

**THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BLUE GRASS CITY COUNCIL  
BLUE GRASS, IOWA                      JANUARY 20, 2026**

The Blue Grass City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on the 20<sup>th</sup> 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: Brandenburg, Hermann and Smith. Absent were members Blok and Bowman.

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

**SWEARING IN OF MAYOR PRO TEM:** Mayor Schutte administer the Oath of Office to Mayor Pro Tem Mike Hermann.

**MAYORAL COMMENTS:** Mayor Schutte read aloud the Mayoral Comments.

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

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

1. January 5, 2026 minutes
2. Resolution 2026-04 ref: designating an Office Newspaper
3. Resolution 2026-05 ref: setting the 2026 mileage rate
4. Resolution 2026-06 ref: authorizing a payment from the TIF Reserve
5. Payment of claims

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

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:**

6. **Report:** Chief Brian Seamer presented the December 2025 Fire Department report.

**PARK BOARD:**

7. **Report:** Mayor Schutte reported that no meeting was held in January; therefore, there was no report.

**FINANCIAL ASS'T GRANT:**

8. **LMI:** An application to install a stair-chair lift was received from Ralph Kress; therefore, the Commissioner conducted a home inspection and found no safety issues. The following bids were received: Accorn Stairlifts \$4,450.00 and Nu-Trend Accessibility Systems \$3,995.00. Council reviewed and compared the bids. Hermann moved to approve Nu-Trend Accessibility System's bid in the amount of \$3,995.00 with the City paying 90 percent and the applicant paying 10 percent, seconded by Brandenburg. Roll call: Hermann-aye, Brandenburg-aye and Smith-aye. Motion carried.

9. **LMI:** Previously, the City received an application from Butch Grimm for a handicap bathroom and other various repairs and after the Commissioner conducted a home inspection reporting several safety issues; therefore, the Council requested that bids be obtained prioritizing the safety issues.

Mayor Schutte presented the following bids: A-Team Framing \$15,007.00-\$17,507.00; Empire Construction & Framing \$12,082.00 and Olde Town Roofing \$17,472.00. Council reviewed and compared the bids. Brandenburg moved to approve Olde Town Roofing's bid in the amount of \$17,472.00 with an amount not to exceed the \$18,000.00 limit with the City paying 90 percent and the applicant paying 10 percent, seconded by Smith. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Smith-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.

**NUISANCE ABATEMENT(S):**

10. **Nuisance Abatement(s):** Mayor Schutte reported that there were no new nuisance abatements.

11. **Status of Demolition Project:** Mayor Schutte reported that the demolition was complete.

**POLICY & ADMINISTRATION:**

**12. Clerk's Report:** City Clerk Ann Schmidt presented the December 2025 Clerk's Report.

**13. 5-Year Maintenance Agreement:** The Clerk reported that the IDOT had sent their 5-year Maintenance and Repair Agreement of primary roads within the corporate limits reporting that the Attorney had reviewed the Agreement and found it to be in compliance. Smith moved to approve the IDOT 5-Year Maintenance and Repair Agreement based on the City Attorney's recommendations, seconded by Hermann. Roll call: Smith-aye, Hermann-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried.

**LICENSING:**

**14. Liquor License renewal:** Smith moved to approve Dollar General Store #12897 liquor license renewal, seconded by Brandenburg. Roll call: Smith-aye, Brandenburg-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.

**15. Liquor License renewal:** Smith moved to approve JLEE Oil d/b/a BP liquor license renewal, seconded by Hermann. Roll call: Smith-aye, Hermann-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**

**16. Strategic Planning & Goal Setting:** The Clerk reminded the Council that the Amendment to the 2021 Urban Revitalization Plan public hearing was scheduled for February 2, 2026.

**COMMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** The Clerk reported that in observance of the Presidents Day Holiday, the meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 17, 2026.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Smith made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Hermann. Roll call: Smith-aye, Hermann-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

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Mayor Brad Schutte

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

**CLAIMS:**

ALEX AIR APPARATUS	EQUIP OPER	869.23
ALL SEASONS CARWASH	VEH OPER	228.75
B.G. POSTMASTER	OPER SUPPLIES	370.00
B.G. BUGLE	ADVERT & PUBLICATION	200.00
EASTERN IA LIGHT & POWER	UTILITIES	2,060.76
IA ASSO OF MUNI UTILITIES	TRAINING-DUES	710.00
MACK, LEIGH	TRAINING	2,006.00
MARTIN & WHITACRE SURVEYORS	ENGINEERING	1,134.30
MEDIACOM	INTERNET	138.90
MID-STATES ORGANIZED CRIME	TRAINING-DUES	100.00
OFFICE MACHINE CONSULT	EQUIP OPER	72.64
REPUBLIC SVS	GARB/RECYCLING	11,277.00

ROSS MEDICAL SUPPLY CO. INC.	EQUIP OPER	16.56
VISA	VARIOUS DEPT	1,181.24
WITMER PUBLIC SAFETY GROUP INC	EQUIP OPER	3,125.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>23,490.38</b>

**TOTAL FUNDS:**

GENERAL	11,264.04
RESERVES: POLICE	579.34
SANITATION	11,647.00
<b>TOTAL FUNDS:</b>	<b>23,490.38</b>

**2025 GROSS WAGES PAID:**

ANDERSON, EMILY	3,458.57
BLOK, ROBERT	480.00
BOWMAN, SCHUYLER	380.00
BRANDENBURG, TIMOTHY	620.00
DEARMORE, ROBERT	67,897.24
DOWNING, ROBERT	61,432.63
FROMMELT, NICHOLAS	10,603.27
HERMANN, MICHAEL	600.00
HICKS, RAY	1,298.67
LEVIEN, BRANT	18,000.00
JORENZ, JOYCE	61,475.01
MAYNARD, JR., DAMIEN	1,165.13
MCDONOUGH, JOSEPH	38,506.65
MEIER, JAMES	27,889.82
MEIER, MICHAEL	87,359.34
MEYRER, JAMES	77,648.92
SAID, CHAD	1,893.17
SCHMIDT, ANN	85,428.89
SCHUTTE, BRADLEY	2,400.00
SMITH, CHERYL	540.00
TURNER, DANIEL	6,052.00
WALKER, JACOB	1,744.93
WARREN, CALE	9,032.55
WILKINSON, MATTHEW	3,460.22
WISE, MICHAEL	859.50
<b>TOTAL 2025 GROSS WAGES PAID:</b>	<b>570,226.51</b>