



Blue Lake City Council Action Minutes

Tuesday, August 25, 2026, ~ 5:30pm ~ Closed Session

6:30pm ~ Regular Council Meeting

Skinner Store Building ~ 111 Greenwood Rd., Blue Lake ~ Behind City Hall

1. Call to Order: Mayor Sawatzky called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call and Establish a Quorum of the Council

Councilmembers' Present: City Clerk Green Established a Quorum

Present: Mayor John Sawatzky, Mayor Pro Tem Elise Scafani, Councilmember Terri Bayles, Councilmember Michelle Lewis-Lusso

Councilmembers Absent: Councilmember Kat Napier

Staff Present: City Manager Jennie Short and City Clerk Samantha Green

4. Closed Session Agenda

a. Public Comment on Closed Session agenda item(s): Kent Sawatzky

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Scafani to move into Closed Session. **Second by Councilmember Bayles.**

Voice vote: Motion passed unanimously.

b. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS

Property: approximately three (3) acres of land that is a portion of the parcels designated as Assessor's Parcel Numbers 312-161-018 and 312-161-015 in the City of Blue Lake, California

Agency negotiator: Jennie Short, City Manager

Negotiating parties: DanCo Communities, a California Corporation

Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment

c. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Title: City Manager

d. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

Agency designated representatives: Ryan Plotz, City Attorney

Unrepresented employee: City Manager

e. Adjourn Closed Session and Report Out: No reportable action

5. Call to Order: Mayor Sawatzky Called the Meeting to Order at 6:35 p.m.

6. Roll Call and Establish a Quorum of the Council

Councilmembers' Present: Mayor John Sawatzky, Mayor Pro Tem Elise Scafani, Councilmember Terri Bayles, Councilmember Michelle Lewis-Lusso

Councilmembers Absent: Councilmember Kat Napier

Staff Present: City Manager Jennie Short and City Clerk Samantha Green.



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7. Approval of Agenda

Mayor Sawatzky announced that item #12 would be removed due to an absence from Councilmember Napier

Motion by Councilmember Lewis-Lusso to approve the agenda with modifications.

Second by Councilmember Bayles.

Voice vote: Motion passed unanimously.

8. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: Kent Sawatzky, Justin Goad, Julie Christie, and Beckie Raygoza.

9. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of August 11, 2026, City Council Meeting Minutes

Motion by Councilmember Lewis-Lusso to approve the consent agenda. Second by

Councilmember Bayles.

Voice vote: Motion passed unanimously.

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL DISCUSSION OR ACTION

10. Commission Vacancy Updates

Staff provided an update on vacancies among the City's commissions, noting that the Parks and Recreation Commission is currently the only commission with all five seats filled.

Economic Development and Planning do not currently have sufficient membership to establish a quorum. Staff also reported two recent resignations from the Public Safety Commission, creating additional vacancies. Council discussed potential strategies for recruiting new commissioners and whether consolidation of certain commissions may be beneficial.

Public Comment: Kent Sawatzky, Julie Christie, and Emily Wood.

No action was taken

11. Bike and Skate Park Grant Application

Item #11 was pulled by City Manager Short and clarified that Phase 2 of bike park would be ineligible for this federal funding source and explained that the grant will come back as a State Parks Per Capita Grant.

Public Comment: None received.

12. Fee Waiver Policy Concept - POSTPONED



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13. 7th Cycle Housing Element: Updated HCD Agreement Milestones

Staff provided an update on the Seventh Cycle Housing Element and the revised milestones approved by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) due to delays in the release of required AFFH/Data Packets and the Housing Needs Report. The public hearing originally scheduled for this meeting was postponed and will be held in conjunction with the required 30-day public comment period. Council discussed potential dates for the public hearing, with October 6, 2026, recommended as a Special Meeting date.

Public Comment: Julie Christie and Kent Sawatzky.

No action was taken

14. Council Correspondence

15. Reports Of Council and Staff

- a. Ad hoc Committee Reports
- b. Commission Updates
- c. City Manager Report

16. Future Agenda Items

- '23-'24 Audit
- '25-'26 4th Quarter Financial Statements
- Fee Waiver Framework

Adjourn at 8:01 p.m.

Prepared by: Samantha Green, City Clerk