

BLACK DIAMOND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Council Meeting of January 6, 2022
Virtual 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, Stallard, Smith, Mulvihill, de Leon, O'Donnell, and Page

ABSENT: None

Staff present: May Miller, Finance Director; Mona Davis, Community Development Director; Scott Hanis, Public Works Director; Andrew Williamson; MDRT/Ec Dev Director; Kevin Esping, Facilities Equipment Coordinator; Brian Martinez, Commander; David Linehan, City Attorney; and Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk/HR Manager.

AGENDA REVIEW AND APPROVAL:

Mayor Benson announced she would like to add an executive session to the agenda in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) for discussion with Legal Counsel pending litigation.

Councilmember de Leon **moved** to add the executive session to the agenda and accept the agenda as amended; **second** Councilmember Smith. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (7-0).

APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

1) Oath of Offices – POSTPONED TO JANUARY 20, 2022 MEETING

2) AB22-001 – Appointment of Mayor Pro-Tem for the Year 2022

Councilmember Mulvihill **moved** to appoint Councilmember Deady as Mayor Pro-Tem for the year 2022; **second** Councilmember Page. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (7-0).

3) AB22-002 – Confirming Mayor's Appointment to the Council Standing Committees

Mayor Benson reported on this item.

Councilmember Deady **moved** to confirm the Mayor's appointments to the 2022 Council Standing Committees; **second** Councilmember de Leon. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (7-0)

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

- 4) **Claim Checks** – December 16, 2021, Check No. 50789 through 50880 and EFTs in the amount of \$564,910.59 and January 6, 2021, Check No. 50881 through 50943 in the amount of \$701,434.70
- 5) **Payroll** - November 2021, Check No. 20135 through 20141 and ACHs in the amount of \$438,320.35
- 6) **Minutes** –Special Meeting for Work Session of November 30, 2021, and Special Meeting of November 30, 2021
- 7) **AB22-003** – Resolution Regarding Professional Services Agreement with Parametrix for the City's Stormwater Management Action Plan (SMAP)

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Kelly Sauskojus, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Kristen Bryant, Bellevue spoke to Council.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- 8) **AB22-004** – Resolution Amending Contract for Architects Rasmussen, Triebelhorn, AIA/PS

Public Works Director Hanis reported to Council on this agenda item.

There was discussion between Council and Director Hanis.

Councilmember de Leon **moved** to adopt Resolution No. 22-1463 authorizing the Mayor to execute an amendment Professional Services Agreement with Architects Rasmussen Triebelhorn, AIA/PS for architectural and engineering services related to the City Hall Building Tenant Improvements project; **second** Councilmember Mulvihill. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (7-0)

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Community Development – Community Development Director Davis provided Council with a brief update on parks and upcoming meetings regarding the PROS plan. She also discussed the upcoming Skate Park design meeting that will be held on January 18th. She commented on the pocket park by the museum being a work in progress.

Public Works – Public Works Director Hanis debriefed Council on the snow response and the challenges they faced with new and current equipment. He expressed what a great job the crew did while working long hours. He noted that supplies are stocked should another event happen. He also shared that another plow blade will be needed for a smaller truck to create some redundancy within the department. He asked everyone to be careful as there is some flooding going on.

Finance – Finance Director Miller welcomed the two new Councilmembers and the re-elected members. She reported on items her department is working on and noted January and February being busy months for the department. She expressed looking forward to working with Council and noted that the Capital Improvement Plan will be updated this year and shared the process for this update.

Police – Commander Martinez updated Council on happenings within the department. He noted the department being fully staffed for the first time in a long time and commented on the two new officers that came on board in November and December. He shared that a Sgt position opened yesterday and hopes that every officer puts in for that position and discussed the process. He announced a boating license class will be held again this spring and shared that the marine volunteer program will be opening up again this year. He thanked Council and discussed the body cameras that were authorized for purchase and noted that two officers are wearing one to help work out the bugs. He stated that the department is exploring car options for the department and gave examples. He thanked the Council for the support they give the department.

Fire – Chief Smith reported on the 2021 call statistics in the city and noted fire loss in Black Diamond is typically low. He commented on the snow and a significant fire that was in the Gorge area and it being challenging. He commented that another struggle they've been experiencing is getting ambulances to calls.

Mayor Benson stated that at the next regular meeting Mr. Williamson will be giving an report on the MDRT Department.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

She reported attending the SCA Orientation meeting and the SEAL TC meeting, Flood Control District and grant.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilmember Deady congratulated everyone that was elected to Council and looks forward to working with them and thanked them for electing her Mayor Pro-Tem and shared it being an honor to hold this position. She thanked Public Works for all their hard work during the snow event along with filling potholes. She commented on the funds for the Eagles to get equipment purchased and installed and noted the city is working on getting an agreement on this. She thanked Police and Fire for all their hard work too. She

commented on the ARPA funds that the Black Diamond Community Center is helping to disperse. She reported attending the SCA Orientation and commented there are three committees that still need representation for SCA.

Councilmember Stallard noted being really excited to be here and thanked everyone for electing her. She gave some background on herself to help people get to know her and the expertise on leadership she brings to the Council. She commented that no matter where you live in the city you are Black Diamond and expressed feeling very strongly about that. She noted looking forward to learning and shared she is here with a big heart.

Councilmember Smith congratulated Councilmember Stallard and reported attending the Finance Committee and thanked Public Works for their hard work during the snow event and cold temperatures and appreciates what they do. He discussed continuing the conversation of electric vehicles for police and noted it being cutting edge. He asked everyone to take a look at the link to donate to the Skate Park as this will go a long way for our kids. He gave a heads-up that north SR169 near Renton there was a small landslide, and it is closed in both directions. He reminded everyone to feel free to pop him an email or a note as he's here to help and is looking forward to 2022.

Councilmember Mulvihill noted being sick and doesn't have a report.

Councilmember de Leon wished Councilmember Mulvihill a speedy recovery. She extended her congratulations to elected/re-elected Councilmembers and looks forward to working with them. She extended her gratitude to Public Works for the amount of work that was put in during the bad weather. She discussed the extreme difference in temperature there was this year and needing proactive planning for these disasters and doesn't know what that will look like. She reported attending the SCA Orientation and will be serving on one of those committees this year. She also attended her first public safety committee meeting where they discussed vehicle options such as electric cars and hybrid/electric vehicles. She commented that she will miss being on the Planning Committee. She attended her Budget and Finance Committee meeting and newly elected official training. She talked about the legislative priorities and opportunities for Council to lobby with their legislators. She noted this will be virtual again this year and to sign up to speak. She expressed being excited about the work the Arts Alliance is doing in Black Diamond and lastly, she spoke on the insurrection of last year and it being a huge tragedy.

Councilmember O'Donnell thanked the public speakers tonight and welcomed new Councilmembers. He noted being excited about the opportunities as a new team that can be taken on this year and make the strategic informed decision-making engagement on important planning. He also noted that Council's efforts should not be done in a vacuum so the trust can be built with the community. For him, public safety is priority number one, transportation infrastructure throughout the town, PROS plan, preserving our heritage as we grow and how can we enhance it, business support, public facilities, staffing, our environment, and fiscal responsibilities. He noted these are his priorities and hopes they can all pull together early in the year and have an open public engaged Council retreat to

set up the priorities as some are time sensitive and gave examples. He looks forward to working with everyone and having a productive 2022.

Councilmember Page thanked directors for their reports and congratulated Councilmember Deady on her appointment as Mayor Pro-Tem. She reported attending her committee meetings and shared that the stormwater retention areas are being evaluated and noted there being one in town that has never filled up. She talked about all the ideas and conversations they are having on community gardens, dog parks, etc. She commented on the public safety meeting and the body cameras. She commented that another thing that came up was a commitment to wellness in the city and having a workout area for city employees and noted this being in the gym. She thanked Chief Smith for his report and commented on Station 99 and shared that Judge Swain reported that our therapeutic court will start in February. She noted not being able to get connected to the SCA Orientation meeting and shared with Council and those in attendance the guiding principles of SCA.

ATTORNEY REPORT:

City Attorney Linehan welcomed Councilmembers Stallard and Smith and extended an invitation to meet with them at their convenience to answer any questions they may have or ways he can be of service to them.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Gary Davis, Black Diamond spoke to Council.
Melissa Earl, Lumber House spoke to Council.
Kristen Bryant, Bellevue spoke to Council.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At approximately 8:27 p.m. Mayor Benson announced that Council would be going into executive session pursuant to RCW42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss with Legal Counsel pending litigation. The executive session was anticipated to last 45 minutes with no action to follow.

At approximately 9:15 p.m. a 15-minute extension was announced.

At approximately 9:31 p.m. a 5-minute extension was announced.

Mayor Benson called the meeting back to order at approximately 9:38 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Deady **moved** to adjourn the meeting; **second** Councilmember Page. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (7-0). The meeting ended at 9:39 p.m.

ATTEST:



Carol Benson, Mayor



Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk