

BLACK DIAMOND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Special Council Meeting of April 27, 2023
Hybrid Meeting Via Zoom and In-Person
Council Chamber, 25510 Lawson Street, Black Diamond, Washington

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, Douglass, Mulvihill, de Leon (Zoom), Jones, Page

ABSENT: Councilmember Smith (excused)

Staff present: Mayene Miller, Finance Director; Andrew Williamson, Ec Dev/MDRT Director; David Linehan, City Attorney; Jake Kapsandy, IT Department; and Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk/HR Manager.

NEW BUSINESS:

1) Review, Discussion, and Next Steps Regarding the City's Long Term-Financial Forecast

Finance Director Miller gave background information on this item.

Martin Chaw from FCS Group shared with the Council a PowerPoint presentation on the general fund financial forecast they prepared for the city.

Highlights/Topic Points

- Independent Analysis: General Fund Forecast – Pessimistic, Baseline Growth Scenarios
- Revenue Assumptions – Residential Population and Growth, Property Tax Revenue, Development Fee Revenue, Sales Tax Revenue, LID Levy Lift Analysis (potential \$3M in 2025)
- Financial Forecast – Existing budget and no levy lid lift and existing budget and potential \$3M levy lid lift
- Review of General Fund Financial Forecast Scenario: S0 – Maintain existing budget; baseline revenue forecast
- Review of General Fund Financial Forecast Scenario: S0 – Maintain existing budget; pessimistic revenue forecast
- Review of General Fund Financial Forecast Scenario: S1 – Maintain existing budget; baseline revenue forecast with potential \$3M levy lid lift
- Review of General Fund Financial Forecast Scenario: S1 – Maintain existing budget; pessimistic revenue forecast with potential \$3M levy lid lift

- Next Steps
 - Council motion to explore a potential property tax levy lid lift to fund increasing costs for public safety and requesting Mayor to prepare an analysis of levy lid lift options for Council to evaluate and determine whether to submit the question to voters.
 - FCS Group to return with approval steps and analysis for property tax lid lift process to include, types of levy lid lift options, amount of levy lid lift, potential dates for levy lid lift election, examples of recently levy lid lifts by other jurisdictions, and potential property tax bill impact to the average homeowner.

Council Action: Councilmember **Mulvihill** moved that we explore a potential property tax levy lid lift to fund increasing costs for public safety and requesting the Mayor to prepare an analysis of these levy lid lift options for us to evaluate, to determine whether to submit the question to voters; **second** Councilmember Page. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (6-0).

Finance Director Miller and Council discussed having different levy lid dollar amount options and scenarios regarding potential property tax bill impact on several different house valuations for each option, fire station and its needs, and looking long-term to be financially sustainable.

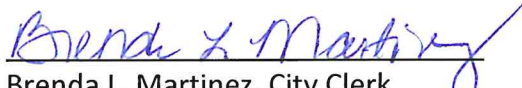
ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Deady **moved** to adjourn the meeting; **second** Councilmember Page. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (?-0). The meeting ended at 7:30 p.m.

ATTEST:



Carol Benson, Mayor



Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk