

# Hoyt park improvements, zoning discussed

By Shawna Blackwood  
City Clerk

The Hoyt City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, Aug. 6. Present were Mayor Bob Bell, council members Leonard Allen, Joe Romans, Larry Valdez, Becky McClane and Debbie Dreasher, Matt Thurman and Chief of Police Dan Wentling.

Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. The council had previously been provided minutes from the July 2 council meeting for review. Allen made a motion to accept the minutes from the July 2 council meeting. Valdez seconded, and the motion carried.

Mayor Bell provided an update on the status of 104 Highland Ave. The property owner noted she was waiting for a dumpster at this time and has plans to bring in a tiny home on the property. When that time comes, she would need to submit a permit for bringing the home on the property. At this time, no timeline has been set for when this will be completed.

Mayor Bell noted he had spoken with the game warden regarding fishing in the city pond. No fishing license is necessary at this time for fishing at the pond.

McClane asked about a water fountain at the park. It was noted one had been purchased previously but installation was stalled due to COVID and needing an additional part.

McClane asked if the flag at the park would be installed before Pride of Hoyt Days. Mayor Bell was going to check with Hoffman Brothers on the status.

Romans reported that the guardrails at Fourth Street and Eastern Avenue now have the end caps installed and that project is complete.

Romans said he reviewed the washout area at Fifth Street and Highland Avenue that McClane had previously reported. He was going to discuss this with Kenny Bryan to see what could be done.

Romans reported that the city is still waiting on gravel for the areas that Crystal Kiely (animal control) was concerned about in the alleys.

Mayor Bell discussed also reaching out to Sunflower Paving when the time comes for street replacement/repair bids.

Allen presented the prepay contract for this year from Prairie Band Propane. The pre-pay cost is \$1.55 per gallon. After discussion, Dreasher made a motion to prepay 2,500 gallons at \$1.55 per gallon from Prairie Band Propane. The motion carried after being seconded by Valdez.

Allen discussed needing to make a motion regarding the resolution relating to the beer gardens at the tractor pull. A motion was made approving the beer gardens, but there was not a motion made to approve the necessary resolution. Allen made a motion to ratify the approval of Resolution 2024-2. Valdez seconded. The motion carried.

Dreasher discussed the status of the Eagle Scout project by Kadya Pugh. Mayor Bell has signed the necessary paperwork and Pugh is scheduled to get started on the project at the community building at the end of the month.

Thurman met with the council to discuss the city's requirements relating to licensing UTVs in the city. Thurman reported, to his knowledge, Hoyt is the only surrounding city that requires inspections and blinkers to get a permit for UTVs. Thurman would like to see the council amend the ordinance, removing the necessity for these items. Romans had updated information for requirements for UTVs that he will send out for review. The council will revisit this next month.

Valdez relayed a conversation he had with Felix DelToro. DelToro would like to replace the plants in the area around the city sign he has on his property. After discussion, Romans made a motion to approve \$500 at Jackson's Greenhouse for replacing/adding plants around the city sign at First Street and Kansas Highway 214 on the DelToro property. Valdez seconded and the motion carried. DelToro will need to meet with Bryan to get this purchased.

Romans asked about the Haymakers banner placed on this same property by the Hoyt sign. Valdez would discuss the banner location with DelToro when letting him know on the approval regarding the plants.

City Clerk Shawna Blackwood presented the monthly financial statement from the accountant. There was discussion regarding the amount of ARPA funds. Blackwood will verify this amount with the accountant.

Council members discussed payment of the fire hydrants. As of right now, the city is going to pay the entire cost for the first one on the list, and the fire department will pay half of the other three.

Blackwood reported donations that were made to the community building in memory of Verna Ramage. Donations were made by Denison State Bank, Dennis and Reni Moser, Robert and Darlene Frederick, Jean Sims, Charlotte Milroy, Scott and Kelly Kefhal and an anonymous donation. Romans discussed placing a plaque at the community building recognizing the donations. Romans will get an estimate on the cost of a plaque.

Blackwood reported that the right-of-way ordinance presented by Giant Communications would be reviewed further at the next meeting when the attorney would be present.

Blackwood noted that the proposed budget amount was slightly increased to more than the proposed Revenue Neutral Rate. It is necessary to have a proposed mill levy amount higher than the RNR in the case it is necessary to exceed the RNR. The hearing for this will be held at the next meeting immediately prior to the budget hearing. The budget will be due to the county by Oct. 1.

Blackwood relayed a question as to whether the city had any authority over owners of abandoned homes to sell the property. The city has no authority.

Dreasher asked about zoning on the businesses on the south side of Fourth Street by the post office. Blackwood will check the zoning on these properties.

Blackwood discussed a letter from Kansas Department of Health and Environment that was sent regarding approval for a loan for replacing lead service lines based on results from the copper lead inventory. A response to the letter from the city is due by Oct. 15. This will be discussed further at the next meeting when the attorney is present.

Mayor Bell discussed concerns with speeding in town. He also reported that the large tractor pull event went well and noted that Pride of Hoyt Days was coming up on Aug. 24. Valdez and McClane also commented on the tractor pull.

Chief Wentling provided the monthly police report. Wentling provided a status on hiring an additional officer to work day hours. He noted that the black police car is currently in the shop. An estimated repair cost (worst case scenario) of \$6,200 was provided from Briggs. This is if both lifters and the cam shaft all need to be replaced.

Wentling also noted the Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP) currently has a 65-agency waiting list to purchase vehicles. There was discussion whether or not to have the car looked at somewhere else as well. Dreasher made and Romans seconded a motion to approve Chief Wentling to spend up to \$6,500 on the black police car. The motion carried. Romans also discussed getting on the KHP list for purchasing a police vehicle.

Dreasher discussed a request from Bryan to purchase new floats for the dock at the city pond. The dock was pulled because it was sinking and he

discovered the barrels were cracked. Romans made a motion to retroactively approve the purchase of floats for the city pond in the amount of \$945. The motion carried after being seconded by Allen.

Dreasher will check on the status of the water fountain and the part needed. She also said she will be talking to Kim Clark at Royal Valley High School regarding students helping with landscaping at the park.

Romans revisited past discussions regarding a military memorial at the park. He proposed a military monument of a soldier kneeling with surrounding flags as a memorial to honor military service. The project will likely be next year, but he will work on getting estimated costs for the project.

Romans had nothing further to report on streets. Valdez noted needing to look at the washout again on the alley behind 102 Fifth St. heading north. He will discuss this with Bryan.

McClane reported on water. It was noted that about 30 of the meters have been installed. Blackwood reported the process of setting up the billing with the new meters is still ongoing.

Blackwood reported that Bryan passed his sewer operator test. Valdez discussed having Farrell Holthaus help Bryan with installing the new meters. There were no issues with this request.

Mayor Bell discussed a request relating to the TNR program asking if the community building could be used as the area for the neuter part of the program. This will be discussed further at a future meeting.

Dreasher made and Valdez seconded a motion to pay bills. The motion carried.

Romans reported that National Night Out was to be held at the Square in Holton on Wednesday night, Aug. 7.

McClane made a motion to adjourn. Romans seconded, the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

## Holton Senior Center Menus

Meals at the Jackson County Senior Center are available for dine-in or carry-out, as well as local delivery. Reservations are to be made through the Jackson County Senior Citizens Office on a first come, first serve basis. Same day reservations will be accepted from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. only if reservations are not filled the previous day. Cancellations must be made by 9:30 a.m. same day.

Reservations and cancellations may be made through the Senior Citizens Office or by calling (785) 364-3571.

Menus are subject to change. Menus listed for the week of Monday, Sept. 30 through Friday, Oct. 4 are as follows:

**Monday, Sept. 30:** Tuna and pea macaroni casserole, Harvard beets, fruit crisp and roll and margarine.

**Tuesday, Oct. 1:** Sloppy joe with bun, hashbrown patty, Mexi-corn, apricots and peanut butter cookie.

**Wednesday, Oct. 2:** Ham and beans, carrot salad, mandarin oranges and cornbread and margarine.

**Thursday, Oct. 3:** Oven fried chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, fruit cup and bread and margarine.

**Friday, Oct. 4:** Taco soup with hamburger, cottage cheese with peppers and tomato, pears, brownie and tortilla chips.

## Circleville Christian Church

By Jeannie Arnold

The welcome and announcements and the opening prayer for the Sept. 22 service at Circleville Christian Church were given by Jake Spalding.

Music was provided by the praise team of Dr. David Allen, Max Lierz, Sue Davault, Tim Boswell, Rebecca Hutfles, Ian Allen, Annie Allen and Travis Self as they led the congregation in singing "Life Is Like A Mountain Railroad" and "Old Time Religion."

Lyle Alley shared a story titled "The Deck Of Cards." A serviceman was at a prayer meeting and had no Bible or prayer book but had a deck of cards. He got in trouble for having them at the prayer meeting, but when questioned about it, his reply spoke loudly.

The ace stands for one God, the two stands for the old and new testament, the three is for the trinity, the four is for four gospels, the five is for the five wise virgins, the six reminds him that God created the world in six days, the seven is for the seventh day that God rested, the eight is for when God destroyed the earth by water but saved eight people, the nine is for the nine lepers, the 10 is for the 10 commandments, the jack is the devil and the prince of darkness, the queen is for the virgin Mary and the king is for the King of Kings.

There are 365 spots on the cards and there are 365 days in a year, there are 52 cards in the deck and there are 52 weeks in a year and there are four suits for the four seasons. You see, the deck of cards was his "prayer book."

The praise team then led the congregation in singing "I Speak Jesus" and "How Great Thou Art" before Dr. David Allen gave the communion prayer. The communion meditation was the praise team singing "Jesus, Name Above All Names" with narration by the group. Communion servers were Bill Dyer, Allan Simmons, Brandon Will and Gavin Will.

With this being Music Sunday, Dr. David Allen talked about celebrating the power of music. A recording of "The Star Spangled Banner" was played and everyone stood to face the flag. As the "Wedding March" was played, everyone stood again. When "Sweet Caroline" was played, everyone held hands. When "The Hokey Pokey" and "Church Clap" were played, there were people participating. And when "Remember When" was played, it brought tears to people's eyes.

David then read scripture from 1 Samuel 16:23, Ephesians 5:19-20 and Colossians 3:16 in reference to music. Music can have healing power and be a tool to help us remember God's word.

The service closed by singing "The Old Rugged Cross," "Victory In Jesus" and, in honor and remembrance of Gary Bell, the congregation sang "I'll Fly Away."

## We're Proud Of Our Three HHS Homecoming Queen Candidates!



Sadey Gross



Emily Horr



Lexie Larson

(All employees at Trails Cafe)



601 Arizona Ave.  
Holton, KS 66436  
Phone: 785-364-2786  
Open daily 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

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Steve & Lisa Oom, owners

## REMINDER: Fall Consignment Auction

Saturday, Sept. 28, 2024 • 9:30 a.m.  
6587 U.S. Highway 159  
(2 miles east of Effingham, Kansas)

Farm and Livestock Equipment  
Harvest Equipment • Construction Equipment  
ATVs • Lawn and Garden Items

### JEFF HOFFMAN AUCTION SERVICE

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www.thenewsleaf.com/hoffman.htm

## Public Notice

(Published in The Holton Recorder, Holton, Kan., on Wednesday, Sept. 25, 2024.)

### JACKSON COUNTY CLOSING OF REGISTRATION BOOKS FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION

Pursuant to the provision of K.S.A. 25-2310 - 2311, notice is hereby given that the last day to register to vote for the General Election will be Tuesday, October 15th, 2024. The books will remain closed until the day after the General election that will be held on the 5th day of November 2024.

If you will be 18 years of age before Election Day and are a resident of Jackson County, you may register at the Jackson County Clerk's Office or by mail. If you would like a form or have questions, please call the Jackson County Clerk (785) 364-2891.

Registration forms can be found at <http://www.kssos.org/forms/elections/voterregistration.pdf>

Dated this 25th day of September 2024.

Kristie Richter  
Jackson County Clerk

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# You will always be our royalty! Congratulations and Love, From Your Parents



Emily



Katie



Sadey



Lexie



Brooke



Owen



Logan



Noah



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