

**BLACK DIAMOND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**Council Meeting of May 19, 2026**  
**Hybrid Meeting Via Zoom and In-Person**  
**Council Chamber, 25510 Lawson Street, Black Diamond, Washington**

**CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE:**

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

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Councilmembers Deady, Nielsen, Peterson, Sorci, Young, and Dal Santo

**ABSENT:** None

**Staff present:** Xavier Mason, Finance Director; Scott Hanis, Public Works Director; Hal H. Hart, Community Development Director (Zoom); Rob Reed, IS Manager; Jamey Kiblinger, Police Chief; David Linehan, City Attorney; City Administrator, Kevin O’Neill; Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk/HR Manager.

**AGENDA REVIEW AND APPROVAL:**

Councilmember Deady **moved** to add to the agenda a discussion on Pride and Juneteenth Proclamations; **second** Councilmember Nielsen. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (6-0).

Councilmember Peterson **moved** to approve the agenda as amended; **second** Councilmember Young. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (6-0).

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Elaine Parks, spoke to Council.  
Lauren Landis, Black Diamond spoke to Council.  
John Buntten, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

**APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

- 1) **AB26-050** – Council Vacancy Interviews
  - a. Interviews with Applicants for Position #7  
Councilmembers took turns asking each applicant the same set of questions.

**Council Action:** Councilmember Peterson **moved** to have Mayor Adler ask question six (6); **second** Councilmember Nielsen. Motion **passed** 5-1 (Sorci)

- b. Public Comments Regarding Council Candidates

Carol Morgan, Black Diamond spoke in support of Pam McCain.  
Tom Ekberg, Black Diamond spoke in support of Geoff Bowie.  
Nanette Stocks, Black Diamond spoke in support of Geoff Bowie.  
Janis Ranton, Black Diamond spoke in support of Geoff Bowie.  
Sam Pace, Unincorporated King County spoke in support of Pam McCain.  
Jerel Thomas, Black Diamond spoke in support of Geoff Bowie.  
John Bunten, Black Diamond spoke in support of Geoff Bowie.  
Jacqueline Banks, Black Diamond spoke in support of Ryan Reed, and Tommy Paramo.  
Sherrie Evans, Black Diamond spoke on points to consider when deliberating.  
Kristen Bryant, Bellevue spoke about relevant history when making a decision.  
Bill Bryant, Black Diamond spoke in support of Geoff Bowie.  
Rick Stocks, Black Diamond spoke in support of Geoff Bowie.  
Brock Deady, Black Diamond spoke in support of Tommy Paramo.

c. Possible Executive Session – Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(h)

At 8:46 p.m. Mayor Adler announced that Council would be going into an executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1) for 20 minutes with possible action to follow.

At 9:06 p.m. a five-minute extension was announced.

At 9:11 p.m. another five-minute extension was announced.

At 9:16 p.m. Mayor Adler called the meeting back to order.

b. Possible Appointment and Oath of Office

Councilmember Peterson **moved** to appoint Ryan Reed to Position No 7. **second** Councilmember Young.

Councilmembers Nielsen, Deady, and Young thanked all the applicants.

**Council Action:** Motion **passed** 4-2 (Sorci, Dal Santo)

Mayor Adler administered the Oath of Office to Ryan Reed, and he took his seat at the dais.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilmember Peterson briefed the Council on items discussed at the Public Works Committee, and the Parks Committee meeting.

Councilmember Deady reported on the Public Issues Committee (PIC) meeting she attended.

Councilmember Nielsen gave an update on what was discussed at the Public Safety Committee and the Budget, Finance, Administration, Finance, Committee meetings.

Councilmember Young read a proclamation for Public Works Week.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:** None

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Councilmember Peterson **moved** to approve the Consent Agenda; **second** Councilmember Deady. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (7-0). The Consent Agenda was approved as follows:

- 2) **Claim Checks** – May 19, 2026, Check No. 57310 through Check No. 57360 in the amount of \$1,057,857.08
- 3) **Payroll** – April 2026, Check No. 20610 through Check No. 20619 and EFTs in the amount of \$716,071.77
- 4) **AB26-051** – March 2026 Monthly Financial Report

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- 5) **AB26-052** – Ordinance Amending Black Diamond Municipal Code Chapter 8.24 Regarding Water Safety

Chief Kiblinger updated the City Council on this item.

Councilmember Deady **moved** to approve Ordinance No. 26-1249, amending Chapter 8.24 of the Black Diamond Municipal Code concerning water safety to update various regulations, add regulations regarding use of personal watercraft and electric hydrofoil boards, to prohibit the inattentive operation of vessels and watercraft, and to address seaplanes; providing for severability, and establishing an effective date along with the City Attorney's cleanup of typos; **second** Councilmember Young. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (7-0).

- 6) **AB26-053** – Ordinance Regarding a Major Amendment to The Villages MPD Development Agreement Regarding Pipeline Road Construction Timing

City Attorney Linehan spoke on this item

Councilmember Sorci **moved** to table this for 30 days; **second** Councilmember Dal Santo. Mayor Adler called this motion out of order.

Councilmember Deady **moved** to adopt Ordinance No. 26-1250 approving a major amendment to The Villages MDP Development Agreement regarding Pipeline Road construction timing; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date; **second** Councilmember Peterson. Motion **passed** (5-1 (Sorci)). (Councilmember Reed did not vote as he was not a party to the previous vote at the May 5, 2026 Council meeting).

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 7) **AB26-054** – Resolution Authorizing Renewal of Agreement with King County for Lake Sawyer Water Quality Monitoring

Public Works Director Hanis shared information on this item.

Councilmember Deady **moved** to adopt Resolution No. 26-1743 authorizing the Mayor to execute an Agreement with King County to provide water quality monitoring, lab services, and volunteer training for sample collection on Lake Sawyer; **second** Councilmember Nielsen. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (7-0).

- 8) **AB26-055** – Resolution Authorizing Professional Services Agreement with Stantec, Inc. for 2026 Utility Rates Development Fees Study

Public Works Director Hanis reported on this item.

Councilmember Peterson **moved** to adopt Resolution No. 26-1744 authorizing the Mayor to execute a professional services agreement with Stantec Inc. for the 2026 Utility Rates and Development Fees Study; **second** Councilmember Young. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (7-0).

- 9) **AB26-056** – Ordinance Granting to Forged Fiber 37, LLC, a Nonexclusive Telecommunications Franchise

Public Works Director Hanis informed the City Council that this item is for 1<sup>st</sup> reading only and adoption is scheduled to occur at the June 2<sup>nd</sup> Council meeting. He answered questions from members of the Council.

- 10) **Juneteenth and Pride Month Discussion** - Councilmember Deady reported on Juneteenth and Pride Month and asked for proclamations to come forward and to raise the pride flag at that Council meeting on the flagpole outside of the Council Chambers and then a statement would be read. There was consensus to bring two proclamations forward and to raise the pride flag at the June 2<sup>nd</sup> Council meeting.

**MAYOR’S REPORT:** None

**COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Councilmember Sorci – no report.

Councilmember Young expressed that all are welcome here. He noted there being an information session for Enumclaw School District Thursday at the Welcome Center at 6

p.m. where an update on the school will be given. He shared the new name of the school in Ten Trails is Evergreen Elementary School, it will be the Trailblazers, and the mascot is an Elk.

Councilmember Dal Santo – no report.

Councilmember Deady announced that June 6<sup>th</sup> is Heritage Day at the Museum and invited everyone to attend. She also announced that the button coloring contest for Labor Days is in full swing and shared that sheets for children to color and submit their design are here tonight on the table by the door, and also at the library, antique store, and the bakery. She noted the deadline to submit designs is May 29<sup>th</sup>.

Councilmember Nielsen spoke about accountability and stewardship of city finances and how it's important to set the tone at the top. She emphasized the importance of maintaining a strong whistleblower culture and employees should all feel empowered to speak up if they see something. She believes we all share responsibility for maintaining public trust and reinforcing the expectation that is you see something, say something.

Councilmember Peterson expressed being concerned about the Fire Annexation vote and needing community members who are interested in advocating to let her know and hopes that more people will get involved.

#### **CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:**

City Administrator O'Neill reported working on some exciting things to come before Council in the near future.

#### **ATTORNEY REPORT:**

City Attorney Linehan welcomed Councilmember Reed and extended an invitation to meet with him and have a one-on-one to answer any questions about legal issues or other questions about the City he can't talk about in public.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Geoff Bowie, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Jacqueline Banks, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

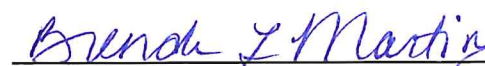
#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilmember Peterson **moved** to adjourn the meeting; **second** Councilmember Young. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (7-0). The meeting ended at 10:19 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
John Adler, Mayor

  
Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk