

1 | Hope City Council Meeting April 8th, 2026

Mayor Fred French started the April 8th, 2026, regular council meeting at 6:00pm and led the council in the pledge of allegiance.

The Mayor asked me to do roll call, it showed the following present: Larry Ryff, Daniel Schwindt, and James Andrew. Randy Walker and Ginger Stewart were absent.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Mayor French said the next item of business is the minutes from the previous meeting. Larry Ryff made a motion to dispense with reading the minutes and approve the way they are written, Daniel Schwindt seconded the motion, and the motion passed 3-0.

Appropriation Ordinance: The Mayor said next is appropriation ordinance #1175. Daniel Schwindt made a motion to approve appropriation ordinance #1175, Larry Ryff seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

Treasurer's Report: Mayor French said next is the financial report. Larry Ryff made a motion to approve the Financial Statement for March 1st through March 31st, 2026. James Andrew seconded the motion, and the motion passed 3-0.

New Business: Mayor French said next is a building permit for Chris and Jori Mitchell, the Mayor said that he met with Chris and went over everything, and it looked like it was good to go. Larry Ryff made a motion to approve the building permit, Daniel Schwindt seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0. The Mayor said that in Herington that they don't allow folks to live in a resident without utilities. He explained that there are some here in Hope and feels like we should maybe have something like that. There was a short conversation and no action was taken. Mayor French said that the sewer debacle behind the buildings on main needs to be address with an ordinance or something too. There was a lengthy discussion between the council Mayor and me. Larry Ryff made a motion for James Andrew to start at the sewer main and head to the cleanout, and get the sewer repaired, then put a barricade around it, at the city's expense. Daniel Schwindt seconded the motion and James Andrew abstained. The motion passed 3-0. The Mayor said next what about the stop signs at 4th and Poplar street. James Andrew said he would like to see the stop signs removed. He explained that it didn't make sense to have them on a dead-end street. James Andrew made a motion to remove the stop sign. Daniel Schwindt seconded the motion, and it carried 3-0. Mayor French said next is grant paperwork. I explained that I had logged into the Pattersons Family Foundation and entered the preliminary information and then received an email to submit a letter of intent. I had printed off all the questions on the letter of intent so that the council could participate in the process. I suggested they read over the paperwork and then send it back to me in an email or just drop it off before May, since it is due back by May 13th. Daniel Schwindt said he would be glad to help, and he would send some ideas over. The

Mayor said next is getting some rock for the cemetery. There was a conversation among the council. Larry Ryff made a motion to have a bare ground kill at the cemetery and have Feist put rock at the cemetery. James Andrew seconded the motion, and the motion passed 3-0.

Mayor's Discussion: Mayor French said he wanted to let the council in on the Museum moving the old jail cell. They want to put it on a slab of concrete and make a cover for it. It will be kind of like a carport, and it will be on the Northside of the building. He said it would be towards the end of the month.

Old Business: The Mayor said next is City map estimates. I explained that there was only one estimate. That I had not heard back from BG Consultant's with their estimate. Larry Ryff made a motion to table the topic until next month when we have more than one estimate. James Andrew seconded the motion, the motion passed 3-0. The Mayor said moving onto the sewer fund information. He said that it didn't look like we were as short as last month. Larry Ryff motioned to table the topic until there is more information to show the exact amount needed to sustain the sewer fund. Daniel Schwindt seconded the motion, and it carried 3-0.

Clerks Update: Logged in to Login.Gov to initiate the closeout for the SLFRF (State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds) award that we received back in 2021. The government decided that there needed to be a closeout even after sending in a final report last year. Worked on and completed updating our System for Award Management (SAM) registration. This year they had an extra step that included several questions. I called to see if it was something that could be taken care of over the phone, they explained the extra step was to make sure that we are a legitimate entity, and to expect this step from now on. Went to the Patterson Family Foundation Grant Portal and entered the preliminary information and received an email inviting us to continue to the next step. 😊 So, I logged in again to see what the next step looked like and thought you all would maybe like to have some input. Filled out the paperwork for the (BOTA) Board of Tax Appeal for the property that we had recently purchased. Talked to Fred and went to the bank to get it notarized and emailed it to the appraiser's office. Had a meeting with Tandi Reiff to go over the city's insurance. The premium actually went down this year 😊 Tandi also brought our dividend check it was \$2,336.35.

Larry Ryff made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Daniel Schwindt seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

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_____ Fred French, Mayor

Attested:

_____ Joni Rikard, Clerk