

**THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BLUE GRASS CITY COUNCIL  
BLUE GRASS, IOWA                      DECEMBER 18, 2017**

The Blue Grass City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of December 2017, in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 N. Mississippi Street, pursuant to law, with Mayor Timothy Brandenburg presiding, with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of reflection. The following Council members were present: Brad Schutte, James Goodin, Bonnie Strong and Chuck Barton. Absent was Council member Lisa Smith.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** It was the consensus of the Council to table Items #7, #8 and #10 and add to the next meeting Agenda to allow the new Mayor and City Council members to view. Council member Goodin moved to approve the Agenda tabling Items #7, #8 and #10 and add to the January 2, 2018 meeting Agenda, seconded by Council member Strong. A roll call vote was taken: Goodin-aye, Strong-aye, Barton-aye and Schutte-aye. Motion carried.

**MAYORAL COMMENTS:** Mayor Brandenburg announced the following: “Welcome to your Blue Grass City Council meeting. If you are not a member of the Fire, Ambulance, or Police Department, please turn off or silence your cell phones, pagers, etc. It is your right to be heard; however, please ask to be recognized by the Mayor. After being recognized, please stand and state your name and address. In an effort to keep the meeting on task, please limit your comments or concerns to several minutes. Thank you”.

**PUBLIC FORUM:** Resident Becky Guy expressed concerns on the Council rescinding the Golf Cart Ordinance asking why it was even being brought back for reconsideration. Mayor Brandenburg reported that, unfortunately the City has received numerous complaints about underage drivers and golf cart users traveling on the streets that are restricted. Further discussion was held on the Golf Cart regulations.

**ADMINISTERING THE OATH OF OFFICE:** Mayor Brandenburg administered the Oath of Office to Police Officer Shawn Sullivan. Mayor and Council congratulated and welcomed Officer Sullivan.

**EDUCATIONAL/TRAINING AWARD:** Mayor Brandenburg presented Officer Shawn Sullivan an “Education/Training Award” giving special recognition on achieving an Associate’s Degree in Liberal Arts and a Bachelor’s Degree in Criminal Justice from St. Ambrose University. Mayor and Council congratulated Officer Sullivan on his achievements.

**PLAQUE PRESENTATIONS:** Mayor Brandenburg presented Mayor Pro Tem James Goodin with appreciation plaque thanking him for his 4 years of service while serving as Mayor Pro Tem and for his outstanding exemplary leadership. Mayor Brandenburg presented Chuck Barton with an appreciation plaque thanking him for his 4 years of service while serving on the City Council. Mayor Pro Tem James Goodin presented Mayor Tim Brandenburg with an appreciation plaque thanking him for his 3 years of service while serving as Mayor and for his outstanding exemplary leadership. Mayor Brandenburg presented Years of Service Awards to the following: City Clerk/Financial Officer Ann Schmidt 20+ years of service; Public Works Director Lonnie Robertson 10 years of service; Assistant City Clerk/Financial Officer Roberta Perreault 15+ years of service and Part-Time Clerical Assistant Joyce Lorenz 10 years of service. He reminded the Council that the employees are the backbone of the City and that he felt it was imperative that the Council recognize their employees for all that they do.

**RECESS:** Council member Schutte moved to recess for 15 minutes, seconded by Council member Goodin. A roll call vote was taken: Schutte-aye, Goodin-aye, Strong-aye and Barton-aye. Motion carried. The meeting recessed at 7:12 p.m.

Council member Schutte moved to return from recess, seconded by Council member Goodin. A roll call vote was taken: Schutte-aye, Goodin-aye, Barton-aye and Strong-aye. Motion carried. The meeting reconvened at 7:27 p.m.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**1. Motion to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2017 Council meeting**

**2. Payment of claims**

Council member Schutte expressed his concerns on the claim payable to Water Park Car Wash for \$309.90 for the cleaning and detailing of two squads reminding the Council that all other entities of the City clean and maintain their vehicles; therefore, he saw no reason why the Police Department was no different especially when they have all the necessary resources within their facility as he has the same issue with the cleaning of the Police Department. He then expressed concerns on an overtime issue that was brought to his attention as apparently two Officers were paid overtime for qualifying their weapons and felt that that was way out of line. Mayor Brandenburg reported that when he first learned of both the Water Park Car Wash expenditure and the overtime issue, he immediately brought it to Sergeant Jahns attention as he, too, felt that those expenditures could have been avoided. He recommended that in the future, that Officers qualify under their normal working hours and that they utilize either the City of Davenport or Scott County's range and that he encourages Officers to shoot more than one time a year. Council member Strong disagreed as she would rather have the Officers on the streets and that they qualify and/or shoot after their shifts as Blue Grass, unfortunately does not have the staff to have more than one Officer on duty. Further discussion was held. Council member Goodin moved to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Council member Barton. A roll call vote was taken: Goodin-aye, Barton-aye, Strong-aye and Schutte-nay. Motion carried.

**AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT:** Medic Executive Director, Linda Frederikson presented the following:

- 3. Priority Dispatch:** Ms. Frederikson gave a presentation of Scott County's new Medical and Fire Priority Dispatch System that launches January 2, 2018 as their goal is to prevent accidents and ensure that first-responders arrive to the scene safely.

**PARK BOARD:** Park Board Chair Mike Hermann gave the Park Board report as follows:

- 4. Park Board Report:** Chair Hermann referred to the December 7, 2017 meeting minutes reporting that the Board had reviewed their Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony making changes for next year's event. He said that the Board was also in the process of doing their annual review of City Parks to see what improvements could be made if any and thanked the Mayor and Council for their continued support and giving special recognition to the Police Department for their participation and support as well.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:** Police Sergeant Garrett Jahns gave the Police Department report as follows:

- 5. Police Department Report:** The November 2017 Report consisted of the following: 54 traffic contacts with 46 warnings and 9 citations written; Blue Grass Officers responded to a total of 142 calls for service during the month and 1 arrest made and 4 pending. Jahns added that the Watch Guard system has been installed and that he had ordered the new laptops for the squads that was purchased with grant monies reporting that once they are received the Scott Emergency Communications Center will install all the necessary software.

**NUISANCE ABATEMENT(S):** Nuisance Committee Chair Barton reported the following:

- 6. Nuisance Abatement(s):** Chair Barton referred to the "Concerned Citizens Log Book" reporting no new logs. No other nuisance abatements were reported.

**ORDINANCE(S)/RESOLUTION(S):**

- 7. DRAFT: Ordinance Amendment ref: Chapter 15.04 Building Code & Chapter 15.50 Housing Code:** (Previously removed from the Agenda and added to the January 2, 2018 meeting Agenda)

- 8. DRAFT: Ordinance Amendment ref: Chapter 8.04 Nuisances:** (Previously removed from the Agenda and added to the January 2, 2018 meeting Agenda)

- 9. Second reading/waiving of the third reading and Adoption of Ordinance Amendment 2017-09 ref: adding Chapter 9.40 Fireworks to allow for the legal use of consumer grade fireworks on specified dates and times:** Council member Schutte introduced Ordinance Amendment 2017-09 commenting that the Amendment was on file at City Hall for review. Council member Schutte moved to accept the second reading and waive the third reading of Ordinance Amendment 2017-09, seconded by Council member Barton. A roll call vote was taken: Schutte-aye, Barton-aye, Goodin-aye and Strong-aye. Motion carried. Council member Schutte moved to adopt Ordinance Amendment 2017-09, seconded by Council member Goodin. A roll call vote was taken: Schutte-aye, Goodin-aye, Strong-aye and Barton-aye. Motion carried. The Amendment will be published on December 25, 2017 at which time the Chapter 9.40 Fireworks will become in effect.
- 10. DRAFT: Ordinance Amendment ref: Chapter 10.28.080 Stop Intersections:** (Previously removed from the Agenda and added to the January 2, 2018 meeting Agenda)

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**

- 11. Update on future economic development:** Economic Development Chair Smith requested that this item remain on the Agenda so that she can be updated on any future economic development.
- Mayor Brandenburg reported that the Department of Natural Resources had removed the pumps at the vacated HM Mart with the costs being assessed to the owners. He said that there are two interested individuals interested in purchasing the building and have contacted the owner.

**POLICY & ADMINISTRATION:** City Clerk/Financial Officer Ann Schmidt reported the following:

- 12. Clerk's Report:** The December 2017 report consisted of the following: 113 accounts were assessed a \$5.00 late fee penalty; 11 delinquent letters were sent out totaling \$1,547.84 that were due November 29, 2017 reporting that all were paid within the time prescribed with the exception of 2 accounts and that liens are scheduled to be placed on the 31<sup>st</sup> day if they remain unpaid, reminding the Council that during the winter months starting November 1 through April 30 there will be no shut offs; however, delinquent accounts would be assessed a \$25.00 delinquent fee if not paid by the due date; billing period of 10/24/17 to 11/23/17 billed a total of \$26,706.11 and a total of \$7,152.93 in the arrears; 698 bills produced; 180 ACH residents enrolled; reviewed the list of outstanding Street Assessments, Sidewalk Assessments, Snow Removal Liens; Utility Liens and meeting fee reimbursement liens; job descriptions are being updated for the following positions: City Clerk, Assistant City Clerk and Part-Time Clerical at the request of the Employee Relation Committee; filed the City's Annual Financial report that was due December 1<sup>st</sup> both electronically and sent a paper copy to the Iowa Department of Management; filed the City's Indebtedness report for both the Muscatine County Auditor and the Scott County Auditor that was due December 1<sup>st</sup>; ordered W-2's and 1099's; process of running a "pre-test" year-end to verify that the W-2's will align properly and verify that the tax information is correct before running the actual W-2's for 2017; as you recall, Iowa American Water Company (IAWC) was successful in converting the galaxy read system over and for the first reads they had to be inputted manually and that staff was in the process of initiating an account through IAWC's system so that we may have access to customer reads; completing required 2020 Census data when requested; set up new Officer with employment forms, etc.; filed the City's Resolution with the Muscatine County Auditor requesting that the City of Blue Grass be included on the March 6, 2018 Special Election ballot to implement a Local Option Sales and Service Tax in Muscatine County; signed the required documents through the Scott County Regional Authority in regards to the Technology Enhancement Grant that was awarded to the Police Department in the amount of \$8,756.00 to purchase two new computers for the squad vehicles; completed the July and August Clerk's Reports for Council approval along with the additional bills paid and revenue received; completed the grant application through the All Town Sign Grant with the data submitted by the Public Works Director to replace certain signs and posts; completed the July, August, September and October 2017 Utility Billing reconciliation reports and reported that packets have been prepared and sent to the new Mayor and City Council members for the past few months and that an orientation will be set up

prior to the first meeting in January for the new Mayor and Council members as they will then be given a Codebook, Iowa League of Cities book and other pertinent information.

**COMMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** The Clerk reminded the Council that with the New Year's Holiday falling on January 1, 2018, the City Council meeting will be on Tuesday, January 2, 2018.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Council member Schutte made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council member Goodin. A roll call vote was taken: Schutte-aye, Goodin-aye, Barton-aye and Strong-aye. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

---

Mayor, Timothy Brandenburg

---

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

**CLAIMS REPORT**

ALEXIS FIRE	EQUIPMENT OPER	945.00
CASEY'S	VEHICLE OPER	760.22
EASTERN IA LIGHT & POWER	UTILITIES	1,400.68
ECONO SIGNS	STREET SIGNS	437.51
GOODIN, BOBBI	FUNDRAISING EXP	58.50
IA ASSO OF MUNI UTILITIES	PROF. FEES	400.67
JEFF'S MARKET	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	16.56
JLEE OIL	VEHICLE OPER	50.00
MEDIACOM	INTERNET	431.29
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY	UTILITIES	4,460.32
OTERO DOOR WORKS	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	1,350.00
PANTHER UNIFORMS	UNIFORM ALLOW	46.30
PARROTT, MATT	OFFICE SUPPLIES	37.67
QUAD CITY TIMES	ADV & PUBLICATIONS	440.46
RACOM CORP.	EQUIP OPER	977.50
RAGAN MECHANICAL	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	1,578.45
REPUBLIC SERVICES	GARBAGE/RECYCLING	7,956.85
SANDRY FIRE	EQUIP OPER	195.00
SCOTT CO. SHERIFF	JAIL EXPENSE	25.00
WALDINGER CORP.	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	562.58
WATERPARK CARWASH	VEHICLE OPER	309.90
WHITE DISTRIB.	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	40.91
<b>***** REPORT TOTAL *****</b>		<b>22,481.37</b>

**FUND TOTALS**

GENERAL FUND	12,446.76
SEWER FUND	2,019.26
SANITATION FUND	7,956.85
RESERVES: PARK IMPROV	58.50
<b>FUND TOTALS:</b>	<b>22,481.37</b>