

**THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BLUE GRASS CITY COUNCIL
BLUE GRASS, IOWA APRIL 1, 2024**

The Blue Grass City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on the 1st day of April 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 and Bowman. Absent were members Blok and Rhoades.

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

Mayor Schutte read aloud the Mayoral Comments.

PUBLIC FORUM: From the audience, there were none.

CONSENT AGENDA: Brandenburg moved to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Bowman.

1. **Minutes of the March 18, 2024 meeting**
2. **Payment of claims**

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

ENGINEER REPORT:

3. **Report:** Mayor Schutte presented the March 2024 Engineer's report prepared by the City Engineer Mike Janecek.
4. **Lamphere Drive Reconstruction Project:** Mayor Schutte referred to the Engineer's report reporting construction administration had begun reporting there was a storm sewer conflict with an existing gas main at Seine Street; therefore, the storm sewer had to be redesigned. He also reported that the water main was much deeper than recorded; therefore, a change order was being prepared which will be covered by Iowa American Water Company. Chris Jepsen from Aero Concrete reported that the project has been delayed somewhat but overall going as planned.

INFORMATIONAL:

5. **American Legion Post #711:** Gary Berndt 1st Vice Commander representing the American Legion Post #711 asked for permission to close off East Orphed Street on/near the Community Club and place no parking signs on both sides of the street beginning at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 20, 2024 so that the Legion could hold a Memorial Service. Mayor Schutte asked that Meyrer assist the Legion. It was the consensus of the Council to allow the street closing and no parking as requested.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER:

6. **Report:** Building Commissioner Jim Meyrer presented the March 2024 Building Commissioner report.
7. **15.04 Building Code:** Meyrer reported that there was a recent incident where a contractor did not obtain a building permit; whereas, he made contact with realtor that had the property listed and later find out that that contractor had six prior jobs that he did not obtain a permit. Mayor Schutte reported that residents need to understand that by obtaining a building permit is for their benefit as it insures that the contractor is licensed and bonded and that the Building Commissioner must inspect the job for the protection of the resident. Brandenburg reported that he had requested this to be on the Agenda as this relates to an elderly resident that was told by the contractor that he had obtained a building permit and felt that it was not fair the City penalize the resident for the contractor's inability to obtain the permit. Hermann recommended that the Code be amended assessing a penalty to the contractor for not obtaining a permit and after three separate incidents that the contractor be banned from doing any work in the City. A rather lengthy discussion was held.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- 8. Report:** Public Works Director Jim Meyrer presented the March 2024 Public Works Department report.
- 9. Bids:** 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; therefore, Council requested that bids be obtained.
Mayor Schutte opened the following sealed bids for the various street repairs in the Towne & Country Manor Subdivision: River City Cutting & Coring \$128,290.00; Reitz Construction \$94,420.00; CDMI Concrete \$132,419.00 and Aero Concrete \$92,771.00.
- 10. Acceptance of Street Repair Bid:** Council requested that Meyrer compare bids for accuracy. Bowman moved to approve Aero Concrete’s bid in the amount of \$92,771.00 with the stipulation that the bid be reviewed for accuracy, seconded by Hermann. Roll call: Bowman-aye, Hermann-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried.
- 11. IA Association of Municipal Utilities:** Meyrer referred to an observation and recommendations report prepared by the Iowa Association of Municipalities as a representative performed a mock OSHA walk-thru inspection. He said that most of the recommendations had already been addressed as they were very minor.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT(S):

- 12. Nuisance Abatement(s):** Mayor Schutte reported that there were two vehicle nuisances that he will be addressing with Chief Meier.

POLICY & ADMINISTRATION:

- 13. Mediacom 5-Year Agreement:** Mayor Schutte reported both he and the City Clerk, the Fire Chief along with two representatives from Scott County’s IT Department met with several Mediacom representatives to discuss connecting fiber-optics to the Public Safety Building. He said that Mediacom agreed to invest \$17,944.00 towards equipment and labor if the City were to agree to a 5-year 500/500 DIA w/5 IPS Agreement for \$640.00 a month leaving the coax services until the life of that Agreement which expires September 25, 2026. Discussion was held. Hermann moved to accept the 5-year fiber-optic Agreement, seconded by Brandenburg. Roll call: Hermann-aye, Brandenburg-aye and Bowman-aye. Motion carried.

COMMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Council requested that ribbon cutting dates be set at the next meeting so preparations can be made.

The Clerk reminded the Council of the upcoming meeting dates: April 8, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.; April 15, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. and April 22, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

Mayor Schutte reported that the School Board was wanting to start meeting with him on a quarterly basis to address any issues or concerns; therefore, he was meeting with Superintendent TJ Schneckloth on April 2, 2024 to discuss any issues or concerns.

ADJOURNMENT: Brandenburg made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Bowman-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Mayor Brad Schutte

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

CLAIMS REPORT

| | | |
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| B.G. FIRE DEPT | EQUIP OPER | 2,846.64 |
| BP | VEH OPER | 676.33 |
| CCP INDUSTRIES | BLDG & GRNDS MAINT | 170.34 |
| CENTRAL STATES H & W FUND | HEALTH INSURANCE | 14,252.00 |
| CENTURYLINK | FAX | 177.73 |
| COMPASS MINERALS | SALT | 2,112.85 |
| DES MOINES STAMP | PROF FEES | 34.00 |
| FIRE SERVICE TRAINING BUREAU | TRAINING/TRAVEL | 50.00 |
| IA ASSO OF MUNI UTILITIES | TRAINING/TRAVEL | 500.00 |
| IOWA ONE CALL | PROF FEES | 18.90 |
| MENARDS | BLDG & GRNDS MAINT | 39.29 |
| MIDAMERICAN ENERGY | UTILITIES | 2,671.64 |
| OFFICE MACHINE CONSULT | EQUIP OPER | 40.49 |
| PORTER INSURANCE | INSURANCE/WORK COMP | 75,266.95 |
| QC POWER EQUIPMENT | EQUIP OPER | 357.82 |
| RAGAN MECHANICAL | BLDG & GRNDS MAINT | 492.92 |
| RIVER CITY CUTTING & CORING | TRAIL DEVELOPMENT | 14,350.00 |
| RNJ DISTRIBUTION | BLDG & GRNDS MAINT | 36.30 |
| SCOTT CO. LIBRARY SYSTEM | LIBRARY SERVICES | 33,790.00 |
| SCOTT CO. SHERIFF | JAIL EXPENSE | 25.00 |
| TC AUTO | VEH OPER | 1,036.92 |
| VERIZON | TELEPHONE/FAX/INTERNET | 921.03 |
| VETERINARY AND POULTRY SUPPLY | BLDG & GRNDS MAINT | 187.50 |
| TOTAL: | | 150,054.65 |

TOTAL FUNDS:

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|---------------------|-------------------|
| GENERAL | 88,703.98 |
| LIBRARY MAINTENANCE | 33,790.00 |
| ROAD USE | 2,470.67 |
| EMPLOYEE BENEFITS | 25,090.00 |
| TOTAL FUNDS: | 150,054.65 |