



Mayor's Message

City Council Official
Mayor, Carol Benson

Councilmembers:

Tamie Deady
Melissa Oglesbee
Chris Wisnoski
Leih Mulvihill
Kristiana de Leon
Bernie O'Donnell
Debbie Page

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City Offices
will be closed on the
following days:

Thursday, November 11th
Thursday, November 25th
Friday, November 26th
Friday, December 24th
Friday, December 31st

Fall is definitely here! You can feel it in the evening and morning hours and see it in the trees that are starting to sport their fall colors. It seems like this year has been very busy for the city, not only with projects, but how we do business due to COVID-19. Below are some announcements, events, and updates that I'd like to share with you.

City Offices – I want to remind citizens that City offices are open to the public by appointment only. Customer service remains a top priority so please reach out to staff to schedule an appointment should you need assistance (360) 851-4500. If you are not comfortable with coming into the office, we remain committed to assisting you as best we can by phone or electronically.



Economic Hardship Assistance – ARPA Funding – For those who may be experiencing an economic hardship the City has received ARPA funding and a portion of those funds has been allocated for rent and utility assistance. Once again, the City has partnered with the Black Diamond Community Center to administer funds to residents experiencing an economic hardship. For more information regarding these funds or to apply please contact Cheryl Hanson at the Black Diamond Community Center at (360) 886-1011. Many thanks to the Black Diamond Community Center for administering these funds and helping those in need of assistance.

2022 Operating Budget - On November 2, I will be presenting to Council the 2022 Preliminary Budget. Staff and I have been busy working on this since July and my focus is to present a fiscally responsible budget that is responsive to the needs of the city. This is a very challenging balancing act and one I do not take lightly. We must exercise sound fiscal responsibility by budgeting for current needs all while preparing for the future as much as possible. You can read more about the budget process and dates for public hearings on page 3 of this newsletter.



Town Hall Meetings - Mark your calendar! On October 14, 2021, the city will be holding a virtual Town Hall meeting at 7:00 p.m. Town Hall meetings are held twice a year on the second Thursday in the months of March and October. I encourage you to please join this meeting to talk with your Councilmembers on any concern, issue, or questions you may have.



Dedication of Keith Watson Park at Ten Trails – Long-time resident Keith Watson is being honored by Ten Trails by naming a park after him. The dedication ceremony took place on September 18. For those who don't know Keith, he has volunteered many hours for our community events in the city and is involved at the Community Center and Historical Society.

thank you!

Labor Days – Welcome Back – Parade – It was so nice to see everyone at this event. This year's theme was "Welcome Back". Although attendance was a bit down compared to past years, it was a big success. There were many activities ranging from doggie days, the pie baking contest, field games, and vendor booths for all ages to enjoy! On Monday, many people lined the streets to enjoy the parade and the weather was great! If you couldn't come this year, please mark your calendar for next year, it's a fun event for the whole family.

Bike Rodeo – On Saturday, September 4 the City held a bike rodeo event near the Welcome Center at Ten Trails. It was a huge success with 96 participants and 200+ families in attendance. I want to thank all the volunteers who helped with this event and Stg. Sharif of the Black Diamond Police Department - this event couldn't have happened without each and every one of you.

In closing, should you have any concerns or questions I encourage you to reach out to me, your Councilmembers, or city staff.

Stay safe and healthy,
Mayor Carol Benson



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEWS

The city is updating our Parks, Recreation & Open Space (PROS) Plan. Citizens are invited to attend an upcoming public meeting at the Community Gym on October 5th at 7:00 pm. This is an opportunity for our community to come share their ideas on how we can best serve our citizen's recreational needs. Please reach out to Mona Davis in Community Development with any questions. We hope to see you there!

We are continuing to partner with Grindline to design the skatepark and incorporate survey comments into the design options. It was great to meet many of our youth at the Labor Day event to capture the excitement in their voices, as well as their ideas for what they envision in the new skatepark!

Check out the new thermometer installed out at the skatepark site to show our progress with fundraising efforts. More information can be found on our website to know how to donate.



The City is partnering with the Port of Seattle to encourage local residents and tourists to explore the outdoors and support small businesses in the downtown core by creating an outdoor seating area for dining and gathering. The City is working to improve the small parcel of property between the Museum and Bakery as a small park. You will soon be seeing new tables and a message center on this site. Please take time to provide comments from the QR code at the message center this October to share your thoughts on the newly created space and offer suggestions for other amenities.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

All City departments have been busy preparing the City's annual operating budget for 2022. 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 city residents receive. During August and September the Finance Department updated 2022 revenue forecasts for the General Fund and other funds using 2021 trends, growth projections and forecast information provided by Municipal Research and Services Center and other agencies.

An update on 2022 budgeted revenue and expenditure trends was reviewed with Council at a work study on September 30th. A summary of proposed 2022 budget totals for all city funds was also presented. Other work studies are scheduled for Council on October 21st and 28th in the Council Chambers.

Public hearings are scheduled for November 4th, 18th and 30th. Public input is always welcomed and encouraged. See the budget calendar to the right, and stay up to date at the City's website www.blackdiamondwa.gov or contact the Finance Department at (360) 851-4500 for any questions you may have.

City Budget Calendar for Fiscal Year 2022

Dates of Future Meetings	City 2022 Planning and Budget Calendar
10/21/2021 – 5:30 pm Special Council Meeting	Work study on the General Fund
10/28/2021 – 5:30 pm Special Council Meeting	Work study of Public Works and Capital Projects, Misc. budgets
11/04/2021 - 6:00 pm Special Council Meeting	Work study of Revenue Sources and Property Tax Levy
11/04/2021 - 7:00 pm Regular Council Meeting	1st Public Hearing on revenue sources & Property Tax Levy
11/18/2021 - 7:00 pm Regular Council Meeting	2nd Public Hearing on the 2022 Budget
11/18/2021 - 7:00 pm Regular Council Meeting	Adopt Property Tax Ordinances
11/30/2021 - 7:00 pm Special Council Meeting	Final Public Hearing on the 2022 Budget
11/30/2021 - 7:00 pm Special Council Meeting	Adoption of the 2022 Budget

Stormwater Education – Fertilizers

As many of us prepare our yards for the winter, we may look to find the best fertilizer and lawn treatments to get our yards through the winter and ready for the spring. As you look to purchase fertilizers, you may notice the bags have numbers on the front, something like: 10-20-10. What does that even mean? It's not a math problem (but if it was, the answer would be negative 20).

Actually, these numbers represent percentages by weight in the bag. The first number is the percentage of available nitrogen (N), the middle number is phosphorus (P), and last is potassium (K). So a 50 pound bag of fertilizer with 10-20-10 on the front would be made up of 5 pounds of nitrogen, 10 pounds of phosphorus, and 5 pounds of potassium (10% of 50 pounds each). The remaining 30 pounds would be filler (usually sand and/or granular limestone).

So now we know what the numbers mean, but what does that mean for our yard and the environment? All three elements have their benefits. Nitrogen

helps with plant growth and leaf development; phosphorus helps with root growth and the creation of fruit, seeds, and flowers; and potassium aids root development and helps plants resist drought and disease. Of course, if we do more than is needed, we cause more harm than good to our yard. Consequently, too much can affect the surrounding environment. We hear a lot about phosphorus here in Black Diamond and the negative impact it has on waterways (where there's algae, there's usually too much phosphorus). If we do what we can to prevent these nutrients from leaching out from our yards, we can help protect our waterways.



This leads to the question, how much of each nutrient do I need for my yard? The King Conservation District has a soil testing program which allows each resident in the District Service Area (which includes Black Diamond) to receive five free basic soil nutrient tests (<http://kingcd.org/programs-farm-management-soil-testing.htm>). The District will provide a report specific to your yard detailing the nutrients that are in the ground and amendments you may need to make to your soil to enrich it and balance out the pH levels (pH means potential hydrogen). The report will also give suggestions as to how you can offset nutrients your yard may have too much of. As you use this report, you can look at the numbers on the fertilizer bags to determine how much of each nutrient you actually need, which will help your yard, the surrounding environment, and your budget as you only buy what you need. And as always, be sure to read the directions on the package before applying any fertilizers or chemicals.



POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS



- Check your tires and make sure your chains fit before the first winter storm and check tire pressure during cold weather. Remember, tire shops and mechanics are busiest just before and during winter storms.
- Get a vehicle winter maintenance check-up. Don't wait to check your battery, belts, hoses, radiator, lights, brakes, heater/defroster and wipers.
- Keep your fuel tank full. Don't let it fall below half a tank on winter trips.
- Program your radio for traffic reports and emergency messages (for WSDOT radio: 530 and 1610 AM).
- If you find yourself stranded, be safe, stay in your car, put on your flashers, call for help and wait until it arrives.

See more winter preparedness tips at [Take Winter By Storm](#) website.





Council/Commission/Committee Meetings

Monthly meetings for City Council are held the first and third Thursday of each month at 7 pm Work Sessions are held the second Thursday of each month at 6 pm Planning Commission meetings are held on the first Tuesday after the first Council meeting at 6 pm of each month.

Please contact the Clerk's office for more information at

360-851-4564 or check the City's webpage at:

www.blackdiamondwa.gov/home/pages/minutes-agendas.

If you'd like to be added to the Agenda Distribution List for the

City Council and/or Planning Commission,

please email your request to: info@blackdiamondwa.gov.

Typically meetings are held in the Council Chambers located at

25510 Lawson Street unless otherwise specified.

However, all meetings will be held via ZOOM until further notice.

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Oct. 7th @ 7 pm (Regular)

Oct. 14th @ 6 pm (Work Session)

Oct. 14th @ 7 pm (Town Hall)

Oct. 21st @ 5:30 pm (Special Mtg.)

Oct. 21st @ 7 pm (Regular)

Oct. 28th @ 5:30 pm (Special Mtg.)

Nov. 4th @ 6 pm (Special Mtg.)

Nov. 4th @ 7 pm (Regular)

Nov. 11th @ 6 pm (Work Session)

Nov. 18th @ 7 pm (Regular)

Nov. 30th @ 7 pm (Special Mtg.)

Dec. 2nd @ 7 pm (Regular)

Dec. 9th @ 6 pm (Work Session)

Dec. 16th @ 7 pm (Regular)



Administration

Mayor Carol Benson

City Clerk/HR Manager

Brenda L. Martinez, MMC

Community

Development

Mona Davis

MDRT/Economic

Development

Andrew Williamson

Public Works

Seth Boettcher

Finance

Mayene Miller

Police

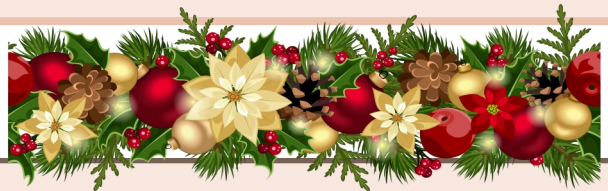
Chief Jamey Kiblinger

NEWLY ADDED ORDINANCES

21-1162 - Authorizing the acceptance of CoronaVirus local fiscal recovery funds from the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

21-1163 - Amending section 18.100.655 of the Black Diamond Municipal Code relating to Senior Housing.

21-1164 - Amending the 2021 Salary Schedule as adopted by Ordinance No. 21-1161 to create and fund a Communications and Information Services/Admin. Support Technician 1 Position and fund an Additional Senior Accountant Position.



CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND

CITY HALL

(Admin., Public Works, Comm. Devel. and MDRT/Econ. Devel.)

Physical Address.....24301 Roberts Dr.

Mailing Address..... P.O. Box 599

Phone Numbers: Main Line.....360-851-4500

Comm. Devel.....360-851-4447

MDRT/Econ. Devel....360-851-4448

Public Works.....360-851-4446

For any Public Works emergencies, call the main line and use the prompts

Fax Number: (for all depts. listed above).....360-851-4501

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Physical Address.....25510 Lawson St.

Mailing Address P.O. Box 309

Phone Numbers (non-emergencies).360-851-4450

(EMERGENCIES).....911

Fax Number.....360-851-4451

MUNICIPAL COURT:

Physical & Mailing Address.....25510 Lawson St.

Phone Number.....360-851-4490

Fax Number.....360-851-4491

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Phone Number (non-emergencies)253-735-0284

(EMERGENCIES)911

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

Oct. 12th - 6 pm (Regular)

Oct. 26th @ 6 pm (Special)

Nov. 9th @ 6 pm (Regular)

Dec. 7th @ 6 pm (Regular)