

**BLACK DIAMOND CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
October 8, 2020
Virtual Meeting Via Zoom**

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE:

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

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Councilmembers Deady, Oglesbee, Wisnoski, Stout, de Leon, O'Donnell, and Paige

ABSENT: None

Staff present: Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk/HR Manager

WORK SESSION:

1) Continued Discussion Regarding Establishing the City of Black Diamond as a Welcoming and Inclusive Community

Councilmembers continued their discussion on the welcoming and inclusion statement prepared by the Council Committee consisting of Councilmembers de Leon, Wisnoski, and Stout.

Following are the highlights/topics of discussion:

Councilmember O'Donnell shared that what he saw was more of a statement rather than a proclamation. He talked about the verbiage usually seen in proclamations.

Councilmember Deady thought the committee did a good job and gave kudos to Councilmember O'Donnell for jumping in. She noted liking the format by Councilmember O'Donnell as it was much smoother to read. She added the statement by the committee felt a little heavy and repetitive.

Councilmember Stout noted working hard on this and the Committee using notes provided by Councilmember de Leon from the last session. She commented on this being a brainstorm vision. She noted that it may be heavy and repetitive in sections and the Committee paid a lot of attention to not leave anyone out. She added that this is a hot topic in our region and across the county and many organizations have adopted one. She touched on a misunderstanding

they ran into through this process with a citizen. She shared that the Committee did not approach this lightheartedly and the committee members worked in harmony and wanted it to be a little less formal so that it was readable for the average citizen with the hopes to post it around the city and make it a printable document.

Councilmember de Leon shared that this was a lot of work done in good faith and looks forward to hearing from citizens in the Town Hall meeting that follows. She discussed the comments on the level of formality and noted that we will be possibly be doing that once this is formalized regarding what we are saying. She commented on looking at different municipalities proclamations and what other have produced. She noted some are around certain events, and hopes our message is that we are in this time and that these are our values. This is intended to be a landing document and a tool the community can use moving forward.

Councilmember Wisnoski noted liking the history piece and commented that the committee talked about that and noted he would like to see that included as the heritage piece. He pointed out that committee steered away from political affiliations, so they used philosophical values. He added that the committee was purposely repetitive to spell it out to say how we would do it and then reaffirm it. He hopes after hearing from the public they can meld the two documents. One of the drives is for it to be more of a conversation and it needs to live on in the city to build a community. He stated the committee wanted to set it up to not only say these are our thoughts the last paragraph says this is how we want to run the city and that everyone feels welcome in our community. He expressed this is for Black Diamond and it needs to be the voice of our community. He also noted the committee working really well together.

Councilmember Oglesbee noted she does like the history portion in Councilmember O'Donnell's version. She stated the committee did a great job and it's a beautiful statement. She agreed with Councilmember Deady it was a little heavy and repetitive and noted it was easier to read Councilmember O'Donnell's version and hopes we can blend the two documents. She commented that both sound great and is happy with the results.

Councilmember de Leon noted this statement can be fine-tuned regarding formatting. She commented on the discussion about adding a history part to the statement and the need to be careful on how it is put as no city has a perfect past. She inquired as to what the history would like.

Councilmember Deady commented that she likes the format with the whereas statements as it grabs the attention of the reader; the other format is just a lot of words. She noted this is a good start and before the end of tonight's meeting she would like to have consensus on which format to use and hearing from the public on what they think. She noted disagreeing with Councilmember de Leon about our heritage message and doesn't want to exclude that. We encourage people to go to the museum and learn about our history.

Councilmember O'Donnell commented on watching the YouTube video on the history of Black Diamond over the weekend. He noted that together many built this town, and to not mention

our history would be disrespectful – we need to say something, so we are honoring our heritage.

Councilmember de Leon commented that the point is well taken when talking about those philosophical values. Going back to parts about heritage and history she again wondered what that would look like. She added that if Council chooses to explore the history, they do have to be open to having those vulnerable conversation and expressed the need to do justice in exploring that and what it means. She brought up the discussion that was had on what is the purpose of the city and how things can be done with this document to have accountability. She gave the example of opportunity and what does that mean. She shared that good questions have been raised tonight.

Councilmember Stout discussed why they should use a proclamation versus a resolution; a proclamation is the Council's statement. She noted having a few words she would like to preserve and hopes we can get this done quickly. She noted she is happy to do more work with the committee on this.

Councilmember Deady stated she was hoping to have some idea of where we are going and doesn't feel that is going to happen at tonight's meeting. She inquired on what the next steps will be.

Councilmember Wisnoski suggested the committee take Councilmember O'Donnell's and the Committee's version and bring them together, along with incorporating any feedback heard from the public over the next few days.

Councilmember de Leon explained that she envisions seeing the Committee address some of the issues discussed tonight and noted the deadline that was discussed at an earlier meeting was around the end of November for adoption by Council.

Councilmember O'Donnell stated that he did a "clear eyes review" and would be happy to send that out to Councilmembers for their consideration. He also spoke about the unintended consequences of some of the words in the statement.

Councilmember Paige thinks several of the Councilmembers touched on this and noted the phrase that resonates is paralysis by analysis - we need to make a statement and just say something.

In closing, Mayor Benson suggested that Councilmember O'Donnell send out his version to the City Clerk who will disseminate to the Councilmembers and the committee can get together and work on the statement for adoption in November.

2) Discussion on Boating Regulations

There was a discussion on issues regarding safety on Lake Sawyer and what can be done.

The following were the highlights/topics of discussion.

- Councilmember Paige discussed safety on the lake and the lack of enforcement. He shared that people are driving the wrong way and crossing over other people's boat paths and the volume of boats on the lake is creating an unsafe environment. Councilmember Paige noted living on the lake and there are days he would not go out in his boat as there are too many boats, and the waves being thrown off by some boats.
- Mayor Benson discussed limiting boats on the lake is not reasonable. She suggested that the City could limit wake surfing and not have it every day. She commented that we have to understand we can have rules for when jet skis can be on the lake and we need to think about how we want to do that.
- Councilmember Paige stated that we need to break it down into safety and non-safety issues. He noted suggesting several times to look at what other lakes are doing and restrictions they impose. He stressed that we need to make this lake safe and does want it to still be fun. As a general conversation he noted that we are not going to have less people on the lake; we will have more year after year. He stated that we are not Lake Washington and have a limited amount of space and need to decide how to equitably do that.
- Councilmember Deady asked about contacting the Community Club and sending out a questionnaire to the residents that the Council is looking at changes and get this out to them to get feedback.
- Mayor Benson suggested that we need to come up with a list of things we would like to do or change and noted it being a great idea to go through the Community Club.

ADJOURNMENT:

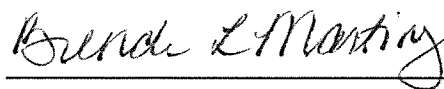
Councilmember Deady **moved** to adjourn the meeting; **second** by Councilmember Oglesbee. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (7-0).

The meeting ended at 6:59 p.m.

ATTEST:



Carol Benson, Mayor



Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk

**BLACK DIAMOND CITY COUNCIL
TOWN HALL MINUTES
October 8, 2020
Virtual Meeting Via Zoom**

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE:

Mayor Benson called the regular Town Hall 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, O'Donnell, and Paige.

ABSENT: None

Staff present: Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk.

Mayor Benson welcomed everyone and announced that anyone wishing to address Council would have ten minutes to speak.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Kristen Bryant, Bellevue spoke to Council

Gary Davis, Black Diamond spoke to Council.

There was a discussion on school impact fees and what can be charged and the recently adopted ordinance is for the infill in the City.

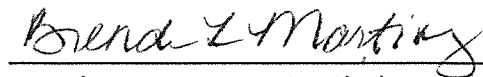
ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Deady **moved** to adjourn the meeting; **second** Councilmember Paige. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (7-0). The meeting ended at 7:20 p.m.

ATTEST:



Carol Benson, Mayor



Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk