

# COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE SESSION OF THE BLUE GRASS CITY COUNCIL

BLUE GRASS, IOWA

FEBRUARY 15, 2017

The Blue Grass City Council met in special session, as a Committee of the Whole at 7:00 p.m. on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of February 2017, at the Blue Grass Public Safety Building, 606 W. Mayne Street, pursuant to law, with Mayor Timothy Brandenburg presiding. A pledge of allegiance and a moment of reflection were recognized. The following Council members present: Brad Schutte, James Goodin, Lisa Smith, Chuck Barton and Bonnie Strong. Also in attendance: City Attorney William McCullough, Fire Chief Brian Seamer, Firefighter Jason Verschoore, Fire Township Trustees and/or Representatives: Blue Grass Township: Dave Martz, Kenny Freund and Erika Platt; Fulton Township: Dennis Price and Keith Martz and Buffalo Township: no one was present.

Mayor Brandenburg commented to the audience that the topic to be discussed at this meeting was intended for discussion only and that no action would be taken as this meeting was a Committee of the Whole session only. The meeting was opened for discussion.

**ANNUAL FIRE TOWNSHIP MEETING:** Introductions were made. Fire Chief Brian Seamer reviewed the Fire Department's "Fire & Rescue Stats" for 2016 reporting a grand total of 406 calls for service with 294 calls being identified as Rescue and Emergency Medical Service Incident calls. He also reported that the Department had logged approximately 1,344 training hours in 2016. Chief Seamer reported that the Department had purchased a 16 foot enclosed trailer with their fundraising monies which will be used to haul their ATV for rope rescue. He also reported that the Department had received grain bin rescue equipment as part of a grant. Council member Schutte, who is also a Captain on the Fire Department reported that fortunately the Department has had no major repairs and/or mechanical issues. He said that the Department had installed the lighting on a truck; therefore, saving money by not having the light installed. Mayor Brandenburg reported that the City had I-beams installed on the doors in the bay to make them safer for the Department. Captain Schutte also briefed the Council and Trustees on a mutual aid fire the day prior to the meeting where their new tanker's pump went out and that the truck was currently being repaired at no cost as the truck is still under warranty. Chief Seamer reported that the Department had ordered a power unit/jaws and should be delivered in March. The Clerk gave a brief overview of the Fire Township Funds reporting a balance of \$31,402.59 as of December 31, 2016 and a balance of \$313,000.00 as of June 30, 2016 on the Fire Truck Note. McCullough reminded the Trustees that their 3-year Contract with the City would expire in 2018; therefore, the City would be renewing the Contract next February.

Mayor and Council thanked everyone in attendance asking if there were any further discussion and/or comments. There were none; therefore, the meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Attest: Ann M. Schmidt, CMC, City Clerk/Financial Officer