

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

The Blue Grass City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on the 20th day of April 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: Hermann, Smith, Blok, Bowman and Brandenburg.

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

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 Bowman.

1. **April 6, 2026 minutes**
2. **Resolution 2026-13 ref: authorizing a payment from the LMI Tax Increment Reserve**
3. **Payment of claims**

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

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

4. **Report:** Chief Brian Seamer presented the March 2026 Fire Department report.

PARK BOARD:

5. **Report:** Mayor Schutte presented the April 2026 Park Board Report prepared by Co-Chair Justin Box.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

6. **Report:** Mayor Schutte presented the March 2026 Police Department report prepared by Chief Mike Meier.

ENGINEER REPORT:

7. **Street Assessments:** City Engineer Janecek presented Contract Documents for the following street repairs: A) Telegraph and East Mayne Street; B) North Mississippi Street; C) Various street repairs/patches with an estimated grand total of \$180,122.00 with a bid opening date of May 26, 2026 and the awarding of the bid date of June 1, 2026 with a completion date of September 30, 2026. Discussion was held. Smith moved to authorize the City Engineer to proceed with bid letting approving the Contract Documents, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Smith-aye, Bowman-aye, Blok-aye, Hermann-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried.

8. **Sealcoat bids:** Mayor Schutte reported that the sealcoat bids would be presented after the bid letting.

PUBLIC WORKS:

9. **Dolan Storm Drainage:** Public Works Director Jim Meyrer reported that since Dolan has completed his subdivision, one of his culverts was causing a drainage issue draining onto the neighbor's property causing erosion issues. Discussion was held. It was the consensus of the Council that this was a civil issue between the two property owners and not get involved.
10. **Cleaning fluid from City Streets:** Meyrer reported that Republic Services trucks leaked hydraulic fluid all over the streets throughout the City which was reported immediately to Republic Services who then filed a claim with their insurance company. He said that since then, their insurance company was wanting to settle the claim by paying the City to have the streets cleaned; therefore, he had ProLine Striping use one of their solvents which cleaned most of the fluid off the cement streets; however, the settlement is not near enough to complete the job. Discussion was held. Council requested that the City

Attorney get involved as it should be the responsibility of Republic Services to clean the streets.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT(S):

11. Nuisance Abatement(s): Mayor Schutte reported that there were no new nuisance abatements; however, now that the weather was descent that the remaining nuisance abatements be addressed.

PUBLIC HEARING:

12. Budget Amendment and Certification for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2026: Smith moved to close the regular meeting and open the public hearing, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Smith-aye, Bowman-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Hermann-aye and Blok-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 -\$132,000.00 in revenues, including transfers-in and -\$78,857.00 in expenditures, including transfers-out. Mayor Schutte asked for further discussion, since there were none, Smith moved to close the public hearing and reopen the regular meeting, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Smith-aye, Bowman-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Hermann-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried.

13. Resolution 2026-15: Bowman moved to adopt Resolution 2026-15 approving the City Budget Amendment and Certification for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, seconded by Blok. Roll call: Bowman-aye, Blok-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Hermann-aye and Smith-aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING:

14. Adoption of the FY 2026-2027 Budget: Smith moved to close the regular meeting and open the public hearing, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Smith-aye, Bowman-aye, Hermann-aye, Brandenburg-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried. Mayor Schutte opened the public hearing for discussion. The Clerk reviewed the City's financials for the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 City budget referring to the Notice of Public Hearing Budget Estimate reporting a total of \$2,927,731.00 in "revenue and other sources" and a total of \$3,166,295.00 in "expenditures and transfers out" with a tax levy rate of 11.78666 percent, reporting that there were no written or oral objections. She briefed the Council on the State's major overhaul to the property tax system expressing serious concerns on how it will impact Blue Grass. Further discussion was held. Mayor Schutte asked for further discussion, and since there were none, Smith made a motion to close the public hearing and reopen the regular meeting, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Smith-aye, Bowman-aye, Hermann-aye, Blok-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried.

15. Resolution 2026-16: Blok made a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-16 approving the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 City Budget setting a tax levy rate of 11.78666 percent, seconded by Brandenburg. Roll call: Blok-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Hermann-aye, Bowman-aye and Smith-aye. Motion carried.

LICENSING & RENEWALS:

16. Liquor License: Smith moved to approve the Blue Grass Community Center's liquor license renewal, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Smith-aye, Bowman-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Hermann-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried.

POLICY & ADMINISTRATION:

17. Clerk's Report: City Clerk Ann Schmidt presented the March 2026 Clerk's Report.

18. Backup Agreement: Blok made a motion to accept the Managed Backup Agreement from Office Machine Consultants, seconded by Hermann. Roll call: Blok-aye, Hermann-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Smith-aye and Bowman-aye. Motion carried.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

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

COMMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: From those in attendance, there were none.

ADJOURNMENT: Brandenburg made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Smith. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Smith-aye, Bowman-aye, Hermann-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Mayor Brad Schutte

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

CLAIMS:

3E ELECTRICAL	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	225.00
ALL SEASONS CARWASH	VEH OPER	152.00
BI-STATE REGIONAL COMM.	PROF FEES	283.75
B.G. AUTOMOTIVE	VEH OPER	203.08
B.G. BUGLE	ADVERT & PUBLICATIONS	200.00
BRUS CONSTRUCTION	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	417.26
EASTERN IA LIGHT & POWER	UTILITIES	1,582.13
EMPLOYERS MUTUAL CASUALTY	INSURANCE/WORK COMP	91,265.00
IA ASSO OF MUNI UTILITIES	TRAINING DUES	710.00
KLINE SEWER & DRAIN	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	175.00
MCCULLOUGH, WM.	LEGAL SVS	525.00
OLDE TOWN ROOFING	PROF FEES (LMI)	17,999.00
PORTER INSURANCE	INSURANCE	2,294.66
QUAD CITY TIMES	ADVERT & PUBLICATIONS	132.84
REPUBLIC SVIS	GARB/RECYCLING	11,277.00
RNJ DISTRIB.	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	17.40
ROSS MEDICAL SUPPLY	EQUIP OPER	26.46
SCOTT CO. LIBRARY	LIBRARY TAXES	35,671.00
VISA	VARIOUS DEPT	133.82
WALCOTT COLLISION	EQUIP OPER	2,233.32
TOTAL:		165,523.72

TOTAL FUNDS:

GENERAL	103,665.72
LIBRARY MAINT	35,671.00
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	14,910.00
SANITATION	11,277.00
TOTAL FUNDS:	165,523.72