

**THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BLUE GRASS CITY COUNCIL
BLUE GRASS, IOWA AUGUST 17, 2026**

The Blue Grass City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on the 17th day of August 2026, 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, Blok, Bowman and Chalupa.

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

MAYORAL COMMENTS: Mayor Schutte read aloud the Mayoral Comments.

PUBLIC FORUM: Resident Mark Wakefield asked if the City was going to purchase more speed signs. The Clerk replied that the Police Department was going to propose to the Council to apply for a grant to purchase 10-12 more signs.

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

1. **August 3, 2026 minutes**
2. **Resolution 2026-37 ref: authorizing a payment from the Tax Increment Reserve**
3. **Resolution 2026-39 ref: authorizing a payment from Towne & Country Undisbursed Reserve**
4. **Payment of claims**

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

SPECIAL EVENT:

5. **Blue Grass PTA:** PTA President Kristyn Hildebrand and Media-Coordinator Amanda Gries asked for permission to use the safety trail for their 2nd annual Wildcat Dash Family Fun Fest from 1 to 4 p.m. on September 13, 2026. Brandenburg moved to approve the use of the safety trail for the PTA's Wildcat Dash on September 13, 2026, seconded by Hermann. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Hermann-aye, Chalupa-aye, Bowman-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

6. **Report:** Chief Brian Seamer presented the July 2026 Fire Department report.

PARK BOARD:

7. **Report:** Member Deb Testrote presented the August 2026 Park Board Report prepared by Co-Chair Justin Box.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

8. **Report:** Mayor Schutte presented the July 2026 Police Department report prepared by Chief Meier.
9. **Trick-or-Treat:** Chalupa moved to set Blue Grass' trick-or-treat date to October 31, 2026 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., seconded by Blok. Roll call: Chalupa-aye, Blok-aye, Bowman-aye, Brandenburg-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.

FINAL PLAT:

10. **Resolution 2026-38:** The Clerk reported that Chester and Retta Pelsang had previously obtained a Variance to split off their existing duplexes into individual condominiums; therefore, the lots need to be replatted. Letters of recommendation from both the City Attorney and City Engineer approving the Final Plat Prairie Woods Estates 5th Addition. Brandenburg moved to adopt Resolution 2026-38 approving the Final Plat of Prairie Woods Estates 5th Addition, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Bowman-aye, Blok-aye, Hermann-aye and Chalupa-aye. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL ASS'T GRANT:

- 11. LMI:** Previously, the Council reviewed an LMI application received from Ms. Katie Hein to replace her deck; however, it was unclear as to whether Ms. Hein was able to pay the required 10 percent match; therefore, tabled the application.

Council reviewed the Building Commissioner's letter of recommendation as he had the contractor that had the lowest bid rebid the deck reducing the additional stairs totaling \$6,000.00 confirming that the applicant had agreed to pay the 10 percent. Bowman expressed concerns on the extent of the deterioration of the deck. Hermann moved to approve A-Team Framing's quote in the amount of \$6,000.00 with the City paying 90 percent and the applicant pay the remaining 10 percent with the stipulation that if there are any additional costs that the applicant agree to pay the additional 10 percent, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Hermann-aye, Bowman-aye, Blok-aye, Brandenburg-aye and Chalupa-aye. Motion carried.

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT:

- 12. Variance Request:** Council reviewed the Board's minutes from their August 5, 2026 meeting approving a Variance for Nathan and Amy Moore, representing the Cane Family Trust to construct a non-farm single-family in an A-1 Agricultural zoning. It was the consensus of the Council that there were no issues of concern with the Variance and agreed with the Board's decision.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT(S):

- 13. Nuisance Abatement(s):** Mayor Schutte reported that letters had been sent to several property owners throughout the City that have not yet complied; therefore, the City will be moving forward abating the nuisances. He then relayed the complaints posted on social media to the Council in regards to the most recent storm that passed through Blue Grass. Brandenburg complained about the grass being blown into the City Streets, as he felt that should be addressed.

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTIONS:

- 14. Second reading of Ordinance Amendment 2026-03:** Brandenburg moved to accept the second reading of Amendment 2026-03 in reference to Chapter 10.95 Electronic Devices, seconded by Chalupa. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Chalupa-aye, Blok-aye, Bowman-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.

POLICY & ADMINISTRATION:

- 15. Clerk's Report:** City Clerk Ann Schmidt presented the July 2026 Clerk's report.
- 16. Light pole decorations:** The Clerk reported that the City of Stanwood was accepting bids on their Christmas light pole decorations and brackets. Bowman moved to allow the Public Works Director to view the decorations and at his discretion, bid an amount not to exceed \$1,000.00, seconded by Chalupa. Roll call: Bowman-aye, Chalupa-aye, Blok-aye, Hermann-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- 17. Strategic Planning & Goal Setting:** Mayor Schutte reported that several projects were underway; therefore, other than that, there was nothing new to report at this time.

COMMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: The Clerk reported that the regular City Council meeting will be on Tuesday, September 8, 2026 in observance of the Labor Day Holiday.

ADJOURNMENT: Chalupa made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Chalupa-aye, Bowman-aye, Blok-aye, Brandenburg-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Mayor Brad Schutte

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

CLAIMS:

B.G. BUGLE	ADV & PUBLICATIONS	200.00
BRUS CONSTR.	STREET IMPROV	5,928.25
COLUMN SOFTWARE	ADV & PUBLICATIONS	1,359.67
EASTERN IA LIGHT & POWER	UTILITIES	2,224.32
HUMANE SOCIETY	ANIMAL CONTROL	200.00
IMEG CORP.	ENGINEER FEES	1,680.00
IA AMERICAN WATER	UTILITIES	576.27
JOHNSON DISTRIB.	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	16.00
MEDIACOM	INTERNET SVS	766.94
MENARDS	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	44.30
NAPA	EQUIP OPER	559.67
OFFICE MACHINE CONSULT	EQUIP OPER	1,186.22
OTERO DOOR WORKS	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	940.66
PS3 ENTERPRISES	EQUIP OPER	370.00
RAGAN MECHANICAL	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	1,505.09
REPUBLIC SVS	GARB/RECYCLING	12,180.00
RNJ DISTRIBUTION INC.	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	39.41
SCOTT CO.	JAIL EXPENSE	75.00
VISA	VARIOUS DEPT.	404.29
WEX BANK	VEH OPER	2,579.62
TOTAL:		32,835.71

TOTAL FUNDS:

GENERAL	20,655.71
SANITATION	12,180.00
TOTAL FUNDS:	32,835.71