

**THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BLUE GRASS CITY COUNCIL
BLUE GRASS, IOWA MARCH 3, 2025**

The Blue Grass City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on the 3rd day of March 2025, 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: Bowman, Smith, Hermann and Brandenburg. Absent was member Blok.

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

Mayor Schutte read aloud the Mayoral Comments.

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

CONSENT AGENDA: Smith moved to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Hermann.

1. February 18, 2025 minutes

2. February 26, 2025 m

3. Payment of claims

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

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

4. **Committee Recommendations:** Mayor Schutte reported that the Finance Committee had met on February 13, 2025 to discuss the City's insurance renewal. It was the Committee's recommendation to stay with Porter Insurance based on their 30 years of service and longevity.

5. **Porter Insurance:** Seth Porter representing Porter Insurance presented the City with their new policy for the period of April 1, 2025 through April 1, 2026 from Employers Mutual Casualty Company adding that there was an increase unfortunately mainly due to new policies on law enforcement. He also informed the Council that the City receives a dividend check from the IAMU every year as part of City's overall experience from the previous year reporting a dividend refund totaling \$10,715.00. Mr. Porter gave several recommendations on increasing some deductibles and increasing some limits. Discussion was held. Bowman made a motion to approve Porter Insurance Agency as the City's insurance carrier for the period of April 1, 2025 through April 1, 2026 approving Mr. Porter's recommended revisions, seconded by Smith. Roll call: Bowman-aye, Smith-aye, Brandenburg-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.

ENGINEER REPORT:

6. **Report:** Mayor Schutte presented the February 2025 Engineer's report prepared by the City Engineer Mike Janecek.

7. **Lamphere Drive Reconstruction Project:** Mayor Schutte referred to the Engineer's report reporting the status of the Lamphere Drive Reconstruction Project.

BID OPENING:

8. **Bid Opening:** Mayor Schutte announced that no bids were submitted asking the Council how they wanted to move forward. Council discussed lowering the minimum bid due to the fact that the lot was uniquely sized and had no amenities and/or utilities. After much discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to lower the minimum bid to \$15,000.00 and extend the bid deadline to April 4, 2025 with a public bid opening date of April 7, 2025.

9. **Set Public Hearing Date:** Due to no bids being received, no public hearing date was set.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER:

10. Report: Building Commissioner Jim Meyrer presented the February 2025 Building Commissioner report.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT:

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

PUBLIC WORKS:

12. Report: Public Works Director Jim Meyrer presented the February 2025 Public Works Department report. Council expressed concerns on the various projects being done and/or purchases being made without prior knowledge and/or not going through the proper committees. Bowman requested that any future purchases be authorized by the Council and/or be approved by the proper committees.

13. Striping of Streets: Meyrer presented a quote from ProLine Striping for restriping the various City streets to be applied after they are micro-surfaced. Discussion was held. Bowman requested that another quote or two be obtained before deciding. Council agreed. A brief discussion was held in regards to future improvements to East Telegraph Road.

14. Part-Time Seasonal Help: Meyrer requested to advertise for part-time seasonal help. Discussion was held in regards to hiring several seasonal employees as there may be potential candidates that can only work certain hours; therefore, it was the consensus of the Council to advertise for the position and hire additional seasonal employees.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT(S):

15. Nuisance Abatement(s): Mayor Schutte reported that there were no new nuisance abatements reported updating the Council that the owner of the premises on East Meuse has been served.

PUBLIC HEARING:

16. Budget Amendment and Certification for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2025: Brandenburg moved to close the regular meeting and open the public hearing, seconded by Smith. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Smith-aye Hermann-aye and Bowman-aye. Motion carried. Mayor Schutte opened the public hearing for discussion. The Clerk reported that there were no oral or written objections summarizing the revenues and expenditures impacted by the Budget Amendment reporting a total amendment of \$692,384.00 in revenues, including transfers-in and \$1,172,746.00 in expenditures, including transfers-out. Mayor Schutte asked for further discussion, since there were none, Brandenburg moved to close the public hearing and reopen the regular meeting, seconded by Smith. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Smith-aye, Bowman-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.

17. Resolution 2025-04: Brandenburg moved to adopt Resolution 2025-04 approving the City Budget Amendment and Certification for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Bowman-aye, Hermann-aye and Smith-aye. Motion carried.

COMMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Bowman inquired about the rezoning request in the Scott County West Business Park. Meyrer replied that there is a request to rezone three lots from Commercial to Industrial.

Mayor Schutte read aloud a Certificate of Appreciation congratulating City Clerk/Financial Officer Ann Schmidt on her 30-year work anniversary as this was a significant milestone and a long-time commitment. Mayor and Council thanked Ms. Schmidt for all her hard work and dedication.

ADJOURNMENT: Smith made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Smith-aye, Bowman-aye, Brandenburg-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Mayor Brad Schutte

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

CLAIMS REPORT

424 WARNING SYSTEMS	EQUIP OPER	416.00
AHERN FIRE	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	158.00
BP	VEH OPER	906.20
CASEY'S	VEH OPER	1,383.81
CENTRAL STATES H & W FUND	HEALTH INSURANCE	11,942.00
CENTURYLINK	FAX	150.09
COURTESY FORD	EQUIP OPER	215.55
MARTIN & WHITACRE SURVEYORS	ENGINEERING	657.40
MENARDS	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	213.90
MID-AMERICAN GLAZING	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	6,729.00
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY	UTILITIES	3,869.18
MIDWEST WHEEL COS.	EQUIP OPER	133.41
NELSON ELECTRIC	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	1,252.92
VERIZON	TELEPHONE/FAX/INTERNET	923.40
WALCOTT COLLISION	VEH OPER	1,000.00
TOTAL:		29,950.86

TOTAL FUNDS:

GENERAL	9,936.95
RESERVES - CITY HALL BLDG	8,071.91
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT FUND	11,942.00
TOTAL FUNDS:	29,950.86