

**SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE BLUE GRASS CITY COUNCIL
BLUE GRASS, IOWA OCTOBER 21, 2020**

The Blue Grass City Council met in special session at 7:00 p.m. on the 21st day of October, 2020 in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 N. Mississippi St., pursuant to law, with Mayor Brad Schutte presiding, with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of reflection. Council present: Kinzer, Jepsen, Sampson and Brus. Member Slagle was present via electronically.

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.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Sampson made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented, seconded by Jepsen. Sampson-aye, Jepsen-aye, Brus-aye, Slagle-aye and Kinzer-aye. Motion carried.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT(S):

- 1. Animal Agreement & Code Violations:** McCullough referred to both the “Animal Agreement” which was approved by the City Council and the revised agreement submitted by Ms. Casey Smith’s attorney Mr. Mike Meloy identified as a “Non-Conforming Use Agreement”. He reiterated the discussions from the October 19, 2020 meeting; whereas, the Council set a special meeting to specifically discuss amending the original Animal Agreement to include the accessory buildings. A rather lengthy discussion was held on the various Code violations which include the addition of the accessory buildings and storage containers as well as the extension to the horse shelter. Council expressed concerns that there were no building permits applied for with the City at any time during over the years; therefore, the Council tried to establish a timeline of when the buildings were erected and the two new additions were added. Mr. Meloy addressed the Council by stating that this meeting was called for by the Council two nights ago as a special meeting to discuss this issue and that they were not requested to bring any papers or provide any further input as they were there to listen to the Council to discuss the matter. Mayor Schutte asked for a motion for adjournment since it was stated that no information was going to be provided to the Council in order for them to make a decision. Several residents expressed concerns that their taxpayer dollars are paying for the time the Council, Attorney and staff has spent discussing this one particular issue. Council expressed their disappointment as the whole purpose of setting this special meeting was to negotiate the terms of the Agreement.

ADJOURNMENT: Jepsen made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Sampson. Roll call: Jepsen-aye, Sampson-aye, Kinzer-aye, Brus-aye and Slagle-aye. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Mayor Brad Schutte

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