on Cottage Avenue and will begin work on O'Connor Avenue in the next month. Another property on East Elm Street is in the process of being donated with the ultimate goal of a future BOCES house replacing the current structure.

The Hornell Arts Center was assessed this past week and a re-design is in development. Grant funds will be utilized for the construction project sometime next year.

Design work for upgrades to the Hornell Skate Park are expected back by the end of the month. NYS Parks and Recreation grant funds are to be used for the project.

The City has been awarded an EFC Secure Grant that will be used for a Cyber Security Assessment at the Water Treatment Plant.

An MOU agreement between the Hornell Public Library and the City of Hornell is in the works and once completed, will go to Common Council for review. The Library became an independent entity April 1, 2026.

Conversations are being had with surrounding municipalities in regards to Fire and EMS services. Grants may be explored for a study regarding the formation of a Fire District and shared services. There a lot of moving parts to consider. There are no expectations at this time, simply thoughts and idea sharing

A Key to the City was awarded this past weekend during the Irish Festival to Bernard McAneney. A longtime Hornell resident, Bernie is the founding member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Hornell Chapter. The AOH lends support to many local charities and organizations. Bernie worked for many years in the City Clerk office and remains active in the community.

BY: Hancock/Brown

RESOLVED, that there being no further business the Common Council adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Carried – 10 Ayes

Absent – N/A

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Lisi

Heather Lisi

City Clerk