

**THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BLUE GRASS CITY COUNCIL
BLUE GRASS, IOWA FEBRUARY 5, 2024**

The Blue Grass City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on the 5th day of February 2024, in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 N. Mississippi Street, Blue Grass, Iowa, pursuant to law, with Mayor Brad Schutte presiding, with a Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of reflection.

Council present: Brandenburg, Hermann, Bowman, Blok and Rhoades.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Brandenburg moved to approve the Agenda as presented, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Bowman-aye, Rhoades-aye, Blok-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.

Mayor Schutte read aloud the Mayoral Comments.

PUBLIC FORUM: From the audience, there were none.

CONSENT AGENDA: Mayor Schutte reported a correction to the claims. Blok moved to adopt the Consent Agenda with a correction to the claims, seconded by Brandenburg.

1. **Minutes of the January 16, 2024 meeting**
2. **Resolution 2024-06 ref: authorizing a payment from the LMI Tax Increment Reserve**
3. **Resolution 2024-07 ref: authorizing a payment from the LMI Tax Increment Reserve**
4. **Resolution 2024-08 ref: authorizing a payment from the Tax Increment Reserve**
5. **Resolution 2024-09 ref: authorizing a payment from the LMI Tax Increment Reserve**
6. **Payment of claims**

Roll call: Blok-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Rhoades-aye, Bowman-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.

ENGINEER REPORT:

7. **Report:** City Engineer Mike Janecek presented the January 2024 Engineer's report.
8. **Lamphere Drive Reconstruction Project:** Janecek reported that construction administration has begun coordinating with Aero Concrete and that he was awaiting the Contract, Bonds and Insurance from the contractor. He said that once a pre-construction meeting was held, a meeting date could be set to meet with all the residents impacted by the project. Further discussion was held on the project details.

STREETS:

9. **Request for snow removal reimbursement:** Tim Brandenburg, President of the Towne & Country Manor Home Owner's Association (HOA), reported that the HOA oversees 60 units comprised of 44 villas and 16 townhomes which are mostly elderly residents reporting that the City received a record snowfall of over 25 inches making it nearly impossible for emergency services to get to residents if there was an emergency; therefore, the HOA hired Tim McCleary to remove snow from the street as well as the boulevards as residents were unable to see when backing out of their driveways. He said that the HOA felt that it was reasonable to ask that the City reimburse them for half the total costs. Council reported that most of them were getting telephone calls from residents asking that they, too be reimbursed for their snow removal and expressed their disappointment that Mr. Brandenburg, President of the HOA and as a City Council member did not get prior approval from the Council before hiring McCleary. Several residents from the audience expressed their concerns as well; therefore, Brandenburg rescinded his request. Resident Donna Porter expressed her disappointment and recommended that in the future that Council members refrain from personally attacking other Council members on social media and to be more professional.
10. **Stop Sign Placement:** Previously, Resident Mark Wakefield expressed concerns on the property adjacent to him developing; therefore, requested that a three-way stop sign be placed at North Moselle

and West Laretta Street. Council requested that the Police Department monitor that area and place their speed trailer in the vicinity and put together a study.

Chief Meier reported that he has completed his assessment on Mr. Wakefield's request reporting that according to the National Traffic Safety Bureau, a stop sign is not a tool for reducing speeding and that there are no reported accidents in and around this particular area from 2014-2024; therefore, it is his recommendation that the stop sign placement be denied. Brandenburg moved to not move forward with the stop sign placement request based on the Police Chief's recommendations, seconded by Rhoades. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Rhoades-aye, Bowman-aye, Hermann-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried.

11. Street Repairs: Previously, Meyrer presented a list of several street repairs, storm drain repairs and one ADA sidewalk approach that are in need of repair and/or replacement located in the Towne & Country Manor Subdivision. Council requested that the Public Works Director obtain bids.

Meyrer reported that the project has been put on hold until Spring. Mayor Schutte requested that the item remain on the Agenda.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER:

12. Report: Building Commissioner Jim Meyrer presented the January 2024 Building Commissioner report.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT(S):

13. Home Occupation: Meyrer reported that he had completed a whole-home inspection reporting that Ms. Harper has met all the Home Occupation requirements; therefore, recommends approving. Brandenburg moved to approve Ms. Harper's Home Occupation Permit, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Bowman-aye, Hermann-aye, Blok-aye and Rhoades-aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS:

14. Report: Public Works Director Jim Meyrer presented the January 2024 Public Works Department report.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT(S):

15. Nuisance Abatement(s): Mayor Schutte reported that there was one reported nuisance that has been given to the Police Chief to resolve.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

16. Report: Chief Mike Meier presented the January 2024 Police Department report.

17. Letter of Intent: Mayor Schutte read aloud a letter from Officer Chad Said as he was resigning from his full-time status and requesting to stay on part-time. Bowman moved to accept Officer Said's letter of intent and to stay on as part-time, seconded by Hermann. Roll call: Bowman-aye, Hermann-aye, Blok-aye, Rhoades-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried.

