

BLACK DIAMOND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Council Special Meeting of July 10, 2025
Hybrid Meeting Via Zoom and In-Person
Council Chamber, 25510 Lawson Street, Black Diamond, Washington

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL:

Mayor Benson called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led us all in the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Councilmembers Deady, Nielsen, Peterson, Mulvihill (Zoom), Young, Jones, Page

ABSENT: None

Staff present: Andrew Williamson, MDRT/Ec Development Director; Jill Kuzaro, Senior Planner; Xavier Mason, Finance Director; Scott Hanis, Public Works Director; Rob Reed, IS Manager; Jake Kapsandy, IT Tech II; David Linehan, City Attorney; Kevin O'Neill, City Administrator; Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk / HR Manager.

READING OF GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

AGENDA REVIEW AND APPROVAL:

Councilmember Deady **moved** to approve the agenda; **second** Councilmember Peterson. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (7-0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Alan Gangl, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Nanette Stocks, Black Diamond spoke to Council

Kristen Bryant, Bellevue, spoke to Council.

Mario Sorci, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

- 1) **AB25-062** – Confirming Mayor's Appointment of Tommy Paramo to Position #5 on the Planning Commission

Councilmember Young **moved** to confirm the Mayor's Appointment of Tommy Paramo to Position #5 on the Planning Commission, with said term ending December 31, 2028; **second** Councilmember Deady. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (7-0).

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Public Safety – Councilmember Young shared the items and information that was discussed at the Public Safety Committee meeting.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilmember Page asked that item #4 be moved into new business.

Councilmember Page **moved** to approve the Consent Agenda with Item 4 moved into new business; **second** Councilmember Deady. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (7-0).

The Consent Agenda was approved as follows:

- 2) **Claim Checks** – July 10, 2025, Check No. 56221 through Check No. 56264 (void 56132) in the amount of \$459,234.08
- 3) **Minutes** – Special Council Meeting (Tri-City) of May 19, 2025, Work Session of June 12, 2025, and Special Meeting of June 26, 2025.
- 5) **AB25-063** – Resolution Accepting the Skatepark Project as Complete

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- 6) **AB25-064** – Close Public Hearing Regarding Draft Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update

Director Williamson reported on this item. The Council asked about a work session and a road map on what next steps or accomplishments need to be completed

Councilmember Young **moved** to close the public hearing on the Draft Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update; **second** Councilmember Jones. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (7-0).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- 7) **AB25-065** – Mountain View Fire and Rescue and Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority Presentations

City Administrator O'Neill reported on this item.

Chief Judkins of Mountain View Fire and Rescue shared with Council a PowerPoint presentation. It touched on the following:

- Mountain View Values
- About MVFR
- Black Diamond and MVFR History
- MVFR Staffed Fire Stations
- MVFR Firefighter Staffing
- MVFR Fire Department Operations
- MVFR Administrative Services
- MVFR Strategic Goals
- MVFR Black Diamond Annexation Plan
- Why Annexation to MVFR
- MVFR Tax Levy Revenue
- Tax Levy Revenue to MVFR
- Benefits of Annexation for Black Diamond
- Emergency Call Volume
- Needs from Black Diamond in Preparation for Annexation

She closed by welcoming questions today and in the future and thanked Council for their time.

Back and forth discussions took place between Chief Judkins and the Council.

Brian Carson, Chief of Puget Sound Fire Regional Fire Authority, introduced himself and the others in attendance. He shared with the Council a PowerPoint presentation that touched on the following:

- Who we are
- Service Area
- Organizational Structure
- Business Services - Accreditation, strategic planning, cost allocation, contracts and rent, data collection and analysis
- South King County Fire Training Consortium
- Community Risk Reduction - Fire Prevention, Fire Investigations, Emergency Management, Community Relations
- Support Services – Facilities, Warehouse, and Fleet
- Operations – 17 staffed fire stations, FF Health and Safety, Fire Alliance Program, Technical Teams, Wildland Firefighting, CARES
- Daily Staffing
- Programs and Services
- Wildland Response
- Fire Alliance
- FD CARES
- Station Vision
- New East Battalion Deployment

- Benefit Charge History
- What is the Fire Benefit Charge (FBC)
- Benefit Charge Basics
- Benefit Charge Process
- Exemptions and Discounts
- Finance Assumptions
- Assessed Value Estimates Breakdown
- PSF Annexation: FY 2028
- FBC Examples

Back and forth discussions took place between Chief Judkins and the Council.

(At 8:17 p.m. Councilmember Young left the meeting and returned at 8:19 p.m.)

Councilmember Mulvihill left the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

4) **AB25-058A** – Ordinance Amending BDMC Chapter 8.28 Regulating Use of the City City's Skatepark

Public Works Director Hanis reported on this item.

(Councilmember Page left the meeting at 9:00 p.m. and returned at 9:02 p.m.)

Councilmember Jones **moved** to adopt Ordinance No. 25-1223 amending Black Diamond Municipal Code Chapter 8.28 regulating use of the City's Skatepark, including the additional language incorporating the definition of a bicycle; providing for severability and establishing an effective date; **seconded** by Councilmember Deady. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (6-0).

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Benson reminded everyone that it's Miners Day on Saturday from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilmember Nielsen thanked everyone in the community who came out to participate in our local government. She reported having the opportunity to visit and tour the museum and the Black Diamond Fire Station. She stated that these make her proud to be part of the community. She is hearing more concerns about speeding in the community and similar concerns in Ten Trails too and wanted to share that she is working with residents on a policy where residents can participate in making changes such as to the speed limit. She spoke about correcting some misinformation and shared some personal perspectives. She touched on the city having to honor the contracts and the legal agreements that have been committed to including those with developers and gave the example of Cle Elum. In closing she stressed the

importance of everyone working together for the betterment of our whole community and setting the example that all are welcome.

Councilmember Peterson noted sharing the concerns of Councilmember Nielsen, she also noted listening to the meeting from June 26th about the Comp Plan and hearing a lot of misinformation, half-truths, and misunderstandings presented in the comments, especially by the Friends of Black Diamond and noted that out of the 351 documented responses 129 comments (36%) are from The Friends of Black Diamond bombarding us with comments that make it feel like everybody hates growth and trying to get us to change. She said that the City has a contract and our staff is here to make sure every detail of the contract is met. She is frustrated that people will come in now, saying we haven't communicated or spent enough time on comments and that we aren't doing our jobs – that is false and commented that the Comp Pan update has been in the works for 2 ½ years.

Councilmember Young thanked the community for an incredible Fourth of July. He thanked Chief Kiblinger and her department for being fully present at the Ten Trails event and the firefighters for supporting the community, along with both Mountain View Fire and Puget Sound Fire and the information they shared tonight. He also thanked OakPointe for putting on a fantastic event and to everyone that took the time to engage with the Comp Plan process.

Councilmember Jones thanked both of the Fire Chiefs for their presentations tonight. He shared his challenge regarding citizens perspectives on growth and gave an example. Lastly, he expressed that the 4th is one of those holidays that Black Diamond does well, and is looking forward to Miners Day on Saturday from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Councilmember Page thanked her colleagues for talking about community. She really appreciates Chief Judkins and everyone that came from Mountain View Fire & Rescue tonight for a fresh perspective. She thanked those from Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority for being here. She hopes that we will continue to come at this with fresh eyes and the long-term vision of what community means to us.

Councilmember Deady noted looking forward to the next phase of the Comp Plan. She thanked Puget Sound Fire and Mountain View for their presentations, and congratulated Tommy Paramo for being appointed to the Planning Commission. She spoke about being a long-time resident and that she has always done and will continue to bring the community together. She noted Miners Day is this Saturday, and it is a small event between the corridor of Railroad Avenue between the Bakery and the Museum.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: None

ATTORNEY REPORT: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 9:41 p.m. Mayor Benson announced that Council would be going into executive session regarding RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) Potential litigation and RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) potential real estate acquisition. The executive session was expected to last 20 minutes with no action to follow. The Councilmembers exited the meeting to the patrol room and the executive session started at 9:43 p.m.

At 10:03 p.m. a ten-minute extension to the executive session was announced.

At 10:13 p.m. a five-minute extension to the executive session was announced.

Mayor Benson called the meeting back to order at 10:18 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Page **moved** to adjourn the meeting; **second** Councilmember Jones. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (6-0). The meeting ended at 10:18 p.m.

ATTEST:



Carol Benson, Mayor



Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk / HR Manager