

**CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND
CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING / TOWN HALL MEETING MINUTES
March 13, 2014
Council Chamber, 25510 Lawson Street, Black Diamond, Washington**

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE:

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

ROLL CALL:

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

ABSENT: None.

Staff present were: Megan Ross, Police Officer; Christy Todd, City Administrator and Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk.

Mayor Gordon announced the first part of the agenda is for Council to conduct interviews for the two Planning Commission appointments by the Mayor.

Mayor Gordon called upon Mr. Weber to go first and asked Mr. Davis the other applicant to leave the room.

Council asked the following questions to each applicant individually:

1. Why do you want to serve on the Planning Commission?
2. What expertise would you bring to the Planning Commission?
3. The Planning Commission typically meets once a month; however, there are times when extra meetings are required. Would you be flexible with meeting outside the normal meeting schedule?
4. What knowledge of the functions of the City of Black Diamond and City Council do you have?
5. Are you familiar with BDMC 2.24, entitled the Planning Commission, and the Rules and Procedures of the Black Diamond Planning Commission?
6. What knowledge of zoning code do you have? And at what level is your understanding of zoning code amendments and Comprehensive Plan amendments?
7. Development and growth are big issues in this community. Please explain your ability to remain impartial as a Planning Commission member related to these issues.
8. Are you aware of what the Appearance of Fairness Doctrine is and what it means?

Mayor Gordon called upon Mr. Davis to enter the Chambers and asked Mr. Weber to leave the room.

Council asked the same questions as above to Mr. Davis.

Mayor Gordon announced that this concludes the interview of the Mayor's appointments to the Planning Commission.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Gordon announced an Executive Session at 7:17:57 p.m. pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant; possible final action to follow the Executive Session, which was expected to last approximately 21 minutes.

The special meeting was called back to order at 7:38:41 p.m.

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Morgan and **seconded** by Councilmember Edelman to confirm the Mayor's Planning Commission appointments of Gary Davis and Brain Weber to the vacant positions 6 and 7.

Councilmember Edelman noted not supporting the process that was done, had a process in place that was not followed. There was not a review of the applications by the Committee or were they given to the Council for review. The Planning Commission Chair has been out of the loop and even though she supports the resolution it is with some reservations, but these vacancies have to be filled. Furthermore, the Planning Commission and Community Service Committee which she is the Chair have revised the old selection procedures to include member of the Committee, the Mayor and the Chair of the Planning Commission. In the future applicants will be interviewed by this Committee as needed and a formal recommendation will be sent to the Mayor. He in turn will draft a resolution for confirmation by the Council.

Councilmember Deady agreed with Councilmember Edelman.

Councilmember Taylor agreed with Councilmember Edelman and has reservations with the process and not the applicants.

Councilmember Benson noted being in the interviews last year and did not support confirming those appointments and felt the new Mayor should have been involved in the process and was disappointed the new Mayor did not follow through on the process and hopes in the future that he will.

Vote: Motion **passed** voting in favor (4-1, Taylor).

Mayor Gordon announced the Town Hall meeting at 7:43:40 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Sam Calabrese, Black Diamond – addressed Council on the issue of recreational marijuana businesses and noted there being a lot more concerns with the retail side than what they are trying to do (producer-processor); confused about the moratorium on the City as there are only a handful of areas that are compliant with the 1,000 ft. buffers and one is the building they have acquired for rent. Asked why it would take an entire year to deal with this issue. He referred to his handout which was distributed to Council and noted what King County did and stated it gives Black Diamond something to hang their

hat on. He noted Mr. Williamson being very helpful to them; and stated they are open and are not trying to slam anything down anyone's throat and would like to work with the City on this issue. He asked if there was still going to be a committee formed to address this.

Councilmember Taylor applauded him on his entrepreneurship. Noted the Council chose the year-long moratorium with the understanding that should things be sorted out they could lift it. He thanked him for the information, but the City has to make sure the City navigates this moving target and finds all the pit falls.

Bill Roth, Black Diamond – commented on hearing the majority of the Councilmembers saying they did not like the process for the Planning commission and is disappointed that council still took action even though two wrongs don't make a right and believes others would be disappointed too. He asked the Mayor if Brian Weber was his campaign manager.

Mayor Gordon noted his campaign manager was Kristin Bryant and noted he also supported some of the Councilmember campaigns.

Brian Weber, Black Diamond – asked if the City has a listing of all the development that is going on in surrounding areas and how it will impact the developments that will be going on around her.

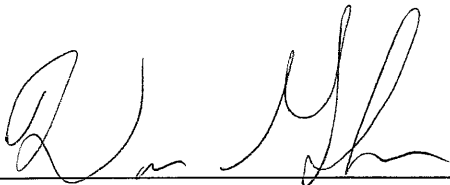
Mayor Gordon called upon the City Administrator.

City Administrator Todd noted she doubted the City has a list, the City needs to have a Comprehensive Plan and coordination process. The bigger the developments would be known to King County and is not aware what level the county pays attention to.

Councilmember Benson noted at the SEATs meeting a Covington Councilmember talked about trying to get a project list of the three cities so we could see what kind of issues will be from these projects and growth. They meet next month and will talk about this too and will try to get this list together.

Brian Weber, Black Diamond – thanked Bill Roth for bringing up the question as he was going to address tonight on the record that he was not Mayor Gordon's campaign manager as was stated in a recent newspaper article and is happy to clear it up.

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 7:57 p.m.



Dave Gordon, Mayor

ATTEST:



Rachel Pitzel, Deputy City Clerk