



## CITY OF BLUE EARTH HONORARY CITY COUNCIL MEMBER INFORMATION

The City of Blue Earth City Council is excited to announce a new project. The Honorary City Council Member Program is launching in January 2023 as a means to promote youth engagement in local government and provide elected officials unique direct perspective during the decision-making process.

The City Council invites any interested current Blue Earth Area **juniors or seniors** to fill out an application to serve as an honorary city council member. One student will be selected to serve as a non-voting member of the City Council. The City Council meets on the first and third Monday of every month at 5:00 pm, with a work session sometimes being held at 4:30 pm on the same day. The meetings take place at City Hall.

Opportunities: An Honorary City Council member will be exposed to the following opportunities:

- Participating in City Council meetings and discussions, and sharing ideas and concerns
- Learning about government process
- Representing people your age

An Honorary City Council member may be exposed to the following opportunities:

- Meetings with City staff
- Attending committee meetings such as Economic Development Authority (EDA), Housing Redevelopment Authority (HRA), Library Board, Fitness Center Board, etc. and providing feedback and ideas
- Relationships for future resumes and references

Expectations: From January through May, an Honorary City Council member will be expected to attend all of the City Council meetings but may be excused from a meeting due to scheduling conflicts in advance by the mayor. Up to two (2) excused absences are allowed an Honorary member. An Honorary City Council member will be expected to uphold an Honorary Oath of Office and conduct themselves in a manner which honors him or herself, the City of Blue Earth, Blue Earth Area School District, and the community as a whole.

Oath of Office At this first meeting in January, you will be sworn in with the following oath:

“I do solemnly swear or affirm to support the Constitution of the United States and or the State of Minnesota and the Charter and ordinances of the City of Blue Earth, and to faithfully discharge the duties devolving upon me as Honorary City Councilmember of the City of Blue Earth to the best of my Judgment and ability.”

Application Requirements: All components of the application must be completed and submitted to be considered.

Timeline: Applications are due no later than 4:00 pm on Wednesday, December 7, 2022. Applications should be sent to Mary Kennedy, City Administrator by email at [mkennedy@becity.org](mailto:mkennedy@becity.org) AND Mayor Rick Scholtes at [rscholtes@bevcomm.com](mailto:rscholtes@bevcomm.com). Interviews will be scheduled with applicants between December 5<sup>th</sup> and December 15<sup>th</sup>. The City Council will announce their decision at their meeting on December 19, 2022. The selected Honorary City Council member will be invited to a meeting with the City Administrator prior to the first City Council meeting in January.

Application Due:	December 7, 2022
Interviews:	December 5-15, 2022
Meeting with Administrator:	Before January 3, 2023
First City Council Meeting:	January 3, 2023 (Tuesday, due to Holiday on Monday, January 2)

Questions: All questions should be submitted to Mary Kennedy by December 2, 2022. Mary can be contacted at 526-7336 or by email at [mkennedy@becity.org](mailto:mkennedy@becity.org). City Hall is located at 125 W 6<sup>th</sup> Street in Blue Earth.