

BLACK DIAMOND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Council Meeting of September 2, 2021
Virtual Meeting Via Zoom

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, Oglesbee, Wisnoski, de Leon, O'Donnell, and Page.

ABSENT: Councilmember Mulvihill (excused)

Staff present: Mona Davis, Community Development Director; Seth Boettcher, Public Works Director; May Miller, Finance Director; Jamey Kiblinger, Police Chief; David Linehan, City Attorney; and Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk/HR Manager.

AGENDA REVIEW AND APPROVAL:

Councilmember de Leon **moved** to approve the agenda; **second** Councilmember Page. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (6-0).

APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

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| 1) Proclamation – Childhood Cancer Awareness Month | Mayor Benson |
| 2) Proclamation - National Recovery Month | Mayor Benson |

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilmember de Leon **moved** to adopt the Consent Agenda; **second** Councilmember Deady. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (6-0). The Consent Agenda was approved as follows:

- 3) **Claim Checks** – September 2, 2021 Check No 50353 through 50409 (voids 50271, 50354) in the amount of \$192,082.90
- 4) **Minutes** – Work Session of August 12, 2021, and Council Meeting of August 19, 2021

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Corey Bailey, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Sarah Jolk, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Kristen Bryant, Bellevue spoke to Council.

Kelley Sauskojus, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Gary Davis, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

5) AB21-054 – Proposed Amendments to the 2019-2024 Capital Improvement Plan

Public Works Director Boettcher briefed Council on this item.

Mayor Benson opened the public hearing at 7:16 p.m.

Gary Davis, Black Diamond spoke on the four points he sent in his email to Council earlier today. 1) Why does the city still not have a complete comprehensive water plan? It was started by RH2 in 2015. He then shared the amount of dollars spent on this project, and it still not being done. He wondered without this completed plan how can the citizens be sure projects are planned well; 2) Why did the design work for the Spring Rehab start with RH2 for \$662,000 in 2018, and then have three amendments totaling \$600,700. He noted this was in addition to the \$119,000 for Parametrix; 3) The city's new capital project for \$900,000 of ratepayer funds plus \$850,000 of federal tax dollars to do urgent work on the SR 169 watermain. He asked shouldn't we have known about this sooner and why is all the commercial development on SR 169 if our water system is not adequate; and lastly 4) Is the new SR 169 watermain replacement capital project being built and sized for the 31-acre commercial proposal that does not have commercial zoning? He shared that it is improper for the city to facilitate this private rezone and development project that is not approved and has not even had a zoning hearing or been reviewed by the Council. He thanked Council for the opportunity to share these four points.

Kristen Bryant, Bellevue spoke about sending in comments today on behalf of herself and her dad. She noted her dad prefers pedestrian paths that are set back from the street a little more. Her parents walk around the city and have noticed the increase in traffic on SR 169 and how when you have a path that is set back from traffic it is safer and the walkability is improved. For example, she noted the new sidewalk on 3rd Avenue is close to traffic and encourage the council to look into updating our standards around how walkability is prioritized in projects. She cited an excerpt from HUD's Creating Walkable, Bikeable Communities "Pedestrians can be protected using parkways, parking, and street trees. On street parking can be important in the urban environment for the success of retail businesses that line the street and can provide a buffer for pedestrians and help calm traffic speeds." She feels this is really important on the Sawyer Woods Sidewalk Project. She also stated this resource gives a nice checklist of things that are already well researched. It also talks about curb bump outs for sidewalks, and she hopes the city considers adding as well. She also asked that for this project that the shoulder parking be retained. She noted it's difficult to get everything in the design, but it's very important.

Kelley Sauskojus, Black Diamond commented that when considering walkability throughout the city. She gave examples of Maple Valley and Auburn utilizing other permanent fixtures and the road surface to help slow down traffic to make it safer for using crosswalks,

sidewalks and accessing points of interest such as libraries and parks for pedestrians and bicyclists by requiring design features like speed bumps to put near parks to slow traffic down to make crossing to parks safer for all pedestrians, children bicyclists, or whoever is trying to cross the streets. She noted that if you build in these considerations and design features like large speed bumps that slow down traffic it makes pedestrians much safer and makes the town more walkable.

Mayor Benson closed the public hearing at 7:25 p.m.

Mr. Boettcher noted it would be nice to have some discussion for adoption at the next meeting. There was Council discussion on the proposed projects and to honor the public hearing and to move forward with adoption at a future meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

6) AB21-055 – Resolution Regarding Purchase of GIS Software and Associated Equipment
Community Development Director Davis reported to Council on this item.

Councilmember de Leon **moved** to adopt Resolution No. 21-1439, authorizing the purchase of Arc GIS software by ESRI and the associated hardware; **second** Councilmember Wisnoski. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (6-0).

7) AB21-056 – Resolution Regarding Tough Mudder Special Event Permit

Community Development Director Davis briefed Council on this item.

There was Council discussion.

Councilmember de Leon **moved** to adopt Resolution No. 21-1440, authorizing the Mayor to execute the approval of SEP21-0008 for Tough Mudder, LLC; **second** Councilmember Oglesbee. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (6-0).

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Benson reported attending the Manager/Administrator meeting regarding redistricting, and hearing reports from other cities on Council meetings and most have tried to do a hybrid format and have now since decided to wait until January. She shared that AWC did a report on ARPA funding for water and sewer. She also attended the Skatepark meeting with Grindline and noted it was very successful. She participated in the firearms demonstration put on by the Police Department and noted it being different than she thought it was going to be, and shared it being very educational.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilmember de Leon noted being glad Mayor Benson was able to attend the training event with the Police Department. She reported attending the Skatepark meeting and shared it was a great opportunity to hear the community chatter and it was clear there is a lot of buy-in and support for this project. She is excited to see this project move forward. She also reported attending her committee meetings and was a substitute for Councilmember Mulvihill at the Public Safety meeting where the discussion was on city office space and grant opportunities. She commented that it's not all back to school and not just traffic, but new adjustments and to have patience and understanding and she is looking forward to seeing everyone at Labor Days.

Councilmember O'Donnell acknowledged the public comments heard tonight and thanked them for their input and noted it being really important to encourage public comment. He shared that Labor Day is coming up and it is exciting and acknowledged the volunteers on the Council tonight. He noted struggling with his role on the city council and had the good fortune to sit in on other city council meetings and it is really hats off to the team we have now and really thinks we are pulling forward as a team. He thanked Mayor Benson for her leadership and the projects that are moving forward. He noted hearing the public and Council will do the right thing. He thanked everyone for all they are doing and is proud to be part of all the good stuff that is happening.

Councilmember Page thanked the people for their public comments as it is really important. She brought up how the progress of projects/items of the city move slower than they do in private business. She shared being able to attend the Skatepark meeting and it being fun to watch. She noted there is a survey for people to get involved in the design of the project and the more feedback we receive the better the design will be. She announced the next community meeting on this will be sometime in October where the first design plans will be revealed. She also attended the simulator event and noted it was very enlightening to see that kind of training and thanked the Police Department for all they do. She reminded families that the city's bike rodeo event is this Saturday from 2 -4 and it will be adjacent to the Ten Trails Welcome Center and that Labor Days is all weekend. She touched on a small business town hall and would like to keep that in the conversation, so it doesn't get lost. She also reminded everyone to be safe and take care of themselves.

Councilmember Deady shared that Labor Days is this weekend and there will be three days with events happening in all areas of town. She commented that people are asking questions about the sidewalk in front of Free Up Storage going into the ditch and hopes Public Works can discuss. She is busy getting ready for Labor Days and noted Councilmembers who are helping as this is a big production and volunteers are always welcome with set up and clean up. If anyone is interested, they can get a hold of Councilmember Page or herself and they can direct people in the right direction. She noted that the Coal Cart for Roberts Drive was removed for repairs and asked when it will come back. She expressed that the community needs to be a part of something that welcomes people into the city and the citizens deserve the chance. She noted that

Councilmember Wisnoski has been putting emails out about Make a Difference Day and anyone interested to please get in touch with him. She reported attending the skate park meeting and liked seeing the kiddos being so excited about the possibilities that could be done and expressed that the excitement was off the charts and looks forward to getting this project going and finished. She stated she will see everyone all three days for Labor Days.

Councilmember Oglesbee noted there are so many great events happening. She urged people to please join Labor Days, they need volunteers for the weekend and the future. She reported attending the Public Safety meeting where they discussed the police department and where it would go in the future and the possibility of a future city campus. She hoped everyone has a great weekend and to stay safe. She is happy to hear about the art alliance and is looking forward to them working with our city.

Councilmember Wisnoski wished his wife a happy birthday, thanked everyone who gave public comment tonight and noted the Council valuing public participation. He encouraged everyone to watch the TED video Ms. Bryant sent in. He highly recommends the Pete Kageyama books that start with For the Love of Cities. He reported attending the Finance Committee meeting and is looking forward to Labor Days as it's a great way for the city to come together. He mentioned the new fire truck will be in the parade. He shared that the fourth Saturday in October (23) is Make a Difference Day and is a day for local community service. He expressed that service projects are a great way to bring the community together. He talked about the project list he put together and shared some of the projects that are on it. He also talked about how to start neighborhood watches and what they are.

ATTORNEY REPORT: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

Public Works Director Boettcher announced that the City of Tacoma is not shutting down their pipeline as anticipated and the city has put out notifications on the website to residents.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Deady **moved** to adjourn the meeting; **second** Councilmember Wisnoski. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (6-0). The meeting ended at 8:21 p.m.

ATTEST:



Carol Benson, Mayor



Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk