

City of Loup City – Regular Meeting
Municipal Building – Council Chambers
May 5, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.

A meeting of the Mayor and Council of Loup City convened in regular session on May 5, 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. Notice was published in the Sherman County Times on April 29, 2026. 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 City Clerk Reimers the following were present: Mark Krueger, Jennifer Smydra, and Andrew Iske. Absent: Maggie Sekutera. Also present were Mayor Hart, Deputy City Clerk Kuszak, Sheriff Joel Bergman, Maintenance Supervisor Holcomb, Chris Miller with Miller & Associates and eleven 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.

Consent Agenda. A Motion was made by Smydra and seconded by Iske to approve Agenda Items 5a- Approve Minutes of April 7, 2026, Regular Meeting, Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Smydra, Iske, Krueger. Nays: None. Absent: Sekutera. Abstain: None. Motion carried. No Motion or Action on Agenda 5b-April 2026 Treasurer Report. City Clerk Reimers had the bank statements available for review.

Miller & Associates: Chris Miller from Miller & Associates introduced himself. Miller presented a power point presentation showing history, what needs to be done and the timeline to replace lead service line inventory. Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) is willing to provide funding for Loup City with initial loan forgiveness 60%, Lead Service Inventory (verify City service materials) additional 10% grant maximum, Loan funding 40% of amount with interest rate at 0% and term of 40 years. Krueger stated that the paperwork should be started immediately.

Police Update: Sheriff Bergman presented his report and answered all questions. Mayor Hart reported that she attended the Sherman County Commissioner’s meeting and is scheduled to attend the May 26th Commissioner’s Meeting. The interlocal agreement will be month to month until an agreement is finalized. The Sheriff’s department has been working with Melissa Dush with the Polish Days Event and the Nuisance Committee 2030 Visionary. One Sheriff Deputy has will go from full-time status to part-time starting in June. The Sheriff’s Department will be looking for a new Deputy.

SCED: Melissa Dush was unable to attend. Heather Janulewicz introduced herself. Janulewicz is a Board Member of the CRA and was asking the City Council to consider approving Micro-TIF. The process for regular TIF is lengthy and used for larger projects. Micro-Tif is centered more for single house renovations, single business renovations, upstairs living renovation with a \$50 application fee. The application goes to CRA and then the City Council for approval. Janulewicz stated that TIF itself is a good program, but not many people in the area are doing

multi-million projects. Between the downtown vitalization, Housing 2030 Vision, Nuisance properties, and funding through LB840, The Micro-Tif will be another tool to help get the ball rolling for people who are willing to take on those properties and continue to improve the blight areas in the City. Janulewicz asked if Jason White would be the CRA's attorney. A Motion was made by Krueger and seconded by Smydra to approve Resolution 2026-11 (A Resolution authorizing the use of expedited review of redevelopment plans (Micro-Tif) pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statute §18-2155). Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Krueger, Iske, Smydra. Nays: None. Absent: Sekutera. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

LB840: All accounts are current. The balance in the LB840 bank account is \$53,602.20.

Resolution 2026-12: Mayor Hart introduced Resolution 2026-12: A Resolution to request temporary closure of streets for the Annual Polish Days Celebration. Smydra explained that this Resolution is basically the same as last year, with one exception of O Street from 7th Street to 5th Street, due to the carnival having a few extra larger rides this year. A Motion was made by Krueger and seconded by Iske to approve Resolution 2026-12. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Iske, Smydra, Krueger. Nays: None. Absent: Sekutera. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

Public Works Director Report: Holcomb went over his report. The lagoons were discharged in April. There were two noncompliance issues, Holcomb explained that he was over the monthly average for BOD 5-day, and over for the monthly average on TSS. Holcomb filled out the noncompliance form and gave the DWEE Field Representative 24-hour notice and filled out the DMR and sent it in to DWEE. The water was chlorinated in April. Holcomb ran the Consumer Confidence Report for 2025 in the Sherman County Times. The Maintenance crew took a couple loads of iron to Grand Island and a load of junk that the City has accumulated to the landfill. Graves were seeded and filled at the Cemetery. There was one cremains opening at the Cemetery. The Maintenance crew also were busy trimming up the green space at the City Hall and Loup City Community Center, spraying weeds around town, putting sterilant down in parking lots and rocked areas and repairing potholes in the streets. Bochart Heating and Air installed a new AC Unit at the City Hall. Sprinkler meters were hooked up and turned on the City's sprinkler systems. It took about three days to repair the ball fields sprinklers. The bathrooms were opened for the season at Peterson's Park. Shower rooms at the pool were painted. Meters were read, and Holcomb spent a couple of days working on correcting bad meter reads. The water sample for the month of April was negative for coliform and e-coli. Holcomb then reported that two days after the pool was painted big yellow spots bled through the paint. The company is scheduling a time to come back to review and possible repainting.

90 Day Past Due: Five accounts are on the 90 day past due. Due to the transition to Power Manager, the due dates for these five accounts are May 10, 2026.

Maintenance Supervisor Position: There were two applicants for this position. A job offer was made to Jon Rasmussen. Danny Patterson asked the Council if there was starting wage for Rasmussen. Mayor Hart explained the starting wage offered was \$34.50 which will be introduced in Ordinance 944 which is included in tonight's packet. There will be a six-month probation per employee personnel policy. There will be a raise for each of the five licenses required as it is in place now with all Maintenance employees. Mike Dorsey asked the Council what the time frame will be for Jon to get his licenses. Mayor Hart explained that when the classes are offered. Patterson asked the Council in order to get the licenses required, Jon will have to wait until his probation is over. Mayor Hart explained that was how the old policy was stated and that Jon will have to acquire these licenses during his probation period if classes are held during that time. Holcomb explained that these classes are offered every three to six months, and when the classes are filled six months prior, there are waiting lists to get on. Patterson expressed concern on hiring wage should have been based a little closer to his experience.

Ordinance 944: An Ordinance to establish and fix the salary and compensation for Jon Rasmussen, new hire for Public Works Director of the City of Loup City. A motion was made by Iske and seconded by Krueger to waive the three readings of Ordinance 944. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Smydra, Krueger, Iske. Nays: None. Absent: Sekutera. Abstain: None. Motion carried. A Motion was made by Krueger and seconded by Iske to adopt Ordinance 944. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Iske, Smydra, Krueger. Nays: None. Absent: Sekutera. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

Set Street Project Schedule: This Agenda Item will be placed on the Special Session Agenda, and if no Special Meeting takes place, then on the June Agenda. Tyler Hillmer from Miller & Associates previously visited with the Street Committee. The City must spend the remainder of the 2023 Street Bond by December 2026. The City is looking at \$175,000 a block in asphalt and \$350,000 in concrete per block. Therefore, the City will only be doing asphalt streets this year. The City is looking to asphalt five to six blocks depending on the coring that took place yesterday. The City will go forward after the coring results become available.

Agenda Request: Jerry Huebner- Huebner was not able to attend the meeting. The following introduced themselves to speak in the place of Jerry Hueber: Keelie Huebner, Jake Huebner, Sonia Huebner. They purchased the property at 330 O Street with the intention of starting a business storing both indoors and outdoors. Krueger stated that property is not zoned for outdoor storage, as it is zoned R-1. To start the process, a Conditional Use Permit for zoning change will need to be filled out, and then it must go to a Planning Commission meeting. Mayor Hart asked what their plan and asked about traffic. Jake Huebner explained the plans on putting a security fence around the property that will have two secured gates with passcodes, rock all the grass to make it look nice and keep weeds down, do some tree removal, and store boats on the outside. Huebner assumes the most traffic will be during weekends for the lake. The building will not be demoed. Mayor Hart would like to see mock up drafts of the property.

Nuisance Properties:

529 R 4th Street: City Clerk received an e-mail from the property owner. Krueger and Sheriff Bergman reported that the property owner has been working on this property. This property will continue to be monitored and will be placed on the July Agenda.

167 P Street: Mayor Hart reported that depending on the amount of rain we get, the property should be demoed this week.

Kyle Kowalski from 319 N 10th asked the Council to speak on his update. Kowalski is still working with the loan committee as they needed more information. This has delayed the process but still moving forward.

Recommendation from Planning Commission: Keith Marvin from Marvin Planning did the City's Blight Study and the County's Comprehensive Plan. The City has received verbal offers to see what the cost for the City's Comprehensive Plan. The cost ranges between \$30,000 and \$60,000. The City already has a relationship with Marvin Planning. The Planning Commission recommended to stay with Marvin Planning. This Agenda Item was a discussion Item.

Recommendation from Cemetery Board: Ryan Durham was introduced. Durham explained that the Cemetery records that the City inherited are quite messy. To help fix this issue, Durham have done some research on software to help digitize the records. Durham received responses from three companies- Plot Box would not submit an estimate, as Loup City is too small for their Company. Sentry Mapping sent a quote, but the quote was incorrect as it was only for half the Cemetery. The cost for Sentry Mapping will be expected to range between \$50,000 to \$60,000 once they quote both sides of the cemetery. The quote includes ground

penetrating radar. The third quote is from Chronicle Cemetery Management Solutions. They will come in and map it out in three ways: They will use a surveyor, drone footage and headstone mapping. They do not use ground penetrating radar, but they do have sensors for headstones. They would digitize each headstone and all Cemetery Records as well. This information would be placed on a flash drive and the software. This quote came in at around \$21,000 and the software will be \$19,355 with an annual fee of \$1,980. They will be requiring a five percent annual increase for the licensing fee. The only way to avoid this increase is to pre-pay several years in advance. Iske reminded the Council that six years ago the past City Clerk ran an ad in the paper that stated if someone did not claim the plot showing ownership or if the City didn't have records of ownership, then the plot went back to the City. These ads were ran in the Sherman County Times, Grand Island paper and Kearney paper. The Cemetery Board recommends using Chronical Cemetery Management Solutions. The City Council would like to research fund balances in the Cemetery Account.

