

**BLACK DIAMOND CITY COUNCIL  
WORK SESSION MINUTES**

**April 12, 2018**

Council Chamber, 25510 Lawson Street, Black Diamond, Washington

**CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE:**

Mayor Benson called the regular work session meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led us all in the Flag Salute.

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Councilmembers Deady, Oglesbee, Edelman, Stout and Wisnoski.

**ABSENT:** None

Staff present were: Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk.

Mayor Benson welcomed everyone and shared that she asked Chris Hurst to come here tonight to address Council about lobbying for the City to get funding which is different than getting grants.

**1) Discussion Regarding Government Relations & Strategic Consulting Assistance**

Christopher Hurst and Caitlin Lopez of Wind River Associates, LLC addressed Council on their proposal to represent the City as a lobbyist. He discussed his past experience and the important projects that were secured before he left the legislature. He shared with Council the funding system that is used by the legislative which is comprised of three elements 1) operating, 2) capital, and 3) transportation. He further discussed the steps to get a plan going and once priorities are determined you then sit down with your lobbyist and see what funding is available. He stressed with Council that Black Diamond will be competing with other cities since we are experience growth and how important it is to have connections with folks in Olympia.

There was back and forth discussion on how a lobbyist would work for Black Diamond, is this the right time to do this, and the costs associated with having a lobbyist.

**2) Discussion Regarding the Welcome Wagon**

Mayor Benson discussed with Council how to welcome the new citizens who are coming to Town. She asked Council if they want to do this themselves or pay someone to do it. She added we can use the Chamber of Commerce as a resource. She stated she tried to have someone from the Welcome Wagon to come tonight to address Council, however no one

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got back to her. Mayor Benson explained to Councilmembers what a Welcome Wagon is and does.

There was back and forth conversation on how to get this program up and going and the need to get a committee started as new residents are arriving. Councilmembers Edelman and Oglesbee stated they would like to be on the committee and the City Clerk noted she would too. It was also noted there would need to be a budget for this program and for members to start brainstorming ideas.


In closing, Mayor Benson noted coming back to this subject soon.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilmember Deady **moved** to adjourn the meeting; **second** Councilmember Wisnoksi. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (5-0).

The meeting ended at 7:36 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
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Carol Benson, Mayor

  
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Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk