

The Blue Grass City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on the 5th day of January 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: Blok, Brandenburg, Bowman and Smith. Absent was member Hermann.

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

Mayor Schutte read aloud the Mayoral Comments.

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

COUNCIL APPOINTMENT: Brandenburg moved to appoint Ann Schmidt as the City Clerk/Financial Officer, seconded by Smith. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Smith-aye, Blok-aye and Bowman-aye. Motion carried. Mayor Schutte administered the Oath of Office to City Clerk/Financial Officer Ann Schmidt.

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS: Mayor Schutte announced the following appointments:

Mayor Pro Tem: Mike Hermann: Smith moved to appoint Mike Hermann as Mayor Pro Tem, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Smith-aye, Bowman-aye, Brandenburg-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried. Mayor Schutte said that he would administer the Oath of Office at a later date due to Hermann's absence.

Police Chief: Mike Meier: Smith moved to appoint Mike Meier as Police Chief, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Smith-aye, Bowman-aye, Blok-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried. Mayor Schutte administered the Oath of Office to Police Chief Mike Meier.

Public Works Director/Building Commissioner: Jim Meyrer: Smith moved to appoint Jim Meyrer as Public Works Director/Building Commissioner, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Smith-aye, Bowman-aye, Blok-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried. Mayor Schutte administered the Oath of Office to Public Works Director/Building Commissioner Jim Meyrer.

City Attorney: William McCullough: Smith moved to appoint William McCullough as City Attorney, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Smith-aye, Bowman-aye, Blok-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried. Mayor Schutte administered the Oath of Office to City Attorney William McCullough.

City Engineer: Mike Janecek: Brandenburg moved to appoint Mike Janecek as City Engineer, seconded by Smith. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Smith-aye, Blok-aye and Bowman-aye. Motion carried. Mayor Schutte administered the Oath of Office to City Engineer Mike Janecek.

Fire Department Election Results/Fire Chief: Mayor Schutte read aloud the Fire Department election results from their December 29, 2025 meeting reporting that Brian Seamer was unanimously elected as Fire Chief; therefore, he appointed Brian Seamer as Fire Chief. Smith moved to appoint Brian Seamer as Fire Chief, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Smith-aye, Bowman-aye, Blok-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried. Mayor Schutte administered the Oath of Office to Fire Chief Brian Seamer.

MAYORAL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: Mayor Schutte read aloud his Committee appointments for 2026-2028 as follows: ***Finance:*** Brandenburg and Hermann; ***Employee Relations/Union Negotiations:*** Bowman and Hermann; ***Public Safety/Ordinance/Nuisance:*** Blok and Smith; ***Storm Sewer/Sanitation:*** Blok and Smith; ***Streets/Sidewalks/City Buildings:*** Bowman and Brandenburg and ***Economic Development/Land Use:*** Committee of the Whole.

CONSENT AGENDA: Smith moved to approve the Consent as presented, seconded by Blok.

- 1. December 15, 2025 minutes**
- 2. Resolution 2025-42 ref: renumbering of Resolution 2025-40**
- 3. Motion to adopt Resolution 2026-01 ref: authorizing signatures on the City of Blue Grass' signature card at the Blue Grass Savings Bank**
- 4. Motion to adopt Resolution 2026-03 ref: authorizing a payment to the BG Savings Bank**
- 5. Payment of claims**

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

ENGINEER REPORT:

- 6. Report:** City Engineer Mike Janecek presented the December 2025 Engineer's report.
- 7. East Telegraph Road:** Previously, it was the consensus of the Council to have the Engineer move forward with cost estimates and a timeline in regards to the reconstruction of the East Telegraph Road corridor; however, Council later expressed opposition; therefore, Mayor Schutte requested that this project be discussed when there is a full Council present.
- 8. Lamphere Drive Reconstruction Project:** Janecek reported that the punch list was complete and the project was now under the 1-year warranty.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER:

- 9. Report:** Building Commissioner Jim Meyrer presented the December 2025 Building Commissioner report.
- 10. UPS Replacement:** Meyrer previously presented a bid from Data-Power Technologies to replace the Public Safety Building's three-phase UPS battery backup system that is now obsolete; however, the Council requested that another bid be obtained.

Meyrer reported that he was waiting on another bid. It was consensus of the Council to wait until another bid was obtained.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- 11. Report:** Public Works Director Jim Meyrer presented the December 2025 Public Works Department report.
- 12. Drainage Bids:** Meyrer previously presented a bid to correct the storm drainage issues at Dolan Drive and Danielle Court; however, it was consensus of the Council to obtain another bid.

Meyrer reported that he was waiting on another bid. It was consensus of the Council to wait until another bid was obtained.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

- 13. Set Fire Township Meeting:** Bowman moved to set the Fire Township meeting for February 11, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Public Safety Building, seconded by Smith. Roll call: Bowman-aye, Smith-aye, Brandenburg-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

- 14. Report:** Chief Meier presented the December 2025 Police Department report.
- 15. Resignation:** Smith moved to accept Matthew Wilkinson's resignation, seconded by Brandenburg. Roll call: Smith-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Bowman-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT(S):

- 16. Nuisance Abatement(s):** Mayor Schutte reported that there were no new nuisance abatements.
- 17. Status of Demolition Project:** Mayor Schutte reported that the weather had delayed the demolition; however, the contractor stated that the demolition would begin this week.

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTIONS:

18. Resolution 2026-02: Brandenburg moved to adopt Resolution 2026-02 in reference to providing notice of Public Hearing, seconded by Blok. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Blok-aye Smith-aye and Bowman-aye. Motion carried.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

19. Strategic Planning & Goal Setting: There was nothing new to report.

COMMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: The Clerk reported that due to the upcoming Holidays, the second Council meeting of January will be held on Tuesday, January 20, 2026 and in February, the second Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 17, 2026.

RECESS: Smith moved to recess for 5 minutes, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Smith-aye, Bowman-aye, Blok-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried. Smith moved to reconvene, seconded by Brandenburg. Roll call: Smith-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Blok-aye and Bowman-aye. Motion carried.

20. Review & Select Candidate: Mayor Schutte referred to the Code of Iowa, Section 21.5(i) stating that the Council would be going into executive closed session to select a candidate for the Part-time Police Officer position. Smith moved to close the regular meeting and go into closed session, seconded by Blok. Roll call: Smith-aye, Blok-aye, Brandenburg-aye and Bowman-aye. Motion carried.

Smith moved to reopen the regular meeting, seconded by Blok. Roll call: Smith-aye, Blok-aye, Brandenburg-aye and Bowman-aye. Motion carried.

21. Select Candidate: Smith moved to offer Applicant "A" the Part-Time Police Officer's position at \$25.00 per hour with the stipulation that the applicant pass all the applicable pre-employment tests, seconded by Brandenburg. Roll call: Smith-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Blok-aye and Bowman-aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Bowman made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Smith. Roll call: Bowman-aye, Smith-aye, Blok-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Mayor Brad Schutte

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

CLAIMS:

BI-STATE REGIONAL COMM.	VEH PYMT	283.75
BG SAVINGS	PROF FEES	48,500.00
BP	VEH OPER	552.20
BUSINESS RADIO	EQUIP OPER	44.00
CASEY'S	VEH OPER	1,842.27
CENTRAL STATES H & W FUND	HEALTH INS	13,328.00
CENTURYLINK	FAX	82.24
COLUMN SOFTWARE	ADVERT & PUBLICATION	483.00
IA WORKFORCE DEV.	UNEMPLOYMENT	21.18
ILLOWA CHAPTER OF ICC	TRAINING DUES	25.00
IA AMERICAN WATER	UTILITIES	486.50
JOHNSON DISTRIB.	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	28.00
LEXIPOL	TRAINING	2,463.12
MCCULLOUGH, WM.	LEGAL SVS	1,200.00
MEDIACOM	INTERNET SVS	735.02
MENARDS	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	80.74
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY	UTILITIES	2,589.86
OFFICE MACHINE CONSULT	EQUIP OPER	97.08
POMP'S TIRE SERVICE	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	1,066.20
RP LUMBER CO.	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	10.43
RAGAN MECHANICAL	GARBAGE/RECYCLING	192.00
REPUBLIC SVS	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	11,277.00
RNJ DISTRIB.	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	55.00
SJ SMITH WELDING	EQUIP OPER	33.19
VERIZON	TELEPHONE/FAX/INTERNET	891.82
WHITE ROOFING	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	12,000.00
TOTAL:		98,367.60

TOTAL FUNDS:

GENERAL	24,137.72
FIRE TOWNSHIP	48,500.00
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	13,349.18
ROAD USE	1,066.20
SANITATION	11,314.50
TOTAL FUNDS:	98,367.60