18. Advertisement for position: Council reviewed the advertisement prepared by the Clerk requesting that the position be advertised.

LICENSING & RENEWALS:

19. Liquor License: Brandenburg moved to approve Dollar General #12897 liquor license, seconded by Rhoades. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Rhoades-aye, Blok-aye, Hermann-aye, and Bowman-aye. Motion carried.

20. Liquor License: Brandenburg moved to approve JLEE Oil, LLC d/b/a BP liquor license, seconded by Rhoades. Brandenburg-aye, Rhoades-aye, Blok-aye, Hermann-aye, and Bowman-aye. Motion carried.

POLICY & ADMINISTRATION:

21. 2024 Polling Facility: Bowman moved to approve the 2024 Scott County Polling Facility Agreement on the use of the Public Safety Building for the 2024 elections, seconded by Blok. Roll call: Bowman-aye, Blok-aye, Rhoades-aye, Hermann-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried.

22. City Budget Timeline: The Clerk reviewed the budget timeline for the City’s FY ’24-’25 budget reporting a Finance Committee meeting date of February 6, 2024 at 2:30 p.m.

23. Property Tax Levy Public Hearing: Bowman moved to set a public hearing date of April 8, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. for the FY ‘24-’25 Property Tax Levy Public Hearing, seconded by Brandenburg. Roll call: Bowman-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Hermann-aye, Blok-aye and Rhoades-aye. Motion carried.

COMMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Mayor Schutte reminded the Council of the Fire Township Trustee’s Meeting set for February 7, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Public Safety Building. He also reported that in observance of Presidents Day, the regular City Council meeting would be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Rhoades made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Rhoades-aye, Bowman-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Hermann-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Mayor Brad Schutte

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

CLAIMS REPORT

424 WARNING SYSTEMS	EQUIP OPER	28,250.66
ALL SEASONS CARWASH	VEH OPER	95.50
ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY	EQUIP OPER	152.50
BP	VEH OPER	1,828.91
CARPETLAND	LMI ASST GRANT	3,649.00
CASEY'S	VEH OPER	859.76
CENTRAL STATES H & W FUND	HEALTH INSURANCE	12,902.40
CENTURYLINK	FAX	134.87
COMPASS MINERALS AMERICA	SALT	8,693.30
COURTESY FORD	EQUIP OPER	1,296.15
HENDERSON PRODUCTS	EQUIP OPER	531.96
INTERSTATE POWER SYSTEMS	EQUIP OPER	5,859.02
IOWA ONE CALL	PROF FEES	10.80
JOHNSON DISTRIB.	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	7.00
MARTIN & WHITACRE SURVEYORS	ENGINEERING	5,305.25
MCCULLOUGH, WM.	LEGAL SVS	1,100.00
MED-TECH RESOURCE	EQUIP OPER	335.09
MEDIACOM	INTERNET	309.87
MENARDS	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	258.51
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY	UTILITIES	2,875.72
OFFICE MACHINE CONSULT	EQUIP OPER	62.50
OTERO DOOR WORKS	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	261.50
PANTHER UNIFORMS	UNIFORM ALLOW	654.96
PETERSEN PLUMBING & HEATING	LMI ASST GRANT	4,300.00
R.P. LUMBER CO.	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	161.74
RAGAN MECHANICAL	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	1,154.00
RNJ DISTRIBUTION	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	15.40
SCOTT CO. SHERIFF	JAIL EXPENSE	25.00
THE SAFETY SPECIALISTS	MEDICAL	145.00
VERIZON	TELEPHONE/FAX/INTERNET	921.57
TOTAL:		82,157.94

TOTAL FUNDS:

GENERAL	45,177.34
FIRE TOWNSHIP	9,031.02
ROAD USE	14,992.18
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	12,902.40
TAX INCREMENT FINANCING	55.00
TOTAL FUNDS:	82,157.94