

**A Citizen's Report**  
on  
**A Meeting of the Corning City Council**

**November 3, 2025**

The Council for the City of Corning, New York held its regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. at Council Chambers, Civic Center Plaza, Corning, New York.

All Councilmembers attended the meeting except Councilmembers Muccini and Coccho. Counting City of Corning employees, 10 members of the public were in the audience.

**New Business – Hearing on Updated Comprehensive Plan Set for December 1 – Council Workshop announced for November 12**

The Council unanimously set December 1, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Civic Center Plaza, Corning, New York as the date, time, and place for a public hearing on the update to the city's 2002 Comprehensive Plan.

*Background:*

*A comprehensive plan for the city will provide policy direction, guiding official decision-making. It will serve as legal basis for zoning regulations.*

*Importantly, a good comprehensive plan builds confidence in government through public participation and transparency, reflecting the community's vision and goals. As such a comprehensive plan builds consensus for how to adapt to change and respond to challenges and provides the private sector and community partners with guidance and basis for grant applications*

*The city received an \$80,000 Smart Growth Comprehensive Planning Grant from the state of New York to update Corning's Comprehensive Plan, which was more than 20 years old at the time.*

*On March 6, 2023, the Council approved the Mayor's appointment of a 27-member Comprehensive Plan Update Steering Committee. This Committee selected a consultant to help in this work, Rochester based LaBella Associates.*

*The Committee met in public session with LaBella team members six different times. It held four public visioning workshops during the development of the updated plan. Approximately 225 residents of the city*

*attended these sessions. Further, a survey of the public netted 360 responses of which almost 71% were from city residents.*

*In early 2025 the Committee released a draft of a vision statement for the city as follows:*

*The City of Corning is the premier small city in the Region, blending innovation, history, and community to attract residents, businesses, and visitors. As a regional hub, Corning offers an attractive quality of life with walkable, well-maintained, and affordable neighborhoods, thriving commercial districts, advanced manufacturing, and abundant arts, cultural, educational, and recreational opportunities. Connectedness defines the city-linking people to each other, to the natural environment, and to the global economy. Corning features well-integrated transportation networks that support pedestrians, cyclists, public transit, and vehicles. Revitalized spaces and a strong commitment to sustainability ensure the city continuously reinvents itself while honoring its rich heritage. The City of Corning is a welcoming and thriving community for all.*

*New York State law requires a public hearing on the updated plan, now set for December 1, 2025*

Mayor Boland also announced that a draft of the updated plan will be available to Councilmembers on or about Monday, November 10. The Council will hold a Workshop, open to the public, concerning the draft update plan on November 12 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

### **New Business – Environmental Consequences of Comprehensive Plan**

The Council unanimously adopted a resolution appointing itself as the lead agency to conduct an environmental review of the City's updated Comprehensive Plan. The Council determined that this is a Type 1 Action under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR). The Council hired LaBella Associates to prepare the first part of the Long Environmental Assessment Form required. The City's Director of Planning and Economic Development will provide involved agencies of the Long Form for review during the 30-day comment period as required by law.

*Background: A SEQR Type 1 action is an action by a public entity that is more likely to have a significant adverse impact on the environment than other actions. These actions may require the preparation of an Environmental Impact*

*Statement (EIS) and are subject to a more rigorous review process. The SEQR process includes the following steps:*

- *Identification: The lead agency determines the significance of the action.*
- *Coordinated Review: Involved agencies conduct a coordinated review to assess potential impacts. These impacts are broadly ranging including changes to traffic, light, air and water quality, noise, as well as impacts from pollutants.*
- *Draft EIS: If necessary, a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) is prepared.*
- *Final EIS: The lead agency prepares a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) based on the review.*
- *Decision: The lead agency makes a decision on the action, which can range from a Positive Declaration to a Conditional Negative Declaration.*

### **New Business:**

The Council unanimously accepted a memorial donation of \$100 in the name of Vera Dauman.

### **Visitors' Comments – Investigation of Threats**

Hilda Lando, Steuben County Legislator for the City of Corning said that the City of Corning will be receiving a letter from organizers of the "No Kings" rally alleging that a City of Corning resident made death threats directed to the rally's keynote speaker. The target of these alleged threats was unable to get a response to a complaint concerning them from the Steuben County Sheriff's office or the City of Corning Police Department. The Federal Bureau of Investigation is now involved. Ms. Lando feels that the comments made are beyond scope of permitted free speech but posed, and my yet pose, a real threat of bodily harm that no local law enforcement took seriously.

### **Visitors' Comments – County Business**

Hilda Lando, Steuben County Legislator for the City of Corning reported that:

- The Bridge to Hope on Bridge Street is open and operating, transforming the former Lando's building remarkably. Arun by a non-profit organization that empowers individuals and families to overcome life's challenges through housing support, case management, and community resources, the Bridge to Hope is an example, she feels, of promise made and promises kept regarding the needs of the less fortunate of the city.

- Articles and notices concerning stepped-up efforts to feed those who the SNAP funding cutback and other program cuts have imperiled, unaccountably left out mention of the Corning Food Pantry. The Corning Food Pantry is open for business and continues, as it has these many years, to respond to the needs of those experiencing food insecurity.
- The Steuben Prevention Coalition is sponsoring a Youth Action Forum. About 40 or 50 high school students will attend a meeting about building relationships, raising awareness of social problems and needs, and developing leadership skills.
- The most recent Steuben County Business Round Table was well-attended. Its purpose is not financial, but to make sure that small businesses are aware of the resources and help available to them through the County.

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

#### **NOTES**

- The writer of this report has presented items in an order different than the order at the meeting.
- The writer has, except as specifically noted, amended, or cut comments and attribution for them. Unless the writer uses quotation marks anything reported is not verbatim.
- For brevity, the writer has not included all items on the agenda of the meeting.
- The writer has added material for context or clarity and where it is extensive, is in italics and labeled "Background."