

**BLACK DIAMOND CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
November 14, 2019**

Council Chamber, 25510 Lawson Street, Black Diamond, Washington

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, Edelman, Stout, Wisnoski, and Paige.

ABSENT: Councilmembers Nelson (excused)

Staff present: May Miller, Finance Director; Chief Smith; and Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk.

Mayor Benson welcomed and introduced Finance Director Miller who would be leading the presentation.

WORK SESSION:

1) Discussion and Review of Sewer Rate Study

Finance Director Miller introduced Ashley Emery of Peninsula Financial Consulting and shared that Mr. Emery has provided rate study analysis for the City in the past.

Mr. Emery commented on being here a while ago regarding rate increases and taking a look at all three utilities. He noted the sewer utility is the only one that an increase is being proposed for. He noted that all three funds are not going to be reliant on growth as in the past; they have passed that critical phase. The main focus will be on the sewer and then briefly discuss the other utility funds. He reviewed with Council the financial forecast model and explained the assumptions in the model. He noted this will help the City plan for the future.

Mr. Emery and Council explored the sewer fund with growth and without and no rate increase and other scenarios and rate options to help the fund recover and become solvent.

Following the rate analysis scenarios Council was comfortable with the 15% increase in 2020, 10% increase in 2021, and 5% increase in 2022 and in 2023 adding an inflationary increase of 3% yearly.


Mr. Emery briefly reviewed the other utility funds with Council.

ADJOURNMENT:


Councilmember Edelman **moved** to adjourn the meeting; **second** by Councilmember Deady. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor (6-0).

The meeting ended at 7:50 p.m.

ATTEST:



Carol Benson, Mayor



Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk