

The Hoyt City Council met in regular session on December 17, 2025.

Present were Mayor Robert Bell and council members Leonard Allen, Debbie Dreasher, Rebecca McClane, Larry Valdez and Joe Romans. Also present were city attorney Tom Barnes and Chief of Police Adam Schafer.

Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Council was previously provided minutes from the November 19, 2025 regular meeting. Rebecca McClane made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 19, 2025 meeting. Leonard Allen seconded, motion carried.

Council was previously provided minutes from the December 2, 2025 special meeting. Joe Romans made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 2, 2025 special meeting. Larry Valdez seconded, motion carried.

There was no additional information from the owners at 309 Annetta Avenue who were wanting to place a shop behind their property. It was reported Mayor Bell had received the boundary and setback information from Paul Crawford regarding new buildings.

It was noted the parking lines in front of 102 East Fourth Street still need to be painted.

Leonard Allen discussed holiday bonuses for employees. Leonard Allen made a motion to give \$250 holiday bonuses to each of the two full time employees and \$100 each to all the other employees. Joe Romans seconded, motion carried.

Joe Romans made a motion to approve the 2025 Amended Budget as published. Leonard Allen seconded, motion carried.

Debbie Dreasher made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-5 authorizing transfer of funds from the general fund to the municipal equipment reserve fund. Rebecca McClane seconded, motion carried.

Joe Romans made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-6 authorizing transfer of funds from the sewer fund to the sewer reserve fund. Larry Valdez seconded, motion carried.

Council revisited the discussion regarding city ownership at 116 W Fourth Street. After discussion, it is believed the city does have an easement at the area in question, but would not be responsible for maintenance of the property. City attorney can respond to the property owner's attorney with this information or the property owner himself if there is no attorney of record.

City clerk noted the audit reports were available for review for 2023 and 2024. Council will review and can approve at the next meeting.

Clerk stated she had contacted Louis Funk with Bartlett & West regarding getting an updated metes and bounds description for the city. BWE provided a rough estimate of \$1500-\$5000 depending on how much time they had to spend getting the correct legals from the county. After discussion, Mr. Barnes asked the clerk to have Mr. Funk contact him directly so they could discuss the situation and the best way to proceed.

Council discussed the sidewalk project. It was noted council will not be doing new sidewalks on the north side of Fourth Street from Central to McKeage Avenue. Council had additional questions regarding the process and agreed it would be best to have the engineers and Garrett Nordstrom from Governmental Assistant Services attend the next meeting.

Clerk asked about the police vehicle purchase. Council agreed the car would be purchased in January 2026.

Mayor Bell noted he had attended the Miracle on Fourth Street Event and believed it was well attended and everything went smoothly.

Mayor Bell again noted he had talked with Paul Crawford regarding property setback information.

He also shared Kenny Bryan said everything was good on his end.

Chief of Police Adam Schafer gave the monthly police report.

Schafer noted the city needed to renew the firewall subscription for the city clerk's office. He provided a year renewal vs three year renewal costs. Debbie Dreasher made motion to approve firewall subscription beginning January 2026 for three years in the amount of \$2,310. Larry Valdez seconded, motion carried.

Schafer discussed the possible annexation of school property that was previously purchased that is currently outside of city limits. Council discussed what possible areas they may want to ask for annexation. They agreed there was likely no need to annex whole area into the city. Debbie Dreasher will discuss with the superintendent what area they are looking at now for annexation. Joe Romans will check on surveyor costs.

Schafer presented monthly police report. Schafer again noted the bar owner had approached two of the police officers. He also reported the printer for the police office was cheaper than originally quoted. He stated Officer Brandon Shaw had resigned effective immediately and that the two newest police officers would be attending a free training at the Holton Fire Department offered by the Jackson County Sheriff's Department.

Debbie Dreasher had nothing additional to report on parks.

Joe Romans reported the stop signs needed will be ordered in 2026. He also noted the McKeage/Burnett street signs had blown off the pole and were currently at his home. Kenny Bryan will be notified.

Joe Romans provided an update on the static memorial display in park. Council was presented paperwork with information and can discuss further once they have reviewed the information.

Larry Valdez noted the burn pile has been burned. Valdez will check with Kenny Bryan on the hay bales that are still at the park.

Rebecca McClane noted we had received a price increase for water from RWD#1. We will need to adjust our rates accordingly. Council discussed raising rates \$0.14. City clerk can have ordinance to present at next meeting with new rates.

There was nothing to report on community building. Debbie Dreasher asked if the council would again waive the fee for the community building for the Fire Department's annual banquet to be held on January 24, 2026. Joe Romans made a motion to waive the fee for the Fire Department for the community building use on January 24, 2026. Leonard Allen seconded, motion carried.

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

Joe Romans made a motion to adjourn. Larry Valdez seconded, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Shawna Blackwood

City Clerk