

**THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BLUE GRASS CITY COUNCIL  
BLUE GRASS, IOWA                      MARCH 17, 2025**

The Blue Grass City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of March 2025, in the Public Safety Building at 606 W. Mayne 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, Smith, Hermann and Brandenburg. Absent was member Bowman.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Smith moved to approve the Agenda adding St. Andrew’s Church as informational only, seconded by Blok. Roll call: Smith-aye, Blok-aye, Hermann-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried.

Mayor Schutte read aloud the Mayoral Comments.

**PUBLIC FORUM:** Dale Grunwald representing Grunwald Land Development proposed to construct 30 duplexes on his property located on East Mayne Street. Discussion was held. It was the consensus of the Council to add Mr. Grunwald’s proposal on the next agenda for further discussion.

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

1. **March 3, 2025 minutes**
2. **Payment of claims**

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

**INFORMATIONAL:**

**St. Andrew Church (added to agenda):** Jill Halligan, Office Manager for St. Andrew Church asked the City for permission to hold a children’s bicycle rodeo closing off one-lane to both Moselle and Juniata Streets set for May 4, 2025 from 11:30 a.m. to approximately 1:00 p.m. with the star wars theme “May the 4<sup>th</sup> be with you”. It was the consensus of the Council to add to the next agenda; however, did not see any issues with the event. Mayor Schutte said that both the Fire and Police Departments could assist in the event.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

3. **Report:** Fire Chief Brian Seamer presented the February 2025 Fire Department report.

**PARK BOARD:**

4. **Report:** Mayor Schutte presented the March 2025 Park Board report prepared by Chair Ryan Powers.
5. **Donation of Gaga Ball Pit:** Hermann reported that Blue Grass Elementary School was in need of another Gaga Ball Pit; therefore, since the City’s Gaga Ball Pit at Fridley Park was not getting used the Board recommended that the pit be donated to the School. Brandenburg made a motion to donate the Gaga Ball Pit to the Blue Grass Elementary School, seconded by Smith. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Smith-aye, Blok-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.

**PLANNING & ZONING:**

6. **Recommendations:** Mayor Schutte referred to the Commission’s meeting minutes as a public hearing was held on the request from Midwest Property Holdings, LLC on March 12, 2025 requesting to rezone Lots 14, 18 and 19 located in the Scott County West Business Park from C-3 Highway Oriented Commercial District to I-1 General Industrial District at which meeting there was no opposition and/or written objections; therefore, the Commission, after receiving recommendations from the City Attorney recommended that the City Council approve the rezoning request.
7. **Future Land Use Map:** The Clerk reported that the Commission had reviewed the City’s 1998 Future Land Use map that was drafted prior to construction of the bypass reporting that both she and the

Building Commissioner had previously marked the map accordingly based on previous rezonings and/or new development. She said that the Commission reviewed and agreed with the recommendations; therefore, recommended that the City Council update accordingly. Mayor Schutte asked that the Council review before the next meeting.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

- 8. Request to rezone certain properties on the request from Midwest Property Holdings, LLC:** Smith moved to close the regular meeting and open the public hearing, seconded by Brandenburg. Roll call: Smith-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Hermann-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried. Mayor Schutte opened the hearing for discussion. The Clerk reported that Chad Brus representing Midwest Property Holdings, LLC was requesting to rezone Lots 14, 18 and 19 located in the Scott County West Business Park to I-1 General Industrial District referring to the current zoning map as the abutting lots adjacent to Lots 14, 18 and 19 are currently zoned I-1 General Industrial reporting that there were no written or oral objections. Council reviewed both the City Attorney’s letter of recommendation and the Commission’s recommendations. Mayor Schutte asked for further discussion, since there were none, Smith moved to close the public hearing and reopen the regular meeting, seconded by Blok. Roll call: Smith-aye, Blok-aye, Brandenburg-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.
- 9. Resolution 2025-05:** Hermann moved to adopt Resolution 2025-05 approving the rezoning request for Midwest Property Holdings, LLC to rezone Lots 14, 18 and 19 located in the Scott County West Business Park to I-1 General Industrial District, seconded by Blok. Roll call: Hermann-aye, Blok-aye, Smith-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

- 10. Report:** Mayor Schutte presented the February 2025 Police Department report prepared by Chief Mike Meier.
- 11. Full-Time Police Officer position:** Mayor Schutte reported that Chief Meier would be contacting the Employee Relation Committee to set up interviews.

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

- 12. Bids:** Meyrer had previously submitted a quote on the restriping of various City Streets; however, Council requested that another bid or two be obtained prior to making a decision.  
Meyrer presented the following two bids as follows: ProLine Striping \$15,127.00 and Eastern Iowa Asphalt Maintenance Inc. in the amount of \$20,487.21. Both Mayor Schutte and Meyrer had stated that they had contacted other contractors reporting that they were not interested in bidding the job. Discussion was held. Hermann moved to accept ProLine Striping’s quote in the amount of \$15,127.00, seconded by Smith. Roll call: Hermann-aye, Smith-aye, Blok-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried.

**NUISANCE ABATEMENT(S):**

- 13. Nuisance Abatement(s):** Mayor Schutte reported that there were no new nuisance abatements reported; however, the City has received complaints on heavy truck traffic in reference to the construction of new homes on Kevin Road and the lagoon work on Lamphere Drive.

**PROCLAMATION:**

- 14. Proclamation:** Mayor Schutte read aloud a Proclamation proclaiming April 3, 2025 as “Junior Achievement Day”.

**LICENSING & RENEWALS:**

- 15. Liquor License:** Brandenburg moved to approve the American Legion Post #711 liquor license, seconded by Smith. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Smith-aye, Hermann-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried.

**POLICY & ADMINISTRATION:**

**16. Clerk’s Report:** City Clerk Ann Schmidt presented the January 2025 Clerk’s Report.

**17. Extension request from Auditor of State:** Mayor Schutte reported that the Auditor of State has requested an extension for the FY ’23-’24 Audit to allow them adequate time to conduct the City’s Annual Examination Audit. Brandenburg moved to approve the Auditor of State’s request for an extension for the FY ’23-’24 Audit, seconded by Hermann. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Hermann-aye, Smith-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried.

**18. Strategic Planning:** Prior to the meeting, Brandenburg passed out a “Strategic Planning-Goals” document that he put together; however, due to the Mayor and Council not having ample time to read, the Mayor requested that Strategic Planning be placed on the next meeting agenda.

**COMMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** Resident Mark Wakefield asked about the status of the construction of the new doors at City Hall. The Clerk commented that the doors were near complete and were a big improvement.

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

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Mayor Brad Schutte

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

**CLAIMS REPORT**

|                               |                            |                   |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| ALL SEASONS CARWASH           | VEH OPER                   | 148.75            |
| B.G. AUTOMOTIVE               | VEH OPER                   | 730.13            |
| B.G. BUGLE                    | ADVERTISING & PUBLICATIONS | 200.00            |
| COLUMN SOFTWARE               | ADVERTISING & PUBLICATIONS | 577.00            |
| EASTERN IA LIGHT & POWER      | UTILITIES                  | 1,930.37          |
| EMPLOYERS MUTUAL CASUALTY     | WORK COMP/IAMU PREMIUM     | 80,327.00         |
| HUMANE SOCIETY                | ANIMAL CONTROL             | 50.00             |
| IA ASSO OF MUNI UTILITIES     | TRAINING                   | 515.00            |
| KLINE SEWER & DRAIN           | BLDG & GRNDS MAINT         | 525.00            |
| MACQUEEN                      | EQUIP OPER                 | 1,034.85          |
| MEDIACOM                      | INTERNET SVS               | 1,164.28          |
| MENARDS                       | BLDG & GRNDS MAINT         | 596.22            |
| MIDWEST WHEEL COS.            | EQUIP OPER                 | 459.82            |
| POOLS WELDING                 | EQUIP OPER                 | 3,637.53          |
| R.P. LUMBER CO.               | BLDG & GRNDS MAINT         | 47.68             |
| RACOM CORP.                   | EQUIP OPER                 | 607.75            |
| REPUBLIC SVS                  | GARBAGE/RECYCLING          | 10,566.25         |
| RNJ DISTRIB.                  | BLDG & GRNDS MAINT         | 16.90             |
| ROSS MEDICAL SUPPLY           | EQUIP OPER                 | 12.00             |
| SCOTT CO. LIBRARY SYSTEM      | LIBRARY TAXES              | 34,465.00         |
| SCOTT CO. SHERIFF             | JAIL EXPENSE               | 75.00             |
| SECRETARY OF STATE            | PROF FEES                  | 30.00             |
| SINCLAIR TRACTOR              | EQUIP OPER                 | 172.52            |
| VETERINARY AND POULTRY SUPPLY | BLDG & GRNDS MAINT         | 52.55             |
| VISA                          | BLDG & GRNDS MAINT         | 1,899.27          |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>                 |                            | <b>139,840.87</b> |

**TOTAL FUNDS:**

|                           |                   |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| GENERAL                   | 79,864.87         |
| LIBRARY MAINTENANCE       | 34,465.00         |
| RESERVES - MAINT VEHICLE  | 1,212.51          |
| RESERVES - CITY HALL BLDG | 596.22            |
| ROAD USE                  | 1,941.02          |
| EMPLOYEE BENEFITS         | 11,195.00         |
| SANITATION                | 10,566.25         |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS:</b>       | <b>139,840.87</b> |