



Mayor's Message

"Facets of Black Diamond"

A Quarterly Newsletter

October, November, December 2017



City of Black Diamond

City Offices will be closed on the following days:

- 11/10-Veterans Day
- 11/23-Thanksgiving
- 11/24-Thanksgiving Holiday
- 12/25-Christmas Day

City Council Officials

~Mayor, Carol Benson

Councilmembers

~Tamie Deady

~Erika Morgan

~Janie Edelman

~Pat Pepper

~Brian Weber

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It's hard to believe how fast the year is flying by. The kids are back in school, the trees are starting to sport their fall colors, and the nights are getting cooler. Before we know it, it will be the holiday season. I want to take this opportunity to share with you the following events and updates.

103rd Labor Days Celebration - I want to thank the many volunteers, vendors, and sponsors who worked very hard to put on this wonderful annual event; without you, events like this would not happen. This year's festivities were a lot fun for all ages. Scheduled events included, games for children and adults, prizes, good food, a wonderful parade, and many interesting booths. If you haven't had a chance to attend this three-day celebration in the past, I encourage you to mark your calendar for next year - you will not be disappointed.

Town Hall Meetings - As a reminder, Town Hall meetings are held twice a year on the second Thursdays in the months of March and October. The next Town Hall meeting is scheduled for October 12, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. I encourage you to please come and talk with myself and your Councilmembers on any concern, issues, or questions you may have.

2018 Operating Budget - Myself along with City staff and especially the Finance Department have been very busy focusing on the 2018 Preliminary Budget that was presented to the City Council at a special meeting held on September 28, 2017. We are striving to prepare a budget that addresses current needs, in consideration of the needs for the future. You can read more about the budget process on page three of this newsletter.

Roberts Drive Project - The Roberts Drive project is moving along. Weather permitting, paving is scheduled for the first week of October followed by sidewalks the second week, and then street lights. This project is expected to be substantially complete the third week of October. Again, I would like to thank the community for their patience and the construction crews for their willingness to be flexible to the needs of our community.

Cemetery-Cemeteries hold history and memories of our Nation's past, tying us to our ancestry. Locations such as this inspire reflection, grounding us to who we are and where we come from. With modern-day distractions, and the chaos that comes with growth and change, art is a key factor in attracting our attention to these untouched and historical locations.

The Black Diamond Cemetery is a historical marker for our community. Grave sites and names of the individuals who lived and died here, tell the stories of the area's history. A cement pump house sits at the boundary of our cemetery causing a major distraction that disrupts reflection. This utility building, maintained by the City, cannot be removed—but can be beautified in a way that blends with local landscapes and allows for serenity and reflection. As part of a growing non-profit arts association—Black Diamond Arts Alliance—local artists Mira Hoke and Patricia Moss donated time and talent to beautify the pump house, allowing community members a space for reflection without the distraction of the unsightly utility building.



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The goal of this project was to unify community, calm the soul and inspire the growth of arts in the area. Each side of the building was painted with realistic landscape such as mountain ranges, lakes, trees and silhouettes of individuals in reflective stances. Thank you to those in the community who donated money to help purchase tools and supplies to make this project possible.

In closing, should you have any questions or concerns I encourage you to contact myself, Councilmembers or staff.

Carol Benson, Mayor, City of Black Diamond

Business License renewals are coming soon.....

The City of Black Diamond has over 300 businesses that operate in the City throughout the calendar year. These include retail stores, restaurants, real estate agents, hair salons, day-cares, construction firms and more. Some of these businesses have storefronts here in Black Diamond, others are home occupations, and still more perform frequent business in Black Diamond but have offices elsewhere.

The Black Diamond Municipal Code 2.58 requires businesses operating in the City of Black Diamond have a current license. The license helps ensure all businesses have acquired the appropriate state licenses and permits, adhere to the zoning guidelines, conform to all building codes, and meet safety requirements. Most businesses are characterized as regular licenses, but the City also has some specialty licenses for pawnbrokers, carnivals, adult entertainment, firearms, solicitors/mobile vendors and utility licenses. Some businesses may require more than one type of license. Solicitors are required to obtain their license before contacting the public. Background checks are performed on every solicitor operating in Black Diamond. If they are not able to produce a copy of the solicitor license upon request, they are not approved to solicit within City limits.

Business license permitting fees are based on the type of business, location and period of operation. The majority of Black Diamond businesses are classified as regular, which are \$70 new and renew at \$60 annually. Renewal forms will be sent out in mid-December. Renewals not postmarked by January 31, 2018, will be assessed a \$10 late fee. Late fees will continue to assess monthly if license fees are not paid. If your business has closed or no longer is working in Black Diamond, please return the renewal form with that information written on the form. The City will update their records and cancel the license.

If you have any questions, please contact the City at 360-886-5700. Please remember to sign and return the renewal form and enclose payment. Checks should be made payable to the City of Black Diamond. We also offer online payment with a credit card. For new businesses, applications are available on the City website or at City Hall.

FEES

Regular Business License: Initial \$70 Renewal \$60 Partial (after June 30) \$35 Temporary (30 days) \$15

Solicitor License: Annual Fee \$70 Temporary (30 days) \$35

Pawnbroker: Annual Fee \$100

Adult Entertainment: Per Establishment \$1000 Operator License \$100 Employee License \$50

Carnival/Circus: Per Event \$50



City Budget Planning and Calendar....

All City departments have been busy preparing the City's annual operating budget for 2018. The Operating Budget funds services associated with public safety, public works, parks, planning, permitting and other municipal services.

The budget tells the City's financial story and sets spending targets for the programs and services that the city residents receive. During August and September Department Heads and the Finance Department updated 2018 revenue forecasts for the General Fund and other funds using 2017 trends, growth projections and forecast information provided by Municipal Research and Services Center and other agencies.

A Special Council Meeting was held on September 28, 2017 on revenue and expenditures ; 2018 preliminary forecasts in the General Fund, and proposed 2018 budgets for all City Funds. More detailed 2018 budget work sessions are scheduled for Council on October 19 and October 26 at 5:30 pm in the Council Chambers.

Public hearings are scheduled for November 9, November 16, and December 4. Public input is always welcomed and encouraged. See the below budget calendar and stay up to date at the City's website www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us or contact the Finance Department at (360) 886-5700 for any questions you may have.

Date/Time	2018 Budget Calendar
9/28/17 – 6 pm Special Council Meeting	Review current year revenue and expenditures as adopted in the 2017 budget. Review 2017 revenue, expenditures and 2018 preliminary budget summary for all funds.
10/19/17 – 5:30 pm Special Council Meeting	Workstudy on the 2018 Preliminary Budget - General Fund
10/26/17– 5:30 pm Special Council Meeting	Workstudy on Public Works and Capital Project budgets in the 2018 Preliminary Budget.
11/9/17– 7 pm Special Council Meeting	Public Hearing on 2018 revenue budget sources including possible increases in Property Tax.
11/16/17 – 7 pm Regular Council Meeting	Public Hearing on the 2018 Budget
12/4/17 – 7 pm Special Council Meeting	Final Public Hearing on the 2018 Budget
12/7/17 or 12/21/17 7 pm Regular Council Meeting	Adoption of the 2018 Budget





Veterans Day is an official United States public holiday, observed annually on November 11, that honors military veterans; that is, persons who served in the United States Armed Forces.

The Black Diamond Police Department is honored to have two of its newest members that have served in the armed forces. Officer Austin Hershaw (right) served in the Marine Corps for five years and deployed twice to Afghanistan. Officer Ryan Keller (left) served in the United States Army for five years and is currently a section Sergeant in the National Guard.



Fall Tips

With the falling of the leaves also comes the inevitable falling of the rain with the Fall storms. Falling leaves and falling rain can cause a problem for the streets and for the stormwater system.

When leaves fall onto the streets, they don't decompose and mix with the soil as they usually would. They'll decompose but then just go right into the stormwater system and right to our creeks and lakes, carrying with them any attached pollutants.

Sometimes the leaves aren't big enough to get into the storm drains which can cause other problems, namely localized flooding. If you notice leaves piling up around a storm drain, please clear it or alert the Public Works Department at (360) 886-5700 so we can take care of it. When we all work together, we all benefit. Thank you for all your effort in keeping our lakes and creeks clean.

Black Diamond Community Center~ Community Events

Dinner Auction~ October 7, 2017, tickets \$50. Tickets are now available.

Sons of Italy ~Lodge 1809 - Dinner meetings -October 13, 6:30 p.m. & November 10, 6:30 p.m.

Senior Halloween Party~ October 26, 10:30-1 p.m., lunch is \$3. Reservations required in advance.

AARP Safe Driver Course~ November 13 & 14, 9-2 p.m. both days, \$15 per person for AARP members, \$20 if not. Registration required in advance.

Senior Turkey Trot~ November 16, 10:30-1 p.m., lunch is \$3. Reservations are required in advance.

Community Tree Lighting Ceremony~ December 1, details and time to be announced in November.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR RECYCLE DAY



Saturday, October 28, 2017 at the Rock Creek Elementary School, 25700 Maple Valley Hwy.

More detailed information is posted to the City of Black Diamond Website at:

<http://www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us/spotlight.html>

Pothole Repairs

Have you ever met someone that really enjoys a good pothole? Sure there might be people that like to swerve around them as if they're on an obstacle course, but potholes really add no value to City streets.

Fixing potholes is usually a temporary solution involving what is called cold mix asphalt. This asphalt does a good job plugging the hole, but it's just a temporary solution and will usually come out after a short amount of time. The City's Public Works staff was looking for funding to do a permanent fix to locations in the City where we have had problems with potholes as well as locations where the road was in a condition that would likely see potholes in the near future. Public Works was able to find that funding in the Spring.

Public Works applied for a \$50,000 grant from the State Transportation Improvement Board to do permanent patching in the City. Combining this money with some City funds, staff marked over 60 locations throughout the City for repairs. The City contracted with Tony Lind Paving to repair these locations with hot mix asphalt which, unlike the cold mix, will stay in place for years. This work was completed in August.

In addition to the benefit we all receive now by eliminating potholes in problem areas, these roads will now be more attractive to granting agencies for receiving an overlay grant.

Your Public Works staff thanks you for your patience driving through these construction zones. Public Works is continually looking for opportunities to make your City streets better and will continue to work hard to deliver better streets all throughout the City.



Daylight-saving time ends

- Turn your clock back one hour tonight before going to bed.
- It's also time to change batteries in your smoke detectors.



Remember to turn back your clock one hour

Sunday, November 5 after midnight.

Council/Commission/Committee Meetings

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

25510 LAWSON STREET

- *OCTOBER 5– 7 p.m.
- *OCTOBER 12– 6 p.m. **Work Session & Town Hall 7 p.m.**
- *OCTOBER 19– 5:30 p.m. **(Special Council Meeting)**
- *OCTOBER 19– 7 p.m.
- *OCTOBER 26 -6 p.m. **(Special Council Meeting)**
- *NOVEMBER 2- 7 p.m.
- *NOVEMBER 9– 6 p.m. **(Work Session)**
- *NOVEMBER 9– 7 p.m. **(Special Council Meeting)**
- *NOVEMBER 16– 7 p.m.
- *DECEMBER 4– 7 p.m. **(Special Council Meeting)**
- *DECEMBER 7– 7 p.m.
- *DECEMBER 14-6 p.m. **(Work Session)**
- *DECEMBER 21– 7 p.m.

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

25510 LAWSON STREET

- *OCTOBER 10-6 p.m.
- *NOVEMBER 7-6 p.m.
- *DECEMBER 12-6 p.m.

City of Black Diamond
Contacts

ALL COUNCIL/COMMISSION MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. ALL COMMITTEE MEETINGS ARE TENTATIVE AND MEETING LOCATIONS ARE NOTED ON THE AGENDA. CHECK WEBSITE FOR ANY CHANGES.

Monthly meetings for City Council are held the first and third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. Work Sessions are held the second Thursday of each month starting at 6 p.m.

Planning Commission meetings are held on the first Tuesday after the first Council meeting at 6 p.m. of each month (unless otherwise noted). Please contact the Clerks office for more information (360)886-5700 or check the City Clerks webpage at

www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us/Depts/Clerk



DEPARTMENTS

- ◆ Administration,
Mayor Carol Benson
- ◆ City Clerk/HR Manager,
Brenda L. Martinez, MMC
- ◆ Community Development-
Andrew Williamson-Interim
- ◆ Economic Development/MDRT,
Andrew Williamson
- ◆ Public Works
Seth Boettcher
- ◆ Finance
Mayene Miller
- ◆ Police
Chief Jamey Kiblinger

CITY HALL

(360) 886-5700
(253) 631-0351
PO BOX 599 FAX (360) 886-2592
24301 ROBERTS DRIVE

MDRT/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

(360) 886-5700
P.O. BOX 599 FAX (360) 886-2592
24301 ROBERTS DRIVE

PUBLIC WORKS

(360) 886-5700
(253) 631-0351
P.O. BOX 599
24301 ROBERTS DRIVE

POLICE DEPARTMENT

(253) 631-1012
P.O. BOX 309 FAX (360) 886-2901
25510 LAWSON STREET

FIRE DEPARTMENT

(Mountain View Fire & Rescue)
(253) 735-0284

POLICE DEPARTMENT - NON EMERGENCY NUMBER

(360) 886-0022

COMMUNITY DEVELOP- MENT/NATURAL RESOURCES

(360) 886-5700
PO BOX 599 FAX (360) 886-2592
24301 ROBERTS DRIVE

UTILITY AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY NUMBER

(253) 569-0525

MUNICIPAL COURT

(360) 886-7784
P.O. BOX 599 FAX (360) 886-5354
25510 LAWSON STREET

Community Contacts.....

- * **Black Diamond Community Center**
(360) 886-1011
- * Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday 8-4
- * **Black Diamond Post Office**
(360) 886-9429
- * Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday 9-5
- * **Black Diamond Museum/Historical Society**
(360) 886-2142
- * Hours of Operation: Thursdays 9-4, Sat & Sun 12-3
- * **Black Diamond Library**
(360) 886-1105
- * Hours of Operation: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10-9 p.m.
Saturday 10-5

