



HARTINGTON TOWN HALL MEETING

JANUARY 12, 2024



Tonight's Topics

- City Maintenance Building
- Skylon Ballroom
- Cost to taxpayers
- Voting & After



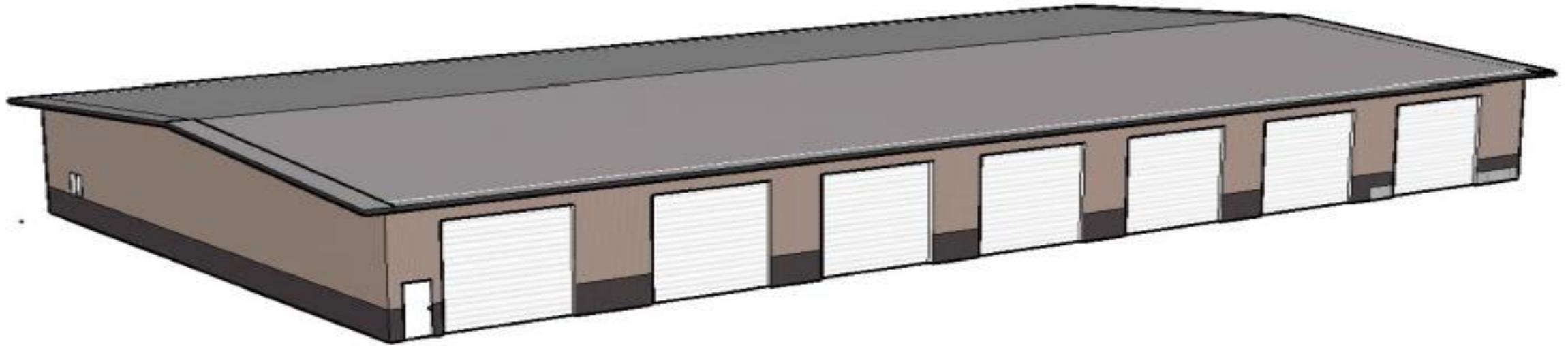
City Maintenance Building



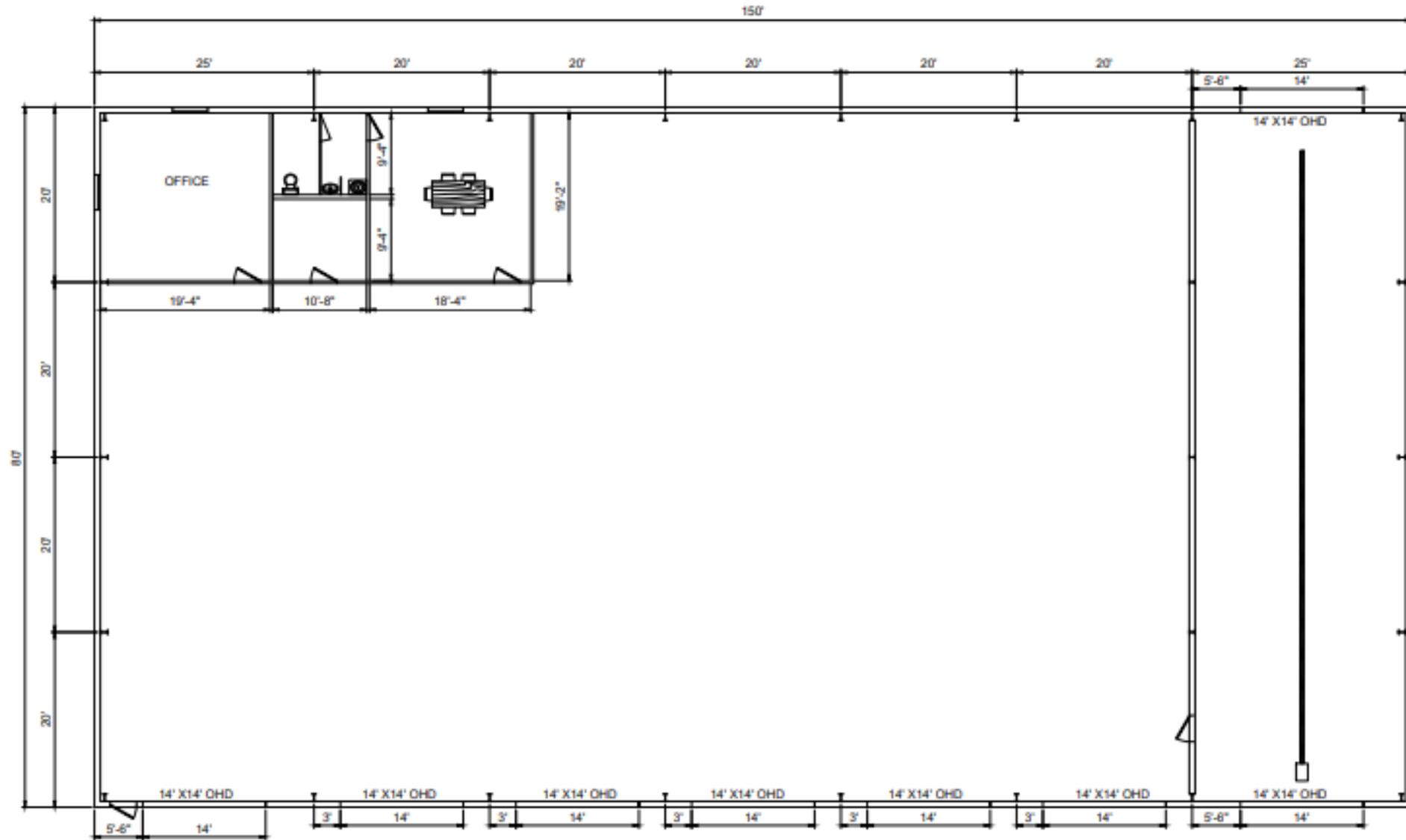








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**Proposed City Maintenance
Building**



Proposed City Maintenance Building

Similar to current Fire/Ambulance Building



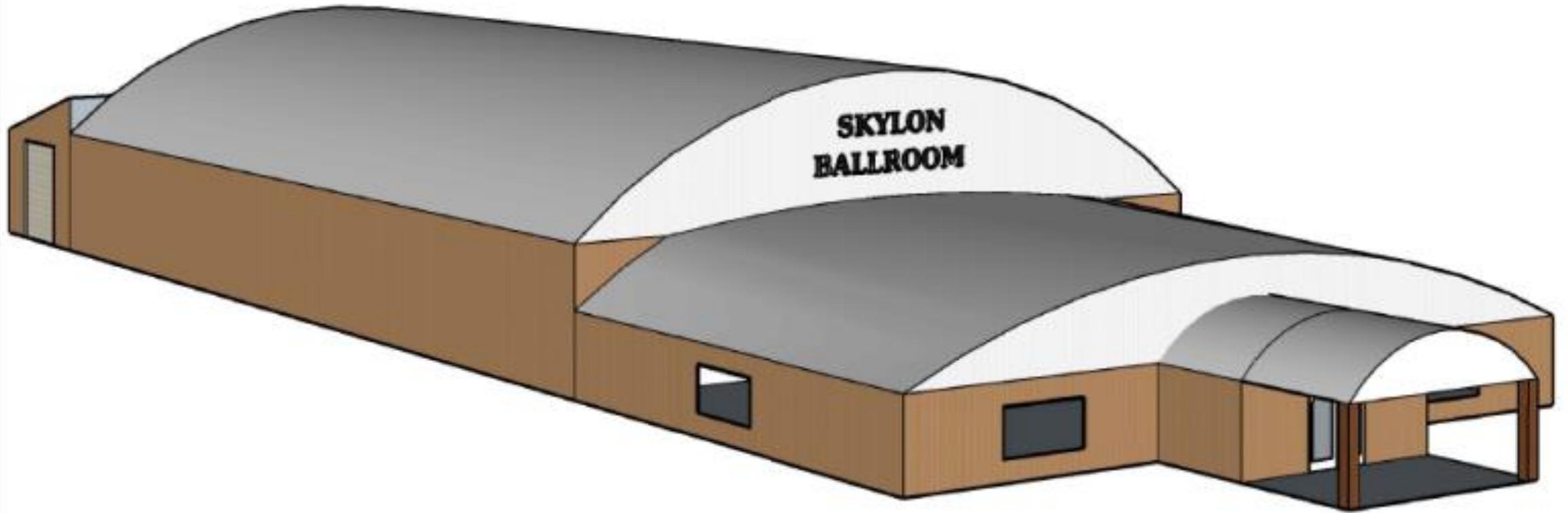
Skylon Ballroom



Skylon Ballroom

The Skylon Ballroom was built by Ferdie Peitz and completed in 1952. Peitz originally owned Homewood Park Dance Hall in Wynot, but had issues with flooding, so decided to change locations. Some of the wood from the floor of Homewood was used for the floor and inside of the new Skylon building. Construction was done by Clarence Hoelsing and his construction crew and was finished in 1952. The Skylon was inducted into the Nebraska Music Association Hall of Fame and the Nebraska Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1996. Many famous musicians have graced the Skylon stage like Louis Armstrong, Glenn Miller, and Lawrence Welk. The Skylon continues to play an important part in the traditions and memories of the Hartington community.

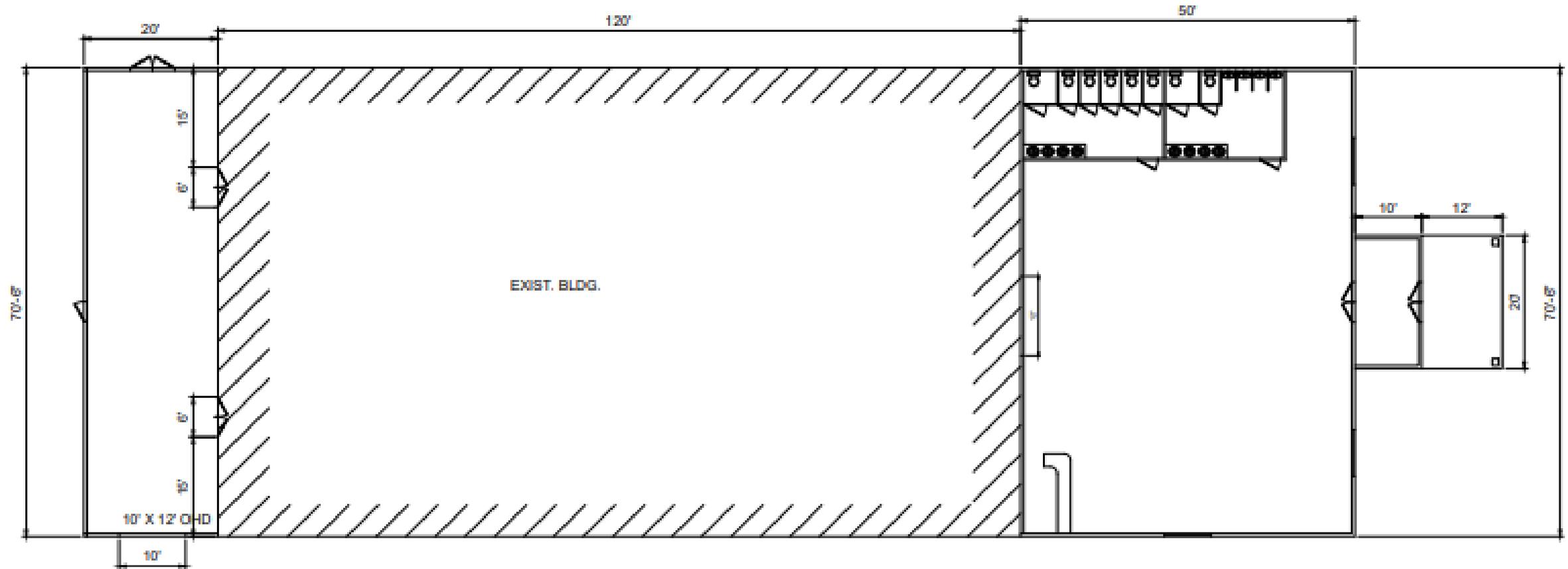
Skylon Renovation



Skylon Renovation



Skylon Renovation



Economic Impact

- The average wedding in Nebraska costs \$21,000

(Source:theknot.com)

- Local businesses benefit from weddings being held in Hartington other than the venue itself.
 - Caterers
 - Florists
 - Bars/restaurants
 - Hotels/Lodging
 - Photographers/videographer
 - Seamstress
 - Gas Stations/Convenience Store
 - Other Venues(rehearsals/showers)
 - Gift shops
 - Bakers
 - Hair/nail salons
 - And more





Economic Impact

- The City of Hartington received \$25,265.23 in Occupation(Hotel)Tax in 2023
- The Skylon building could be used for more than just weddings!
 - Family gathering/funerals/reunions, etc.
 - Concerts/Music events
 - Regular roller skating for the kids
 - Craft/Art shows
 - Sales
 - Conventions/Meetings
 - Entertainment
- If we do not have a facility to serve large gatherings(350+) people will be forced to host all weddings out of town and will most likely take that related business out of town with them as well.

Skylon Use

2023-current

- 3 Holy Trinity Parish Garage Sales(uses building for about 10 days each sale)
- 2 Private events
- 4 Roller skating events
- 17 weddings
- 2 Graduations
- As a family run business the Wortmann family have had to turn down booking events due to other family obligations or scheduling conflicts.



Voting Process

- May election ballots have been mailed out
- Two ballot issues
- If either ballot issues fails the project(s) will not be able to move forward without another election



Skylon Issue

- *“Shall the City of Hartington, Nebraska, borrow money and pledge the property and credit of the City upon its negotiable bonds in the principal amount of not to exceed One Million Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,600,000) for the purpose of purchasing and moving an existing building known as the Skylon Ballroom, paying the costs of related modifications, furnishings, equipment and improvements to or related to such facilities, and purchasing real estate for such building and improvements; with such bonds to be issued in one or more series, at such time or times, to bear interest at such rate or rates, to be sold at such prices and to become due at such time or times as may be fixed by, or determined at the direction of the Mayor and Council of the City of Hartington; and*
- *“Shall the City cause to be levied and collected annually a special levy of taxes on the taxable value of all the taxable property in the City, in addition to all other taxes, if not paid from other revenue sources, in an amount sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on said bonds as such principal and interest become due?”*

City Shop Issue

- *“Shall the City of Hartington, Nebraska, borrow money and pledge the property and credit of the City upon its negotiable bonds in the principal amount of not to exceed One Million Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,300,000) for the purpose of paying the costs of acquisition and construction of a building for general use of the city including public works and other functions, together with furnishings and equipment; with such bonds to be issued in one or more series, at such time or times, to bear interest at such rate or rates, to be sold at such prices and to become due at such time or times as may be fixed by, or determined at the direction of the Mayor and Council of the City of Hartington; and*
- *“Shall the City cause to be levied and collected annually a special levy of taxes on the taxable value of all the taxable property in the City, in addition to all other taxes, if not paid from other revenue sources, in an amount sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on said bonds as such principal and interest become due?”*



- QUESTIONS