

City of Loup City – Regular Meeting  
Municipal Building – Council Chambers  
February 3, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.

A meeting of the Mayor and Council of Loup City convened in regular session on February 3, 2026. Mayor Hart called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Notice of the Regular Meeting was given in advance thereof by: Posting at three locations- City Hall, Post Office and Court House. Said notice of the meetings contained the statement that the agenda kept continually current was available to the public in the office of the City Clerk during normal business hours.

Mayor Hart announced that the meeting of the Mayor and Council is an open meeting. The City of Loup City abides by the Open Meetings Act in conducting business. A copy of the Open Meetings Act is displayed in the Council Chambers as required by law. The City Council may vote to go into closed session on any agenda item as allowed by State Law.

All proceedings were taken while the convened meeting was open to the public. Mayor Hart called the meeting to order. Upon roll call by the City Clerk the following were present: Mark Krueger, Jennifer Smydra, and Maggie Sekutera. Absent: Andrew Iske. Also present were Mayor Hart, City Clerk Reimers, Maintenance Supervisor Kevin Holcomb, Deputy Clerk Kuszak, Sheriff Joel Bergman, Sherman County Economic Development Director Melissa Dush, City Attorney Jason White, City Transit Manager Ryan Durham, seven members of the Public were present.

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance. There was a moment of silence to remember all Armed Forces Service Personnel and all Volunteers who help keep us safe.

**Public Comment:** None.

Due to a Board Member having to leave the Meeting early, the Mayor moved Agenda Item #13 to the top of the Meeting.

**Nuisance Properties:** Mayor Hart opened all bids submitted to the City Clerk. City Clerk Reimers certified that all bids were sealed and delivered on time.

**167 P Street:** Bids came in as \$24,000 from Randy Heil, \$8,000 from John Ness, \$14,400 Morten Construction, and \$44,719 from Meyers Construction. Tanner Palu approached the Council. Palu agreed to meet with the Mayor and Council by the next Special Meeting. A Motion was made by Krueger and seconded by Smydra to postpone 167 P Street the acceptance of the bid until the Special Meeting of the week of the 16<sup>th</sup>. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Smydra, Krueger. Nays: None. Absent: Iske. Abstain: Sekutera.

**447 N 4<sup>th</sup> Street:** Bids came in as \$6,000 from John Ness, \$7,000 from Morten Construction, \$15,372.00 from Meyers Construction. Nate Hurt approached the Council. Hurt explained that the property is now in Tina's name, who is his wife. Tina gave permission for Nate Hurt to speak on her behalf. Hurt passed around, to the Council Members, the property deed for review. Mayor explained that at the Feb 4, 2025 Meeting, Hurt told the Council that a quitclaim deed will be done within a month. Hurt explained that they attempted to get the property into their name for some time. Hurt stated that he was previously given a two-year extension. Mayor Hart explained that he was given a two-year extension based on the commitment that it was going to be put into his name within a month, which did not happen and that is why it is on the Agenda now. Mayor Hart explained now that the property owner have been switched, the two-year deadline of February 2027 has been re-instated to have the project completed because the requirements have been met that was committed to a year ago. Hurt asked what is required from now and February 2027 to not knock it over. Attorney

White explained that the property must come back into compliance. The Board will not revisit this house for a year. Hurt would have to come back to the Board at the end of the extension and ask for more time if the project had not been completed by that time. A Motion was made by Krueger and seconded by Smydra for 447 N 4<sup>th</sup> to reject all three bids for demo. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Krueger, Smydra. Nays: Sekutera. Absent: Iske. Abstain: None.

**529 R Street:** Bids came in as \$6,500 from Randy Heil, \$2,200 from John Ness, \$5,000 from Morten Construction, \$13,490 from Meyers Construction. Hector Guterrez and his father approached the Council. The owners are asking for six-to-eight-month extension. They will start on the exterior of the trailer within 3 months. They will come back to the Board for the May 5, 2026 Meeting. A Motion was made by Krueger to extend to May 5, 2026 and must have exterior progress by May 5, 2026, seconded by Smydra. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Krueger, Smydra. Nays: Sekutera. Absent: Iske. Abstain: None. Motion carried. A Motion was made by Krueger and seconded by Smydra to not accept the bid for 529 R Street. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Krueger, Smydra. Nays: Sekutera. Absent: Iske. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

**347 N 4<sup>th</sup> St:** Austin Neilsen gave an update on this property to the Council.

**319 N 10<sup>th</sup> Street:** Bids came in as \$5,700 from John Ness, Morten Construction \$7,000 and Meyers Construction \$16,673. A Motion was made by Sekutera to accept John Ness bid to demo property at 319 N 10<sup>th</sup> Street, seconded by Krueger. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Smydra, Sekutera, Krueger. Nays: None. Absent: Iske. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

Board Member Sekutera left the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

**Consent Agenda.** A Motion was made by Krueger and seconded by Smydra to approve Agenda Items 5a- Approve Minutes of January 6, 2026 Regular Meeting, 5b- Approve January 21, 2026, Special Meeting Minutes. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Smydra, Krueger, Mayor Hart. Nays: None. Absent: Sekutera, Iske. Abstain: None. Motion carried. No Motion or Action on Agenda 5c- January 2026 Treasurer Report. City Clerk Reimers had the bank statements and an Excell Worksheet for ACH expenses and deposits.

**Police Update:** Sheriff Bergman presented his report and answered all questions. Sheriff Bergman drove around town, took pictures and noted 133 properties that have some kind of nuisance violations. The Mayor stated that the next phase of nuisance properties will be discussed during the February Special Meeting. Sheriff also reported that the license plate reader has been put up and is recording.

**SCED:** Melissa Dush went over her report. Dush explained that nuisance property owners can look into the Rural Workforce Housing Fund: 1.3 million Revolving Loan Fund. Nuisance Property owners can contact Dush for more details. Other Topics included Housing, Leadership Certified Community, Loup City 2030 Visioning Community Meeting results, Tourism, Sherman County Sprouts Child Care Initiative, Workforce and Entrepreneurship. The School wants to do a Community Wide Clean-Up Day the last week of school. They are looking at May 15<sup>th</sup> or May 16<sup>th</sup>. They will be working with Kevin Holcomb with the City and Jennifer Smydra with the Chamber of Commerce.

**LB840:** All loans are current. Due to the transfer of Software issues, the LB840 Balance was not available.

**Public Works Director Report:** Kevin Holcomb presented his report for the month of January. Holcomb filled out and mailed in the DMT's for the shop well and the lagoons for the fourth quarter of 2025. Holcomb has been working on trying to get the warranty on some broken totters and should know this month if they will be warrantied. Holcomb attended the League of Municipalities Utility Section Conference in Lincoln. Mike Dorsey and Danny Patterson

attended the League's Snowball Conference in Kearney. Meters were read in January. The Maintenance crew repaired a leak in the steering sector on the 86 GMG truck, scooped snow from the sidewalks on January 16, 25<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> and February 1<sup>st</sup>. They spent about a week jetting sanitary sewers. They also raised a sewer manhole cover between 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> streets in the alley that lines up with J Street. Flags were put up for Martin Luther King Day. The maintenance crew cut up and hauled off a large tree branch that had fallen at the Cemetery and cut up and hauled off some tree branches behind the clinic. There were two full burials at the Cemetery. The Coliform water sample for January was negative for E-Coli and Coliform.

**Lead-Lines Inventory:** Holcomb will be visiting with Miller & Associates. Holcomb counted 128 galvanized service lines going to the houses. We have identified everyone's house on what types of pipes they have. On the City side, we have 375 unknowns until we figure out what they are, they are considered lead lines. This has now changed. Down in Lincoln they told Holcomb that we have a connector. On the old galvanized line is a lead loop. The lead loop is not counted in inventory but now they are going to make the City identify it and once we find it, we have to remove it if it's lead. The biggest thing is, they want us to prove that any line that the City had, if someone had a galvanized line and is plastic on the City's side, the City must prove that that that line was never lead before that plastic was put in. Holcomb stated that he can do that. The State Revolving Fund has got a bunch of money from EPA, right now 200 million dollars, to help communities to get the lead lines replaced. To get the loans, Holcomb thinks they are 100 percent forgiveness, the complete service line inventory is running a line from the water main into someone's house and pay for it. As many communities there are in the State of Nebraska and United States, Holcomb doesn't know how this will get done, as there are not enough plumbers. They are stretching the project out to 2037 to get this finished. There are a lot of things that have to be done before 2027. If the City wants some money, we need to get our name on the list and find out exactly what we need to do. Holcomb thinks that maybe SRF will help give us money to prepare for this. Holcomb stated that he will be around to do this, as the next Maintenance Supervisor and next Mayor will have to do this. Holcomb will try to get this project started before he retires and the next person in charge will have to finish it.

**90 Day Past Due:** No report due to the transition from G-Works to Power Manager.

**Renewal of Medica Insurance:** A Motion was made by Krueger and seconded by Smydra to renew Medical Insurance with the same plan that will be renewed in April 2026. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Smydra, Krueger, Mayor Hart. Nays: None. Absent: Iske, Sekutera. Motion carried.

**Transit:** Ryan Durham was introduced. Durham reviewed the Title VI Non-Discrimination Plan 2026 with the Council. Resolution 2026-6: A Resolution of the City of Loup City to Amend and adopt Title VI non-discrimination plan 2026 for the City of Loup City Public Transportation System and authorizing the mayor to sign all paperwork pertaining to Title VI. A Motion was made by Mayor Hart and seconded by Krueger to adopt Resolution 2026-6. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Krueger, Smydra, Mayor Hart. Nays: None. Absent: Iske, Sekutera. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

**Veteran's Grant- MOA (Memorandum of Agreement):** This is a veteran's program that will reimburse transit rides at a rate of \$1.50 per mile and may go up to \$1.60. This program may also cover some advertising including a possibility of transit bus wraps. A Motion was made by Smydra and seconded by Krueger to approve the MOA Veteran's Grant. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Krueger, Smydra, Mayor Hart. Nays: None. Absent: Sekutera, Iske. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

**Sale of City Property:** Resolution 2026-5: City of Loup City is desirous on offering for sale to the Public by sealed bid process the property located at Lots 6,7 and 8, Block 3, Original Town of Loup City, Sherman County, Nebraska, (129 N 5<sup>th</sup> Street) and authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign all paperwork pertaining to the above property. A Motion was made by Krueger and seconded by Smydra to approve Resolution 2026-5. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Krueger, Smydra, Mayor Hart. Nays: None. Absent: Sekutera, Iske. Abstain: None. Motion carried. The Council instructed the Clerk to run the ads in the paper for three consecutive weeks, February 11<sup>th</sup>, Feb 18<sup>th</sup> and Feb 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Sealed Bids must be received in the City Office no later than March 3, 2026 at 12:00 P.M. and will be opened and read during the March 3, 2026 Regular Council Meeting beginning at 7:00 P.M.

**Next Phase of Nuisance Properties:** There is a current list of 136 nuisance properties. This item will be placed on the February 18, 2026 Special Meeting Agenda.

### **ORDINANCE NO. 943:**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LOUP CITY, SHERMAN COUNTY, NEBRASKA, AMENDING ORDINANCE No. 330 - CHAPTER 3, ARTICLE VI, SECTION 3-620 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF LOUP CITY, NEBRASKA, TO ESTABLISH AND SET THE MAXIMUM SPEED LIMITS AT WHICH A MOTOR VEHICLE MAY BE OPERATED WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF THE LOUP CITY, NEBRASKA: TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH: AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE.

A Motion was made by Krueger and seconded by Smydra to waive the three readings of Ordinance No 943. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Smydra, Krueger, Mayor Hart. Nays: None. Absent: Iske, Sekutera. Abstain: None. Motion carried

A Motion was made by Krueger and seconded by Mayor Hart to adopt Ordinance 943. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Krueger, Smydra, Mayor Hart. Nays: None. Absent: Iske, Sekutera. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

**Appoint CRA Board:** This Agenda Item will be placed on the February Special Meeting Agenda.

**Review Sidewalk Program Ordinance:** The Council discussed the increased cost of concrete and reviewed the current sidewalk improvement plan. A Motion was made by Krueger to increase the reimbursement to 50% of the cost up to a maximum of \$3,000, seconded by Smydra. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Smydra, Krueger, Mayor Hart. Nays: None. Absent: Sekutera, Iske. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

**Schaupp's Disposal Claim:** A Motion was made by Krueger and seconded by Smydra to approve Schaupp's claim as submitted for payment. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Smydra, Krueger, Mayor Hart. Nays: None. Absent: Sekutera, Iske. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

**Approval of Claims:** A Motion was made by Krueger and seconded by Smydra to approve the payments of Claims presented. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Smydra, Krueger, Mayor Hart. Nays: None. Absent: Iske, Sekutera, Abstain: None. Motion carried.

**Committee Reports:** Deputy Clerk reported on the transfer from G-Works to Power Manager that has been difficult. Krueger- Had a question on the Sheriff Interlocal Agreement. Clerk Reimers reported that Krueger and herself are registered for the Planning and Zoning Conference in Kearney March 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>. Deputy Clerk and Clerk Reimers are registered for Clerk School March 16<sup>th</sup> through March 20<sup>th</sup>. Smydra will visit with Holcomb about the City Wide Clean Up process, and the Chamber will participate.

**Mayor's Report** Mayor Hart reported that the transfer to Power Manager has been extremely difficult. Mayor Hart called Al from the League and he suggested asking Nancy Bryan to come to the City office and help the office staff with Power Manager. Mayor Hart discussed the Sheriff Interlocal meeting that took place with Sheriff Bergman, Tom Bandur, Mayor Hart and President Council Krueger. Sheriff Bergman will send the City the changes that he and the Commissioners would want, and the City will review. The City is waiting for proof of workers' comp insurance from Schaupp's Disposal LLC. City Clerk will send the contract to Attorney Jason White.

Meeting was Adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

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AJ Reimers  
City Clerk, Treasurer

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_ Mayor  
Laura Hart

\_\_\_\_\_ Council President  
Marc Krueger