

**CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND
CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
December 3, 2012**

Council Chamber, 25510 Lawson Street, Black Diamond, Washington

Mayor Olness called the special meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Deady, Goodwin, May, Benson and Taylor.

ABSENT: None

Staff present were: Mayene Miller, Finance Director; Dave Gray, Deputy Finance Director; Jamey Kiblinger, Police Chief; Pete Butkus, Interim City Administrator; Chris Bacha, City Attorney and Brenda L. Martinez, Assistant City Admin/City Clerk.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

2013 Proposed Final Budget

Mayor Olness announced tonight's meeting is a public hearing regarding the budget and no decisions will be made. She then introduced Ms. Miller.

Finance Director Miller reported that tonight before them is the Mayor's preliminary budget that is posted on the website and also available at City Hall. She noted staff, Council and the Mayor worked together on bringing this balanced budget together. She added the Mayor wanting to bring forward a sustainable budget that would carry the City forward for the next few years. She noted the budget that is being presented tonight accomplishes this. Included in the packet is a graph that shows the next several year projections.

Mayor Olness opened the public hearing at 7:04 p.m.

Mario Sorci, Black Diamond commented on not including a COLA in the budget as this doesn't look appropriate at this time; would like to consider keeping the hearing open through the next regular Council meeting. Would like to see a specific line item regarding PDRs and Initiative and Referendums as these can get very expensive and since Council added this they need to have a line item to take care of this. Happy to see the utility tax increase on the stormwater utility; glad the people of this City voted to keep the Mayor since we are laying off police officers and had we had to employ a full time City Manager it would have made balancing this budget ever more difficult.

Janie Edelman, Black Diamond commented that she agreed with Mr. Sorci on step increases and COLAS for non-represented employees; City Administrator or City Manager costs are the same; putting the newsletter online and does not understand the savings; credit card system to pay our bills and would the City slip in an additional

amount to cover this; agrees with special event permit fees for non-citizens only; cemetery fees should be passed on to the deceased family (i.e. open/close, liner costs); projected shortfalls over the next several years and wonders what we will do when it is \$550,000 and need to look at our contracts with YarrowBay and it seems development is not paying for development and how are these things going to be paid and this could mean bankruptcy and we can't raise taxes as others are already going to have to be raised and every dollar adds up and there are a lot of folks who can not absorb these costs. We need to protect the citizens that are in a lower economic situation and asked Council to keep this in mind; asked if there is a Center or Activity Area at Rainier Vista for newsletter distribution.

Robbin Taylor, Black Diamond commented that thinking down the road and discussed a serious situation at Horseshoe Lake where Fire and Aid could not enter the home until police arrived and asked if we could propose a reverse contract with King County where our police department responds to certain areas at different rates.

Bob Edelman, Black Diamond commented on very little information on how the changes were made and it would be instructive to go through the large dollar amounts to see how the changes were made and if there was an impact.

Finance Director Miller noted that the large cuts were basically salary and benefits.

Mario Sorci, Black Diamond commented that another increase is healthcare and could not tell what type of plan it is and struggled with this when he was on the Council; suggested informing employees early next year that the deductible is going up and the healthcare plan will be changing as costs are increasing.

Mayor Olness closed the public hearing at 7:23 p.m.

Interim City Administrator Butkus noted that credit card charges are not a part of this proposal they will be looked into next year and the proposal is for a partial cost recovery that staff is proposing and you will likely to convenience fee for what the bank charges and secondly on larger amount sales a percentage of a cost recovery on those as well.

Councilmember Goodwin noted the Town Hall meeting is scheduled for next Thursday, December 13th and suggested that the budget be the primary discussion for that meeting as it would be more of a two way dialogue.

Council consensus was to have the primary topic for the Town Hall meeting on December 13th to be the budget.

Councilmember Taylor thanked Finance Director Miller and the staff for all the hard work on the budget.

Councilmember Benson reiterated the workstudy that was held last week had a lot more detail than was presented tonight.

PRESENTATIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, APPOINTMENTS:

Mayor Olness read the following proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Black Diamond, Washington is committed to creating a highly skilled workforce that is critical to growing and sustaining a competitive advantage; and

WHEREAS, they recognize that having a knowledgeable, skilled workforce improves the performance of those organizations; and

WHEREAS, learning develops individual and organizational knowledge and expertise; and

WHEREAS, the American Society for Training & Development (ASTD)—the world’s largest association dedicated to the training and development field—has declared December 3-7, 2012, as “Employee Learning Week” and designated this time for organizations to recognize the value of employee learning; and

WHEREAS, Workforce Development is Everyone’s Business™; and

WHEREAS, the American Society of Training and Development (ASTD) Puget Sound Chapter whose members are workplace learning and performance professionals and the organizations in Black Diamond, Washington have demonstrated their commitment to developing the skills of employees and the workforce;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rebecca Olness, Mayor of the City of Black Diamond, on behalf of the Black Diamond City Council do hereby proclaim in the City of Black Diamond, the week of December 3-7, 2012 as



EMPLOYEE LEARNING WEEK



Rebecca Olness, Mayor

ADJOURNMENT:

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Taylor and **seconded** by Councilmember Deady to adjourn the meeting. Motion **passed** (5-0).

ATTEST:



Rebecca Olness, Mayor



Rachel Pitzel, Deputy City Clerk