

**BLACK DIAMOND CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
November 12, 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, and O'Donnell. (Councilmember Deady was not present during roll call and entered the meeting at 6:07 p.m.)

ABSENT: Paige (excused)

Staff present: Barbara Kincaid, Community Development Director; Mona Davis, Community Development Director; and Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk/HR Manager

WORK SESSION:

Mayor Benson welcomed everyone and asked Ms. Kincaid to introduce the City's new Community Development Director Mona Davis.

1) Discussion on Comprehensive Plan Amendment and Sensitive Areas Ordinance

Community Development Director Kincaid noted that this will be an information discussion and high-level overview of the comprehensive plan amendment – it will be a "why are we doing these amendments". She referred to RCW 36.70(a) and read excerpts from that. She reviewed what areas are in a comprehensive plan and what is required for cities. She shared that comprehensive plans need to be coordinated and consistent throughout with county-wide policies and goals and the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC). She noted the City is also required to have a sensitive areas ordinance under GMA. There is a legal requirement to update the comprehensive plan or review and take action, every 8 years. She noted there was a periodic update that was due in 2015 and that was completed in 2019; with the next periodic update coming in 4 years (2024). She noted this is the mandated periodic update. She explained the comprehensive plan is allowed to be amended once a year and the document coming forward will be our annual amendment. She explained the city needed to do this because Commerce and PSRC only partially certified the update, so this update is narrowly focused on those items from PSRC. She commented that the city was lagging behind in the process however, the good news is that the sensitive areas ordinance that is in place is in pretty

good shape and noted most changes are minor. The one major change to be compliant is to adopt the 2014 wetland rating systems as ours is 2004. It is proposed to add regulations for priority species and habitat program (PHS) which would be used for environmental reviews and also adding definitions that were missing as those are really important when trying to implement regulations.

Councilmember Deady entered the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

Director Kincaid further explained that the Comprehensive Plan Amendment had partial certification from Puget Sound Regional Council, and it needs full certification. She added that the rush to get this done before the end of year is that with full certification the City will be able to apply for federal grants. She also added that Council adopted the amendment docket. She then highlighted the changes to Chapters 3, 4, 5, and 7.

Director Kincaid explained the process that has taken place so far on the Sensitive Areas Ordinance. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on it and has a recommendation for the Council. They have also completed a work session on the Comprehensive Plan annual amendment and will be holding a public hearing on December 1st. The next step in the process will be on December 8th when the Planning Commissioners will deliberate and formulate a recommendation for Council consideration with possible adoption on December 17th.

Ms. Kincaid also shared that there is one more piece to the process, and that is bringing the development regulations and the zoning map into compliance with the plan.

There was discussion on what mechanisms are in place for working with the county on the population targets so we can have more accurate numbers and in-depth conversations. It was shared that the City is meeting and participating in the small city caucus. There was also discussion on what it means to have SR 169 designated as a state highway of state-wide significance.

Mayor Benson asked that anyone having questions, to please reach out to Barb before adoption on the 17th.

Director Kincaid once again reviewed the schedule moving forward and noted Council can accept the Planning Commission's recommendation, make minor changes, or hold public hearing on their own.

2) Discussion on 2021 Legislative Priorities

Mayor Benson noted the City usually has the same priorities as Maple Valley and Covington since we all use the same highways. She noted having a meeting with SEAL TC regarding Highway 18 and noted the committee from this group would be meeting with the legislators to figure out what the ask would be and will pass that along for our priority list. She commented on the program funding for highway 18 and noted there being a 60-million-dollar shortfall. She

stressed the importance that we all keep consistent on the language with Hwy 18 and suggested having a committee to work on that wording.

Mayor Benson also noted that the City will be taking off the culverts on the list as this is on the City's capital budget for a bridge, not culverts and will be funded by a grant from the Flood Control District.

Councilmember de Leon volunteered to be part of any conversation or meeting on the legislative agenda.

Councilmember Stout thanked Mayor Benson for doing the groundwork. She noted receiving versions from the cities of Covington and Maple Valley. She shared that historically this document has been used to hand out to our legislators and expressed that our one page is really a good thing as it narrows everything down with bullet points, and that is what the legislators want to see.

Councilmember Deady shared liking what's on the agenda and the fact that Maple Valley added in mental health funding to help residents and school districts and suggested to add that to our priority list. She also liked the newspaper of record regarding notification as it is time for a change, and have public notices be put online.

Councilmember Oglesbee agreed with Councilmember Deady on her suggestions.

Councilmember de Leon discussed the possibility of inviting legislators to make a presentation like King County Councilmember Dunn, as it might be good to pitch directly. She also agreed with the mental health component and a show of solidarity

ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting ended at 6:56 p.m.

ATTEST:



Carol Benson, Mayor



Brenda L. Martinez, City Clerk