

BLACK DIAMOND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Town Hall Meeting of March 14, 2013

25510 Lawson Street, Black Diamond, Washington

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE:

Mayor Olness called the regular meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and lead us all in the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Councilmembers Deady, Goodwin, May, Benson and Taylor.

ABSENT: None

Staff present were: Steve Pilcher, Executive Director of Community Development; Mark Hoppen, City Administrator and Brenda L. Martinez, Assistant City Admin/City Clerk.

Mayor Olness welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced that Council will have a random drawing of which candidate will go 1, 2, or 3. She noted that candidates who are not being interviewed will be asked to leave the room while the other candidate is being interviewed. Tina McGann from the audience was asked to come draw the names; order of the interviews was as follows:

1. Janie Edelman
2. Patrick Nelson
3. Bill Roth

Councilmembers asked the following questions to Janie Edelman:

1. Why did you decide to apply for the City Council position?
2. What is your understanding of the City Council's structure and responsibilities?
3. What strengths and qualities will you bring to the Council?
4. What are your 2 or 3 areas of greatest interest and why? For example, Public Safety, Parks, Public Works, Finance, Land Use Planning, Traffic/Transportation, Environment, etc.
5. In your opinion what are the most important issues the Council will be addressing in the near future and beyond?
6. What are your suggestions regarding how best to unite our community and achieve a shared vision for the future?
7. How can the opinions of your constituents be incorporated in your decision making process?
8. Should you be confronted by an angry constituent or a Councilmember that seriously disagreed with you on an issue, how would you propose to handle such conflict?
9. How would you improve communication with the public and businesses?

10. What is your expectation regarding the time commitments that will be required of you to effectively serve on the Council?
11. How do you feel about Town Hall meetings?
12. Finally, please make the case why we should select you as the next City Councilmember.

Councilmembers asked the same questions to Patrick Nelson.

Councilmembers asked the same questions to Bill Roth.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Erika Morgan, Black Diamond- commented on noticing on Abrams Avenue south of Mason Street there is a solid wood fence and is curious how this came about. Thought there was a 50 ft. natural setback in that area that was set, and wonders if all agreements down the line will be subject to this sort of compromise.

Councilmember Goodwin asked if this fence was put up by someone else on their property or in the right of way.

Ms. Morgan answered no; it is not in the right of way.

Councilmember Goodwin wonders what her concern is.

Ms. Morgan stated that the fence is a new fence that was put up in the last 30 days and it needs to be a transparent fence on a natural setting not the wood fence that was built.

Peter Rimbos, Maple Valley- commented that he is speaking on behalf of the Citizens Technical Team and the perspective on the decision before Council regarding the candidates for the Council position and asked that they consider taking all aspects into their decision. Need to evaluate each candidates capabilities as they City deals with very technical issues and this information really needs to be looked as decisions on these will need to be made in the future. Time, drive, experience and capabilities to digest information and ask questions are what should be considered when appointing the next candidate.

Mayor Olness reminded folks that the next Council meeting is next Thursday. There will be an Executive Session at the beginning of the meeting with appointment of Council Position #3 taking place that night too.

Councilmember Goodwin thanked all three candidates for participating.

Councilmember Benson requested that Mr. Hoppen make a statement about the YarrowBay decisions last week.


City Administrator Hoppen reported YarrowBay notified the City of a decision to no longer pay for excess benefits to the City and have requested that July through the end of

the year will cease paying for \$120,000 of staff support this year and another \$240,000 in support staff next year which is the reductions of 3.5 staff members. Staff is currently working on options to present in early April.

ADJOURNMENT:

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Goodwin and **seconded** by Councilmember Deady to adjourn the meeting. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (4-0). The meeting ended at 7:53 p.m.

ATTEST:



Rebecca Olness, Mayor



Rachel Pitzel, Deputy City Clerk