From the Desk of our New Mayor, Dave Gordon...

I am honored to serve as your new Mayor. I would like to thank Rebecca Olness for her years of service to our city as Mayor and Councilmember. After the long and tough campaign for this election, I would like to personally assure her supporters that everyone will be welcome under my administration. As your Mayor, I bring years of management experience in small and big business. This massive development has broken our community into many groups. It’s time for all sides to come together for the common goal of what’s best for our city. I am going to work closely with our Council and we will listen to the people. Together we will make data driven decisions. I would also like to thank Craig Goodwin for his years of service on our Council and welcome Erika Morgan to the Council. Let us dare not forget who we are as we grow our city. I see a tough course ahead, but a bright future. The future, my fellow citizens, rest in your hands.

--Dave Gordon, Mayor

A farewell message from Mayor Olness...

It has been my privilege to serve the citizens of Black Diamond for the past eight years, four as a Council Member and the last four as Mayor. I will always treasure the friendships and opportunities I have had by being your Mayor. We have faced many difficult challenges and obstacles and I am proud that in every case, the welfare of the City has always been my top priority.

With the breaking of ground on The Villages property, a new era is beginning for Black Diamond. Although some still oppose it, I truly believe that growth is the only way our City will survive. I am confident that staff and the new administration will continue to monitor the Conditions of Approval and...
Mayor Olness... (cont’d from front)

the Development Agreement until the project is completed.

I will always be grateful to City Staff for their expertise and loyalty. I consider them all friends. Coming to the end of my term is a bit like sending your youngest child out into the world. Although things will never be the same, I will continue to care and worry about the City of Black Diamond and the staff.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Mayor.

Rebecca Olness

Business News >>> Business License Renewals...

The City of Black Diamond has approximately 395 businesses that operate in the City throughout the calendar year. These include retail stores, restaurants, real estate agents, hair salons, daycares, construction firms and more. Some of these businesses have storefronts here in Black Diamond, others are home occupations, and still more perform frequent business in Black Diamond but have offices elsewhere.

The Black Diamond Municipal Code 2.58 requires businesses operating in the City of Black Diamond have a current license. The license helps ensure all businesses have acquired the appropriate state licenses and permits, adhere to the zoning guidelines, conform to all building codes, and meet safety requirements. Most businesses are characterized as regular licenses, but the City also has some specialty licenses for pawnbrokers, carnivals, adult entertainment, firearms, solicitors/mobile vendors and utility licenses. Some businesses may require more than one type of license.

Solicitors are required to obtain their license before contacting the public. Background checks are performed on every solicitor operating in Black Diamond. If they are not able to produce a copy of the solicitor license upon request, they are not approved to solicit within City limits.

Business license permitting fees are based on the type of business, location and period of operation. The majority of Black Diamond businesses are classified as regular, which are $70 new and renew at $60 annually. Renewal forms were sent out in mid-December. Renewals not postmarked by January 31st, 2014 will be assessed a $10 late fee. Late fees will continue to assess monthly if licenses fees are not paid. Anyone not renewed by May 1, 2014 will be sent to a collection agency for unpaid fees. If your business has closed or no longer is working in Black Diamond please return the renewal form with that information written on the form. The City will cancel the license.

If you have any questions, please contact the City at 360-886-5700. We would like this process to be as simple as possible. Please remember to sign and return the renewal form and enclose all payment. Checks should be made out to the City of Black Diamond.

Police Department >>> BDPD Brings Back Reserve Program and Welcomes 3 New Officers

The Black Diamond Reserve Program is comprised of community members who volunteer their time to fulfill many of the roles handled by full-time sworn police officers. Reserve officers receive the same training as full-time officers and work alongside them in every aspect of Department operations. They are often referred to as the ‘ultimate volunteer.’

Reserve Police Officers complete an extensive academy (approximately 330 hours of police related training) and are certified by the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission. They have passed a rigorous testing and selection process that included several interviews, an extensive background investigation, psychological test, medical test, and polygraph. They are required to volunteer a minimum of 20 hours per month. This takes a significant investment of their time.

Nine applications were received and three were appointed. They begin the reserve police academy January 2nd and will graduate May 15th. We are fortunate to have found three outstanding applicants who truly want to make a difference in our community.
Finance Department >>> Council Adopts 2014 Budget...

On December 12, 2013, Council adopted the budget for 2014. Council began deliberations on the budget at workstudy meetings in August, October and December 5, 2013. Two public hearings were held in November and a final public hearing December 2, 2013.

The total 2014 budget of $12,244,688 decreased by $590,075 or 5% from 2013. The budget includes funds for Public Safety, General Government as well as Street, Water, Sewer, Stormwater and Capital Project funds. New Capital projects for 2014 include TIB Grants received for the Rock Creek Bridge Project, and the Lawson Street Sidewalk Project as well as a DOE Grant for a Stormwater Treatment pond.

