

The Hoyt City Council met in regular session on November 5, 2024.

Present were Mayor Bob Bell, council members Leonard Allen, Debbie Dreasher, Joe Romans, Larry Valdez and Becky McClane. Also present were Chance Hug, Dwayne Hug, Esther Cumpton, Lisa Beam, Jason Fulkerson, Caleb Hitz and Chief of Police Dan Wentling.

Mayor Bob Bell called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Council was previously provided minutes from the October 1, 2024 meeting. Joe Romans made a motion approve the October 1, 2024 regular meeting minutes. Larry Valdez seconded, motion carried.

Council was previously provided minutes from the October 16, 2024 special meeting. Debbie Dreasher made a motion to approve the October 16, 2024 special meeting minutes. Larry Valdez seconded, motion carried.

Esther Cumpton and Lisa Beam with Pride of Hoyt appeared before the council to discuss the upcoming Miracle on Fourth Street event. The event will be held Sunday December 8, 2024. They discussed the city giving permission to have the event and to shut down the street on this date (Fourth Street from Highland to Annetta) from 3:30 pm to 6:30 p.m., using the city building during the event for Santa letters, putting out trash cans for food trash and allowing use of the community building that day for the Christmas craft show. Joe Romans made a motion to approve these items as presented for the Miracle on Fourth Street event on December 8, 2024. Larry Valdez seconded, motion carried.

Dwayne Hug appeared to discuss with the council the tractor pull event held over the summer. Hug asked if the city would contribute anything toward the cost of the portable toilets. The total cost was \$717.54. Council discussed paying half of the cost. Joe Romans made a motion to pay \$358.50 of the invoice from Honey Do's for the cost of the portable toilets from the tractor pull event. Larry Valdez seconded, motion carried. Chance Hug discussed adding permanent lights for the event. They will come to a future meeting to discuss this further.

Jason Fulkerson at appeared to ask if there were any changes being made to the UTV ordinance. Council is discussing this later in the meeting. Fulkerson also discussed problems with vehicles turning around in his driveway/yard at 105 E Eighth due to the dead end road. He asked if perhaps additional signage could be placed indicating "no thru access." Council discussed placing an additional sign and maybe reflective signs where the road ends to help with the issue. Joe Romans made a motion to put reflective signs where the road ends and place a "No Thru Access" sign at the intersection. Leonard Allen seconded, motion carried.

Council discussed changes to the UTV ordinance. Council will remove the requirement for blinkers and yearly inspections. Proof of insurance, \$5 fee and completion of permit application will be required for a permit sticker. City attorney will make these changes to the ordinance and prepare for Mayor's signature. Joe Romans made a motion an amended UTV ordinance

(Ordinance No. 364) as discussed and empower the mayor to sign such Ordinance. Becky McClane seconded, motion carried.

Larry Valdez discussed a request by Dustin Bradley at 102 Annetta Ave. to move the 20 mph speed limit sign and gravel the area between the shop and house. There were no issues with either request.

Mayor Bell asked for a status update on the request by Betty Hainline at 207 Burnett Road made at the previous meeting. Joe Romans reported he had discussed with EMS the concerns she had regarding emergency vehicles finding her address. Romans also presented a bid from Ehrhart Excavating for extending Burnett Street that was discussed at the last meeting. Romans made a motion to approve the estimate from Ehrhart Excavating for extending Burnett and for gravel work in the amount of \$848.50. Larry Valdez seconded, motion carried.

Mayor Bell discussed concerns reported to him regarding the number of stray cats in the city. It was reported there has not been much luck so far with the TNR program.

Larry Valdez discussed questions he had regarding the status of the burned down home at 104 Highland Avenue. Council discussed sending a letter to the property owner regarding the status of clean up. Debbie Dreasher made a motion to have the city attorney send a letter to the property owner at 104 Highland Avenue giving 90 days to clean up the property or come to a city council meeting and provide an update if not able to complete the cleanup by the deadline. Joe Romans seconded, motion carried.

