

The Hoyt City Council met in regular session on August 6, 2024.

Present were Mayor Bob Bell, council members Leonard Allen, Joe Romans, Larry Valdez, Becky McClane and Debbie Dreasher. Also present were Matt Thurman and Chief of Police Dan Wentling.

Mayor Bob Bell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Council was previously provided minutes from the July 2, 2024 council meeting for review. Leonard Allen made a motion to accept the minutes from the July 2, 2024 council meeting. Larry Valdez seconded, motion carried.

Mayor Bell provided an update on the status of 104 Highland. The property owner noted she was waiting for a dumpster at this time and has plans to bring in a tiny home on the property. When that time comes, she would need to submit a permit for bringing the home on the property. At this time, no timeline has been set for when this will be completed.

Mayor Bell noted he had spoke with the game warden regarding fishing in the city pond. No fishing license is necessary at this time for fishing at the pond.

Becky McClane asked about a water fountain at the park. It was noted one had been purchased previously but then installation was stalled due to COVID and needing an additional part.

Becky McClane asked if the flag at the park would be installed before Pride of Hoyt Days. The Mayor was going to check with Hoffman Brothers on the status.

Joe Romans reported the guard rails at 4th and Eastern now have the end caps installed and that project is complete.

Joe Romans stated he reviewed the washout area at 5th and Highland that Becky McClane had previously reported. He was going to discuss this with Kenny Bryan to see what could be done.

Joe Romans reported we were still waiting on gravel for the areas that the Crystal Kiely (animal control) was concerned about in the alleys.

Mayor Bell discussed also reaching out to Sunflower Paving when the time comes for street replacement/repair bids.

Leonard Allen presented the prepay contract for this year from Prairie Band Propane. The prepay cost is \$1.55/gallon. After discussion, Debbie Dreasher made a motion to prepay 2,500 gallons at \$1.55/gallon from Prairie Band Propane. Larry Valdez seconded, motion carried.

Leonard Allen discussed needing to make a motion regarding the Resolution relating to the beer gardens at the tractor pull. A motion was made approving the beer gardens, but there was not a motion made to approve the necessary Resolution. Leonard Allen made a motion to ratify the approval of Resolution 2024-2. Larry Valdez seconded, motion carried.

Debbie Dreasher discussed the status of the Eagle Scout Project by Kadyn Pugh. Mayor Bell has signed the necessary paperwork and Pugh is scheduled to get started on the project at the community building at the end of the month.

Matt Thurman appeared before the council to discuss the city's requirements relating to licensing UTVs in the city. Thurman reported, to his knowledge, Hoyt is on the only surrounding city that requires inspections and blinkers to get a permit for UTVs. Thurman would like to see the council amend the Ordinance removing the necessity for these items. Joe Romans had updated information for requirements for UTVs that he will send out for review. Council will revisit this next month.

Larry Valdez relayed a conversation he had with Felix DelToro. DelToro would like to replace the plants in the area around the city sign he has on his property. After discussion, Joe Romans made a motion to approve \$500 at Jackson's Greenhouse for replacing/adding plants around the city sign at 1st and Hwy 214 on the DelToro property. Larry Valdez seconded, motion carried. DelToro will need to meet with Kenny Bryan to get this purchased. Joe Romans asked about the Haymakers banner placed on this same property by the Hoyt sign. Valdez would discuss the banner location with DelToro when letting him know on the approval regarding the plants.

The city clerk presented the monthly financial statement from the accountant. There was discussion regarding the amount of ARPA funds. The clerk will verify this amount with the accountant. Council discussed payment of the fire hydrants. As of right now, the city is going to pay the entire cost for the first one on the list, and the Fire Department will pay half of the other three.

The city clerk reported donations that were made to the community building in memory of Verna Ramage. Donations were made by Denison State Bank, Dennis & Reni Moser, Robert & Darlene Frederick, Jean Sims, Charlotte Milroy, Scott and Kelly Kefhal and an anonymous donation. Joe Romans discussed placing a plaque at the community building recognizing the donations. Romans will get an estimate on the cost of a plaque.

City clerk reported the right of way ordinance presented by Giant Communication will be reviewed further at next month's meeting when the attorney is present.

The city clerk noted the proposed budget amount was slightly increased to more than the proposed Revenue Neutral Rate. It is necessary to have a proposed mill levy amount higher than the RNR in the case it is necessary to exceed the RNR. The hearing for this will be at the next meeting immediately prior to the budget hearing. The budget will be due to the county by October 1, 2024.

The clerk relayed a question whether the city had any authority over owners of abandoned homes to sell the property. The city has no authority.

Debbie Dreasher asked about zoning on the businesses on the south side of Fourth Street by the post office. The clerk will check the zoning on these properties.

The clerk discussed a letter from KDHE that was sent regarding approval for a loan for replacing lead service lines based on results from the copper lead inventory. A response to the letter from the City is due by October 15, 2024. This will be discussed further at the next meeting when the attorney is present.

Mayor Bell discussed concerns with speeding in town.

Mayor Bell reported the large tractor pull event went well and noted Pride of Hoyt Days was coming up on August 24. Larry Valdez and Becky McClane also commented on the tractor pull.

Chief of Police Dan Wentling provided the monthly police report. Wentling provided a status on hiring an additional officer to work day hours. Wentling noted the black police car is currently in the shop. An estimated repair cost (worst case scenario) of \$6,200 was provided from Briggs. This is if both lifters and the cam shaft all need to be replaced. Wentling also noted the Highway Patrol currently has a 65 agency waiting list to purchase vehicles. There was discussion whether or not to have the car looked at somewhere else as well. Debbie Dreasher made a motion to approve the Chief of Police to spend up to \$6,500 on the black police car. Joe Romans seconded, motion carried. Romans also discussed getting on the KHP list for purchasing a police vehicle.

Debbie Dreasher discussed a request by Kenny Bryan to purchase new floats for the dock at the city pond. The dock was pulled because it was sinking and he discovered the barrels were cracked. Joe Romans made a motion to retroactively approve the purchase of floats for the city pond in the amount of \$945. Leonard Allen seconded, motion carried.

Debbie Dreasher will check on the status of the water fountain and the part needed. She also said she will be talking to Kim Clark at the high school regarding students helping with landscaping at the park.

Joe Romans revisited past discussions regarding a military memorial at the park. He proposed a military monument of a soldier kneeling with surrounding flags as a memorial to honor military service. The project will likely be next year, but he will work on getting estimated costs for the project.

Joe Romans had nothing further to report on streets. Larry Valdez noted needing to look at the washout again on the alley behind 102 Fifth Street heading north. He will discuss this with Kenny Bryan.

Becky McClane reported on water. It was noted around 30 of the meters have been installed. The clerk reported the process of setting up the billing with the new meters is still ongoing.

The clerk reported Kenny Bryan passed his sewer operator test.

Larry Valdez discussed having Farrell Holthaus help Kenny Bryan with installing the new meters. There were no issues with this request.

Mayor Bell discussed a request relating to the TNR program asking if the community building could be used as the area for the neuter part of the program. This will be discussed further at a future meeting.

Debbie Dreasher made a motion to pay bills. Larry Valdez seconded, motion carried.

Joe Romans reported National Night Out was going to be held at the square in Holton tomorrow night (August 6, 2024).

Becky McClane made a motion to adjourn. Joe Romans seconded, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Shawna Blackwood
City Clerk