

**THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BLUE GRASS CITY COUNCIL
BLUE GRASS, IOWA JUNE 15, 2020**

The Blue Grass City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on the 15th day of June 2020, at the Public Safety Building, 606 W. Mayne Street, pursuant to law, with Mayor Brad Schutte presiding, with a Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of reflection.

In order to help stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus, this meeting was held both in-person and electronically in accordance with Chapter 21.8 of the Code of Iowa in order to meet the required social distancing requirements.

Council present: Brus, Kinzer, Sampson and Jepsen. Slagle was present via electronically at 7:04 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Sampson moved to approve the Agenda deleting Item #7, seconded by Jepsen. Roll call: Sampson-aye, Jepsen-aye, Kinzer-aye and Brus-aye. Motion carried.

Mayor Schutte read aloud the Mayoral Comments.

PUBLIC FORUM: Lisa Smith expressed her disappointment that the City did not display the flags on Flag Day. Mayor Schutte apologized on behalf of the City as it was overlooked and by the time the Public Works Director realized it, it was too late in the evening to go out and hang the flags. Ms. Smith also asked if the City’s website could be updated as it still showed the Mayor’s position vacant and asked that the City Council continue to move forward on the access road to the Elementary School for the safety of our children.

Member Slagle joined in electronically at 7:04 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA: Sampson moved to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Jepsen.

1. **May 18, 2020 meeting minutes**
2. **May 20, 2020 meeting minutes**
3. **May 27, 2020 meeting minutes**
4. **June 3, 2020 meeting minutes**
5. **Resolution 2020-37 ref: authorizing a transfer from the Road Use Fund**
6. **Resolution 2020-38 ref: setting employee wages for the FY '20-'21**
7. **Deleted from Agenda**
8. **Resolution 2020-40 ref: authorizing payment from the Cemetery Fund**
9. **Resolution 2020-41 ref: authorizing internal advance for funding an Economic Development Grant**
10. **Resolution 2020-45 ref: authorizing an expenditure from the TIF Reserve**
11. **Claims**

Roll call: Sampson-aye, Jepsen-aye, Slagle-aye, Kinzer-aye and Brus-aye. Motion carried.

PARK BOARD:

12. 7 Mile Run: Park Board Chair Mike Hermann presented a Blue Grass 7 mile google map that would allow citizens a virtual comparison to the Bix 7 race at their own risk. He asked that the Council allow him to post the race route on both the Park Board’s Facebook page and on the City’s website. A majority of the Council agreed to proceed. Mayor Schutte reminded the public that this race is not a City sponsored event requesting that it also be acknowledged on the post that this is not a City sponsored event. Hermann also reported that as of now, the Pumpkin Dash is still scheduled at this time; however, the Board would make their final decision in August. He reported that the summer youth YMCA Program was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

13. Park Signage: The Clerk reported that it has been recommended that cities post signs at all their parks that whether the parks are sanitized daily or not and remind patrons to social distance and that they take extra precautions when there is a large group of 10 or more. Mayor and Council agreed to post such signs and to also post on social media.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

14. Report: Fire Chief Brian Seamer presented the May 2020 Fire Department Report.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

15. Introductions: Chief Garrett Jahns presented the Introduction Report on the nationwide setback in public trust and commended each Officer for stepping up and making a commitment to the citizens that they will continue to serve regardless of what they are facing.

16. Report: Chief Jahns presented the May 2020 Police Department report.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER:

17. Report: The May 2020 Building Commissioner was presented.

18. Contractor Registration Requirements: Previously, the Building Commissioner proposed to implement a Contractor Registration requirement that would require all contractors to be licensed, bonded and insured and pay an annual fee of \$75.00. After a review of the proposal and some suggestions, Brus agreed to revise the requirement and present at the next meeting for further review.

Brus requested that this item be placed on the July 6, 2020 Agenda too allow him additional time to revise accordingly.

19. Site Plan Agreement: McCullough had previously reported that Cornerstone Construction Group's owner Mr. Mattson had agreed to chip seal the remainder of his parking lot by June 1, 2020, and now that we are past the deadline the City needs verification that Mr. Mattson has a contract with L & L Pelling. Discussion was held on Cornerstone's original Agreement.

ENGINEER REPORT:

20. Report: City Engineer Mike Janecek presented the May 2020 Engineer's Report.

21. North Mississippi Street Rehabilitation Project: Janecek reported that IMEG, IDOT and Langman Construction were in the final stages of completing all the required paperwork and would be submitting the final change order and Contractor's Application for final payment.

22. NPDES Permit: Janecek reported that, at the request of the City that the Design Phase has been temporarily put on hold.

PUBLIC WORKS:

23. Report: Public Works Director Lonnie Robertson presented the May 2020 Public Works Department Report.

24. Storm Sewer: Robertson reported that a resident had come forward requesting to improve a storm sewer drain at his own expense near his residence to alleviate it from eroding in the future and to also beautify the area. Discussion was held. It was the consensus that the City use their own equipment and personnel to do the project so that there are no liability issues.

25. Sewer Report: Robertson presented Kline Sewer & Drain's facts and findings report that contained various images from their camera of the sanitary sewer at Prairie Woods Estates Subdivision and according to the report, there were a few service line issues and rock. He continued to report that it was once again discovered that individuals are still using wipes which are causing issues along with water saving toilets that do not create enough of a flow to flush toilet paper through their lines. A rather lengthy discussion was held on what was causing the sewage backups in the 3rd Addition. Robertson

reported that the last two backups were caused by rock that was found in the sanitary sewer as it was discovered that during construction, a manhole was not properly installed; therefore, rock and debris entered the sanitary sewers which then caused the backups. Tom Bracey asked what the procedures were on the City accepting Prairie Woods 3rd Addition sewer system. McCullough reported that the City has received Sawgrass Partners official request and that it was being considered. Mayor Schutte reported that the City will work on moving forward and find out exactly what needs to be done and get these issues resolved.

ORDINANCE(S):

- 26. Resolution 2020-29:** Sampson moved to adopt Resolution 2020-29 approving Change Order #3 associated with the North Mississippi Street Project, seconded by Brus. Roll call: Sampson-aye, Brus-aye, Kinzer-aye, Slagle-aye and Jepsen-aye. Motion carried.
- 27. Resolution 2020-42:** Jepsen moved to adopt Resolution 2020-42 authorizing the City Clerk to appropriate the FY '19-'20 TIF Rebate Payments, seconded by Kinzer. Roll call: Jepsen-aye, Kinzer-aye, Slagle-aye, Brus-aye and Sampson-aye. Motion carried.
- 28. Second reading of Amendment 2020-02:** Brus moved to accept the second reading of Amendment 2020-02 amending the existing zoning map, seconded by Sampson. Roll call: Brus-aye, Sampson-aye, Jepsen-aye, Slagle-aye and Kinzer-aye. Motion carried.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT(S):

- 29. Nuisance Abatement(s):** Mayor Schutte reported that there were two nuisance abatements reporting that one has been resolved and the other was in-progress. McCullough gave a brief update on the Casey Smith nuisance abatement that consisted of 5 items, reporting that she is now being represented by Attorney Mike Meloy. Barry Dolan expressed concerns on the property damage caused by Ms. Smith and expressed safety concerns on the utility pole located in the utility easement. Mayor Schutte reported that MidAmerican Energy had already inspected the pole and found no safety hazards. McCullough reported that an update will be given at the July 6, 2020 meeting.

LMI COMMITTEE:

- 30. Draft Resolution 2020-35:** Brus presented a final “draft” of the recommendations from the LMI Committee as they had made several revisions to the current LMI Policy asking if there were any questions or concerns. Kinzer expressed her concerns on the City performing whole home inspections as it was her opinion that the City only focus on what the resident was applying for. Brus expressed the need for a whole home inspection as a safety precaution as he has had many years of experience in this practice. Discussion was held on what the whole home inspection entails and what qualifications contractors would be required to hold. Jepsen moved to proceed with the adoption of Resolution 2020-35, seconded by Sampson. Roll call: Jepsen-aye, Sampson-aye, Brus-aye, Slagle-aye and Kinzer-aye. Motion carried.

LICENSING & RENEWAL(S):

- 31. RENEWAL(S):** Kinzer moved to approve BT Grocery/ Jeff’s Market; Casey’s General Stores #3288; JLEE Oil/BP and Dollar General #12897 Cigarette Permit renewals for the period of 7/1/20 through 6/30/21, seconded by Sampson. Roll call: Kinzer-aye, Sampson-aye, Slagle-aye, Brus-aye and Jepsen-aye. Motion carried.

EMPLOYEE RELATION COMMITTEE:

- 32. Extend Clerk’s Contract:** Sampson made a motion to extend the Clerk’s Contract until September 7, 2020 and that any increase be retroactive to July 1, 2020, seconded by Jepsen. Roll call: Sampson-aye, Jepsen-aye, Kinzer-aye, Slagle-aye and Brus-aye. Motion carried.

POLICY & ADMINISTRATION:

33. Set special meeting: A meeting date was tentative set for June 24, 2020 to further the discussions in reference to the utility proprietary.

34. Clerk’s Report: City Clerk Ann Schmidt presented the May 2020 Clerk’s Report.

COMMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Lisa Smith inquired about the storm siren. Mayor Schutte replied that the Scott County Emergency Management sets the alarms off automatically whenever a threat to Blue Grass is eminent. Ms. Smith also asked if go-karts and 3-wheelers were allowed on City streets. Mayor Schutte replied that go-karts were not allowed and that all ATV, golf carts, UTV, etc. are required to be registered with the City asking that residents contact the Blue Grass Police Department by either telephoning 563-381-1485 or dial 911 to report any complaints and/or concerns. Ms. Smith again, asked that the City continue their discussions on constructing the access road to the Elementary School for the safety of our children.

Sherry Dupire expressed her concerns on Sawgrass Partners trying to make the City liable for damages to their new home from the sewage backup and that both she and her husband Frank are disappointed that Sawgrass Partners is not taking sole responsibility on reimbursing them for their damages. She said that they are continuously making excuses even after the Council, at their May 4, 2020 meeting highly recommended that Sawgrass Partners resolve their issues with Mr. and Mrs. Dupire before the City would consider accepting Prairie Woods Estates 3rd Addition infrastructure improvements.

Bob Smith asked if there was proper protocol during meetings as he was rather embarrassed by the four individuals that spoke whenever they wanted suggesting that perhaps the City inform attendees of the City’s protocol prior to the start of the meeting.

Mark Wakefield complained that the registration numbers on the golf carts, ATV’s, etc. are too small to read asking that the City start enforcing the rules and regulations as there are a lot of residents in violation. Chief Jahns informed Mr. Wakefield that he had responded to his recent complaint and issued a warning to those individuals at which time he informed them that the next time citations will be issued. Mayor Schutte reminded residents that it is at the Officer’s discretion.

ADJOURNMENT: Kinzer made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Brus. Roll call: Kinzer-aye, Brus-aye, Jepsen-aye, Sampson-aye and Slagle-aye. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Mayor Brad Schutte

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

CLAIMS REPORT DATED 06/01/20:

ADDOCO	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	1,466.25
AHERN FIRE PROTECTION	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	150.00
ALLTEST	MEDICAL	20.00
BP	VEH OPER	491.55
CENTRAL STATES H & W FUND	HEALTH INS	13,212.52
MARTIN & WHITACRE	ENGINEERING SVS	1,966.50
MCCULLOUGH, WILLIAM	LEGAL SVS	3,100.00
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY	UTILITIES	3,581.99
OFFICE MACHINE CONSULT	EQUIP OPER	72.18
PANTHER UNIFORMS	UNIFORM	159.70
QUAD CITY TIMES	ADVERTISING & PUBLICATIONS	350.44
REXCO	EQUIP OPER	224.39

TC AUTO	VEH OPER	116.21
VERIZON	TELEPHONE/FAX/INTERNET	994.65
WHITE DISTRIBUTION	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	313.17
TOTAL:		26,219.55
TOTAL FUNDS:		
GENERAL		9,786.07
ROAD USE FUND		74.80
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT		11,562.01
TAX INCREMENT FINANCING		525.00
SEWER FUND		4,271.67
TOTAL FUNDS:		26,219.55
CLAIMS REPORT 06/15/20:		
BG CEMETERY	CONTRIBUTION	4,000.00
CASEY'S	VEH OPER	316.75
DICK-N-SONS LUMBER	BLDG & GRNDS/VEH OPER/EQUIP	105.68
EASTERN IA LIGHT & POWER	UTILITIES	1,067.23
ELECTRIC PUMP	LIFT STATION	338.05
IA ASSO OF MUNI UTILITIES	PROF FEES	458.23
MEDIACOM	INTERNET SVS	463.29
MENARDS	SAFETY EQUIP/BLDG & GRNDS	79.98
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY	UTILITIES	10.22
OFFICE MACHINE CONSULT	EQUIP OPER	2,170.00
PETTY CASH	POSTAGE/OPER SUPPLIES	86.20
PHILLIPS BROS. RENTALS	EQUIP OPER	108.70
QC TIMES	ADVERTISING & PUBLICATIONS	187.99
RAGAN MECHANICAL	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	1,090.00
REPUBLIC SVS	GARBAGE/RECYCLING	8,837.19
REXCO EQUIPMENT	EQUIP OPER	131.59
RNJ DISTRIBUTION	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	19.50
ROB SAND	AUDIT	5,963.27
SUPERB SERVICE & SUPPLY	CLEANING SEWERS	2,192.90
THE SAFETY SPECIALISTS	MEDICAL	80.00
TWO RIVERS BANK & TRUST	TIF REBATE	75,000.00
WHITE DISTRIBUTION	EQUIP OPER	357.15
TOTAL:		103,063.92
TOTAL FUNDS:		
GENERAL		6,058.67
CEMETERY		4,000.00
AUDIT		5,963.27
ROAD USE		53.86
TAX INCREMENT FINANCING		75,000.00
SEWER		3,150.93
SANITATION		8,837.19
TOTAL FUNDS		103,063.92