Becky McClane relayed concerns regarding how the dark the area is on Highland from approximately 6th Street to the park. Council discussed looking at possibly adding additional street lights as part of the sidewalk project. This can be reviewed further.

Joe Romans reported the deed Kenny Bryan had received from the county regarding the area Matt Swenson is looking to repair at 116 W Fourth Street was not the correct area. Romans said he would go to the deed's office and see if he can find the correct documentation. The city clerk reported Kenny Bryan had already been to the deed's office and they could not find ownership or easement documentation regarding the correct property. Romans will follow up again with the deed's office.

It was noted the engineering report on the sidewalks has been sent to all council members and the mayor. Becky McClane asked about extending the sidewalks from Fifth Street to the community building on the west side of the road. Joe Romans can follow up on this question. Additionally, Todd Anderson will be attending the December meeting to answer any questions regarding the report.

City attorney provided a status update on the right of way ordinance Giant had presented. After consultation, city attorney recommended agreeing to the rate Giant had presented in the draft document. After discussion, Larry Valdez made a motion accept the Right of Way Ordinance from Giant (Ordinance No. 365). Joe Romans seconded, motion carried.

City attorney discussed passing a resolution regarding the amendment of traffic tickets and the applicability for diversion agreements. City attorney will draft such resolution and will present at next month's meeting for approval.

City clerk presented the monthly financial report. Clerk will check with the accountant to see if he can attend the December meeting. City clerk has received recommendations for auditor and is working on getting estimates.

City clerk discussed a request by the RVHS Booster Club to use the community building for a fundraising event in February. Debbie Dreasher made a motion to allow the RVHS Booster Club to use the community building for their fundraising event in February at no cost as long as the date does not conflict with an existing reservation. Joe Romans seconded, motion carried.

Clerk reported the grant application, KDHE loan application and the lead copper inventory had been timely submitted. It was also reported pamphlets will be handed out to residents in the next month who were identified on the lead copper survey as unknowns, lead/copper or galvanized lines.

Clerk reported the billing is finally up and going for the radio meters that are installed. Council discussed the status of getting the additional meters installed. It was noted Farrell Holthaus had said before he could assist with the installation of the new meters.

Chief of Police Dan Wentling provided the monthly police update. Wentling reported the new officers are now fully equipped. Mayor Bell asked about the process for disputing speeding tickets. Those people need to come to their court date with any questions or concerns.

Wentling reported the silver police car needs new tires. Wentling received a quote from Kansasland for \$626.68 to replace the tires. Joe Romans made a motion to purchase the tires for the silver car from Kansasland in the amount of \$626.68. Larry Valdez seconded, motion carried.

Wentling reported no issues from Halloween. Officer Anders was on patrol for the evening.

Mayor Bell stated Felix DelToro has changed the plan for the landscaping by the city sign in his yard. This will be revisited again in the spring. Mayor Bell discussed concerns with the high cost of the replacement lines identified in the preliminary engineering report relating to the lead and copper inventory.

Debbie Dreasher asked about getting a cost for painting parking stripes at the community building.

There was nothing additional to report on streets. Larry Valdez discussed needing to get additional funds in the street fund. Larry Valdez reported Kenny Bryan had replaced the transformer at the pump station on 8th street. Valdez reported concerns from the property owner at the corner of 3rd and Annetta that the water coming from the tower when flushed is creating a huge ditch along her property. Council discussed remedies for this problem.

There were no issues reported with the community building.

Leonard Allen made a motion to go into executive session for 15 minutes for attorney client privilege to include the city attorney, city clerk and Chief of Police. Larry Valdez seconded, motion carried.

Council exited executive session.

Joe Romans made a motion to pay bills. Leonard Allen seconded, motion carried.

Becky McClane made a motion to adjourn. Debbie Dreasher, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Shawna Blackwood
City Clerk