Hope City Council Regular Meeting Minutes (UNAPPROVED, SUBJECT TO CHANGE)
107 Steele Ave, Hope, ND 58046
Tuesday, November 10, 2026

Mayor McCullough called the meeting to Order at 7:00am

Roll Call: Mayor: Darci McCullough, Council members: Jeff Schuety, Scott Erickson. Absent Aaron Reamer. Also present was Trevor McCullough, Cat Abrego and Laurie Tuite.

Confirmation of Agenda – Schuety moved to amend agenda, tabling review of updated city forms. Seconded by Erickson. In Favor – All. Opposed – None. Motion carried.

Previous Meeting Minutes – Erickson moved to approve 10/13/26 meeting minutes, seconded by Schuety. In Favor – All. Opposed – None. Motion carried.

Open Forum – Laurie Tuite requested recommendation for representative from City of Hope to JDA board. McCullough opened the floor for nominations to represent the city council on the JDA board. Schuety nominated Councilman Erickson to fill city representative position, seconded by Mayor McCullough. In Favor – All. Opposed – None. With no other nominations, the nomination floor was closed. Erickson will represent Hope City Council on JDA board. Laurie Tuite will bring nomination to JDA board and confirm at next meeting.

Trevor McCullough requested purchase of three phase meters for commercial businesses in Hope. Erickson moved to allow purchase of up to 12 three phase meters, seconded by Schuety. In Favor – All. Opposed – None. Motion carried.

Resignation of Council Member Alek Berg – Schuety moved to accept resignation, seconded by Erickson. In Favor – All. Opposed – None. Motion carried. Discussion had on potential replacement council member. Council must wait 15 days from date of acceptance of resignation before new member can be appointed. Schuety moved to contact Erin Sunday, Ian Beaton, and Richard Kofoid regarding potential interest, seconded by Erickson. In Favor – All. Opposed – None.

Gaming Permits – Erickson moved to approve Sportsman Club Fun Night permit, seconded by Schuety. In Favor – All. Opposed – None. Erickson moved to approve Cattail Snow Riders permit, seconded by Schuety. In Favor – All. Opposed – None.

Employee Handbook (12-16) – Erickson moved to accept sections 12-16 of the draft Employee Handbook as presented, seconded by Schuety. In Favor – All. Opposed – None. Motion carried. McCullough will contact city attorney to inquire if an official review needs to be conducted prior to finalizing.

Landfill Signs- Sign for appliances needs to be updated to No Televisions and No Electronics.

Past Due Policy for Utilities – McCulough presented new past due utilities policy. Policy reviewed. Schuety moved to accept policy with no changes and send to attorney for review, seconded by Erickson. In Favor – All. Opposed – None. Motion carried.

Christmas in Hope - Scheduled for 12/6. Parade lineup starts by 5:15pm at school. Parade starts at 6pm. Schuety is point of contact for parade. Flyer will be posted on Hope Facebook Page.

Council Concerns – Council discussed residents who failed to get building/moving permits in before starting moving and building projects. It was brought to council that residents didn't know they needed a permit to move a building onto their property. Erickson moved to waive penalty fee but uphold moving fee for 208 Ingalls Ave for moving shed onto property, seconded by Schuety. In Favor – All. Opposed – None. Motion carried. Schuety moved to approve building permit for 307 Hubbard Ave, pending resident provided additional documentation of building plans, seconded by Erickson. In Favor – All. Opposed – None. Motion carried. Council discussed need for utilities rate study. Schuety moved to conduct a rate study in the new year, seconded by Erickson. In Favor – All. Opposed – None. Motion carried

Past due Accounts – 90 days past due utilities accounts reviewed. New letters sent out, including to property owner and renter if applicable.

October Bills – Schuety moved to pay October bills, seconded by Erickson. In Favor – All. Opposed – None. Motion carried.

-99278 DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY. 5984.40
-99277 INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE 2956.46
-99276 INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE 1821.92
-99275 INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE 1611.08
-99274 STEELE COUNTY JDA 500.00
-99273 OFFICE OF STATE TAX COMMISSIONER 35.67
25207 CAT ABREGO 2277.31
25208 DAKOTA HERITAGE BANK 300.00
25209 David Malaterre 21.11
25210 Marci Johnson 1502.99
25211 MARVIN SPLETTSTOESSER 2500.00
25212 TREVOR MCCULLOUGH CELL PHONE 100.00
25212 TREVOR MCCULLOUGH 2100.00
25213 BEK 95.03
25214 DAKOTA RURAL WATER DISTRICT 3809.20
25215 FARMERS UNION OIL COMPANY 601.41
25216 FERGUSON WATERWORKS #2516 ..... 1809.96
25217 GRAND FORKS UTILITY BILLING 26.00
25218 Grzadzieleski Utility Services, L 450.00
25219 MINNKOTA POWER COOP., INC. 929.50
25221 NEW CENTURY PRESS 120.00
25222 Nilson Brand Law 796.50
25223 STEELE COUNTY HWY. DEPT. 46956.56
25224 Strand Ready Mix 4500.00
25225 CAT ABREGO 1419.09
25226 David Malaterre 264.80
25227 Marci Johnson 806.21

25228 TREVOR MCCULLOUGH 2100.00
25229 DAKOTA HERITAGE BANK..... 200000.00
25230 STEELE COUNTY SHERRIFF'S DEPT. 1100.00
25231 BLACK MOUNTAIN SOFTWARE 9579.67
25232 MIDCONTINENT COMMUNICATIONS 81.88
25233 NEW CENTURY PRESS..... 229.51
25234 Nodak Electric Cooperative 15648.30
25235 Tax & Accounting Professionals LL..... 4500.00
25236 TREVOR MCCULLOUGH 102.50

Review Bank Statements- October 2026 bills and Dakota Heritage bank statements available for review. No discussion had.

Adjournment: With no other topics to be discussed, Schuety moved to adjourn meeting, seconded by Erickson. In Favor – All. Opposed – None. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:55am.

Next Meeting: December 8th 7:00 a.m. Hope City Hall, Hope, ND.

Mayor Darci McCullough

Cat Abrego

SCP November 27, 2026 377663