Ordinance #13-1018 adopting the 2014 Budget is available on the city website. An updated 2014 Budget Document will be available by January 17, 2014.

Check out our Emergency Management page on the website at www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us/emerg_manag there you will find tons of resources to help you plan and prepare to help you and your loved ones get through a disaster.

Recently Adopted Ordinances

★ Ordinance No. 13-1014 - Amending BDMC 10.16.050 Impound Hearing
★ Ordinance No. 13-1015 & 1015A - Setting 2014 Property Tax Levy and 1% Tax Increase
★ Ordinance No. 13-1016 - 2013 Budget Amendment
★ Ordinance No. 13-1017 - Official City Newspaper - Voice of the Valley
★ Ordinance No. 13-1018 - Adopting 2014 Budget

Emergency Management >>>

6 out of 10 American Households Do Not Have a Family Emergency Plan

As the New Year approaches, FEMA is reminding Americans to Resolve to be Ready in 2014. Taking simple steps to prepare now can make all the difference in the event of an emergency. Disasters can occur without warning and each and every family member needs to know what to do in case one does. Ready.gov/kids has all the info you need to start the conversation with your family including age-appropriate materials, template communications plans, emergency kit checklists and disaster fact sheets.

This New Year, make sure every member of your family knows:
• Who to call
• Where to meet
• What to pack

By making a resolution to take a few simple steps to prepare in advance, you can minimize the impact an emergency could have on your family, home or community. For more information visit Ready.gov/prepared2014 or follow Facebook and Twitter @Readygov, for more information on the Ready campaign’s privacy policies, visit Ready.gov/prepared2014.
Mr. Ashley M. Emery, owner of Peninsula Financial consulting was approved in 2013 to conduct utility rate studies for the City’s Water, Sewer and Stormwater utilities. Each utility fund is required to set rates needed to cover its own maintenance and operating costs, debt service as well as Capital Improvements. Council held workstudy meetings and reviewed the six year forecast with a variety of needed rate increase. On June 20, 2013 a Public Hearing was held regarding potential rate increases. July 11, 2013 Council adopted Ordinance No. 13-1006 to increase water rates and Ordinance No. 13-1008 to increase Stormwater rates. On August 1, 2013 Council adopted Ordinance No. 13-1007 increasing the City share of Sewer rates. The Metro portion of the Sewer rate did not increase. Following is a schedule of the minimum base January 1, 2014 rate increases.

### Fund | Old Base Rate | New Base Rate | Monthly Increase
--- | --- | --- | ---
Water | 26.94 | 30.98 | 4.04
Sewer-City | 19.16 | 19.52 | 0.36
Sewer-Metro | 39.79 | 39.79 | 0.00
Stormwater | 14.00 | 16.00 | 2.00
Total | 99.89 | 106.29 | 6.40

Water consumption rates increase 15% and are added to water invoices based on the amount of consumption. Following are the January 1, 2014 water consumption increases - the rate increases are effective January 1, 2014 and will be invoiced at the end of January 2014 with payments due February 2014.

### # Cubic Feet | Old Rate | New Rate | Increase
--- | --- | --- | ---
0-600 ft. | 2.09 | 2.40 | 0.31
601-1200 Ft. | 2.40 | 2.76 | 0.36
Over 1200 ft. | 2.76 | 3.17 | 0.41

Lifeline rates for City share rates are available to low-income or disabled utility customers at 50% of the listed city rates. Applications are posted on the city website [www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us](http://www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us). All rates are posted on the same website.

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### Public Works - Secures Over $1.1 Million in Grants...

In 2013, the Black Diamond Public Works Department has secured $1,133,691 in grants from various agencies for several projects. These grants will prove to be a great benefit to Black Diamond residents and are as follows:

**Downtown AC Water Main Replacement and Looping Project ($225,000)**

The Public Works Department secured a Community Development Block Grant from the King County Housing & Community Development Program in the amount of $225,000. This project will replace approximately 750’ of 6-inch asbestos water main with 8-inch ductile iron water main, extend the 8-inch main on First Ave. to complete a loop and eliminate a dead end to increase fire flow and water quality, and will replace approximately 350’ of 1.25-inch iron pipe and loop the line to Park St. or Miner St.

**North Commercial and SR 169 Stormwater Treatment Facility ($120,000)**

The Public Works Department secured a design grant from the Washington State Department of Ecology for the design of the North Commercial and SR 169 Stormwater Treatment Facility. The design of this project will set the City up for potential construction grants. This City Council prioritized project will address the stormwater discharge in this area that has been characterized by carrying heavy loads of pollutants by conveying stormwater from SR 169 north of Roberts Drive to a City-owned parcel on Roberts Drive for treatment.
The City of Black Diamond must deal with stormwater differently in eastern half of the City than the west. The eastern half of the City has soils with more clay and underlying impervious layers which produce more runoff that must be conveyed to a discharge point. The western half of the City is primarily permeable gravels producing much smaller amounts of runoff but the home and road runoff must still be dealt with. Road runoff in the western portion of the City primarily infiltrates at the side of the road. But some runoff still collects at local low spots where the storm water flows to subsurface trenches where it infiltrates into the ground. City routinely vacuums out the fir needles, sand and silt out of these facilities to restore some of the infiltrative capacity.

Recently the City received a service request about nuisance flooding from an area in the western gravel area. (see photo) As more and more residents pave their driveways and gravel the shoulder of the road for parking or other needs more stormwater runoff is created. Additionally building up the gravel on the side of the road does not allow the stormwater to flow off of the street and infiltrate locally. The stormwater then tends drains along the side of the road to the lowest spot, concentrating the runoff to one location as shown in the photo. In this instance, the City’s existing storm infiltration trench was too small to handle the runoff of the surrounding area. The City was able to remove two trees and lower the grade on the side of the road to provide a larger infiltration area and exposed the underlying gravel to increase the infiltrative capacity.

How can residents help?

- Check with the City before gravelling the edge of the road. Filling in areas where water is ponding may be making the problem worse for you or your neighbors.
- Keep low areas that accept runoff on your property clear of accumulated needles and organics so that infiltrative capacity is maintained.
- Call the City at 360-886-5713 regarding local flooding issues. The City cannot help with private flooding problems, but may be able to assist with road runoff issues.

The City requires that new homes and reconstruction install private infiltration systems. Residents can also voluntarily direct their roof runoff to private infiltration systems or to areas where the runoff can infiltrate rather than discharge runoff toward the street or to surface water bodies.

Grants - continued from page 4

**Fiscal Year 2013-2015 Stormwater Capacity Grant ($50,000)**
The City received this Capacity Grant from the Washington State Department of Ecology to help implement the City’s Stormwater Management Program. These funds will help with the maintenance of the City’s stormwater system.

**Lawson Creek Sidewalk, Phase I ($264,691)**
The Public Works Department was awarded a Small City Sidewalk Program grant from the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board to construct a sidewalk on Lawson Street from SR 169 to 6th Avenue. The ultimate goal is to connect this sidewalk to Newcastle Dr. Public Works staff is hopeful to complete design and construction in 2014.

**Rock Creek Bridge ($474,000)**
The Public Works Department was awarded a Small City Arterials Program grant from the Transportation Improvement Board for improvements to the Rock Creek Bridge on Roberts Drive. Along with improving the bridge, sidewalk will be installed from 100’ west of the bridge to the Eagle Creek neighborhood (including pedestrian crossing at the bridge). Also included will be approximately 640’ of asphalt overlay on Roberts Drive. Along with the grant, YarrowBay has committed $46,000 to this project.
Monthly meetings for City Council are held the first and third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. Town Hall Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. Planning Commission meetings are held on the first Tuesday after the first Council meeting at 7 p.m. of each month (unless otherwise noted). Please contact the Clerks office for more information (360)886-5700 or check out the City Clerks webpage at www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us/Depts/Clerk to view meeting materials.

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS
25510 LAWSON STREET
JAN  2 -  7 p.m.
JAN  9 (Town Hall Meeting @ BDCC)
JAN 16 -  7 p.m.
FEB  6 -  7 p.m.
FEB 13 (Town Hall Meeting @ BDCC)
FEB 20 -  7 p.m.

COUNCIL WORKSTUDIES
25510 LAWSON STREET
JAN 30 -

PLANNING COMMISSION
25510 LAWSON STREET
JAN  7 -  7 p.m.
FEB 11 -  7 p.m.

FINANCE/BUDGET COMMITTEE
24301 ROBERTS DRIVE
JAN  9 and JAN 30 -  9 a.m.
FEB 13 and FEB 27 -  9 a.m.

PARKS/CEMETERY COMMITTEE
24301 ROBERTS DRIVE
JAN 16 - 10 a.m.
FEB 20 - 10 a.m.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
24301 ROBERTS DRIVE
Dates to be determined

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
24301 ROBERTS DRIVE
Dates to be determined

PLANNING/COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE
24301 ROBERTS DRIVE
Dates to be determined

ALL COUNCIL/COMMISSION MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. ALL COMMITTEE MEETINGS ARE TENTATIVE AND HELD IN THE PUBLIC WORKS CONFERENCE ROOM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ON THE AGENDA. CHECK WEBSITE FOR ANY CHANGES.