

**THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BLUE GRASS CITY COUNCIL
BLUE GRASS, IOWA NOVEMBER 3, 2025**

The Blue Grass City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on the 3rd day of November 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, Blok, Bowman, Hermann and Smith.

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

Mayor Schutte read aloud the Mayoral Comments.

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

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

1. **October 20, 2025 minutes**
2. **Resolution 2025-35 ref: renewing a CD at the BG Savings Bank**
3. **Resolution 2025-36 ref: authorizing a payment from the TIF Reserve**
4. **Payment of claims**

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

ENGINEER REPORT:

5. **Report:** Mayor Schutte presented the October 2025 Engineer's report prepared by City Engineer Mike Janecek.
6. **East Telegraph Road:** Mayor Schutte referred to the Engineer's report reporting that the DOT has agreed to set up a traffic counter to get the daily traffic count.
7. **Orphed Street Improvements:** Mayor Schutte referred to the Engineer's report reporting that Brus Construction had completed the project and both areas are draining correctly.
8. **Lamphere Drive Reconstruction Project:** Mayor Schutte referred to the Engineer's report reporting that the project was now under the 1-year warranty.

PUBLIC WORKS:

9. **Report:** Public Works Director Jim Meyrer presented the October 2025 Public Works Department report.
10. **Bids:** Meyrer reported that he had a contractor that would be submitting a bid. It was consensus of the Council to wait until another bid was obtained.
11. **Winter Maintenance Proposal:** Mayor Schutte presented a 2025-2026 Winter Maintenance Proposal from the Scott County Engineer's Office reporting that in years past, the City has rejected their proposal as the City's Public Works Department does all the snowplowing. Council requested that the City not participate in their proposal.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER:

12. **Report:** Building Commissioner Jim Meyrer presented the October 2025 Building Commissioner report.
13. **Status of Demolition Project:** Meyrer reported that the contractor was still waiting for the gas line to be disconnected and the asbestos tests came back reporting minor findings; however, not enough to be of concern. He said that the contractor is planning to start in one to two weeks, weather permitting.

14. PSB ref: UPS Replacement: Meyrer presented a quote from Data-Power Technologies in the amount of \$40,000.00 to replace the Public Safety Building's three-phase UPS battery backup system. Mayor Schutte briefed the Council on the battery backup system as the unit is now obsolete and unable to order parts; therefore, it was his opinion that the system not be replaced and that the City rely on its current generator as their backup. Discussion was held. Council agreed to not replace the UPS battery backup system; however, continue to do monthly maintenance on the generator.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT(S):

15. Nuisance Abatement(s): Smith reported that she had received three complaints regarding a resident residing on East Lauretta Street. Mayor Schutte said he would report it to the Police Chief.

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTIONS:

16. Second reading of Ordinance Amendment 2025-12: Brandenburg moved to accept the second reading of Ordinance Amendment 2025-12 in reference to Chapter 8.14 Refuse Disposal Service Charges, seconded by Smith. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Smith-aye, Bowman-aye, Blok-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.

BUSINESS LICENSING:

17. Business License Request: The Clerk reported that Mad City Windows & Bath were requesting to obtain a Business License for the remodeling of homes. Bowman moved to approve Mad City Windows & Bath Business License for the period of November 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 with the stipulation that all the proper bonds and licensing be submitted and approved, setting a license fee of \$1,000.00, seconded by Hermann. Roll call: Bowman-aye, Hermann-aye, Smith-aye, Brandenburg-aye and Blok-aye. Motion carried.

LICENSING:

18. Liquor License renewal: Brandenburg moved to approve Naughty's Party Co. DBA Jeff's Market liquor license renewal, seconded by Blok. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Blok-aye, Smith-aye, Bowman-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

19. Strategic Planning & Goal Setting: The Clerk displayed several flyers from other cities provided by Bi-State asking that the Council review the City of Elkader's as they have an Urban Revitalization Tax Abatement Program that she feels is similar to what she had previously drafted. Discussion was held on tax abatement to entice new or existing businesses to locate to Blue Grass and methods the City can take to encourage residents to get more involved.

COMMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Council discussed the idea of sending a newsletter to all the residents informing them on City Updates, current events and information on applying for the City's LMI Financial Assistance Program Grant.

Discussion was also held on the major increase in utility rates from Iowa American Water Company as the rates are still less than what the City would have had to increase them too in order to finance all the improvements ordered by the IDNR.

Council asked that the Clerk contact Geneseo Communications to see what their status is on installing fiber optics to the Blue Grass residents and requested that a representative from Simmering-Cory Iowa Codification attend a meeting to give the Council an update on the status of the City's Codebook recodification.

ADJOURNMENT: Brandenburg made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Blok. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Blok-aye, Bowman-aye, Smith-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Mayor Brad Schutte

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

CLAIMS REPORT:

BP	VEH OPER	865.49
PUMPKIN FARM	FUNDRAISING EXP	450.00
CASEYS	VEH OPER	856.35
CENTRAL STATES H & W FUND	HEALTH INS	13,648.00
CENTURYLINK	FAX	161.50
DEARMORE, ROBERT	TRAINING	24.39
IA AMERICAN WATER	UTILITIES	483.71
MARTIN & WHITACRE SURVEYORS	ENG SVS	1,240.70
MCCULLOUGH, WM.	LEGAL SVS	1,462.50
MENARDS	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	1,021.20
OFFICE MACHINE CONSULT	EQUIP OPER	156.28
PANTHER UNIFORMS	UNIFORM ALLOW	151.98
REPUBLIC SVS	LARGE ITEM STICKERS	180.00
RIVERSTONE GROUP	COLD MIX	194.40
R.P. LUMBER	BLDG & GRNDS MAINT	93.35
SCOTT CO. SHERIFF	JAIL EXP	25.00
SCOTT CO. LIBRARY	LIBRARY TAXES	35,671.00
TC AUTO	VEH OPER	99.98
TEAM SVS	PROF FEES	8,870.00
VERIZON	TELEPHONE/FAX/INTERNET SVS	991.87
VERSCHOORE, JASON	TRAINING	1,187.80
		67,835.50

TOTAL FUNDS:

GENERAL	17,886.50
RESERVE: LIBRARY MAINT	35,671.00
RESERVE: PARK IMPROV	450.00
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	13,648.00
SANITATION	180.00
TOTAL FUNDS:	66,970.01