

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

The Blue Grass City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on the 20th day of July 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 Blok. Absent was member Bowman

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

MAYORAL COMMENTS: Mayor Schutte read aloud the Mayoral Comments.

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

COUNCIL VACANCY:

- 1. INTRODUCTIONS:** Mayor Schutte announced that due to the resignation of Council member Cheryl Smith, the Council has agreed to fill the vacancy by appointment rather than a special election. Blue Grass residents interested in filling the Council vacancy were: Scott Chalupa.
- 2. APPOINTMENT:** Brandenburg made a motion to nominate Scott Chalupa to fill the Council vacancy, seconded by Hermann. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Hermann-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried.
- 3. OATH OF OFFICE:** Mayor Schutte administered the Oath of Office swearing in Scott Chalupa who will serve out Ms. Smith's term until the November 2027 elections. Mayor and Council welcomed Mr. Chalupa to the Council.

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

- 4. July 6, 2026 minutes**
- 5. Resolution 2026-33 ref: authorizing a payment from the Tax Increment Reserve**
- 6. Resolution 2026-34 ref: designating the Official posting locations**
- 7. Payment of claims**

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

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

- 8. Report:** Chief Brian Seamer presented the June 2026 Fire Department report.

PARK BOARD:

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

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

- 10. Report:** Chief Meier presented the June 2026 Police Department report.

PUBLIC HEARING:

- 11. Recommendations:** Mayor Schutte referred to the Commission's meeting minutes as a public hearing was held on July 14, 2026 to approve a Final Plat of Jim Thomson First Addition as he requesting to subdivide his property located on 420 N. Mississippi Street, Blue Grass, IA reporting that there were no opposition and/or written objections; therefore, the Commission, after receiving recommendations from the City Attorney and City Engineer, recommended that the City Council approve the Final Plat.
- 12. Public Hearing:** Brandenburg moved to close the regular meeting and open the public hearing, seconded by Chalupa. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Chalupa-aye, Hermann-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried. Mayor Schutte opened the hearing for discussion reporting that there were no written or oral objections. Several residents expressed concerns on the inflow and infiltration (INI) with the addition of

two new homes. Council reviewed both the City Attorney and the City Engineer’s letters of recommendation and the Commission’s recommendations. Mayor Schutte asked for further discussion, since there were none, Hermann moved to close the public hearing and reopen the regular meeting, seconded by Brandenburg. Roll call: Hermann-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Blok-aye and Chalupa-aye. Motion carried.

- 13. Resolution 2026-32:** Hermann moved to adopt Resolution 2026-32 approving the Final Plat of Jim Thomson First Addition, seconded by Blok. Roll call: Hermann-aye, Blok-aye, Brandenburg-aye and Chalupa-aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTIONS:

- 14. DRAFT Ordinance Amendment 2026-03:** Council reviewed the draft Amendment requesting that a change be made. It was then the consensus to have the Clerk prepare the Amendment for its first reading.
- 15. Resolution 2026-35:** Blok moved to adopt Resolution 2026-36 setting a Policy on the responsible use of Artificial Intelligence, seconded by Brandenburg. Roll call: Blok-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Hermann-aye and Chalupa-aye. Motion carried.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT(S):

- 16. Nuisance Abatement(s):** Mayor Schutte reported that letters were being sent to several properties throughout the City.

POLICY & ADMINISTRATION:

- 17. Clerk’s Report:** Mayor Schutte presented the June 2026 Clerk’s report prepared by City Clerk Ann Schmidt.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- 18. Strategic Planning & Goal Setting:** Mayor Schutte reported that preconstruction meetings were scheduled for the Street Improvements Project for 2026.

COMMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Previously, residents expressed concerns on the inflow and infiltration (INI) with the addition of two new homes; therefore, Mayor Schutte said that he would have the Building Commissioner address these concerns at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Brandenburg made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Chalupa. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Chalupa-aye, Hermann-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Mayor Brad Schutte

Attest: Joyce A. Lorenz, Assistant City Clerk/Financial Officer

CLAIMS:

ALL SEASONS CARWASH	VEH OPER	88.00
BI-STATE REGIONAL COMM.	PROF FEES (DUES)	283.75
B.G. BUGLE	ADVERT & PUBLICATIONS	200.00
DSI	DRUG TESTING	49.50
EASTERN IA LIGHT & POWER	UTILITIES	1,961.52
IA ASSOC OF MUNICIPAL UTILITIES	PROF FEES (DUES)	710.00
JOHNSON DISTRIB.	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	21.00
MARTIN & WHITACRE SURVEYORS	ENGINEERING FEES	4,594.40
MCCULLOUGH, WM.	ATTY FEES	1,425.00
MEDIACOM	INTERNET SVS	640.00
MENARDS	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	182.64
MIDWEST WHEEL	EQUIP OPER	54.41
MUSCATINE LAWN AND POWER	EQUIP OPER	215.69
NAPA	EQUIP OPER	654.82
OFFICE MACHINE CONSULT	EQUIP OPER	93.93
PS3 ENTERPRISES	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	370.00
REPUBLIC SVS	GARB/RECYCLING	11,277.00
ROSS MEDICAL SUPPLY	EQUIP OPER	26.46
SHADEMASTER NURSERY	GRANT PURCHASE	1,038.71
UNIFORM DEN	UNIFORM ALLOW	2,210.64
VISA	VARIOUS DEPT.	1,540.19
WAKEFIELD, MARK	REFUND	12.00
TOTAL:		27,649.66

TOTAL FUNDS:

GENERAL	16,360.66
SANITATION	11,289.00
TOTAL FUNDS:	27,649.66