

BLACK DIAMOND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Special Meeting of December 2, 2019
Council Chamber, 25510 Lawson Street, Black Diamond, Washington

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE:

Mayor Benson called the special meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led us all in the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL:

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

ABSENT: Councilmember Paige (excused).

Staff present: May Miller, Finance Director, and Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk/HR.

APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Oath of Office - Mayor Benson administered the Oath of Office to Kristiana de Leon for Council Position #5. Councilmember de Leon then took her seat at the dais.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

- 1) **AB19-065** – Resolution No. 19-1326 Regarding LGIP Transfer of Funds

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Johna Thomson, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Craig Goodwin, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- 2) **AB19-066** – Final Hearing on 2020 Preliminary Budget

Finance Director Miller reported on this item and stated tonight’s meeting is to hear public comments and to answer questions on the 2020 Budget.

Mayor Benson opened the public hearing at 7:06 p.m.

Craig Goodwin, Black Diamond commented on liking to look at history and progress as opposed to getting tied up in individual numbers. He noted that one of the major accomplishments over the last decade is to have money in reserves. He thanked the leadership, predecessors, and the Finance Director on the huge progress that has been made for the City as at one time there was no money in the bank, and it was hard to make payroll. He discussed the version of the budget he looked at having the city using fund balance a little and attributed this to the Finance Director's conservative approach. He discussed revenue sources and noted that the City's cost to provide services will continue to grow while general revenue sources remain constrained. He stressed that one-time revenues such as sales tax on new building construction and Community Development permit fees, should not be spent to provide continuing services such as police, fire and ongoing community services. Instead, these one-time revenues should be reserved for capital improvements in the city. He then shared the City should be focusing on attracting commercial businesses, preserving commercial properties, charging impact fees on all non-MPD development within the city, MPDs Fiscal Impact Analysis is really important and we need to rely heavily on this promise to fund the deficits in police, fire and other general fund services should they be needed and suggested putting this at the top of Council's list. In closing he discussed "What's the alternative?" where the city could use one-time revenue sources to fund ongoing service needs, then curtail staffing when economic times get bad the city won't spend money on capital projects. He stressed the city can do better than that and there's a path to get there and he encouraged them to follow it.

KC Shankland, Black Diamond shared being a Black Diamond resident for three weeks. He reiterated a couple of things from the previous speaker's comments. With the statutory constitutional limits on residential the City is never going to be able to grow itself into a sustainable model and noted Maple Valley experiencing that. He also stressed to really hold on to any presently commercially zoned material because that is the only way any city in our present legislative makeup of what is constitutionally allowed is going to have any kind of growth, because you can't get there residentially with the statutory caps - you have to do it through sales tax revenue.

Bob Stewart, Black Diamond commented on being a one-year resident and noted it being interesting to become part of the community. He echoed the early testimony in terms of the impacts of the growth. The concern he has is the potential rezoning of land and setting it up for becoming more residential versus commercial/light industrial only because part of the whole Comprehensive Planning process is about maintaining that balance between residential and jobs which has impact on traffic, revenues, taxes so just trying to keep a very balanced approach to that – having development pay for development, but also being extremely careful given the large burdens put upon this very small wonderful community of Black Diamond already. He noted being concerned that more residential large development infill growth would be a disproportionate burden on this little city. In closing he stated this is the concern he has and appreciated Council's service.


Mayor Benson closed the public hearing at 7:21 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

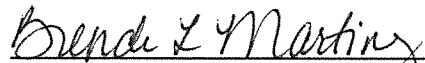
Councilmember Deady **moved** to adjourn the meeting; **second** Councilmember Oglesbee. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (6-0).

The meeting ended at 7:22 p.m.

ATTEST:



Carol Benson, Mayor



Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk