

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

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, Chief of Police Adam Schafer, Nathan McAlister, Chance Hug, Dwayne Hug, Kristy Wilson with Kellerman's Insurance and Bob Ehrhart.

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

Council was previously provided minutes from the February 18, 2026 regular meeting. Joe Romans made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 18, 2026 regular meeting. Rebecca McClane seconded, motion carried.

Leonard Allen on behalf of the council presented a proclamation to former council member Nathan McAlister. This proclamation was to thank Mr. McAlister for his role in paying off a sewer loan early and saving the city significantly on interest.

Dwayne Hug appeared with Chance Hug to discuss the big tractor pull event. The event will be held July 31, 2026 starting at 6 p.m at the park. They would like to install permanent poles at the area for electricity for the lights. Joe Romans made a motion to approve installation of 6 semi-permanent lights run by generators at the tractor pull event area in the park. Larry Valdez seconded, motion carried 4-1 with Debbie Dreasher voting no.

Larry Valdez made a motion to approve spending up to \$400 on portable toilet expenses for the big tractor pull event in the park. Leonard Allen seconded, motion carried.

City clerk asked for information for the beer garden to be submitted in May 2026 so there is time to get the necessary paperwork submitted and approved from the state.

Kristy Wilson with Kellerman's Insurance provided the annual insurance review. Council discussed needing to add the new building at the park, update the camera coverage and police equipment costs.

Bob Ehrhart discussed the building permit he had submitted for their new shop on 110 and Hwy 75. Joe Romans made a motion to approve the building permit subject to Paul Crawford's review of the application. Larry Valdez seconded, motion carried. Ehrhart will be adjusting the project value amount and then will get the check submitted for the permit application. Ehrhart also discussed the bid for the remaining cleanup of 104 Highland Avenue. The bid for remaining cleanup is \$5,065. Council decided against spending any more funds on cleanup of the property.

Joe Romans provided an update on the static memorial display. Romans will work on putting together the final paperwork and documents needed for the application and will get this submitted. City will be responsible for cost of concrete pad needed for the display. Romans noted if they were able to get one at this time, it can be stored until we are ready to place the concrete pad.

It was noted Paul Crawford approved a fence permit for 299 E Seventh Street.

City clerk reported LRS had confirmed they could do five dumpsters for the cleanup event. It was not confirmed yet whether they could bring a sixth dumpster for metal.

Larry Valdez stated he talked with superintendent Aaric Davis regarding annexation of school property that had recently been discussed. Davis relayed they could always utilize Jackson County Sherriff's Department if any issues came up when Hoyt PD could not cover if the problem was in areas outside of Hoyt PD jurisdiction (except for the one police officer that is deputized). After long discussion, it was decided to first see what survey costs for establishing a south boundary line would be to include the new parking lot before making any decisions on whether or not to annex that piece of property.

Leonard Allen updated the council regarding the website problems. Allen has been trying to fix the issue but has determined it would be best to purchase repair software to hopefully remedy the issue. He recommended purchasing the MalCare repair plan at a cost of \$179.40 (yearly cost). Debbie Dreasher made a motion to purchase the software plan for repair of the website at a cost of \$179.40. Joe Romans seconded, motion carried.

City clerk stated she had been contacted by Sharon Gabriel regarding selling her 2019 golf cart to the city. She will no longer be using and it and asking \$5,000 for purchase of the golf cart. Kenny Bryan has been using the golf cart recently and has had no issues. Debbie Dreasher made a motion to approve purchase of the golf cart from Sharon Gabriel for \$5,000. Joe Romans seconded, motion carried.

Leonard Allen and council discussed the metal container that is supposed to be at the spring clean up day at the park.

City clerk relayed a request from Dan Wentling to attend the code enforcement conference at Prairie Band Casino from April 15-April 17, 2026. The cost is \$250. Debbie Dreasher made a motion to approve Dan Wentling attending the conference at a cost of \$250. Joe Romans seconded, motion carried.

Joe Romans asked about the status of installing the new stop signs. It was reported Kenny Bryan had changed out all the signs that were on the list provided. Romans reported a few additional ones needed to be changed out and will get those reported to Bryan.

City clerk provided an update on sidewalk project. The bid extension request has been approved. The next step is for the Mayor to sign the request for release of funds. The city attorney reported they are working on getting the necessary easements for the project.

City clerk reported one of the fridges at the community building needed replaced. The fridge was ordered from Home Depot and has been installed at the building. The old one was hauled off by Home Depot at an additional cost.

Chief of Police Adam Schafer gave the monthly police report. Debbie Dreasher reported parking and visibility concerns at 4th and Highland when traveling north on Highland. Council discussed possible solutions. Romans suggested a 4 way stop at that intersection.

Schafer noted it was time to renew the firewall for the police office. The one year cost is \$975, the 3 year renewal cost is \$2,375. Leonard Allen made a motion to approve renewal of the firewall for the police officer computer for three years at a cost of \$2,375. Joe Romans seconded, motion carried.

Schafer reported the final part for new patrol vehicle has shipped. Once arrived, Jeremy Andrews can finish with installation of everything needed for the vehicle. Schafer reported he has not taken any further action with the black police car as Officer Williams will be using it for travel to the police academy in Hutchinson in April. Schafer reported spending \$500 for new shirts and accessories for the newest officers. Schafer reported the portable breath test (PBT) had malfunctioned and has been sent in to manufacturer for repair. It was reported a new one will likely be around \$700 if it cannot be repaired. Schafer reported one of the police vests will be expiring and as such it would be necessary to purchase a new one. The estimated cost for a new vest is \$2,000. Schafer would like use funds from the police equipment fund to cover these costs. Debbie Dreasher made a motion to purchase a new vest using police equipment funds. Joe Romans seconded, motion carried.

Debbie Dreasher asked council about the idea of looking for volunteers to help with park projects. City clerk reported someone needed community service hours and had recently helped Kenny Bryan in the park to clear out the main flower bed and around the community building. Dreasher will ask around for volunteers for park projects.

It was reported no additional radio read meters had been installed since last month.

Joe Romans had nothing to report on streets. Larry Valdez reported Mayer Service was cleaning the sewer lines at this time.

It was noted the community building is open for walkers Monday – Thursday from 8am-10 am and the senior exercise class is held Monday and Wednesday mornings.

Joe Romans made a motion to pay bills. Rebecca McClane seconded, motion carried.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:01 pm.

Shawna Blackwood
City Clerk