

**THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BLUE GRASS CITY COUNCIL
BLUE GRASS, IOWA MAY 19, 2025**

The Blue Grass City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on the 19th day of May 2025, 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: Smith, Brandenburg, Bowman, Hermann and Blok.

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

Mayor Schutte read aloud the Mayoral Comments.

SWEARING IN OF NEW POLICE OFFICER: Mayor Schutte administered the Oath of Office swearing in Joseph McDonough as the City's newest Police Officer. Mayor and Council congratulated and welcomed Mr. McDonough.

PUBLIC FORUM: Resident Scott Chalupa expressed concerns on the drainage issues at his residence since there were no curbs or gutters as the water pools and was not sure whose responsibility it was fix. Mayor Schutte said that he would have the Public Works Director research the issue and get back to him.

Resident Theodore Huntoon expressed concerns with the heavy rains predicted as his yard was recently hydroseeded which was agreed upon preconstruction of the Lamphere Drive Reconstruction Project. Mayor Schutte reported that the City was in the process of walking the project for any repairs, inconsistencies, etc. and would bring up Mr. Huntoon's concerns.

Brandenburg asked if there were any updates on the various street improvements in the Towne & Country Manor Subdivision expressing concerns as the repairs are to be paid out by June 2025. Mayor Schutte said that he would follow up with the Public Works Director.

CONSENT AGENDA: Brandenburg moved to remove #2 and place on the next meeting Agenda and to adopt the remaining items listed on the Consent Agenda, seconded by Bowman.

1. May 5, 2025 minutes
2. Removed from Consent Agenda
3. Payment of claims

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

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

4. **Report:** Fire Chief Brian Seamer presented the April 2025 Fire Department report.

5. **1991 International Fire Truck:** Mayor Schutte opened a sealed bid from the Dixon Fire Department in the amount of \$15,000.00 for the purchase of the 1991 International Fire Truck reporting that according to the Iowa Code, a government entity may sell to another government entity without going through the bidding process. Council agreed that the price was at fair market value; therefore, Smith moved to accept the Dixon Fire Department's bid in the amount of \$15,000.00 for the 1991 International Fire Truck sold in "as is" condition, seconded by Hermann. Roll call: Smith-aye, Hermann-aye, Bowman-aye, Blok-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried.

PARK BOARD:

6. **Report:** Mayor Schutte presented the May 2025 Park Board report prepared by Chair Ryan Powers. Hermann added that all 20 spots were filled for the Camp YMCA.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT(S):

- 7. Nuisance Abatement(s):** Mayor Schutte reported that several nuisance abatements letters were sent out reporting that five lawns were mowed that were in violation of the Maintaining Boulevard Ordinance. Further discussion was held on other reported nuisance abatements.

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTIONS:

- 8. DRAFT Ordinance Amendment 2025-06:** Mayor Schutte introduced draft Ordinance Amendment in reference to Section 17.48.080 Off-Street Parking of Vehicles, Recreational Vehicles and Trailers. The Clerk gave a report on her findings. It was the consensus of the Council to continue to see what other cities have as far as occupancy time limits
- 9. First reading Ordinance Amendment 2025-07:** Brandenburg moved to accept the first reading of Ordinance Amendment 2025-07 in reference to Section 5.08, Peddlers, Solicitors, and Transient Merchants, seconded by Smith. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Smith-aye, Blok-aye, Bowman-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.
- 10. DRAFT Ordinance Amendment 2025-08:** Mayor Schutte introduced draft Ordinance Amendment in reference to Chapter 10.70 Golf Carts. Council agreed to have the Clerk prepare for its first reading.
- 11. DRAFT Ordinance Amendment 2025-09:** Mayor Schutte introduced draft Ordinance Amendment in reference to Chapter 8.04 Nuisances. Council agreed to have the Clerk prepare for its first reading.
- 12. DRAFT Ordinance Amendment 2025-10:** Mayor Schutte introduced draft Ordinance Amendment in reference to Chapter 8.20 Maintaining Private Property & Boulevard. Council agreed to have the Clerk prepare for its first reading.

POLICY & ADMINISTRATION:

- 13. Billboard Advertising:** Previously the City inquired with the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT), in regards to erecting a billboard on the West Laretta Street parcel; however, according to the IDOT, this particular lot does not meet the 250 feet spacing requirement so they would deny issuing the City a permit; therefore, the Council requested that staff contact the IDOT for better clarification.
- Mayor Schutte reported that staff had made the proper contacts, and it appears that the lot does not meet the IDOT requirements. Council agreed to continue to advertise.

POLICY & ADMINISTRATION:

- 14. Clerk's Report:** City Clerk Ann Schmidt presented the April 2025 Clerk's Report.

COMMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Mayor Schutte reminded the Council of the Economic Development meeting on May 20, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Brandenburg made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Smith. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Smith-aye, Blok-aye, Bowman-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Mayor Brad Schutte

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

CLAIMS REPORT

ALL SEASONS CARWASH	VEH OPER	47.75
B.G. AUTOMOTIVE	VEH OPER	62.98
B.G. BUGLE	ADVERTISING & PUBLICATIONS	200.00
EASTERN IA LIGHT & POWER	UTILITIES	1,457.31
IOWA ONE CALL	LOCATES	27.00
MEDIACOM	INTERNET SVS	451.80
MENARDS	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	354.02
OFFICE MACHINE CONSULT	EQUIP OPER	83.83
QUAD CITY TIMES	ADVERTISING & PUBLICATIONS	154.98
REPUBLIC SVS	GARBAGE/RECYCLING	10,877.25
RNJ DISTRIB.	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	10.45
ROSS MEDICAL SUPPLY	EQUIP OPER	12.00
SHADEMASTER NURSERY	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	326.86
VISA	OPER SUPPLIES	104.88
TOTAL:		14,171.11

TOTAL FUNDS:

GENERAL	3,278.86
SANITATION	10,892.25
TOTAL FUNDS:	14,171.11