

**THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BLUE GRASS CITY COUNCIL
BLUE GRASS, IOWA JUNE 2, 2025**

The Blue Grass City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd day of June 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.

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

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

1. May 19, 2025 minutes
2. May 20, 2025 minutes
3. Resolution 2025-10 ref: authorizing payment #4 to Aero Concrete
4. Resolution 2025-11 ref: authorizing a payment from the LMI Reserve
5. Resolution 2025-12 ref: authorizing a contribution to the BG Cemetery
6. Payment of claims

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

BID OPENING:

7. **Bid Opening:** Mayor Schutte publicly opened one sealed bid from LLC Roots Coffee House in the amount of \$10,000.00 reporting that since the bid was under the minimum bid, the Council cannot accept the bid; however, can either lower the minimum bid and/or rebid the parcel. After a brief discussion, the Council requested that the minimum bid be lowered to \$12,500.00 accepting bids until July 2, 2025 and publicly open at the July 7, 2025 meeting.

8. **Set Public Hearing Date:** No public hearing date was set.

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING (PSB):

9. **Sprinkler Inspection:** Fire Chief Seamer presented a quote for the PSB sprinkler inspection from Ahern Fire for a 1-year period in the amount of \$787.50. Brandenburg moved to approve Ahern Fire's 1-year Agreement for the PSB sprinkler inspections in the amount of \$787.50, seconded by Smith. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Smith-aye, Hermann-aye, Bowman-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried.

ENGINEER REPORT:

10. **Report:** Mayor Schutte presented the May 2025 Engineer's report prepared by the City Engineer Mike Janecek.
11. **Lamphere Drive Reconstruction Project:** Mayor Schutte referred to the Engineer's report reporting the status of the Lamphere Drive Reconstruction Project.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER:

12. **Report:** Building Commissioner Jim Meyrer presented the May 2025 Building Commissioner report.

PUBLIC WORKS:

13. **Report:** Public Works Director Jim Meyrer presented the May 2025 Public Works Department report.
14. **Microsurfacing:** Meyrer presented a quote from Microsurfacing Contractors to microsurface the entire

Orphed Street corridor totaling \$21,420.00. Council expressed several concerns on the drainage issues that need to be addressed as the street will eventually have to be of either concrete and/or asphalt. A rather lengthy discussion was held on the improvements that are needed to both Orphed Street and East Telegraph Road. It was the consensus of the Council to move forward; therefore, Bowman made a motion to approve the quote from Microsurfacing Contractors totaling \$21,420.00, seconded by Blok. Roll call: Bowman-aye, Blok-aye, Hermann-aye, Smith-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried.

- 15. Street Improvements:** Previously, the Council awarded a contract to Aero Concrete to do various street improvements in the Towne & Country Manor Subdivision.

Meyrer reported that the project was in progress and would continue, weather permitting.

- 16. Laretta Park:** Meyrer reported that he, the Mayor, Chad Brus and resident Mike Barnes had met to address the drainage complaints at Laretta Park reporting an estimate of approximately \$25,000-\$35,000. He said that he had been monitoring the ditch after each rain and it was his opinion that there was not that much standing water as there are other areas in the City that are far worse that need to be addressed. Discussion was held. It was the consensus of the Council not to pursue the project and that Meyrer continue to monitor the ditch.

- 17. Storm Sewer:** Meyrer reported that there was a flooding issue that came from Dale Grunwald's property on East Mayne Street; therefore, Mr. Grunwald examined and corrected his drain tile that apparently had a bad joint that was installed incorrectly. He said that after the last 3-4 inches of rain, the area drained properly without any issues; however, there may need to be future improvements to that area in the future.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT(S):

- 18. 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. He said that there were other reported nuisances that were taken care of by the Chief.

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTIONS:

- 19. 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 from other cities. It was the consensus of the Council to amend by adding that a 72 (seventy-two) hour clause within a ten (10) day period to the Amendment and proceed with its first reading.
- 20. Second reading Ordinance Amendment 2025-07:** Smith moved to accept the second reading of Ordinance Amendment 2025-07 in reference to Section 5.08, Peddlers, Solicitors, and Transient Merchants, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Smith-aye, Bowman-aye, Blok-aye, Brandenburg-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.
- 21. First reading of Ordinance Amendment 2025-08:** Brandenburg moved to accept the first reading of Ordinance Amendment 2025-08 in reference to Chapter 10.70 Golf Carts, seconded by Blok. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Blok-aye, Bowman-aye, Smith-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.
- 22. First reading of Ordinance Amendment 2025-09:** Smith moved to accept the first reading of Ordinance Amendment 2025-09 in reference to Chapter 8.04 Nuisances, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Smith-aye, Bowman-aye, Blok-aye, Brandenburg-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.
- 23. First reading of Ordinance Amendment 2025-10:** Brandenburg moved to accept the first reading of Ordinance Amendment 2025-10 in reference to Chapter 8.20 Maintaining Private Property & Boulevard, seconded by Hermann. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Hermann-aye, Smith-aye, Bowman-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried.

POLICY & ADMINISTRATION:

- 24. City Owned Buildings:** Brandenburg questioned who owns the City buildings and who has control over them. Mayor Schutte replied that the City owns their own buildings, and each Department Head has control over their building and Public Works does the maintenance of each building. Discussion was held on the marquee sign at the PSB that was purchased with grant money as it is controlled by the Fire Chief only due to it being an old analog system and he agreed to keep it up to date.
- 25. Letter opposing heavier trucks:** Mayor Schutte presented a letter from the Coalition Against Bigger Trucks asking for the City's support as Congress was proposing to increase the weight limit and allow longer semi-trucks on our nation's roads. It was the consensus of the Council to add the City's name to the list. Brandenburg moved to sign the City's name to the letter opposing heavier trucks, seconded by Smith. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Smith-aye, Hermann-aye, Bowman-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried.
- 26. FY '24 Audit:** Mayor Schutte and City Clerk Ann Schmidt reviewed the State Auditor's "Detailed Findings and Recommendations" Report for FY '24.
- 27. Strategic Planning & Goal Setting:** Council requested that this item be placed on the next meeting Agenda to continue their discussions.

COMMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Hermann reminded the Council that they need to address the improvements needed to both East Telegraph and Orphed Street.

ADJOURNMENT: Brandenburg made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Bowman-aye, Smith-aye, Blok-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

Mayor Brad Schutte

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

CLAIMS REPORT

AHERN CO.	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	158.00
BLUE GRASS CEMETERY	CEMETERY CONTRIBUTION	5,000.00
BP	VEH OPER	267.63
CASEY'S	VEH OPER	2,311.72
CENTRAL STATES H & W FUND	HEALTH INSURANCE	15,960.50
CENTURYLINK	FAX	160.17
DSI	DRUG TESTING	49.50
EWERT PLUMBING	PROF FEES (LMI)	1,735.00
IA LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY	MMPI TESTING	150.00
JOHNSON DISTRIB.	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	7.00
MENARDS	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	239.99
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY	UTILITIES	1,967.15
OFFICE MACHINE CONSULT	EQUIP OPER	55.56
PS3 ENTERPRISES	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	360.00
R.P. LUMBER CO.	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	136.01
SINCLAIR TRACTOR	EQUIP OPER	58.98
VERIZON	TELEPHONE/FAX/INTERNET	923.17
TOTAL:		29,540.38

TOTAL FUNDS:

GENERAL	8,560.22
RESERVES - CEMETERY	5,000.00
ROAD USE	19.66
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND	15,960.50
TOTAL FUNDS:	29,540.38