

**BLACK DIAMOND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**Council Meeting of March 18, 2021**  
**Virtual Meeting Via Zoom**

**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, Oglesbee, Wisnoski, Stout, de Leon, and O'Donnell.

**ABSENT:** None

Staff present: Seth Boettcher, Public Works Director; Scott Hanis, Capital Projects/Program Manager; Jamey Kiblinger, Police Chief; Andrew Williamson, MDRT/Ec Dev Director; May Miller, Finance Director; Mona Davis, Community Development Director; David Linehan, City Attorney; and Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk/HR Manager.

**AGENDA REVIEW AND APPROVAL:**

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

**APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

**Proclamation – Women's History Month**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

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

- 1) **Claim Checks** – March 18, 2021, Check No. 49760 through 49808 and EFTs in the amount of \$537,979.36
- 2) **Payroll** – February 2021, Check No. 20056 through 20064 and ACHs in the amount of \$448,529.82

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

- 3) **AB21-014** – Public Hearing on City's Skateboard Park

Public Works Director Boettcher gave an overview of the history of this project and the condition of the Skateboard Park and the reason it has been closed and what they are looking at doing. He also read written public comments that were received for this hearing.

Mayor Benson opened the public hearing at 7:11 p.m.

John Olson, Black Diamond encouraged Council and staff to think of other solutions for this park.

Mayor Benson closed the public hearing at 7:12 p.m.

Discussion continued with Director Boettcher touching on next steps, an interim solution and what that would look like.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 4) **AB21-015** - Resolution Regarding Professional Services Agreement with Parametrix for for Design of the Covington Creek Culvert Replacement Project

Capital Project/Program Manager Hanis reported to Council on this item.

Councilmember de Leon **moved** to adopt Resolution No. 21-1411, authorizing the Mayor to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Parametrix, Inc. for the design of the Covington Creek Culvert Replacement Project; **second** Councilmember Deady. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (6-0).

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Fire** – Chief Smith spoke on the bridge closure and shared that there is a zoom meeting set up for next month on that issue. He reported that 98 responded to fatal fire in Kanaskat and there will be crews from all over King County at Ten Trails practicing trench rescues. He reported on the new engine that is being built for the City and where it is at for completion. He will let Council know when the push in ceremony will be for the new engine.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Benson announced that the scheduled retreat for April was rescheduled to June so the new appointed Councilmembers could attend. She also discussed the Council recruitment process and now with only five seated members we can only have two councilmembers on a committee. The Finance Committee has three and she asked if

someone be willing to step down until we fill the vacancies. Councilmember Wisnoski offered to step down.

## **COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Councilmember Deady reported on the need to get the next meeting for the fire service options on the books. Councilmember discussed and good date and there was consensus to hold the special meeting on March 29 at 6:00 p.m. She expressed how the blocks in old town by the bakery are being painted yellow and it looks great. She thanked the Public Works crew for their hard work. She spoke about residents reaching out to her concerned about motorized vehicles in city parks especially where the cottonwood trees have been cut down. She thanked Councilmember Stout for her time and service on the Council and noted always appreciating her perspective.

Councilmember Oglesbee reported looking forward to the retreat and would like to keep the April 2 date and is concerned and disappointed it was pushed out further. She shared looking forward for a more useful skatepark. She thanked Councilmember Stout for being a great neighbor and Councilmember and noted she will be missed.

Councilmember Wisnoski thanked Councilmember Stout for being a great Councilmember and neighbor and wished her and her family the best of luck. He shared that it's soon to be springtime and the days are getting longer, birds are chirping, and gardeners are getting ready. He talked about better weather getting people out and making those neighborly bonds and reminded everyone to social distance and wear a mask.

Councilmember Stout reported attending the Public Works Committee meeting where the discussion was on the skateboard park and the culvert project. She did ask Councilmember Deady to share options for kids at the Community Gym due to the closing of the skateboard park. Councilmember Deady shared her ideas of opening the gym up when it's not rented for kids and young teens to occupy their time by playing volleyball, basketball, etc. Councilmember Stout further reported attending the PIC meeting and encouraged others to participate in these. She also reported attending the work session on the fire services option for the City. She expressed loving serving the Black Diamond City Council and shared that it has been an honor. She touched on why she ran for office and noted Johna being a supporter and encourager. She thanked all the citizens, Councilmembers, staff members, and those that were on the committees she served on. She also touched on being able to earn the Certificate of Municipal Leadership and noted it being a great program and encouraged all Councilmembers to earn that certificate. She shared that she is leaving the Council due to relocating to Idaho to be closer to her son and she then resigned from the Council.

Councilmember de Leon thanked councilmember Stout for the amazing leadership she has shown and wished her the best of luck in her new journey as she will be missed. She reported attending committee meetings, the fire study work session and is looking forward to continuing this discussion as it is a huge decision before the Council. She is hopeful to

be using the city zoom account soon and wanted to let Council know she is working on this so she can reach out to more residents via a town hall style and will keep Council updated on this. On a personal note she shared she was recently eligible for the vaccine and she did receive it and reported on how convenient the process getting it scheduled was. She encouraged everyone to continue to practice safe protocols. She also called attention to an email she sent to Council and expressed being really concerned about the rise in hate crimes and speech in the community and wants to think about ways to partner with the county on this issue. She was also able to have conversations with the Asian and Pacific Islander youth that were speaking out about the mischaracterizations due to COVID 19 and the pain they have been experiencing and how they want to see their elected do more. She is hoping Councilmember Dunn will acknowledge her email and the City can be part of this conversation. She noted that the month of March is women history month and touched on the brutal murders in Atlanta and on the proclamation the city approved and the need to stay engaged in the conversation as people's lives are at stake.

Councilmember O'Donnell noted fully supporting Councilmember de Leon's comments. He reported attending all his committee meetings and met with some city employees. He touched on the new fire truck and it being an expensive asset and thanked the Chief. He appreciated everyone's indulgence on the email he sent out regarding the large volume of mounting work that needs to be done and how now is the time to be doing that. He gave Councilmember Stout his well wishes and thanked her for her service to the City.

**ATTORNEY REPORT:**

City Attorney Linehan announced the Appeal hearing scheduled for April 1 is now scheduled for April 15. He wished Councilmember Stout well and expressed how she has been wonderful to work with and that Idaho is getting a real "gem".

Mayor Benson thanked Councilmember Stout for all her hard work and service to the City as she appreciated it.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilmember Deady **moved** to adjourn the meeting; **second** Councilmember Oglesbee. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (6-0). The meeting ended at 8:11 p.m.

ATTEST:



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Carol Benson, Mayor



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Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk