

BLACK DIAMOND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Town Hall Meeting of November 14, 2013
Community Center, 31605 3rd Ave, Black Diamond, Washington

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE:

Mayor Olness called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and lead us all in the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL:

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

ABSENT: None.

Staff present: City Administrator, Mark Hoppen; Chip Hanson, IS Manager; Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk

Mayor Olness welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced that Cheryl Hanson, Community Center Director would like to discuss a few of the programs the Community Center has going.

Cheryl Hanson, Black Diamond Community Center Director discussed some of the programs the Community Center has going right now. She noted that for Senior Citizens the Center was able to supply them with batteries, flashlights, transistor radios, and also led rechargeable lights. She also discussed the Board's approval of the Enumclaw School district shut down schedule due to snow and the action plan the Community Center has put in place during emergencies. She further noted the holiday gift giving tree the Community Center sponsors for needy families in the community at Christmas and commented that seniors have signed up for heating pads, small portable heaters, and electric blankets. She discussed the five dollar dairy gifts cards that can be purchased at Cenex and the toothbrush program she does with surrounding dentists to be distributed to those in need.

Mayor Olness also added there will be a holiday tree at the Police Department, City Hall and other various areas. She also noted there will be a community hometown turkey dinner next Saturday at the elementary school and it is sponsored by the Kiwanis and PTA.

Public Comments

Vern Gibson, Black Diamond thanked Council, Mayor and staff for setting up these meetings as they are very important to the community.

Mira Hoke, Black Diamond discussed the downtown businesses hosting a “Hometown Christmas” this year in December and noted the festivities that will take place during this event.

Cheryl Hanson, discussed the tree lighting event on December 6th at 6:30 p.m. the Community Center. There will be pictures with Santa and cookies and hot chocolate will be provided. She also noted the Thanksgiving party on the 21st of November.

Johna Thomson, Black Diamond commented on the 2014 budget and urged Council to put their stipend back into the budget. She discussed the CFD and hopes that Council passes this so the fire station can be built earlier. She commented on a meeting that took place at the Eagles that was led by Senator Roach and was surprised that the Enumclaw School District or the City was not invited. She stated that the discussion at this meeting was about the how the Growth Management Act does not work; especially here in Black Diamond. She urged Council to work with the developer.

Councilmember Edelman noted this was not a City meeting and it was set up by Senator Roach and was a state meeting.

Councilmember Deady stated it was in the newspaper and she did attend the meeting and she doesn't understand the criticism the Eagles receives from holding these types of meetings.

Erika Morgan, Black Diamond offered herself as a test case in this situation and she noted she was not notified about this meeting, but read about it in the newspaper.

Megan Sheridan, Maple Valley invited folks to attend an event on the 23rd of November called Battle of the Bands.

Patrick Nelson, Black Diamond thanked Ginger Passarelli for all she does. He also commented on the CFD and touched on response times to the Lake Sawyer area residents vs. old town residents. He commented on the division in the city and noted there being no unity and hopes that eventually a more mature level of growth comes.

Ginger Passarelli, Black Diamond commented on spending the last nine days in Oregon City at a tragic incident. She noted serving over 2,000 meals in those nine days. She stated that they respond to so many heartbreaking incidents and asked that folks work on safety here in Black Diamond. She commented on receiving hate mail from folks saying that they will never come to her restaurant since she is a growth supporter. She also added that she is honored to do what she does, but is very concerned with all the hate that is going on in Black Diamond.


Bill Roth, Black Diamond spoke on the need for the second fire station. He discussed suffering a medical need earlier this year and the response time for the Fire Department was eight minutes and survival rates at the time diminish. He is concerned as the need is eminent and the City can't wait for the homes to be built to provide a second fire station.

Councilmember Taylor commented on fire protection and discussed the work the ad hoc committee has been doing with the fire district regarding what our fire service is and what it should be. He stated that things are coming together and they will be bringing this forward to the public when it is a little more put together. He also stated that his observation is that there is a legal separation between a preexisting service deficit and what a developer can be made to pay and this has to be taken into considerations. He also added that the fire station is not one of the projects on the CFD and it makes it a little more of a cloudy issue when considering the CFD, but the fact is we have a preexisting fire deficit going into the CFD.

Clark Davis, Black Diamond stated he is a business owner in Maple Valley and a potential business owner for Black Diamond and noted that being in the insurance industry he is aware there is already a deficit in fire LOS in Black Diamond and folks are spending more money for insurance because of the insurance rating.

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.



Rebecca Olness, Mayor



Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk