

BLACK DIAMOND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Council Meeting of June 1, 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, Smith, Douglass, de Leon, Jones, Page

ABSENT: Councilmember Mulvihill (excused)

Staff present: Mona Davis, Community Development Director; Scott Hanis, Public Works Director; MDRT/Ec Dev Director, Andrew Williamson; David Linehan, City Attorney; Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk/HR Manager; Rob Reed and Jake Kapsandy, IT Staff.

READING OF GUIDING PRINCIPLES

AGENDA REVIEW AND APPROVAL:

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Don Mason, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Bill McDermott, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Kristen Bryant, Bellevue spoke to Council as a member of Friends of Black Diamond.

Gary Jones, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Nanette Stocks, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Geoff Bowie, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

1) Proclamation – Pride Month

Councilmember Page read the Pride Month Proclamation.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

- 2) **Claim Checks** – June 1, 2023, Check No. 52998 through Check No. 53030 (void 52582) in the amount of \$661,242.06
- 3) **Minutes** –Work Session of May 11, 2023, and Council Meeting of May 18, 2023

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- 4) **AB23-024** – Draft 2024-2029 Six Year Transportation Improvement Plan

Public Works Director Hanis reported on this item and highlighted the changes that were made to it from last year's program.

At 7:37 p.m. Councilmember Smith left the meeting and returned at 7:39 p.m.

There was Council discussion.

Mayor Benson opened the public hearing at 8:04 p.m.

Kristen Bryant, Bellevue noted that her parents asked her to pass along their comments regarding the parking lot proposed by the bakery and stated it is a huge expenditure and says she's heard repeatedly that the city still doesn't have funding for the skate park as well as maintenance issues, fire and police staffing, and equipment. She suggested having signage to direct citizens where to park and feels the parking lot is unnecessary. The second item is the roundabouts on 169 and noted that these are part of the Ten Trails development agreement. She stated that when the timing slips, due to the developer not following the requirement to respond promptly to request information from the permit agency. The timeline is still unclear for the 327 units that are supposed to be under construction. She commented on how the size of the 169 roundabouts has bloated in size and the environmental review has been put off until after the traffic design was done. She talked about how the council has the guiding principle about protecting the environment as it grows and if the city keeps permitting more houses, traffic will get worse. She asked the question, "do you let the developer take down the trees by the stream or design it right for the long run to protect the stream"?

Geoff Bowie, Black Diamond echoed the comment on the downtown parking costs and noted that the money is going to be really tight, and he understands that getting more parking to attract more customers will in turn get more sales tax potentially but stated that this is a lot of money. He discussed that it shouldn't be too tough to roll up some kind of project that can deal with what's going on with Ginder Creek and the bulkhead and noted that it is really fragile and there is fish there. We need to make sure we are thinking about

pedestrians with roundabouts. He also discussed that with the loss of the North Connector that the Southeast loop is still shown.

Mayor Benson closed the public hearing at 8:15 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- 5) **AB23-025** – Resolution Authorizing Mayor to Execute a Contract with CCD Black Diamond Partners LLC for the Purchase of the Lawson Hills Fire Station

City Attorney Linehan and MDRT/Ec Dev Director Williamson reported on this item.

Councilmember Deady suggested postponing this until the next meeting. There was continued discussion between Council and staff. There was Council consensus to move this item to the June 15, 2023 meeting.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire – Chief Judkins reported they were able to find an axle for the damaged aid car and they are excited to get it fixed. Chief Judkins also reported that the city will be purchasing a reserve fire engine from Mountain View Fire & Rescue, and she will be starting the process for the new fire engine.

Councilmember Smith left the meeting at 8:45 p.m. and returned at 8:47 p.m.

MDRT – Director Williamson commented on what a joy it is to work with Chief Judkins and thanked her publicly. He discussed the roundabouts on Hwy 169, the grocery store and bridge in Ten Trails.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Benson reported the Memorial Day services at the Black Diamond Cemetery, SCA Networking Dinner, and reminded everyone that Gomer's memorial service is tomorrow at Tahoma National Cemetery and the procession will be going through town at approximately 11:20 a.m. Following the service will be a celebration of life at the Enumclaw Field House.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Action Item: Councilmember de Leon **moved** to table discussion on the ban of wake surfing and our deliberations on Lake Sawyer Boating Rules; **second** Councilmember Smith. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (6-0).

Councilmember de Leon recapped the items that were discussed at the public safety meeting. She attended the Memorial Day event at the cemetery and announced the 2nd annual Pride Flag raising ceremony will be tomorrow at 10 a.m. She commented on hiring a new Finance Director and is looking forward to meeting him. She shared that she was able to attend the Enumclaw Youth Empowered luncheon, as well as the retreat and tri city meeting.

Councilmember Jones shared an interesting thing he learned from the tri city meeting was the city of Covington's new mascot and noted that they had so many likes that they have now adopted that slug as one of their mascots. He noted the meeting being exciting and how cities were appreciative of each other and the unique things that we each have. He expressed his concerns on Fentanyl and discussed visiting the website for the Black Diamond Community Center and how they are now holding in-person events.

Councilmember Page thanked all Council and the Planning Commission for meeting to discuss the possible repeal of the marijuana prohibition and commented on next steps with the Planning Commission. She asked that, as a body are we okay with a resolution to go to the Planning Commission, and there was Council consensus. She commented on her ride along with the Black Diamond Police Officer Henrich and invited residents, Council, and colleagues to request a ride along. She reported attending her first meeting as an advisory member to the Mountain View Fire & Rescue Board meetings. She commented on the official pinning of Deputy Fire Chief Trout and being able to serve lunch at the community center. She also attended the Maple Valley/Black Diamond Chamber luncheon and invited the community to join her on June 21 for the joint meeting the Maple Valley/Black Diamond and Covington Chambers. She participated in the Council retreat and commented on the commitment to work on a council action plan. She also attended the Tri City meeting and asked Mayor Benson to take back to the Mayor's of Maple Valley and Covington the interest to put together a work group regarding the passage of Prop 1 and figure out how we might be able to serve residents who are looking for help with behavioral health services. She also attended the Memorial Day service at the cemetery.

Councilmember Deady reported attending the pinning of Deputy Fire Chief Trout, Memorial Day ceremony at the Black Diamond cemetery, tri city meeting, public safety meeting, Council retreat and hopes to get the council action plan to the Council in August. She announced that the raising of the Pride flag will be tomorrow at 10am and that Welsh Heritage Day is this Saturday at 1pm, and June 7th is the Black Diamond School reunion at the Black Diamond Community Center.

Action Item: Councilmember Deady **moved** to name the pocket park along Railroad Avenue Gomer Evans Memorial Park; **second** Councilmember Page. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (6-0).

Councilmember Douglass reported attending the Puget Sound Regional Council annual meeting and touched on the highlights from the keynote speaker, Gil Penalosa and his organization call Eighty Cities with the concept to design cities that are great for 8-year-

olds and 80-year-olds as you will have better cities for everyone. He also discussed streets as public spaces for people to come out and spend time with each other.

Councilmember Smith commented on it being a good idea to build cities for 8-year-olds and 80-year-olds. He commented on the Tri city meeting being a dog and pony show with not much time for collaboration and touched on a transportation project in Covington that was shared. He commented on being at Silver Springs over memorial weekend and how there is a hike you can take to the civil war veteran's grave site. He commented on Prop 1 and would like to help steer that and get it going and how he wants it to be available in this part of the county.

ATTORNEY REPORT:

City Attorney Linehan spoke on the Taco Truck invite from Chief Judkins and commented that should more than four Councilmembers want to attend to please let the City Clerk know so a special meeting notice can be issued.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Rick Stocks, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Nanette Stocks, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Gary Jones, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Rick Stocks, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

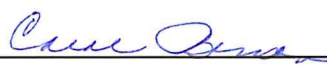
Geoff Bowie, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

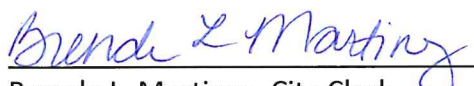
ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember de Leon **moved** to adjourn the meeting; **second** Councilmember Page. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (6-0). The meeting ended at 9:44 p.m.

ATTEST:



Carol Benson, Mayor



Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk