

BLACK DIAMOND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Council Meeting of September 4, 2025
Hybrid Meeting Via Zoom and In-Person
Council Chamber, 25510 Lawson Street, Black Diamond, Washington

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE:

Mayor Benson called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led us all in the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Councilmembers Deady, Mulvihill, Young, Jones

Councilmember Deady **moved** to excuse Councilmembers Nielsen and Peterson from the meeting; **second** Councilmember Mulvihill. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (4-0).

ABSENT: Councilmember Nielsen and Peterson (excused)

Staff present: Xavier Mason, Finance Director; Rob Reed, IS Manager; Jake Kapsandy, IT Tech II; David Linehan, City Attorney; City Administrator, Kevin O'Neill; Jamey Kiblinger, Police Chief; Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk/HR Manager.

READING OF GUIDING PRINCIPLES

AGENDA REVIEW AND APPROVAL:

Councilmember Mulvihill **moved** to approve the agenda; **second** Councilmember Deady. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (4-0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Bonnie Helms, spoke to Council
Olivia Sawyer, Black Diamond spoke to Council.
LouAnn Sawyer, Black Diamond spoke to Council.
Tammy Barrier, Black Diamond spoke to Council.
James Barrier, Black Diamond spoke to Council.
Tabitha Baker, Black Diamond spoke to Council.
RJ Bar, Black Diamond spoke to Council.
Monica Kumar, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Presentation – King County Library – David Wright

Mr. Wright, Regional Manager of King County Library System, shared with the Council a PowerPoint presentation that detailed programs the library offers.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Police - Chief Kiblinger recognized and thanked Councilmember Deady for all the her time support she provides to the community.

Fire – Chief Judkins noted there being an open spot on their Board and invited the city to appoint an advisory member to the board. She explained the role and guideline for this position. Councilmember Deady suggested discussing this at the next meeting when a full Council is present. She also added that Council can decide on how long the appointment would last and gave examples.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilmember Deady **moved** to approve the Consent Agenda; **second** Councilmember Mulvihill. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (4-0). The Consent Agenda was approved as follows:

- 1) **Claim Checks** – September 4, 2025, Check No. 56430 through Check No. 56473 (voids 55220, 54277, 56388) in the amount of \$442,739.35
- 2) **Minutes** – Work Session of August 14, 2025
- 3) **AB25-090** – WSDOT Easements for SR169 Fish Passage Culverts

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 4) **AB25-091** – Ordinances Renewing Moratorium on Business Licenses, Development Permits, and Land Use Approval for Cannabis Related Businesses

City Attorney Linehan discussed this item with the Council.

Councilmember Mulvihill **moved** to adopt Ordinance No. 25-1229, renewing the moratorium on the acceptance, processing, and approval of applications for business licenses, development permits, and other land use approvals for cannabis-related businesses within the City of Black Diamond for an additional six months; declaring an emergency; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date; **second** Councilmember Deady. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (4-0).

- 5) **AB25-092** – Ordinance Renewing Moratorium on Battery Energy Storage Systems

City Attorney Linehan briefed the Council on this item.

Councilmember Deady **moved** to adopt Ordinance No. 25-1230, renewing the moratorium on Battery Energy Storage Systems for an additional six months; providing for severability; declaring an emergency; and establishing an effective date; **second** Councilmember Young. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (4-0).

NEW BUSINESS:

6) AB25-093 – Ordinance Adopting 0.1% Sales and Use Tax for Enhanced Criminal Justice & Public Safety

Finance Director Mason reported on this item.

Councilmember Jones **moved** to approve Ordinance No. 25-1231, adopting the 0.1% Enhanced Criminal Justice Sales and Use tax; adding a new Chapter 3.14 to the municipal code; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date; **second** Councilmember Mulvihill. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (4-0).

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Benson reported attending Chief for a Day and Black Diamond Labor Days.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilmember Young recognized the success of the Black Diamond Labor Days event and thanked everyone involved in it. He also thanked all the teachers and staff of our schools for their dedication and hard work. He acknowledged that with the departure of Councilmember Page there is a vacancy and encouraged interested citizens to apply. He thanked city staff for all their hard work and noted their efforts do not go unnoticed.

Councilmember Jones commented that the lake level at Lake Sawyer is really low and for people to be careful when launching their boats and reminded everyone to wear their life jackets. He thanked the Lake Sawyer Community Club for the summer concert series.

Councilmember Deady spoke about Chief for a Day and giving back to this wonderful organization a portion of the money that was raised at the fundraiser. She noted this being her 55th year of attending Labor Days and noted it being a big success this year. She reminded everyone about the Harvest Moon Auction at the Community Center coming up next month and tickets can be purchased from her. She recapped where the monies earned from the garage sale fundraiser were distributed.

Councilmember Mulvihill commented on completing the Historical Society Newsletter and for those wanting to receive it can stop by the Museum and join. She spoke about the Labor Day parade and how everyone was pleased with the turnout.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

City Administrator O'Neill provided an update on the recruitment schedule for filling Position 7 Council vacancy. He also mentioned that he's hearing there are a lot of rumors going around and is encouraging anyone who hears something that doesn't sound right to reach out. This will allow staff to address them and clear up any misinformation that is out there.

ATTORNEY REPORT: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Jacqueline Banks, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

John Adler, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Mulvihill **moved** to adjourn the meeting; **second** Councilmember Deady. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (4-0). The meeting ended at 8:12 p.m.

ATTEST:



Carol Benson, Mayor



Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk