

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE SESSION OF THE BLUE GRASS CITY COUNCIL

BLUE GRASS, IOWA

SEPTEMBER 25, 2018

The Blue Grass City Council met in special session, as a Committee of the Whole at 7:00 p.m. on the 25th day of September 2018, in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 N. Mississippi Street, pursuant to law, with Mayor Larry Guy presiding, with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of reflection. The following Council members were present: Brad Schutte, Lisa Smith, Bonnie Strong and Donna Kinzer. Absent was Council member Emilyne Slagle. City Attorney William McCullough, Chief Garrett Jahns and Buffalo Police Officer Joshua Bujalski and several residents were also in attendance.

MAYORAL COMMENTS: Mayor Guy announced the following: “We would like to welcome all of you to your Blue Grass City Council meeting. We hope the meeting will be informative and beneficial. We do ask that you silence your cell phones and/or pagers. We want to hear from you but we ask that you wait to be recognized. Please state your name and address and make your comments brief. In an effort to keep the meeting on task, please limit your comments or concerns to several minutes. Please allow the person speaking to finish uninterrupted. Thank you”.

PUBLIC FORUM: From those in attendance, there were none.

Mayor Guy 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 Mayor presented the topic to be open for discussion and opened the meeting.

- **Chapter 10.70 Golf Carts**
- **Chapter 10.80 Off-Road Vehicles**
- **Chapter 10.56 Snowmobiles**
- **Chapter 10.52 Bicycles**

Mayor Guy first addressed the audience by stating that it was the Council’s intention to keep the current Ordinances pertaining to golf carts, off-road vehicles, snowmobiles and bicycles; however, do wish to restructure the Ordinance so that the rules and regulations were much clearer and conformed to Code of Iowa. Council expressed several safety concerns on the residents abusing the City’s golf cart and off-road Ordinance and not abiding by the set rules and regulations; therefore, wish to rewrite the Ordinance so that if and when a resident violates the Ordinance the Police Department may issue a citation. Council also felt the need to better clarify the rules and regulations so that it is written clearly and precise so that everyone understands the rules and regulations without question. Several residents, too, expressed concerns on the residents that abusing or not abiding by the rules and regulations as they do not want the City to end up taking away the golf cart and/or off-road privilege away. Discussion was held on the City’s current Golf Cart Ordinance in regards to the prohibited use of a primary roads such as Mississippi Street, Mayne Street, Lauretta Street and Oak Lane. Buffalo Police Officer Joshua Bujalski referred to the City of Buffalo’s Golf Cart Ordinance that he is in charge of enforcing. He read the rules and regulations aloud and reviewed the application process; whereas, proof of insurance coverage and a copy of a valid driver’s license is required at the time. Officer Bujalski said that once the application and required documents are received he then does a complete inspection of the golf cart and/or off-road vehicle and if it passes the inspection, he then issues them a City of Buffalo identification number that is required to be placed on each vehicle. The collaboration between the Council and residents was very positive and several ideas and suggestions will be considered.

Mayor Guy asked that Chief Jahns draft an Amendment based on the discussions held and present to the Council to allow them ample time to review as this Amendment will take quite some time to review. Chief Jahns agreed; however, furthermore informing the Council that since the City currently has no utility task vehicle (UTV) Ordinance, he would also be drafting an Ordinance regulating the use of a UTV. He said that it was his opinion that the All-Terrain Vehicle Ordinance (ATV) also needs to be updated as well; therefore, he agreed to put his recommendations into a draft Amendment for the Council to view as well. Mayor Guy asked for further comments and/or discussion, since there were no other comments, the Mayor adjourned the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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