

BLACK DIAMOND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Work Session of April 14, 2026
Hybrid Meeting Via Zoom and In-Person
Council Chamber, 25510 Lawson Street, Black Diamond, Washington

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL:

Mayor Adler called the work session to order at 6:00 p.m. and led us all in the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Councilmembers Deady, Nielsen, Peterson, Sorci, Dal Santo

Councilmember Deady **moved** to excuse Councilmember Young from the meeting; **second** Councilmember Nielsen. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (5-0)

ABSENT: Councilmember Young(excused)

Staff present: Kevin O'Neill, City Administrator; Jake Kapsandy, IT Tech II; Rob Reed, IS Manager (Zoom); and Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk/HR Manager

WORK SESSION:

1) Continued Discussion and Review of Council Rules of Procedure

Mayor Adler welcomed everyone and explained that this discussion is a continuation of the review of Council Rules of Procedure. He noted that the discussion will resume where it left off from the previous meeting, beginning with Section 7.2.10.

The City Council reviewed Sections 7.2.10 through Section 12 with the highlights and key discussion centering around the following:


- Motion and debate procedures, with clarification provided by Attorney Linehan on call the question and motions to lay on the table.
- There was discussion on whether to maintain a supermajority requirement for changing Council Rules, with Councilmember Sorci advocating for a majority rule. Councilmembers preferred the current supermajority rule.
- There was extensive discussion on public comment procedures, with Councilmember Nielsen proposing to reduce public comment periods from two to one per meeting. There was discussion around this and balancing public engagement and meeting efficiency.
- Council reviewed requirements for ordinance readings, with discussion on whether to implement formal first and second readings versus maintaining current practices with a discretionary approach on items that come before Council.
- Keeping a strict rule of three minutes for public comments, so it's fair for everyone.
- Discussion on quasi-judicial hearings.

Throughout the meeting Councilmembers referenced the need for better public engagement, balancing meeting lengths, the importance of maintaining transparency, and public input on Council actions.

During the meeting at 7:19 p.m. Mayor Adler called a three-minute recess. At 7:22 p.m. Mayor Adler called the meeting back to order.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Deady **moved** to adjourn the meeting; **second** Councilmember Peterson. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (5-0). The meeting ended at 8:01 p.m.



John Adler, Mayor

ATTEST:


Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk
