

BLACK DIAMOND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Council Meeting of August 18, 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 (Zoom), Peterson, Sorci, Young, Dal Santo, Reed

ABSENT:

Staff present: Scott Hanis, Public Works Director; Hal H. Hart, Community Development Director; Rob Reed, IS Manager; Jamie Kiblinger, Police Chief; Kim Pratt, City Attorney; Krista White-Swain, Municipal Court Judge, Kevin O'Neill, City Administrator; Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk/HR Manager.

AGENDA REVIEW AND APPROVAL:

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Jerel Thomas, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Christy Thomas, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Councilmember Sorci left the meeting at 7:10 p.m. He reentered the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

Andre Koch, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Kristen Bryant, Bellevue spoke to Council.

Johna Thomson, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Rick Stocks, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Leah Grant, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Nanette Stocks, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Donna Shrine, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Geoff Bowie, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Robin Hammermaster, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Karen Bloomer, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

- 1) **AB26-096** – Confirming the Mayor’s Appointment of John Deleon to Planning Commission Position #2

Councilmember Young **moved** to confirm the Mayor’s appointment of John Deleon to Position #2 of the Black Diamond Planning Commission, said term expiring on December 31, 2027; **second** Councilmember Deady. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (6-0-1 (Abstention Sorci)).

- 2) **AB26-097** – Confirming the Mayor’s Appointment of Trixie Hahn to Planning Commission Position #3

Councilmember Deady **moved** to confirm the Mayor’s appointment of Trixie Hahn to Position #3 of the Black Diamond Planning Commission, said term expiring on December 31, 2027; **second** Councilmember Peterson. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (6-0-1 (Abstention Sorci)).

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilmember Peterson spoke regarding the Parks Ad-Hoc Committee.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

- 3) **Claim Checks** – August 18, 2026, Check No. 57564 through Check No. 57669 and EFTs in the amount of \$810,458.65
- 4) **Payroll** – July 2026, Check No. 20638 through Check No. 20648 and EFTs in the amount of \$756,515.57
- 5) **Minutes** – Council Meeting of July 7, 2026, Work Session of July 14, 2026, Council Meeting of July 21, 2026, Special Meeting of July 22, 2026, and Special Meeting of July 24, 2026
- 6) **AB26-098** – Resolution Accepting Funds from the Administrative Office of the Court of a Pretrial Services Program
- 7) **AB26-099** – Resolution Accepting Funds from the Administrative Office of the Court for a Post Judgement Services Program
- 8) **AB26-100** – Resolution Approving Contract Amendment No. 1 to the Professional Services Agreement with RH2 Engineering, Inc., for Interim Master Development Review Team Director Services

- 9) **AB26-101** – Resolution Authorizing Yearly Addendum to the Agreement with SCORE for Inmate Housing
- 10) **AB26-102** – Resolution Regarding Final Acceptance of the 2026 Baker Street Museum Garage Door Replacement Project
- 11) **AB26-103** – Resolution Authorizing Purchase of a Utility Trailer for Use by the Sewer Department
- 12) **AB26-104** – Motion to Approve the Black Diamond Labor Days Special Event Permit

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- 13) **AB26-105** – Discussion Regarding Comprehensive Plan Process

Community Development Director Hart shared information on this item. He noted receiving three takeaways from Council 1) focus on step 1, 2) look into sewer capacity, and 3) our water system (specifically the springs).

- 14) **AB26-106** – Sewer System Updates

Public Works Director Hanis provided an update on this item. He shared next steps with Inflow and Infiltration (I&I), funding update to include FEMA support and future repairs. He also provided a King County update on discussions with them.

- 15) **AB26-107** – Discussion Regarding Lake Sawyer Regional Park

City Administrator O'Neill reported on this item.

Councilmember Young shared with the Council a PowerPoint presentation he prepared on this subject.

At 9:12 p.m. Councilmember Deady left the meeting and returned at 9:13 p.m.

This item was for discussion only.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Adler thanked all the residents for voting in the election and getting their voices heard. He thanked the dedicated men and women of MVFD for all their years of dedicated service. He reminded everyone that MVFD contract still runs through 2028. He reported attending the AWC Municipal Finance and Budgeting workshop with Councilmember Reed, He shared that it was a great workshop and was thankful for them putting it on. He

commented that on Monday he and City Administrator O'Neill hosted an all-city staff meeting and attended the wellness lunch.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilmember Peterson thanked everyone who voted and the community members that stepped up and put out signs, came up with talking points and attended events.

Councilmember Sorci thanked everyone for participating and letting the Council know how they think about what we talked about today.

Councilmember Young – no report.

Councilmember Dal Santo – no report

Councilmember Reed reported attending the AWC Budget workshop and heard a lot of good information. He learned about a topic discussing getting grants for parks that was interesting. He reported reading emails today from people with concerns about the park and he also visited the Regional Park before the meeting. Lastly, in the spirit of all the discussion he shared a personal story on land reparation.

Councilmember Reed moved to direct staff to prepare an Ordinance amending the Black Diamond Municipal Code Sections 191060, 1910-220, and 1910-330 and to initiate the 60-day department of Commerce notice under RCW 3670; Second, Councilmember Sorci. Councilmember Sorci withdrew his second and Councilmember Reed withdrew his motion; this will be an agenda item at an upcoming Council meeting.

Councilmember Deady noted it being great to hear about the conferences that Mayor Adler and Councilmember Reed attended. She talked about the Cedar to Green Trail going through Ginder Creek and would like to look at that. She reminded everyone that Labor Days is coming up September 6 and 7. She was hoping to get an update on what is being done with the money that Council allocated for businesses due to the road closure, so everyone has the same information when businesses reach out to us. City Administrator O'Neill reported that the 60-day closure shrunk down to 32 days, and what we are trying to do now is focus on the social media aspect and get organized for next year as there will be two closures. Councilmember Deady asked about weakening the sign code.

Councilmember Nielsen also discussed the sign code and shared that she had contact with a business in Diamond Square and she thanked the staff for reaching out to them. She commented that she is making good progress on finalizing our Purple Heart City action. She is getting close to ordering signs and unveiling a small program to formally accept the signs and recognize the veterans and other people that serve our community. She also noted finalizing plans for the Hometown Heroes Banner Program and is aiming for this fall for that.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: No report.

ATTORNEY REPORT: No report.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Jacqueline Banks, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Rick Stocks, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Jerel Thomas, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Gwen Reed, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Andre Koch, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Nanette Stocks, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Trixie Hahn, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Geoff Bowie, 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 9:56 p.m.



John Adler, Mayor

ATTEST:



Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk