

BLACK DIAMOND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Council Meeting of September 7, 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, Smith, Mulvihill, de Leon, Jones, Page

ABSENT: None

Staff present: Xavier Mason, Finance Director; Mona Davis, Community Development Director; Commander Martinez; Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk/HR Manager; Rob Reed, IS Manager; 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 (7-0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Presentation – King County Solid Waste – Amy Ockerlander

Ms. Ockerlander shared with the Council a PowerPoint presentation on the Re+ program. She shared the mission and vision and explained that it is a call to action and discussed what that means.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

- 1) Claim Checks** – September 7, 2023, Check No. 53393 through Check No. 53340 (Voided Check No. 53392) in the amount of \$343,708.21
- 2) Minutes** – Council Meeting of August 17, 2023, and Special Council Meeting of

August 24, 2023

- 3) **AB23-041** – Resolution Regarding Contract Amendment for Prosecutor
- 4) **AB23-042** – Resolution Regarding Contract Amendment for Public Defender
- 5) **AB23-043** – Resolution Regarding Contract Amendment for Municipal Court Judge
- 6) **AB23-044** – Resolution Regarding Special Event Permit for Tough Mudder
- 7) **AB23-045** – Approving Amendment to ILA with King County for CDBG Program

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- 8) **AB23-046** – Resolution Regarding Contract for a Mental Health Therapist for Therapeutic Court

Municipal Court Judge Swain reported on this item.

Councilmember Page **moved** to adopt Resolution No. 23-1565 authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Khadija Ewalt as a Mental Health Therapist for Therapeutic Court; **second** Councilmember de Leon. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (7-0).

- 9) **AB23-047** – Resolution Regarding Contract for Peer Counselor for Therapeutic Court

Municipal Court Judge Swain discussed this item with the Council.

Councilmember Mulvihill **moved** to adopt Resolution No. 23-1566 authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Jaydn Bond as a Peer Support Counselor for the Black Diamond Therapeutic Court; **second** Councilmember de Leon. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (7-0).

- 10) **Discussion/Action** – Foregoing Council Report for 2023 to Allow Time for Council to Work on Possible Levy Lid Lift

Councilmember Page led the discussion on this agenda item. She summarized they would forego Council reports through the end of year, and one councilmember will report on their committee meetings and each councilmember will limit themselves to one question for the directors presenting. She explained the goal is to make this efficient and respectful for everyone and not go on and on for hours. There was council consensus.

Councilmember Page **moved** to modify the order of business to forego council reports through the end of 2023 and to provide dedicated time during each meeting for discussion of potential levy lid lift; **second** Councilmember Mulvihill. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (7-0).

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Police – Commander Martinez updated Council on the Flock Camera system and how they are helping to find stolen cars in our community. He updated Council on the accident that happened recently and noted it being a tragedy. He also provided an update on staffing levels.

Fire – Chief Judkins noted sending a report today and having a good conversation at the public safety meeting regarding a partnership with Parker Bounds Johnson Foundation to provide Wilderness for Life program for youth. She also touched on the accident that took place and how all entities worked well together.

Public Works – Brock Deady commented on it being nice to have all the improvements at the Community Gym and renters are enjoying these improvements.

MAYOR’S REPORT:

Mayor Benson reported participating in the dedication of the Gomer Evans Jr. Memorial Park on Saturday. She attended the Flood Control meeting where they adopted the budget and CIP. She attended a meeting with the city of Enumclaw, and the Enumclaw School District on what’s next for schools to make sure we are all on the same page whether a bond passes or not.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Public Works Report – Councilmember Page noted talking about high level on budget, a conversation about a cross connection control ordinance and how that program would work, quick update on the Covington Creek project and funding, the three-way stop at Baker and Railroad is still in progress and they are still working out some issues. There will be an increase in the boat launch fee at the first of the year and talks about projects and improvements at the boat launch site.

Public Safety Report – Councilmember de Leon shared that items shared tonight covered the public safety content quite thoroughly and there were very heartfelt conversations about how we take care of staff and how staff take care of each other during tragedies.

Councilmember de Leon expressed how wonderful the dedication of the Gomer Evans Jr Park and Labor Days was. She also mentioned how she enjoyed the additional meeting on the levy lid lift, met with the Director of the Maple Valley Food Bank, and went on a ride along with the police department and getting to see a tour of the flock systems.

Councilmember Jones reported doing reconnaissance of skate parks and he visited one in Kent and Maple Valley. He shared taking note of maintenance issues and adjacent amenities the city might want to consider. He shared the best takeaway is that kids do help each other and are enjoying outdoor activities and socializing. He discussed concerns about the clumps on Lake Sawyer and how they are hard for boaters to see and noted that residents will be forming a letter to Council soon.

Councilmember Page would like to have the Re+ Pledge brought to the next meeting for Council to consider and sign off on. She thanked everyone for attending Labor Days and all the volunteers. She touched on the crisis care levy and having a letter of support from our surrounding communities to send to the King County Executive.

Councilmember Deady reported attending the Gomer Evans Memorial Jr. Park dedication. She congratulated Councilmember Page on chairing Labor Days. She touched on the Council action plan and is hoping to have this completed and in Councilmembers binders by the first of October. She attended the SCA Networking Dinner and shared the discussion on the FIFA World Cup coming to Seattle in 2026 and the impact, involvement, and excitement that each city can bring.

Councilmember Douglas had no report.

Councilmember Smith commented on the FIFA World Cup and celebrating Black Diamond heritage. He reminded everyone to hug their mom and friends. He touched on it's okay to ask for help when you don't feel okay.

Councilmember Mulvihill had no report.

Commander Martinez touched on the new police boat and noted it being amazing. He noted funding for the boat was from a grant from the state, insurance money and the city of Black Diamond.

ATTORNEY REPORT: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT:

There was a **motion** and a **second** to adjourn the meeting. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (7-0). The meeting ended at 9:14 p.m.

ATTEST:

Carol Benson, Mayor

Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk