

**THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BLUE GRASS CITY COUNCIL
BLUE GRASS, IOWA AUGUST 4, 2025**

The Blue Grass City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on the 4th day of August 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: Brandenburg, Hermann, Bowman, Smith and Blok.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Smith moved to approve the Agenda with the tabling of Item #16, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Smith-aye, Bowman-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Blok-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.

Mayor Schutte read aloud the Mayoral Comments.

PUBLIC FORUM: Resident James Fries displayed a pile of firework debris that he had picked up on his street complaining that after the 4th of July Holiday, Danielle Court was completely covered in debris from his neighbors setting off fireworks. He also complained about the four-wheelers driving throughout the subdivision as he is concerned for his and his dog's safety. Mayor Schutte asked that he telephone the Police Department next time he witnesses this type of situation.

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

1. July 21, 2025 minutes
2. May 2025 Clerk's Report
3. Payment of claims

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

HOME OCCUPATION:

4. **Home Occupation Permit:** Meyrer reported that he had previously performed a home inspection in reference to Mr. Kelly reapplying for his Home Occupation Permit to do a small engineer repair business from his garage recommending approval. Brandenburg moved to approve Mr. Terry Kelly's Home Occupation Permit with the same stipulation as before, to run a small engineer repair business from his residence with the stipulation he only works on trimmers, pressure washers, tillers, both lawn and riding lawn mowers and snowblowers, seconded by Blok. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Blok-aye, Hermann-aye, Smith-aye and Bowman-aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING:

5. **Sale of City Real Estate:** Smith moved to close the regular meeting and open the public hearing, seconded by Hermann. Roll call: Smith-aye, Hermann-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Bowman-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried. Mayor Schutte opened the public hearing for discussion reporting that the City had received a bid from Jeffrey Wulf in the amount of \$13,000.00 for the purchase of the West Lauretta Street parcel containing approximately .39 acres more or less. Discussion was held. The Clerk reported that there were no oral or written objections. Mayor Schutte asked for further discussion, since there were none, Smith moved to close the public hearing and reopen the regular meeting, seconded by Hermann. Roll call: Smith-aye, Hermann-aye, Blok-aye, Brandenburg-aye and Bowman-aye. Motion carried.
6. **Resolution 2025-28:** Bowman moved to adopt Resolution 2025-28 authorizing the sale of City Property to Jeffrey Wulf in the amount of \$13,000.00, seconded by Smith. Roll call: Bowman-aye, Smith-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Hermann-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried.

ENGINEER REPORT:

- 7. Report:** Mayor Schutte presented the July 2025 Engineer's report prepared by City Engineer Mike Janeczek.
- 8. East Telegraph Road:** Mayor Schutte referred to the Engineer's report reporting that TEAM Services would be performing the boring tests on East Telegraph Road the week of August 4th.
- 9. Orphed Street Improvements:** Mayor Schutte referred to the Engineer's report reporting that Brus Construction would begin construction the week of August 4th.
- 10. Lamphere Drive Reconstruction Project:** Mayor Schutte referred to the Engineer's report as the project was now under the 1-year warranty.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER:

- 11. Report:** Building Commissioner Jim Meyrer presented the July 2025 Building Commissioner report.
- 12. Hazardous building:** Meyrer reported that in April he had inspected the home at 302 N. Mississippi Street after the fire that occurred on January 22, 2025 deeming it a dangerous building posting a "do not occupy" notice updating the Council that he has had several conversations with the homeowner as she is unable to financially proceed. Discussion was held on programs that provide financial assistance in situations as such. It was the consensus of the Council to proceed with the sending of a letter to the homeowner on the City's intentions to proceed.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- 13. Report:** Public Works Director Jim Meyrer presented the July 2025 Public Works Department report.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT(S):

- 14. Nuisance Abatement(s):** Mayor Schutte reported that there were no nuisance reported.

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTIONS:

- 15. First reading of Ordinance Amendment 2025-11:** Smith moved to accept the first reading of Ordinance Amendment 2025-11 in reference to Chapter 2.10 Administrative Expense Policy, seconded by Blok. Roll call: Smith-aye, Blok-aye, Hermann-aye, Bowman-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- 16. Strategic Planning & Goal Setting:** This item was previously tabled from the Agenda as it was the consensus of the Council to set a special meeting date to further discuss.

COMMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: There were none.

RECESS: Smith moved to recess for 5 minutes, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Smith-aye, Bowman-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Blok-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried. Smith moved to reconvene, seconded by Bowman. Roll call: Smith-aye, Bowman-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Blok-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.

- 17. Review & Select Candidate:** Mayor Schutte referred to the Code of Iowa, Section 21.5(i) stating that the Council would be going into executive closed session to select candidates for both the Full-time and Part-Time Public Works positions. Smith moved to close the regular meeting and go into closed session, seconded by Blok. Roll call: Smith-aye, Blok-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Hermann-aye and Bowman-aye. Motion carried. Mayor Schutte removed himself from the Chambers due to a conflict of interest at which time Mayor Pro Tem Hermann then proceeded with the meeting.

Brandenburg moved to reopen the regular meeting, seconded by Smith. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Smith-aye, Hermann-aye, Blok-aye and Bowman-aye. Motion carried. Mayor Schutte reconvened and proceeded with the meeting.

18. Select Candidate: Bowman moved to offer Applicant “I” the Full-Time Public Work’s position at \$25.00 per hour with the stipulation that the applicant pass all the applicable pre-employment test and if Applicant “I” does not make his/her probation or declines the position, that applicant “D” be offered the position at \$22.00 per hour with the stipulation that the applicant pass all the applicable pre-employment test, seconded by Brandenburg. Roll call: Bowman-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Blok-aye, Smith-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.

19. Select Candidate: Hermann moved to table the hiring of the Part-Time Public Work’s position, seconded by Brandenburg. Roll call: Hermann-aye, Brandenburg-aye, Blok-aye, Smith-aye and Bowman-aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Brandenburg made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Smith. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Smith-aye, Bowman-aye, Blok-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Mayor Brad Schutte

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

CLAIMS REPORT

B.G. BUGLE	ADVERTISING & PUBLICATION	200.00
BP	VEH OPER	629.74
CASEY'S	VEH OPER	2,096.29
CENTRAL STATES H & W FUND	HEALTH INSURANCE	12,901.50
CENTURYLINK	FAX	160.84
COLUMN SOFTWARE, PBC	ADVERTISING & PUBLICATIONS	823.53
IA AMERICAN WATER	UTILITIES	480.29
IOWA ONE CALL	LOCATES	20.70
JOHNSON DISTRIB.	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	21.00
JOHNSON, LUKE/LINDSEY	REFUND YMCA REGIST	200.00
MARTIN & WHITACRE SURVEYORS	ENGINEERING FEES	3,451.36
MEDIACOM	INTERNET SVS	736.04
MENARDS	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	99.12
MIDWEST WHEEL COS.	EQUIP OPER	27.48
OFFICE MACHINE CONSULT	EQUIP OPER	1,364.21
R.P. LUMBER CO.	EQUIP OPER	12.59
REPUBLIC SVS	GARBAGE/RECYCLING	11,196.95
RNJ DISTRIB.	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	10.70
ROSS MEDICAL SUPPLY	EQUIP OPER	12.00
SCHULZ, JEREMY/TARA	REFUND YMCA REGIST	200.00
SHEEDER HEATING & AIR	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	265.00
TITAN MACHINERY	EQUIP OPER	2,518.56
VERIZON	TELEPHONE/FAX/INTERNET	922.57
TOTAL:		38,350.47

TOTAL FUNDS:	
GENERAL	11,705.98
ROAD USE	2,546.04
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	12,901.50
SANITATION	11,196.95
TOTAL FUNDS:	38,350.47

ADD'L BILLS PAID – MAY 2025

PAYROLL	27,998.37
BG SAVINGS (FED'L/FICA/MEDICARE W/H)	8,831.64
TREASURER, STATE OF IA (STATE W/H)	894.61
IPERS (PENSION W/H)	5,899.81
AMERICO (457 PLAN W/H)	300.00
AFLAC (INS W/H)	71.16
CENTRAL STATES INS (EMPLOYEE CONTR)	560.00
POSTMASTER-POSTAGE	415.38
TOTAL:	44,970.97

FUND TOTALS

GENERAL	42,882.37
ROAD USE	1,673.22
SANITATION	415.38
TOTALS:	44,970.97

REVENUES – MAY 2025

GENERAL	36,721.68
FIRE TOWNSHIP	8.08
PARK IMPROV RESERVE	50.00
ROAD USE	18,757.82
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	9,282.78
LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX	28,615.59
MONEY MARKET	856.16
TAX INCREMENT FINANCING	887.31
SEWER CD	55,524.76
SANITATION	12,164.16
TOTAL:	162,868.34