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Mayor Fred French started the February 14th, 2024 regular council meeting to order 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: Ginger Stewart, Larry Ryff and Randy Walker. Daniel Schwindt and Robin Moniz were absent.

Mayor Fred French asked Nancy Cowan to go ahead since she had another meeting to attend. Nancy started and explained that each year she presents a letter requesting support from the city of \$1200.00 to help with utilities. Nancy said that the Museum had lots of interesting programs last year and they are planning to have programs each month this year. They are also planning to have a couple of dinners to help raise money too. There was a conversation between the Council and Nancy. Larry Ryff made a motion to donate \$1200.00 to the Museum. Randy Walker seconded the motion and the motion passed 3-0. Nancy said that we are all welcome to come to the programs, she thanked the Council and left.

Mayor French asked Jerry Davis the sheriff if he had anything he wanted to discuss. He said he wanted to come down and let us know that he is around and if we had any issues, he would be glad to talk to us about them. He said he would stick around after the meeting to address them. The Sheriff said he is available 24/7 and said he would give us his cell phone number too. Larry explained that we have a couple of radar speed limit signs that we will be putting up on the South end and North end of town to try and slow down the traffic. Ginger asked if he could share any information about the incident that happened the other day when they had to secure the children and take them inside the school. The Sheriff said they were called down to Hope because someone made a threat with a gun. He said when they got down here, there was a gentleman in his front yard talking on his phone and he was extremely upset with a person that kept driving by his house. The deputies located the truck that had been driving by and arrested the driver for DUI. I said that the city had a concern about some dogs. There had been to complaints made and they had called the Sheriff's office and two deputies had stopped by to see if I had any information to help them out and I never heard what the outcome was with the situation. Then the dogs on that property were left by their owners while we had sub-zero temperatures. There was a conversation between the Sheriff, Council and me. The Mayor told the Sheriff, "We" appreciate him.

Mayor French said next is James Holland if he was ready. James Holland said for those who don't know him, he is James Holland, he used to be the community director for the city of Abilene, a realtor and now a Certified General Appraiser, he said so, I have done a lot of different things with real estate. James explained that a few years ago he worked for the city to help to document dilapidated houses and we did three in a two-year period. He said for those of you who don't know the process he printed a quick guide of the steps we go through to get a structure condemned and certified as unsafe. James Holland explained that the first thing is the title work. He said he orders the title work, and the city pays for it. He went on and explained the code review, property data and title work. The second step is to do an inspection

and report. The third step is setting the hearing, fourth step hearing and resolution of findings. Once the resolution is adopted the resolution will be published and certified copies will be sent to the interested parties. Then the fifth step is demolition of the property. There was a discussion between the Council and James Holland. Larry Ryff made a motion to have James Holland give a written estimate and timeline. Randy Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. James Holland said another thing that we were talking about is on the second sheet he passed out before the meeting it is for the Neighborhood Revitalization Program Process. He said one of the things he was involved with was neighborhood revitalization program, a property tax rebate program. There was a conversation with James, Mayor French, the Council and me. The Mayor said to have Paw Print at the Hope School make some signs to put in the vacant lots while we work on the getting the neighborhood revitalization program in place. The Council and Mayor French thanked James Holland and he left.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Mayor French said the next item of business is the minutes from the previous meeting. Larry Ryff said he would like to dispense the reading of the previous minutes and make a motion to approve them. Ginger Stewart seconded the motion and the motion passed 3-0.

Appropriation Ordinance: The Mayor said next is appropriation ordinance #1150. Larry Ryff made a motion to approve appropriation ordinance #1150, Ginger Stewart seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

Treasurers Report: Mayor French said the next item is the Financial Statement, he asked if everyone had looked at it. Heather wasn't able to attend. So, I explained that I had two CD's over to the bank and put them into a special 9-month CD's. There was a discussion about the statement. Larry Ryff made a motion to accept the financial statement and Ginger Stewart seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

New Business: The Mayor said the next item under new business is for Pat Coup getting a CMB License for the HCPC. Larry Ryff made a motion to approve the CMB License for Pat Coup. Randy Walker seconded the motion and it passed 3-0.

Standing & Special Committee Reports: Ginger said that she was not able to make it to the last meeting. She explained that she thought it would be good for someone else to take over as a representative for the City of Hope. She said her schedule was not allowing her the time to attend the meetings. I said I would reach out to Janelle at the County and see if she could get some contact information for the new Dickinson County Economic Development Administrator and invite her down to visit with us.

Clerks Report: I took out the CD information and went to the bank and cashed out the CD and put it into a 9-month Special CD. Updated the information on the computer. I received an email from Sequoyah about a new software company to file the City's 1099's and W-2's through the Nelco company. This company sends tax paperwork to the government, contractors, and employees. I ended up calling for support because of the error code I kept receiving when I

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submitted the file. After talking to two different people, I finally got the file to be accepted. Since then, I have confirmation information from the state and federal government. Sent an email to James Holland asking him if he would be interested in helping us with some condemnation proceedings and he said he would be glad to help. I talked to Fred and then sent James an email asking him to come to this month's meeting to answer questions the council might have. He agreed to come down. I took out the CD information again and went to the bank and cashed out the CD and moved it into a 9-month special CD. I received a phone call from the monument company in Abilene. They had a headstone to put up in the cemetery. I let Fred, Pat, and Larry know and we met up at the cemetery and marked for the headstone. Got the water use report paperwork out and printed the statistic rate report and filled it out, then submitted it online.

Mayor French asked if there was anything else. Larry Ryff asked if I could look through the ordinances, Governing body handbook and the clerks email about what the minimum amount a councilmember can miss or what is required.

Larry Ryff made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ginger Stewart seconded the motion and the motion passed 3-0.

_____ Fred French, Mayor

Attested:

_____ Joni Rikard, Clerk