Recommendation from Pool Board/Manager: Gracie Greenwood, the pool manager, was introduced. Greenwood went over the following questions: Set outside temperature for pool to be open- Gracie is asking for the outside temperature to be 68 degrees to be open. Change private lesson fees to \$75.00- Greenwood feels as a City, the public lessons should be pushed more than private lessons. Therefore, private lesson fees should be increased. Concessions- The City goes through Sam's Club for a lower cost, therefore the concessions pays for themselves. The City orders the concessions and if the bus driver goes to Grand Island he will pick them up. Underage Lifeguards- Greenwood is asking the Council that since one lifeguard is underage for a short time after the pool opens, would the City Council be opposed to have her just work concessions until she gets of age. Mayor Hart asked the City Clerk to check with LARM and get back with Greenwood. Update Loup City Rules/Regulations- Saturday hours will be changed to 1p.m.-5 p.m. and then 6 p.m. – 10 p.m. for parties. Greenwood asked if the past manager could come back and work. Mayor instructed Greenwood to make that choice, however, last year a precedence was made where someone cannot come back just to do swimming lessons. They will have to go into the lifeguard work schedule.

Ordinance 945: A Ordinance to establish and fix the salary and compensation for summer seasonal pool employees of the City of Loup City, Nebraska. A Motion was made by Krueger and seconded by Iske to waive the three readings of Ordinance 945. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Smydra, Krueger, Iske. Nays: None. Absent: Sekutera. Abstain: None. Motion carried. A Motion was then made by Iske and seconded by Smydra to adopt Ordinance 945. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Iske, Smydra, Krueger. Nays: None. Absent: Sekutera. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

Go Highway Pledge Bond Payment: A Motion was made by Krueger and seconded by Smydra to approve the payment for Loup City Go Highway Pledge Bond SRS 23 in the amount of \$44,451.08. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Smydra, Krueger, Iske. Nays: None. Absent: Sekutera. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

BOK Payment: A Motion was made by Iske and seconded by Smydra to approve the payment for BOK Financial- General Obligations Municipal Building Bond Series 2019 in the amount of \$8,813.75. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Iske, Krueger, Smydra. Nays: None. Absent: Sekutera. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

Loup City Audit: Mayor Hart reported that the Loup City's Audit will be late. The City does have an auditor this year, as last year the City did not.

Office Printer Lease: After some discussion, Krueger made a motion to approve the Capital's 60-month lease on the Cannon on whichever one the Clerk wants, seconded

by Smydra. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Smydra, Krueger, Iske. Nays: None. Absent: Sekutera. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

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

Approval of Claims: Smydra had claims this month, and said everything looked good. Smydra visited with the Council, Mayor and Attorney and asked if the City could pay for a Chamber Membership. After discussion between the Council and City Attorney, the Chamber Membership will be paid next month through the ACE grant fund. A Motion was made by Smydra and seconded by Krueger to approve the payments of Claims presented. Upon roll call vote: Ayes: Smydra, Krueger, Iske. Nays: None. Absent: Sekutera. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

Committee Reports: Deputy Clerk Kuszak explained that she is still working with Power Manager but feels better about the progress. Krueger- Nothing. City Clerk Reimers- explained that Deputy Clerk Kuszak has been working with Power Manager. City Clerk will be attending the Finance Conference June 17-19, 2026. Iske- Had a street committee meeting yesterday and waiting for Tyler Hillmer's bids and thought everything at the pool is situated. Smydra- the light poles should be painted this month before Polish Days. The Chamber is in the process of getting brackets for the hometown hero banners. The Beautification Committee is handling the Nuisance properties. Their goals are to take at least 30 properties off the list.

Mayor's Report: The City is in the last stages of reconstructing the financial books. The City does not have an evaluation or pay scale process. By the June Meeting, the City needs to have an evaluation process and a wage scale that will go into the future, so employees know what they are going to do. Wages need to be adjusted across the board. Mayor Hart told the Council to anticipate a Public Hearing for the Lead Services to run concurrently with Streets. Jon Rasmussen's first day on the job is May 20th. Iske asked when the Strategic Meeting will be, as Mayor Hart explained that the City is waiting for Tyler Hillmer to get back regarding the Streets, and then schedule one. Iske would like to invite Rasmussen to this meeting.

The next regular meeting is planned for June 2, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting was Adjourned at 9:07 P.M.

AJ Reimers
City Clerk, Treasurer

APPROVED:

_____ Mayor
Laura Hart

_____ Council President
Marc Krueger