

BLACK DIAMOND CITY COUNCIL

WORK SESSION MINUTES

October 13, 2016

Council Chamber, 25510 Lawson Street, Black Diamond, Washington

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE:

Mayor Benson called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led us all in the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Councilmembers Deady, Edelman, Weber, Morgan and Pepper.

ABSENT: None

Staff present: Andy Williamson, MDRT/Ec Dev/Interim Community Development Director, May Miller, Finance Director, and Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk.

WORK SESSION:

Mayor Benson welcomed everyone and introduced Finance Director Miller to discuss property tax.

1) Discussion on Property Tax

Finance Director Miller reported that Washington State has more RCW's and rules than most states. She reported on requirements and timelines and rules pertaining to percent of increase for taxes. She discussed the requirements for cities under 10,000 and rules that govern how those are figured out with the inflation factor.

She reported on the budget for Black Diamond for year 2017 and shared a graph that showed historical information from 2011 to 2017 estimate.

Points and topics of discussion:

- ❖ Washington uses the one percent measurement.
- ❖ Public Safety revenue estimate of taxes that will be collected for year 2017.
- ❖ Expenditures for the Police budget.
- ❖ How Public Safety is funded from the property tax dollars received in addition to other fees and taxes the City receives.

- ❖ In addition to the one percent, new homes that are completed, the city will get an estimate of construction value.
- ❖ Governments and schools are exempt from paying property tax.
- ❖ Most increases in property tax bills are due to school and fire districts.
- ❖ Black Diamond's levy rate.
- ❖ Potential levy for Black Diamond. How the levy will be adjusted down by King County to the actual amounts, but cannot be increased.


Mayor Benson shared that next year, this will be going to legislature to change the property tax with a ceiling of five percent to raise property tax for citizens in the city. If cost of living goes up five percent, we can raise the property tax rate by five percent. She further reported that you cannot collect more than you need for public safety.

ADJOURNMENT:

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Edelman and **seconded** by Councilmember Deady to adjourn the meeting. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (5-0).

The meeting ended at 6:37 p.m.

ATTEST:



Carol Benson, Mayor



Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk

BLACK DIAMOND TOWN HALL COUNCIL MINUTES

OCTOBER 13, 2016

Council Chamber, 25510 Lawson Street, Black Diamond, Washington

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE:

Mayor Benson called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and lead us all in the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Councilmembers Deady, Morgan, Weber, Pepper, and Edelman (Councilmember Edelman was not present during roll call and entered the meeting at 7:01 p.m.)

ABSENT: None

Staff present: Andrew Williamson, MDRT/Economic Development; May Miller, Finance Director and Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk.

Mayor Benson stated the rules for tonight's meeting and noted that Councilmember Edelman will be late.

Councilmember Edelman entered the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Robbin Taylor, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Bob Edelman, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Judy Goodwin, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Johna Thomson, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Mitch, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Melissa Olsbee, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Judy Baxley, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Bill Roth, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Kristin Bryant, Bellevue spoke to Council.

Patrick Nelson, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Keith Watson, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Brock Deady, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Joe May, Unincorporated King County spoke to Council.

Sam Curley, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

Judith Carrier, Auburn spoke to Council.

There was Council discussion back and forth with the public.

Mayor Benson shared her vision of having regular Committee meetings, regular Council meetings and being able to vote on City business and everyone getting along. She also reported that the City Attorney is here to protect the City from getting into legal trouble.


Councilmembers shared dialogs about visions they have moving forward and doing the right thing for the citizens and for the future of the City.

Councilmembers also shared what type of respective volunteer work they do when asked if they volunteer in their community.


ADJOURNMENT:

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Edelman and **seconded** by Councilmember Deady to adjourn the meeting. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (5-0).

ATTEST:



Carol Benson, Mayor



Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk