

Regular Meeting

February 18, 2026

The Hoyt City Council met in regular session on February 18, 2026.

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

Council President Debbie Dreasher called the meeting or order at 7:16 p.m.

Council was previously provided minutes from the January 21, 2026 regular meeting. Joe Romans made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 21, 2026 meeting. Rebecca McClane seconded, motion carried.

Council discussed the annual spring clean up event. The date will be April 11, 2026 this year. Council would like to have five dumpsters plus a dumpster for metal only. Clerk will double check with LRS on the metal dumpster.

Leonard Allen presented a proclamation for council to sign for former council member Nathan McAlister for his work in getting the remaining sewer loan paid off early. Council signed the document and will present a framed proclamation to present to Mr. McAlister at a future meeting.

City attorney Tom Barnes discussed needing approval to move forward with getting title reports for the area needing right of way easements for the sidewalk project. After discussion, Joe Romans made a motion to approve Tom Barnes moving forward with getting title reports for the properties discussed for the sidewalk project. Leonard Allen seconded, motion carried.

Debbie Dreasher read the property sidewalk bid deadline extension letter. The city will be asking for a 90 day bid extension deadline to June 14, 2026. Larry Valdez made a motion to approve the 90 day bid extension deadline. Joe Romans seconded, motion carried.

Joe Romans provided an update on the static memorial display. Council needs to decide on an exact location for the display. Romans will work on putting together the final paperwork and documents needed for the application. City will be responsible for cost of concrete pad needed for the display. Joe Romans made a motion at this February 18, 2026 council meeting to approve placing the military equipment in the Hoyt City Park which is public land and under the governance and authority of the city council for the purposes of display of military equipment and do hereby make this official at this council meeting. Larry Valdez seconded, motion carried.

City clerk presented the monthly financial report from the accountant. It was noted \$126,238 has been spent to date from the capital improvement reserve fund toward the sidewalk project. The city committed to spending \$179,717 on the project. The city clerk noted the CD the city opened is set to renew on March 2, 2026. Council can renew the CD for six months. Per council instruction, the clerk will check and see if the city can renew for three months. If not, council asked that the funds be transferred back to the money market account. Leonard Allen made a motion to renew for three months if that is an option and if not to have the funds transferred back to the money market account. Larry Valdez seconded, motion carried.

City clerk discussed with council the high water bill for the resident at 202B East First Street. The reading has been normal since that high reading and nothing could be found explaining the high usage. Leonard Allen made a motion to give the resident six months to pay off the difference from her average monthly amount and waive late fees during this time. Motion died for lack of a second. Larry Valdez made a motion waive half of the high bill amount (\$210) and give the six months to pay off the amount with no late fees during this time. Joe Romans seconded, motion carried.

Chief of Police Adam Schafer gave the monthly police report. Schafer reported everything has been ordered for the new patrol car. However, the cage will not be shipped until next month so they are on hold with installation until that piece arrives. Schafer noted he has been in discussions with Banner Creek Clinic regarding a contract, but they are hold with that until additional outbuilding construction is completed. Schafer asked if there was any update on the cleanup at 104 Highland Avenue or the lot east of that location. It was reported the lot east of 104 Highland has been sold. Regarding the remaining cleanup at 104 Highland Avenue, council would like to check with Ehrhart Excavating to determine if the original estimate including demo of the garage as well. Mr. Barnes reported he believed the only reason the garage was not demolished at the time the contractor was there to do the cleanup was because someone was living in the garage at that time. Council would like to check with Ehrhart to see if the original bid was meant to include the garage as well.

Regarding the previous annexation discussions of school property, Larry Valdez reported he had visited the Jackson County Register of Deed's office to discuss whether the large piece of property USD 337 had recently purchased was bought as one large parcel or multiple parcels. This employee did not know but recommended talking to the superintendent to find out how the property was purchased. In talking with Debbie Dreahser, it was her belief the property was likely bought as one large piece of property. It was noted if that was true then a survey would need to be done if the city was only wishing to annex a certain piece of the property.

Schafer reported RVMS PRO had invited the police department to their Breakfast with Buddies event held on February 13. Officer Felix was able to attend the event.

Schafer reported that Ellis Boys had inspected the black patrol car and it indeed needs to have additional repairs including brake work done. This quote for these repairs is \$3,066.53. Schafer asked how the council wanted to proceed with selling the car. The council discussed fixing the repairs and then listing the vehicle for sale vs not fixing the car but reducing the sale price of the vehicle. Debbie Dreasher asked if Chief Schafer would discuss the situation with Kansas Highway Patrol to determine if they would be willing to list the car for us without making the repairs or it would be best to make the repairs first before listing the vehicle. Schafer will report back at next meeting.

Debbie Dreasher reported the Hoyt Fire Department has not come up with a new date yet for the annual banquet.

Joe Romans reported in streets that the street patching is holding up well and Kenny Bryan had reported he was good on sand.

Larry Valdez asked about status of installing the remaining radio read meters. It was reported 80 of those meters have been installed. Valdez will check with Kenny Bryan on the timeframe for completing the remaining installation.

Larry Valdez had nothing to report on sewer.

City council discussed the concerns previously reported regarding the community building. The city clerk will check with the cleaning person for the community building to see if she can do additional cleaning duties noted in the concerns.

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Shawna Blackwood  
City Clerk

