

**THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BLUE GRASS CITY COUNCIL
BLUE GRASS, IOWA DECEMBER 15, 2025**

The Blue Grass City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on the 15th day of December 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: Blok, Brandenburg, Hermann and Smith. Absent was member Bowman.

SWEARING IN OF MAYOR ELECT: City Clerk Ann Schmidt administered the Oath of Office swearing in Mayor elect Brad Schutte for a 2-year term.

SWEARING IN OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS: Mayor Schutte administered the Oath of Office to reelected Council members Mike Hermann and Cheryl Smith both for 4-year terms.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Smith moved to approve the Agenda with the deletion of items #15 & #16 as they are duplicates and remove Dawn Greer's appointment as her term does not expire until 2029, seconded by Blok. Roll call: Smith-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: Blok moved to approve the Consent as presented, seconded by Smith.

1. December 1, 2025 minutes
2. Resolution 2025-40 ref: authorizing a payment from the TIF Reserve
3. Resolution 2025-41 ref: authorizing the waiver of delinquent utility accounts
4. Payment of claims

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

ENGINEER REPORT:

5. **Report:** Chief Brian Seamer presented both the October and November 2025 Fire Department reports.

PARK BOARD:

6. **Report:** Mayor Schutte presented the December 2025 Park Board report prepared by Chair Ryan Powers.
7. **Resignation:** Smith moved to accept Kim Kelly's resignation on the Park Board effective January 1, 2026, seconded by Blok. Roll call: Smith-aye, Blok-aye, Brandenburg-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.
8. **Reappointment:** Hermann moved to reappoint Ryan Powers to the Park Board for a 5-year term to expire January 1, 2031 seconded by Smith. Roll call: Hermann-aye, Smith-aye, Blok-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried.
9. **Appointment:** Hermann moved to appoint Deb Testroet to the Park Board for a 5-year term to expire January 1, 2031 to replace Mike Moellenbeck's position as he requested not to be reappointed, seconded by Smith. Roll call: Hermann-aye, Smith-aye, Blok-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

10. **Report:** Mayor Schutte presented the November 2025 Police Department report prepared by Police Chief Mike Meier.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT(S):

11. **Nuisance Abatement(s):** Mayor Schutte commended Public Works on their snow removal as they did a great job; however, it has been reported that Public Works has been approached by several residents

complaining and/or throwing items at them reporting that the City has a zero-tolerance policy and the Police Chief will be addressing these issues. Council commended Public Works on their promptness in removing the snow from the City Streets.

- 12. Status of Demolition Project:** Mayor Schutte reported that the utilities have already been shut off and the asbestos has been taken care off reporting that the weather had delayed the demolition.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- 13. Resignation:** Smith moved to accept Cale Warren's resignation, seconded by Hermann. Roll call: Smith-aye, Hermann-aye, Blok-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried.

- 14. Hiring of position:** Mayor Schutte reported that the part-time position needs to be filled. It was the consensus of the Council to accept applications.

15. DELETED FROM AGENDA (DUPLICATE)

16. DELETED FROM AGENDA (DUPLICATE)

ZONING BOARD:

- 17. Reappointment(s):** Mayor Schutte reappointed the following 5-year terms to the Zoning Board: Maria Sampson, Josh Brus and Rick Porter. Smith moved to reappoint Maria Sampson, Josh Brus and Rick Porter to Zoning Board for 5-year terms expiring December 31, 2030, seconded by Blok. Roll call: Smith-aye, Blok-aye, Brandenburg-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried.

PLANNING & ZONING:

- 18. Reappointment(s):** Mayor Schutte reappointed the following 5-year terms to the Planning & Zoning: Karl Drapeaux and Bob Onken. Blok moved to reappoint Karl Drapeaux and Bob Onken to the Planning & Zoning for 5-year terms expiring December 31, 2030, seconded by Hermann. Roll call: Blok-aye, Hermann-aye, Smith-aye and Brandenburg-aye. Motion carried.

POLICY & ADMINISTRATION:

- 19. Clerk's Report:** City Clerk Ann Schmidt presented the October 2025 Clerk's Report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- 20. Strategic Planning & Goal Setting:** The Clerk reported that the City's Bonding Attorney was in the process of drafting the proceedings to approve a tax abatement for Brus Construction with public hearings to be held in January and February.

Brandenburg expressed financial concerns on proceeding with the reconstruction of East Telegraph Road as it is projected to cost anywhere between \$3M to \$5M stating that he is not in favor of putting Blue Grass in a financial bind and borrow that amount of money as this project has been discussed since he was Mayor back in 2015 and beyond that. Discussion was held as the Engineer had recently put together a proposal for services, exhibit and preliminary cost estimate. The Clerk reported that this proposal would be placed on the January 5, 2026 meeting agenda.

COMMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: From those in attendance, there were none.

ADJOURNMENT: Brandenburg made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Smith. Roll call: Brandenburg-aye, Smith-aye, Blok-aye and Hermann-aye. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Brad Schutte

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

CLAIMS REPORT:

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| ALL SEASONS CARWASH | VEH OPER | 24.00 |
| B.G. AUTOMOTIVE | VEH OPER | 62.98 |
| B.G. BUGLE | ADVERT & PUBLICATION | 200.00 |
| BRUS CONSTRUCTION | STREET IMPROV | 22,917.00 |
| CASEY'S | VEH OPER | 926.31 |
| COLUMN SOFTWARE | ADVERT & PUBLICATION | 707.51 |
| COURTESY FORD | VEH OPER | 411.37 |
| EASTERN IA LIGHT & POWER | UTILITIES | 1,504.07 |
| EMPLOYERS MUTUAL | INSURANCE | 166.00 |
| GWORKS | COMP OPER | 4,500.00 |
| IA AMERICAN WATER | UTILITIES | 178.83 |
| IA POLICE CHIEFS ASSOC. | TRAINING DUES | 75.00 |
| JOHNSON DISTRIB. | BLDG & GRNDS MAINT | 7.00 |
| MEDIACOM | INTERNET SVS | 881.08 |
| MENARDS | BLDG & GRNDS MAINT | 51.96 |
| MUSCATINE CO. AUDITOR | ELECTIONS | 453.57 |
| NAPA | EQUIP OPER | 217.99 |
| STOREY KENWORTH | OFFICE SUPPLIES | 67.48 |
| POOLS WELDING | EQUIP OPER | 1,691.17 |
| ROSS MED'L SUPPLY | EQUIP OPER | 13.80 |
| SADLER POWER TRAIN | EQUIP OPER | 2,163.03 |
| SCOTT CO. SHERIFF | JAIL EXPENSE | 25.00 |
| STRYKER SALES | EQUIP OPER | 450.00 |
| TRI STATE FIRE | EQUIP OPER | 1,034.25 |
| TRUCK COUNTRY | EQUIP OPER | 92.22 |
| VISA | VARIOUS DEPT | 1,239.03 |
| TOTAL: | | 40,060.65 |

TOTAL FUNDS:

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| GENERAL | 13,027.24 |
| ROAD USE | 27,033.41 |
| TOTAL FUNDS: | 40,060.65 |