

The Hoyt City Council met in regular session on December 3, 2024.

Present were Mayor Bob Bell, council members Leonard Allen, Debbie Dreasher, Larry Valdez and Becky McClane. Council member Joe Romans was absent. Also present were Felix DelToro, Todd Anderson, Jason Fulkerson, Caleb Hitz 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 November 5, 2024 meeting. Council discussed corrections to the minutes. Becky McClane made a motion approve the minutes with the corrections discussed. Debbie Dreasher seconded, motion carried.

Todd Anderson with SMH Consultants discussed the preliminary engineering report for the sidewalk project. Council discussed extending the sidewalk to the community building on Fifth Street and possible further west on Fourth Street. There were some concerns regarding the cost of the project, but it was noted the preliminary costs were purposely set high. It was noted these preliminary costs are not “set in stone” and the scope of the project can change or adjustments made as the project moves forward. It was reported we should hear whether or not the grant for this project will be awarded in January.

Felix DelToro at 100 N. State Hwy 214 appeared to provide an update on the landscaping around the city sign on his property. Due to dry weather conditions, he did not update the landscaping in the fall. He will try again in the spring and asked if the city council would leave the location open on where he could purchase the items. Council was agreeable to this request. Council had previously approved a \$500 limit for updating the landscaping.

Jason Fulkerson appeared to ask if there were any update on changing the UTV ordinance. The updated ordinance has been signed and sent to the newspaper for publication. Fulkerson asked where he could place the no trespassing sign and post on his property. It was noted no signs can be placed on Evergy’s poles. It was recommended to place the sign post far enough from the utility poles to provide room if the utility company needs to work in that area.

Council discussed with the attorney the status of the letter to the owner at 104 Highland regarding cleanup of the property. Attorney had a few follow up questions but will send the letter to the property owner asking her to come to the city council within 90 days to discuss the status of cleanup of the property.

Council again discussed possible solutions for the areas affected by the water runoff creating ditches flushed from the water tower.

Leonard Allen discussed Christmas bonuses for city employees. Debbie Dreasher made a motion to provide a \$250 bonus each to Kenny Bryan and Shawna Blackwood and \$100 bonus each to the police officers, Chief of Police and animal control officer. Leonard Allen seconded, motion carried.

City attorney discussed passing a resolution regarding the amendment of traffic tickets and the applicability for diversion agreements. Debbie Dreasher made a motion to accept Resolution 2024-7 limiting the amendment of traffic tickets and the applicability for diversion agreements. Leonard Allen seconded, motion carried.

Mayor Bell discussed wanting to also get bids for tires from Stithem's Service. Mayor also asked about the police purchasing their fuel from Stithem's. It was reported they do except during shifts where fuel is needed and the gas station is closed. Council will get bids from Stithem's next time tires are needed for the police vehicles.

Chief of Police Dan Wentling provided the monthly police report. Wentling reported Officer Felix has been gone but should be back this month. Officer Mauldin is still in training. Wentling also reported the tires for the silver police car have been ordered and will be replaced when those arrive. It was reported officers can park when on duty in private driveways as long as permission is provided by the property owner.

Council discussed the work done at Betty Hainline's property. Council also discussed current mail issues.

City clerk provided the monthly financial report from the accountant. Clerk discussed the transfers needed that were discussed in the report. Leonard Allen made a motion pass a Resolution to transfer \$12,824 from the General Fund to the Municipal Equipment Reserve Fund (MERF) and \$12,824 from the General Fund to the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund (CIRF). Debbie Dreasher seconded, motion carried.

Debbie Dreasher made a motion to pass a Resolution to transfer up to \$80,000 from the sewer fund to the sewer reserve fund. Larry Valdez seconded, motion carried.

Clerk discussed the recommendation by the accountant to code the last December invoice for solid waste services from the General Fund instead of the Solid Waste Fund to avoid exceeding the solid waste budget for 2024. Council agreed to code the last invoice for 2024 for solid waste services to the General Fund.

Debbie Dreasher asked about checking into the cost of striping the parking lot at the community building. It was noted the city did fully obligate the ARPA funds.

City clerk discussed a request to use the community building for a senior citizen exercise class likely twice a week. The class would be done in the morning and would last an hour. The class would be offered for at least eight weeks and may be extended at the time depending on the turnout. Debbie Dreasher made a motion to allow use of the community building at no cost for the senior exercise classes. Larry Valdez seconded, motion carried.

Clerk presented the bids for performing the 2023 audit. Due to the high amount of the bids, council asked to get additional bids. City attorney will check into the deadlines for completing the audit and if his firm has additional referrals for auditors.

There was nothing additional to report on parks.

Larry Valdez discussed needing to increase the fund for street repair. Council discussed prior costs for street repair.

There was nothing additional to report on sewer.

Becky McClane provided an update on water. Lead information brochures were handed out to those property owners with service lines that were identified as lead, galvanized or unknown. Council also discussed the water loan application and costs for replacing those lines if needed.

There was nothing additional to report on the community building.

Leonard Allen made a motion to pay bills. Becky McClane seconded, motion carried.

There was a reminder that the Miracle on Fourth Street Event will be held on December 8, 2024. Mayor Bell reported he attended as a representative of Hoyt the Jackson County Christmas tree lighting. Children from each town in Jackson County painted ornaments for the tree.

Leonard Allen made a motion to adjourn. Debbie Dreasher seconded, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Shawna Blackwood
City Clerk