



January-February-March 2019

Mayor's Message



City of Black Diamond

**City Offices will be closed on the following days:**

*January 1—New Year's Day*

*January 21—Martin Luther King Day*

*February 18—Presidents' Day*

It's hard to believe that another year is upon us. 2018 was a very busy year here at the City and as we start to look forward to 2019 I would like to take this opportunity to share with you the following highlights from last year. Also below is some new information that will be happening in 2019.

**Mayor's Proposed Preliminary Budget**—I am pleased to report the Mayor's proposed preliminary budget passed 5-0. I along with staff worked very hard to bring forward a balanced budget that does an excellent job of blending values and goals with the financial realities that must always be considered.

**News from the Community Development Department**—We are pleased to announce the addition of a Building Official/Inspector to the Community Development Department. Joey



Tedder joins us from the City of SeaTac and has years of experience in the building services field. The Community Development Department is located with Public Works at 24301 Roberts Drive where, in addition to meeting Joey for building services, you will receive friendly permitting assistance from our specialists, De Ann Wright and Christine Higgins. The Department is led by Director Barb Kincaid who is also acting as the City's planner. Barb is happy to answer your planning questions. Our Team looks forward to working with you in the coming New Year.

**New Unified Phone System**—Within the 1st quarter of 2019 the City will be installing a new unified phone system that will link all city buildings together. With the installation of this new phone system the City will be getting new phone numbers for all departments. To stay up to date on this project please visit the City's website [www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us](http://www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us) for announcements on when the new phone numbers will be in effect.

**Roberts Drive Project**—The City was successful in obtaining a \$450,000 grant from the State Transportation Improvement Board to complete work on Roberts Drive between 236<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE and Bruckners Way. Oakpointe will be completing the western portion of this project and the City will complete the eastern portion (about 135' west of the Rock Creek Bridge to Bruckners Way). This work will complete the gap between the sidewalks, create a pedestrian crossing across the Rock Creek Bridge, add pedestrian lighting, pave the remaining portion of the roadway, and add stormwater infiltration facilities. We anticipate Oakpointe starting on their portion in January and the City will complete their work beginning in spring.

**2019 Franklin Tours**—Tours of the ghost coal mining town of Franklin will take place on Saturday, March 2, 2019 and Saturday, April 6, 2019. Anyone interested in participating in the tour should meet at the Black Diamond Museum, 32627 Railroad Avenue, for a safety meeting at 10 a.m. before caravanning to the townsite of Franklin.

In closing, I am honored to be serving this wonderful community and as we move into 2019. I am again proud that the city continues to maintain a level of service which makes Black Diamond a better place to live, work, play and do business.

Should you have any questions or concerns I encourage you to contact me or your Councilmembers.

Warm regards,



*City Council Officials*

*~Mayor, Carol Benson*

*Councilmembers*

*~Tamie Deady*

*~Melissa Oglesbee*

*~Janie Edelman*

*~Erin Stout*

*~Chris Wisnoski*

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# STORMWATER EDUCATION

## What does the stormwater utility do and why?

There are two main purposes of the stormwater utility.

**1. Mitigate the water quality impact of urban living on local creeks, wetlands, and lakes.** When homes and businesses congregate in urban densities higher levels of pollutants impact our creeks, wetlands and lakes from vehicles, garbage, landscaping, chemicals we buy, pets, cleaning things and construction. The City has a State Department of Ecology permit to discharge stormwater into local lakes and streams. This permit has 6 areas of compliance activities to reduce this urban impact on our environment including:

- ◆ Assess, monitor and report to DOE on the effectiveness of the Best Management Practices being applied by the city.
- ◆ Provide public education and outreach
- ◆ Provide for public input into the City's Stormwater Management Program each year.
- ◆ Maintain an ongoing program to prevent, detect, characterize, trace and eliminate illicit connection and discharges into the City's stormwater system.
- ◆ Implement and enforce a program to reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff from construction and development
- ◆ Prevent and reduce pollutant runoff from municipal operations, including proper equipment washing, pond maintenance, street sweeping, proper storage of materials, and approximately 20 other best management practices.



**2. Protect and Preserve the street system from the impacts of stormwater runoff.**

A major contributor to premature road failure is poor drainage. The City's maintenance activities in ditch cleaning, storm pipe cleaning, catch basin pumping, drainage way clearing, dealing with leaf and storm debris, replacing damaged or broken city storm pipes helps protect and preserve our streets and well as protect private property.

***If you use the City streets, have a yard, pets, and cars and live in an urban environment, each citizen and business is part of the problem. So we, as a good citizens of Black Diamond, all cooperatively help to minimize our impact to our natural aquatic environment and preserve and protect our streets through our stormwater utility.***

## 2019 UTILITY RATE INCREASES

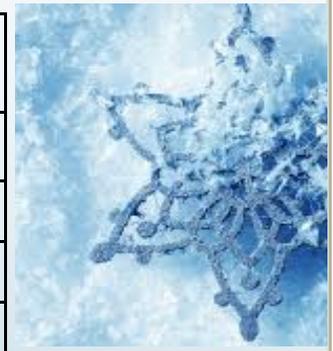
City of Black Diamond utility rates will increase effective 1/1/2019 and be reflected on utility customer's January 2019 month-end utility bills.

City Council approved the King County Metro pass-through monthly sewer rate increase of \$1.10 per ERU (equivalent residential unit) with Ordinance No 18-1113 at their November 15, 2018 Council meeting. Additionally, Ordinance 13-1007 authorizes a Black Diamond sewer annual inflationary rate increase of 3.6% per ERU, or \$0.76 per month of the City sewer charges. This increase reflects the annual Western CPI-U inflation rate for July 2018. Water rates remain unchanged in 2019.

Stormwater rates have also been increased after a stormwater rate analysis was completed by consultant Ashley Emery of Peninsula Financial. After a Council work session and public hearing, Ordinance 18-1113 was approved by Council at their December 6, 2018 Council meeting. This 2019 rate increase is \$3 per month for each ERU. Although most of Black Diamond is billed for stormwater through King County property tax collection under 'surface water', some stormwater accounts continue to be invoiced directly by Black Diamond.

Black Diamond offers a Lifeline Utility Discount program for low income seniors 62+ head of households and for low income permanently disabled. If approved, Lifeline customers receive a 50% discount on city water, city sewer, and stormwater charges that are billed by the City. Stormwater charges billed through King County property taxes also receive a 50% discount if approved through the King County Lifeline process. The City encourages applicants to apply and take advantage of this discount. On the following page is a chart showing the rate increases.

Rate Type	2018 Rate	2019 Rate	Percentage Increase	Monthly Amount Increase	Ordinance Number
KC Metro	44.22	45.33	2.51%	1.11	18-1109
City Sewer	21.02	21.78	3.6%	.76	13-1007
Stormwater	16.00	19.00	19%	3.00	18-1113
Water*	64.87	64.87	0%	0	13-1005



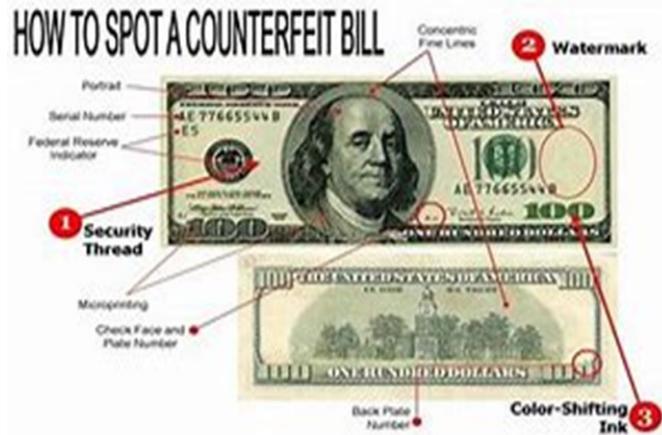
\*Based on 1000 cu. ft. of water

**IDENTIFYING COUNTERFEIT MONEY**—Police are warning merchants to beware of **counterfeit money**. The Black Diamond Police Department has taken several cases involving **counterfeit money** being passed in local businesses.

If you suspect a counterfeit note or have information about counterfeiting activity, please report it immediately to the U.S. Secret Service, or to your local police.

Please Note: There is no financial remuneration for the return of the counterfeit bill, but it is doing the "right thing" to help combat counterfeiting.

There are many ways in which people try to pass off fake currency as the real thing and consumers must know what they are so that they can recognize them. Here are some tips on how to identify counterfeit money.



### Paper Appearance and Feel

- Authentic paper currency is made with embedded fibers of red and blue; counterfeit currency has no fibers but some thieves may attempt to imitate them by printing red and blue lines on the paper.
- Real fibers may be picked with a pin while it is possible to remove fake fibers by scratching or erasing them.
- Counterfeit money will have a different feel than authentic money which is made of cotton and linen.
- The color of the paper that is used to make counterfeit money may also be whiter than genuine paper money.
- Genuine paper currency can smear, therefore rubbing the ink is not an accurate indicator of whether money is counterfeit or not.

### Seals and Serial Numbers

- Verify that the Treasury and Federal Reserve Seals have pointed saw-toothed appearances that is clearly defined, unlike counterfeit bills which will appear dull, blunt or broken.
- Unevenly spaced serial numbers are an indication that a bill is counterfeit.
- These numbers should match the color and shade of the ink that is on the bill's Treasury Seal.
- Check that the serial numbers that are on the bill do not have a ragged appearance, which is also a common indicator that the bill is a fake.

### Bill Borders

- Look over the borders of the bill to ensure that the lines are unbroken and clear.
- The scrollwork and margins on counterfeit bills are often blurry and less distinct than the original.

### Portrait Appearance

- **Examine the Presidential portrait on the bill, which should have a life-like appearance that stands out.**
- The lines that make up the clothing, face and hair should also be clear, easy to make out and free of broken lines.
- The face on counterfeit bills may have an unnaturally white appearance.
- Images that fade into the background, appear lifeless, or have blurred lines throughout may be counterfeit.
- Hold the bill up to a lamp or some form of light to verify that there is a hologram that is the exact match of the portrait.

### Raised Notes

- Look over paper currency thoroughly to detect any inconsistencies in the number denominations in the corners of the bill and the amount that is written on the bottom of the bill.
- Check that the dollar amount that is written through the Treasury Seal is not less than the denomination that is at the corners of the bill.
- Always check both sides of the bill for inconsistencies.
- Verify that the portrait on the bill is the proper one for the given denomination.

# Council/Commission/Committee Meetings

## CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

25510 LAWSON STREET

- \*JANUARY 3– 7 p.m.
- \*JANUARY 10– 6 p.m. (Work Session)
- \*JANUARY 17– 7 p.m.
- \*FEBRUARY 7– 7 p.m.
- \*FEBRUARY 14-6 p.m. (Work Session)
- \*FEBRUARY 21- 7 p.m.
- \*MARCH 7-7 p.m.
- \*MARCH 14-(Work Session & Town Hall)  
6 & 7 p.m.
- \*MARCH 21-7 p.m.

## PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

25510 LAWSON STREET

- \*JANUARY 8–6 p.m.
- \*FEBRUARY 12–6 p.m.
- \*MARCH 12 – 6 p.m.

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](http://www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us/Depts/Clerk)



## DEPARTMENTS

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

City of Black Diamond

### CITY HALL

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

### PUBLIC WORKS (360) 886-5700

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

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

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

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/ NATURAL RESOURCES

(360) 886-5700  
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

### POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

### POLICE DEPARTMENT - NON EMERGENCY NUMBER

(360) 886-0022

### 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**

- \* **Black Diamond Post Office**

**(360) 886-9429**

- \* **Black Diamond Museum/Historical Society**

**(360) 886-2142**

- \* **Black Diamond Library**

**(360) 886-1105**

- \* Hours of Operation: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10—9 p.m. Saturday 10—5 p.m.