

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

## City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, January 6, 2015

### CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Pro-Tem Strom called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmembers Hodo, Jones, Martin, and Palmer. Also present were Chief Casey, Public Works Director Light, and Clerk Stowe.

### AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Hodo moved to accept the agenda as amended and with a second by both Councilmembers Palmer and Martin, the motion carried.

### MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Pro-Tem Strom commented on all the rain and high water.

### STAFF REPORT

Director Light said the city fared well during the recent storm.

Chief Casey talked about a cabin that went into Wallace River. He also distributed the Sheriff's report.

### COUNCIL COMMENTS - none

### CITIZEN COMMENTS

Bobby Stillwater talked about drainage issues at his property. It was suggested he document the issues.

### OLD BUSINESS - None

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Water Comprehensive Plan. Bill Reynolds with Pace Engineering discussed the draft plan. He reviewed the summary, which was given, along with the draft plan, to each councilmember. Topics included rate studies, levels of service, capacity, pumping rates, water rights, storage, mapping, capital improvements, future needs, water main replacements, restructuring rates, the Department of Health adoption requirements, and the need for a public hearing before final adoption.

With no further discussion, Councilmember Hodo moved to approve the draft contingent on final Health Department comments. With a second by Palmer the motion carried.

There was brief discussion around spreadsheets in the draft plan with budgetary implications and it was clarified that adoption of the plan did not mean those figures were adopted.

2. Ordinance #670 amending Title 8, Health and Safety, was presented for a second reading. Clerk Stowe asked the Council if they would prefer to table it until comments were received back from the city attorney and final revisions from Councilmember Jones were included, or if they wished to adopt for a second reading and then review final changes prior to adoption. She also said possible changes to the fireworks regulations could take more time. Councilmember Hodo moved to table adoption of a second reading until an updated revision was available, and to address fireworks through an amendment process. With a second by both Councilmembers Martin and Jones, the motion carried.

3. Comprehensive Plan Update. Director Light reviewed work that needs to be done in order to meet the Scope of Work in the Department of Commerce grant. He talked about difficulties in deadlines, and asked the Council to approve an additional \$8,000 to allow BHC Consultants to assist. After discussion Councilmember Hodo moved to approve funding not to exceed \$8,000, to add to the previous commitment for the Comprehensive Plan update. With a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

4. Grant Writing Discussion. Councilmember Palmer looked at classes for grant writing to benefit the city. There was discussion around whether it would be more beneficial to train a staff member or a Councilmember, or to have an interlocal with other cities. Palmer will draft a proposal for the Council.

5. Strengthening City Budget Discussion. Councilmember Palmer talked about researching ways other cities improve budgets such as advertising, parks, etc. Gold Bar has pass-through traffic only and ways should be looked at to encourage people to stop.

6. Mayor's Exchange Discussion. Mayor Pro-Tem Strom was curious what people's impression of Gold Bar has been through the past year.

Councilmember Hodo said the last year was getting acquainted with each other and what the city can do. He's happy with Councilmember Jones's work on fireworks. He would like to see the water system and infrastructure updated and more talk about a rate study when Mayor Loen returns.

Councilmember Martin said there is a lot of unfinished business including judgments for the city that have not been collected. That revenue would be beneficial for the city and she would like to see movement on this. She also talked about promoting Sky Valley.

Councilmember Jones said he would like to see empty seats in the audience filled. He feels the Council is all on the same page and no one has a personal agenda. He would like Gold Bar to be a destination.

Discussion moved away from the initial question to points such as changing the website, leaning on the Mayor too much, cleaning up the city, flowers, advertising, and signage.

Mayor Pro-Tem Strom then asked the audience what they would like to see for Gold Bar. Leroy Kramer said sweeping Gunn Road. Joe Beavers supported flowers and cleaning the city. Director Light said the same poles used for flowers could be used for seasonal hangings. Leroy Kramer reminded the Council that someone would have to water the flowers.

There was a brief side trip into discussing the agenda with some Councilmembers happy that the agenda was full and the meeting taking longer, feeling that the last couple meetings had been too short. Clerk

Stowe reminded the Council that it was the nature of business that at some meetings there would be a lot of business to deal with and some meetings there would not.

7. Utility Rate Analysis Discussion. Councilmember Hodo moved to table this discussion and with a second by Councilmember Jones the motion carried.

8. Internet Service Provider Discussion. Councilmember Palmer talked about cities that have become internet providers to residents. He felt that would bring in residents that could work from home. While there would be capital investments, there would be a benefit to residents. He will research this more.

**FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS**

Councilmember Hodo felt this was a very good meeting with good ideas.

Mayor Pro-Tem Strom felt they had done a good job and it was an exciting meeting. Councilmember Palmer felt the same.

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Hodo moved to approve minutes from the December 16, 2014 Council meeting as presented and with a second by Councilmember Jones, the motion carried, with Councilmember Martin abstaining due to her absence.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Hodo moved to accept vouchers 30309 through 30341, with \$17,667.37 for claims and \$20,880.22 for payroll, for a total of \$38,547.59, as presented. With a second by Councilmember Palmer, the motion carried.

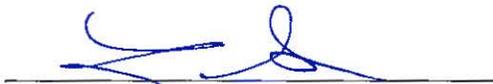
**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Joe Beavers complimented Susan Forbes for recording Council meetings and making those available to the public.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Councilmember Martin moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Hodo, the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

 \_\_\_\_\_, Linda L. Loen, Mayor

 \_\_\_\_\_, Lisa Stowe, Clerk

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 - 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

## City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, January 20, 2015

### **CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL**

Mayor Loen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmembers Hodo, Jones, Martin, and Palmer. Also present were Chief Casey, Public Works Director Light, and Clerk Stowe. Councilmember Hodo moved to excuse Councilmember Strom's absence and with a second by Councilmember Jones the motion carried.

### **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Councilmember Hodo moved to accept the agenda as amended and with a second by Councilmember Martin, the motion carried.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Loen thanked all those who helped while she was gone for a family emergency, including Mayor Pro-Tem Strom, Councilmembers, and staff. Councilmember Jones welcomed her back.

### **STAFF REPORT**

Director Light said the water comprehensive plan is in review. He has been researching grants for a SR2 crosswalk and has been working on conditional use permits. No comments were received on the proposed marijuana business and there will be a public hearing next month. Councilmember Hodo thanked Light for the work he has done on grant research and the water comprehensive plan.

Chief Casey said recent work has been routine.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Martin welcomed Mayor Loen back and then talked about the condition of the welcome sign at the east side of Gold Bar and the new LED streetlights. Mayor Loen will look into the signage issue and said that the PUD can put shields on the new streetlights if anyone finds them too bright.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS** - None

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Ordinance #670 Amending Title 8 relating to Health and Safety. Clerk Stowe said no comments had been received from the city attorney. There was brief discussion around quoting RCWs within the code.

Councilmember Hodo then moved to table adopting ordinance #670 for a second reading until the next meeting and with a second by Councilmember Jones the motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Exit Audit 2013. Auditors Jennifer Albrecht, Nicholas Sarpy, and Kristina Baylor reviewed 2013's audit results.
2. Snohomish Health District Board Representative. Councilmember Martin moved to accept Snohomish Mayor Karen Guzak as the Board representative and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.
3. Snohomish County Roundtable Discussion. Mayor Loen will attend this roundtable on February 26<sup>th</sup>. Councilmembers are also invited.
4. Resolution #15-01. This resolution will reduce the time allotted to public records requests to eight hours a month, due to reductions in staffing. Mayor Loen is working on a system to make things more transparent and easier to access. Councilmember Hodo moved to approve Resolution #15-01 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

**FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS**

Councilmember Hodo asked for an update on obtaining microphones. He found the audit personnel difficult to hear. Mayor Loen has obtained pricing and will follow up.

Councilmember Jones would like to hear how the County Roundtable discussion goes and Mayor Loen said she will report back to the Council.

Councilmember Hodo asked about grant writing research and there was brief discussion around the costs of hiring a grant writer, the length of time it takes to write grants, and the cost of training.

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Jones moved to accept the January 6, 2015 minutes as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve vouchers 30342 through 30383, with \$3,909.17 for payroll and \$118,316.36 for claims, for a total of \$122,225.53 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS - None**

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Councilmember Hodo moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Palmer, the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:51 pm.



\_\_\_\_\_, Linda L. Loen, Mayor



\_\_\_\_\_, Lisa Stowe, Clerk

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

## City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, February 3, 2015

### CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Loen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmembers Hodo, Jones, Martin, Palmer, and Strom. Also present were Chief Casey and Clerk Stowe.

### AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Martin moved to accept the agenda as amended and with a second by Councilmember Strom, the motion carried.

### MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Loen talked about the road work the prison crew has done and her hope for getting them back.

### STAFF REPORT

Chief Casey said Snohomish County leads the nation in heroin use. In Gold Bar things have settled down as far as burglaries.

### COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Strom attended a meeting on the comprehensive plan with Director Light, resident Joe Beavers, and consultants. He talked about the comprehensive plan as the vision for the city. He also apologized for missing the last meeting.

Councilmember Jones said fiber optics come into town as far as the Texaco station. Mayor Loen hopes to piggyback fiber optic installation on water main replacement.

Councilmember Palmer talked about internet in rural areas and Councilmember Strom said that needs to be in the comprehensive plan for potential grants. Councilmember Martin suggested all the brainstorming ideas be included. Mayor Loen encouraged everyone to bring ideas for the comprehensive plan to her.

### CITIZEN COMMENTS

Resident Leroy Kramer talked about Gunn Road. Mayor Loen said a street sign has been ordered and she hopes to have the prison crew deal with the gravel. There was discussion around the 'lake' created by Burlington Northern Railroad and how BNRR has been approached about the problem.

### OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance #670 Amending Title 8 relating to Health and Safety is still tabled.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Medical Marijuana Business License Discussion. Discussion included what is going on in other states and cities, legality, interpretation of law, risk to the city, ordinance wording, taxing businesses, Department of Health regulations, zoning, the revenue benefit to the city, lobbying legislation, legal collectives and co-ops, and conditional use permits. All councilmembers and the mayor weighed in on discussion as well as Chief Casey, resident Eric Bynum, and business owner Eric Martinez.

After discussion Councilmember Strom moved to contact the Regional Narcotics and Drug Task Force regarding laws, and Councilmembers Palmer and Hodo seconded the motion. Mayor Loen then asked about the proposed business license. Councilmember Strom moved to amend his motion to contact the Task Force and depending on their responses, allow Mayor Loen to move forward with changing appropriate ordinances. Councilmember Martin seconded the motion. With no further discussion Mayor Loen called for a vote and the amended motion carried. Mayor Loen will inform business owner Eric Martinez of the progress.

2. Water Rate Analysis – MRSC Small Works Roster. Mayor Loen utilized the MRSC Small Works Roster to choose a consultant for a water rate analysis. The person chosen was the same one previously recommended. She is highly capable and able to start in April with a cost of around \$19,000. Mayor Loen will get a contract and bring it back to the Council.

**FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS**

Mayor Loen invited the public to an open public hearing on February 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm related to a conditional use permit.

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Hodo moved to accept the January 20, 2015 minutes as presented and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Strom moved to approve vouchers 30384 through 30417, with \$21,837.11 for payroll and \$19,128.78 for claims, for a total of \$40,965.89 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS - None**

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Councilmember Martin moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Strom, the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

 \_\_\_\_\_, Linda L. Loen, Mayor       \_\_\_\_\_, Lisa Stowe, Clerk

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar  
Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, February 17, 2015

## **CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL**

Mayor Loen called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. The delay in start time was due to a public hearing. Present were Councilmembers Hodo, Jones, Martin, Palmer, and Strom. Also present were Chief Casey and Clerk Stowe.

## **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Councilmember Martin moved to accept the agenda as amended and with a second by Councilmember Strom, the motion carried.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Loen will be attending an all-cities meeting with AWC on Wednesday and Thursday.

## **STAFF REPORT**

Chief Casey spoke about burglaries and property crime.

Director Light thanked the council for allowing the meeting to be delayed. A lot of people showed up for the public hearing: it was well conducted, professional, and structured.

## **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Martin also felt the public hearing was structured and professional and felt the hearing examiner was experienced.

## **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Mayor Loen talked about the sign for Gunn Road and the remaining need for the State to put a sign up. She said prison work crews were going to be available on the 19<sup>th</sup>, and that work will happen on Dorman Road.

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. 2015 Yearly Valve Rebuild. This is for work on pressure reducing valves, and is something done annually. It has been budgeted for but needs council approval. There was discussion around costs.

Councilmember Hodo moved to approve the work on valves and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

2. 5<sup>th</sup> Street Sidewalk Improvement. BHC Contract Agreement. Director Light got a grant for this work and is ready to get it engineered. He went out for Requests for Proposals and chose Blue Line, Inc. There was discussion around their qualifications. Councilmember Hodo moved to approve Blue Line as the engineering firm for the 5<sup>th</sup> Street sidewalk project and with a second by Councilmember Jones the motion carried.

3. Ordinance #670, Title 8, Health and Safety. Clerk Stowe presented a draft of the ordinance with the attorney's comments incorporated as well as Councilmember Jones's comments. There are still a few remaining areas that need council input but the main part of the draft is ready for a second reading. Councilmember Hodo moved to accept Ordinance #670 relating to Health and Safety for a second reading and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

Clerk Stowe asked Councilmembers if they preferred these types of documents in their boxes prior to meetings or simply as part of council packets the day of the meeting. The consensus was to have the documents early and Stowe then asked councilmembers to remember to bring the packets to the meetings. Resident Susan Forbes asked about laptops but the councilmembers prefer hard copies of council meeting materials.

4. Snohomish County Tomorrow Steering Committee Appointment. Mayor Loen asked for a volunteer to attend this committee. After discussion Councilmember Palmer volunteered. Councilmember Strom moved to appoint Councilmember Palmer to the Snohomish County Tomorrow Steering Committee and with a second by Councilmembers Martin and Hodo, the motion carried.

5. Resolution #15-02, PRR Officer Assignment. This resolution formalizes the mayor taking over duties related to public records requests. Councilmember Strom moved to accept Resolution #15-02 relating to PRR Officer Assignment as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

6. BLS Partnership Contract. This relates to the annual Business Licensing Agreement and is a continuation of what the city has had previously. Councilmember Martin moved to accept the BLS Partnership Contract as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

#### **FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS**

Councilmember Strom asked for an update on microphones. Mayor Loen has found wireless ones that still need some research.

Councilmember Martin thanked Mayor Loen for all the extra work she takes on. Councilmember Hodo offered to help.

Councilmember Jones asked to have beautification of Gold Bar placed on the agenda for the next meeting. There was discussion around the idea of partnering between the city and schools for creating flower baskets, and grants available for beautification projects.

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Strom to accept the November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Special Meeting minutes as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

Councilmember Jones moved to accept the February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 Meeting minutes as presented and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Strom moved to approve vouchers 30418 through 30441, with \$2,200.00 for payroll and \$13,744.39 for claims, for a total of \$15,944.39 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Chief Casey talked about the risks to the city for marijuana businesses. Because those types of businesses can't bank they work on a cash basis and as such are high targets for armed robberies. There are concerns because Gold Bar is more remote and there is usually only one deputy to respond, which can result in longer response times. He also talked about his meeting with the Regional Narcotics and Drug Task Force regarding marijuana co-ops. To be legal, these can only provide free product for co-op members. Since the person who spoke before mentioned paying sales tax, then the product is not free and as such is unlawful. This is relating to medical marijuana businesses and not those under the I-502 ruling. The public hearing earlier in the evening related to a lawful business under that ruling. A representative from the Task Force is willing to come speak to the council.

Resident Lee Simpson shared concerns about safety and asked about the impact of these new businesses on law enforcement and city revenue. Mayor Loen said that at this point the city sees no revenue as it all goes to the state. This is what she is going to Olympia for. Mr. Simpson felt if there is no benefit to the city than the businesses shouldn't be in the city.

There was brief discussion around how the law was written regarding these types of businesses.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Councilmember Hodo moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Jones the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:21 pm.

 Linda L. Loen, Mayor  Lisa Stowe, Clerk

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

## City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, March 3, 2015

### **CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL**

Mayor Loen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmembers Hodo, Jones, Martin, Palmer, and Strom. Also present were Public Works Director John Light, Chief Casey, and Clerk Stowe.

### **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Councilmember Hodo moved to accept the agenda as presented and with a second by Councilmember Strom, the motion carried.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Loen will attend an open government meeting held by the State Auditor and will report back to the Council. She said the prison crew will be working on the 4<sup>th</sup>, starting with Gunn Road.

### **STAFF REPORT**

Chief Casey talked about two recent drug overdoses, three older Hondas that were stolen (one stolen twice), and work the Drug Task Force is doing on public nuisances. Chief Casey has also been working on traffic issues residents have complained about, by writing several tickets that seems to be working as there are fewer speeders.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Hodo asked for an update on microphones. Mayor Loen can find the equipment but is struggling to find anyone to do the installations as it is different than just hiring an electrician. She asked for council assistance.

Councilmember Hodo also asked for an update on the water rate study. Mayor Loen said all is ready to go.

Councilmember Palmer talked about net neutrality and what that might mean for the city.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS** - None

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Beautification of Gold Bar. Councilmember Jones gave an update on his work with the school district for partnering on hanging baskets. The vocational program will be able to help with both flowers and baskets. There is no price estimate yet. There was discussion around other types of projects, such as planters, painting hydrants, and putting up street lights similar to the ones in front of the city hall.

Councilmember Palmer also presented a hand out on types of theft-proof bolts that might help with cutting down on the thefts of street signs. Chief Casey said thefts of signs with names such as 'Amanda' are common and suggested that street names also be painted on curbs or sidewalks.

2. Ordinance #670, Amending Title 8. Clerk Stowe talked to the Council about areas of the ordinance still needing amending. Section 8.12.110 will have the sentence referencing RCWs removed per city attorney recommendations. Section 8.16.090(A)(7) will have the times for noise left as written, but will change the following sentence, 'The city council may extend the construction hours...' to read 'The public works director or designee may extend the construction hours...'. Section 8.16.100 will be deleted in its entirety. The city attorney asked what that section was trying to say, which is not clear, and the issue of obstructions is dealt with in other areas of the ordinance. Subsequent sections will be renumbered accordingly.

With no further discussion, Councilmember Hodo moved to accept Ordinance #670 relating to Health and Safety as amended, and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

3. Increase Revenue Discussion. Councilmember Hodo presented information on creating a Transportation Benefit District which would allow an increase in car license tabs that would go to the city. There was a great deal of discussion around the requirements and steps involved to create such a district, how the increase would happen, the amount of the increase, the amount of revenue that would be a result, how many cars are in the city, and the fact that residents may not like the increase but that residents also want a certain level of service that needs to be funded from somewhere. After the discussion, Councilmember Palmer moved to allow Councilmember Hodo to continue researching this option, and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

4. Marijuana Discussion. Discussion points included the following: types of marijuana businesses, state, county, and city level legislation, possible regulation changes coming, potential changes that may allow cities to collect revenue, security, crime, the number of deputies vs. the potential crime increase, the onus being on the business to make sure there's security, lack of liability to the city, the fact that marijuana is a big business and that local businesses may not be able to have the level of security needed for marijuana, and the recent border confiscation of marijuana.

Councilmember Hodo asked what exactly the Council was discussing and Mayor Loen clarified that this was to discuss medical marijuana businesses in city limits, and that the city is not liable, according to the County Drug Task Force, if those types of businesses are allowed. If the Council decides to allow medical marijuana businesses, an ordinance would have to be created or the current one amended.

Councilmember Hodo then asked a potential business owner how they can state they pay sales tax when medical marijuana businesses are donation only. The owner explained that he was told that even if it's donations only, there is still an exchange of money and as such sales tax had to be paid.

With no further discussion Councilmember Strom then moved to amend city ordinances to allow medical marijuana retail businesses. With a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried, with Councilmember Jones voting against the motion.

**FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS - None**

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Martin moved to accept the February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 minutes as presented and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

Dorothy Crowshaw asked why Councilmembers were not reviewing minutes prior to the meeting rather than reading them at the meeting. Clerk Stowe said she had tried an experiment, putting minutes in council boxes ahead of time. The difficulty was that minutes then did not make it either to the councilmember or to the meeting. Stowe will start putting minutes in council boxes the Thursday prior to the council meeting.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Prior to action on vouchers, Councilmember Strom said there was a question about voucher #30467 to the State Auditor. Dorothy Crowshaw said the invoice did not look like other invoices and she'd never seen bills from auditors that detailed hourly rates and specific employees. Clerk Stowe said this was the same as previous vouchers and it was for work done after the actual in-house audit, including exit conferences and preparing results.

Councilmember Strom also found a typographical error between the actual amount of vouchers and the amount listed on the agenda, which also affected the total amount of vouchers on the agenda. The agenda listed claims as totaling \$5796.80, when they actually totaled \$5946.80.

Councilmember Strom then moved to approve vouchers 30442 through 30473, with \$21,993.17 for payroll and \$5,946.80 for claims, for a total of \$27,939.97 as presented, pending research into voucher #30467 to make sure it is accurate, and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

There was brief discussion around colors of fire hydrants.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Councilmember Hodo moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

 \_\_\_\_\_, Linda L. Loen, Mayor

 \_\_\_\_\_, Lisa Stowe, Clerk

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



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## City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, March 17, 2015

### **CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL**

Mayor Loen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmembers Hodo, Jones, Martin, Palmer, and Strom. Also present were Public Works Director John Light, Chief Casey, and Clerk Stowe.

### **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Councilmember Hodo moved to accept the agenda as presented and with a second by Councilmember Strom, the motion carried.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Loen invited everyone to attend the egg hunt on April 4<sup>th</sup> at the school.

### **STAFF REPORT**

Chief Casey said the Honda thieves appear to have moved west. He also mentioned the continued theft of batteries and ATV equipment. Heroin use is not diminishing and methamphetamine use is coming back. Deputy Griner will be working on National Night Out.

Director Light is applying for the annual Loss Prevention grant and is considering using the funds for reflective signage. He also said the ad hoc committee for the comprehensive plan met.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Hodo thanked Mayor Loen for all the work she has done, for obtaining the new microphones, and for Ordinance #672 which required a lot of work. He said the Council comes up with ideas and they all get piled on her.

Councilmember Strom met with the citizen committee on the comprehensive plan update. He talked about plan elements, changes and updates, and defining goals more. One suggestion was changing 'city core' wording to something like 'US2 corridor'. He also talked about levels of service, the character of the city, and removing from the plan those things that the city has no control over. Mayor Loen encouraged people to give her any ideas they might have on these topics.

Councilmember Martin researched fire hydrant color, found out the city is responsible for painting, and talked to Director Light about volunteers to help the city paint hydrants.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS** - None

**OLD BUSINESS - None**

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Ordinance #671 Amending Title 17 Relating to Marijuana Business, Introduction and First Reading. This amendment adds medical marijuana businesses and clarifies the zoning map. Councilmember Hodo moved to accept Ordinance #671 as presented for an introduction and first reading and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

2. Budgeted 2015 Capital Equipment. Director Light brought this list before the Council because, while the items were already budgeted for, they are over the limit of \$1,000 and as such require Council approval. The Council reviewed the list which included cost comparisons and the savings between what was budgeted and what will actually be spent. Councilmember Strom moved to give Public Works Director John Light permission to spend up to the amount on the list for equipment and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

3. BSC Machinery Condition Analysis Proposal. This relates to BSC and their annual inspection and analysis of the wells. Since the invoice is just over \$1,000 it needs Council approval. Councilmember Hodo moved to give Director Light authority to spend the amount specified on the letter and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

4. Snohomish Regional Drug and Gang Task Force. A Letter of Intent to sign the forthcoming agreement for Drug and Gang Task Force services was presented. Chief Casey talked about the services the city receives from this task force. Councilmember Strom moved to allow Chief Casey to sign the Letter of Intent and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

5. City Events Discussion. Mayor Loen talked about City participation in Gold Dust Days by having a booth to promote the city. Mayor Loen also talked about city events in general and asked the Council to authorize a budget of \$2,000 that she can spend on upcoming events. An example of possible event costs was the electrical pole installed last year for Gold Dust Days and potential advertising. Councilmember Strom questioned authorizing spending when it wasn't clear what the money would be spent on. Mayor Loen will be able to give the Council specific information as events draw nearer and it becomes clearer what the needs will be. She said there will be no gifting of public funds and the costs will go toward improvements or something that increases revenue for the city. With no further discussion Councilmember Hodo moved to authorize Mayor Loen to spend up to \$2,000 for city events and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

6. Ordinance #672, TBD Formation and Board of Directors. This is for the formation of a Transportation Benefit District. Roger Neal with the Association of Washington Cities gave information on the District to the Council. Discussion included the following: the Council can be the Board of Directors; they will have to meet separate from the Council meeting; the District is a separate entity from the city with its own bank accounts and financial requirements; if the city does not form this the County will and then revenue from the district will go to the County; the need for more research; the need for public hearings; if staff get paid from that same bank account; if residents can be board members; using Municipal Research Services for more information; the number of cars in the city; the costs incurred by the district such as the audit bill; and a reminder to read the literature that was handed out. With no further discussion Councilmember Strom moved to continue further research on Ordinance #672 and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

7. Boom Lift Rental. The boom lift will be rented for water tank maintenance and will make that work safer for staff. It has been budgeted for but will cost over the \$1,000 threshold. Councilmember Strom moved to approve the cost as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

**FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS - None**

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Hodo moved to approve the March 3, 2015 minutes as presented and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve vouchers 30474 through 30501, with \$2,200 for payroll and \$34,752.91 for claims, for a total of \$36,952.91 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Jay Prueher talked about the issues with so many people parking on Ley Road. Rather than purchasing Discovery Passes, people are parking on the street and it has become so bad that emergency vehicles cannot get through. There was discussion around making paid parking areas on one side of the road. Councilmember Hodo has seen that area and agrees something needs to be done. Mayor Loen will research options and talk to the State Parks Department. She also asked the Council to look into this and give her suggestions.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Councilmember Hodo moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Jones the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Linda L. Loen, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Lisa Stowe, Clerk

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

## City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday, April 7, 2015

### CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Loen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmembers Hodo, Jones, Martin, and Palmer. Also present were Public Works Director John Light, Chief Casey, and Clerk Stowe. Councilmember Hodo moved to excuse Councilmember Strom's absence and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

### AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Hodo moved to accept the agenda as presented and with a second by Councilmember Johnson, the motion carried.

### MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Loen thanked the Red Hats and volunteers for the event on Saturday. She also said the prison crew supervisor was glad to have equipment which allowed them to get more work done on the park by Well 3.

### STAFF REPORT

Chief Casey said there was a recent burglary at the rental storage place and a theft in town.

Director Light talked about recent work done by GC Systems, including the installation of a valve that will save on water usage and keep pressure consistent. Since his department saved a little over \$3000 in recent capital purchases, he asked the Council to approve the purchase of the wood chipper. After brief discussion, Councilmember Hodo moved to approve the purchase of a wood chipper for \$2649 with the condition that the equipment will not raise insurance rates and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

### COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Hodo spoke with the Parks and Recreation department and found out no work is planned for Wallace Falls. The department might be interested in a joint venture but that could take several years.

Councilmember Martin was pleased with the turnout for the egg hunt.

### CITIZEN COMMENTS

Dorothy Crowshaw asked Councilmembers to sit closer to the microphones.

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Ordinance #671 Amending Title 17 Relating to Marijuana Business, Second Reading and Adoption. Councilmember Hodo moved to adopt Ordinance #671 Relating to Marijuana Business as presented and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.
2. 2016 Budget Calendar. This form allows the Council to prepare for next year's budget. It includes tentative dates for public meetings. Councilmember Johnson moved to accept the form as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.
3. Ordinance #672, TBD Formation and Board of Director's Appointment. Mayor Loen found estimates on some costs including the need for a new computer, separate budgeting software, and a separate bank account. Councilmember Martin wondered if there could be a consortium spread between neighboring cities. Councilmember Hodo said each city has to have its own TBD projects. There was discussion around how long it takes money for projects to come in, potential costs, the council as the board of directors, the extra burden on the city, and further research. Councilmember Martin moved to continue discussion at the next meeting and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried. Councilmember Hodo said that while he thinks this district is a good idea, he also feels it should not be rushed into and that all councilmembers should be present for a decision.
4. Ley Road Discussion. Signs for 'No Parking' have been ordered and it is hoped those will be a start to helping with roadblocks. The signs are an interim measure while other avenues are explored. Councilmember Johnson asked if the park and ride could be utilized but as that belongs to Community Transit, shared usage is unlikely. Councilmember Martin suggested getting in contact with the owners of Camp Houston, and Mayor Loen will also talk to private property owners. She asked Councilmembers to read over Title 17.50 relating to recreational overlay districts since some businesses in that area may also be beneficial. This discussion will continue at the next meeting.

**FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS - None**

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Hodo moved to approve the March 17, 2015 minutes as presented and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve vouchers 30502 through 30552, with \$24,603.58 for payroll and \$43,378.23 for claims, for a total of \$67,981.81 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Gary Alpine thanked the Council for adopting Ordinance #671.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Councilmember Hodo moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:41 pm.

 \_\_\_\_\_, Linda L. Loen, Mayor

 \_\_\_\_\_, Lisa Stowe, Clerk

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

## City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday, April 21, 2015

### CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Loen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmembers Hodo, Jones, Martin, Palmer and Strom. Also present Chief Casey and Clerk Stowe.

### AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Hodo moved to accept the agenda as presented and with a second by Councilmember Strom, the motion carried.

### MAYOR'S REPORT

City insurance coverage will not go up with the purchase of a chipper. Gold Dust Days is in need of volunteers. The school will stencil sidewalks for stormwater drains as part of the city beautification.

### STAFF REPORT

Chief Casey held an oral board for three candidates to select a deputy to fill Deputy Saint Denis's current position. Deputy Saint Denis has accepted a training position. Chief Casey said Deputy Saint Denis is one of the best instructors he has seen in twenty-three years. Two candidates practically tied in scoring.

Chief Casey talked about theft rates and a suspect that may finally be prosecuted.

Clerk Stowe talked about two council positions open for election in November. These positions are currently held by Bob Strom and Paul Jones. The filing period for these positions is May 11<sup>th</sup> through 15<sup>th</sup>. Information on how to file will be posted on the city website.

### COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Strom mentioned houses sold at auctions that are now getting cleaned up.

Councilmember Palmer will attend his first Steering Committee on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. He continues work on internet services.

Councilmember Martin attended the Snohomish County Council meeting regarding marijuana use. She heard good arguments on both sides of the topic. The issue has been continued and she will follow up as it is relevant.

Councilmember Jones has been following research that may result in solar technology for streets and sidewalks. There was discussion around the possibilities of the technology including revenue and savings for the city. Councilmember Jones will create packets for the Council.

### CITIZEN COMMENTS

Jay Prueher talked about Ley Road. One Sunday he counted 178 cars parked along the street, with some in between the 'No Parking' signs. Someone took the cones that had also been in place there. He would like to see a city parking lot with a parking fee for revenue for the city and also to alleviate the safety concerns. He pointed out that those paying for parking would typically not be local residents.

Discussion followed that included the serious safety concerns, the cost of issuing parking tickets and potential sites for parking lots. Mayor Loen reminded the Council that this subject is on the agenda.

**OLD BUSINESS - None**

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Ordinance #672, TBD Formation and Board of Director's Appointment. Councilmember Hodo thinks it would be good for the city but it is also a lot of trouble. He felt the city should table this for six months as he personally is not ready to make this decision. Councilmember Palmer agreed as did Councilmember Martin. Councilmember Jones thanked Councilmember Hodo for the time and effort he has put on this. Councilmember Jones thinks this is a step in the right direction for promoting growth. Councilmember Hodo then moved to table Ordinance #672 for six months and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

2. Ley Road Discussion. Additional discussion on the issue of Ley Road included the following points: the need to modify the 'No Parking' signs, talking to property owners, the ability for a city to own land outside of city limits, safety concerns, the inability for EMS to get down the street with cars parked into the lanes, the need to talk with other agencies, potential use of Big Eddy with a shuttle, regular size passenger cars clipping mirrors because of the narrowed street, jersey barriers, pedestrians and pets adding to the congestion, and work currently being done.

**FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS**

Councilmember Strom reminded everyone that there will be a public meeting April 28<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 – 9:30 pm related to the comprehensive plan.

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Hodo moved to approve the April 7, 2015 minutes as presented and with a second by Councilmember Jones the motion carried with Councilmember Strom abstaining.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve vouchers 30553 through 30581, with \$2,200.00 for payroll and \$38,151.33 for claims, for a total of \$40,351.33 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Jay Prueher thanked the Council for all their discussion. Councilmember Palmer also thanked Prueher for his research.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Councilmember Strom moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

 Linda L. Loen, Mayor

 Lisa Stowe, Clerk

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 - 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, May 5, 2015

## CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Loen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmembers Hodo, Jones, Martin, Palmer and Strom. Also present were Public Works Director Light, Chief Casey and Clerk Stowe.

## AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Hodo moved to accept the agenda as amended and with a second by Councilmember Palmer, the motion carried.

## MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Loen apologized for her inadvertent oversight in neglecting to post the Council work session with a 24-hour notification.

## STAFF REPORT

Chief Casey talked about the replacement of Deputy Saint Denis with Deputy Doersch, covering his experience and background and the fact that he lives in the Gold Bar area. Chief Casey also talked about burglaries and a new illegal drug expected to start showing up in the region. It is a counterfeit oxycodone, usually a blue or light green pill, and is faster acting and more potent than heroin. Councilmember Martin asked Chief Casey to make sure the fire department was aware of this new drug.

Director Light talked briefly about the 5<sup>th</sup> Street sidewalk grant and that he has received two more conditional use permit applications. He also said the city received a \$1,000 grant from the Association of Washington Cities.

## COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Hodo had a productive meeting for the water comprehensive plan with Pace Engineering. Pace agreed to cover \$6,000 that the city was overcharged for. Unless the Department of Health comes up with anything that needs to be changed, this work should be done. The Plan should be available for adoption at the June 2<sup>nd</sup> Council meeting.

Mayor Loen reminded the Council that there will be a meeting with Katy Isaaksen on the water rate study, on May 7<sup>th</sup>.

Councilmember Martin talked about being grateful for the police presence in Gold Bar. She's upset with all that's happening in Baltimore and is very impressed with the police here.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS - None**

## OLD BUSINESS

Ley Road. Mayor Loen talked about the continued work being done on this issue.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Soft Start Well 4. An emergency came up with Well 4 that resulted in the need to replace a component. Councilmember Hodo moved to give authority to Mayor Loen to pay the bill for repairs and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried. Councilmember Strom asked if the relay was old, and Director Light said it is. Councilmember Palmer asked if there was anything else that might need repairs but this piece is a stand-alone component. There was discussion around how the part worked and what a soft start meant.
2. Resolution #15-03 Amending the Fee Schedule. This amendment clarifies the references to relevant RCWs relating to NSF fees for returned checks. Councilmember Martin moved to adopt Resolution #15-03 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.
3. Department of Corrections Contract. Mayor Loen presented the contract for inmate services for the current year. There was brief discussion around the good job the inmate crews do. Councilmember Hodo moved to accept the Monroe Correctional Complex Contract for another year and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.
4. Tractor Repair. Originally the Council approved purchase of a front end loader in the amount of \$8,000 but problems have been discovered with the tractor. In order to make the machine safe the trailer needs to be repaired and old repairs that were not done properly, corrected. Director Light suggested taking the budget for the loader and using those funds for the trailer repair, which is anticipated to cost around \$5,000, and saving the purchase of the loader until next year. After discussion Councilmember Hodo moved to approve the trailer repair, not to exceed \$8,000, and with a second by Councilmember Jones the motion carried.

**FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS**

Mayor Loen said there will be another workshop for the Council on Monday June 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00, and then citizen input will be accepted during the normal council meeting of June 16<sup>th</sup>. She also offered to provide the audio of the May 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Councilmember Hodo thanked Clerk Stowe for having the minutes available early in Councilmember boxes.

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Hodo moved to approve the April 21, 2015 minutes as presented and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve vouchers 30582 through 30613, with \$22,827.25 for payroll and \$106,598.91 for claims, for a total of \$129,426.16 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS - None**

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Councilmember Hodo moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Jones the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

 , Linda L. Loen, Mayor

 , Lisa Stowe, Clerk

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, May 19, 2015

## CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Loen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmembers Hodo, Jones, Martin, Palmer, and Strom. Also present was Clerk Stowe.

## AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Hodo moved to accept the agenda as amended and with a second by Councilmember Martin, the motion carried.

## MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Loen is working on Ley Road. Red striping will clarify the No Parking signs; she's looking for property and continues trying to contact the senator.

## STAFF REPORT

Clerk Stowe said no one filed for the two open Council seats. The auditor will hold a special filing period. If no one files that time the two incumbents will have the choice to resign or continue as incumbents.

## COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Hodo asked if the issue of tickets had been resolved. Mayor Loen said the city can charge more but can't conflict with the RCWs. She continues to work on this.

Councilmember Strom said the paint work on 1<sup>st</sup> Street is a good thing.

Councilmember Martin attended a grant writing training that was informative. The second meeting is June 2<sup>nd</sup> and held where the Sultan City Council meets.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS** - None

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

## NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution 15-04, Debit Card Use. Clerk Stowe said this resolution meets the auditor recommendations to have debit card use in resolution form. Councilmember Hodo moved to approve Resolution 15-04 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

2. Ordinance 673 Amending Title 5. Clerk Stowe said this ordinance amendment was requested by Chief Casey. It deletes words that make it difficult to enforce. Councilmember Hodo moved to accept Ordinance 673 amending Title 5 relating to peddling and solicitors for an introduction and first reading, and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

3. Fireworks Discussion. Councilmember Hodo said he had talked to people and half wanted fireworks and half didn't. He talked about drought issues. Councilmember Strom talked about illegal fireworks in the past. Councilmember Jones said he also spoke to a lot of people and found residents on both sides of the debate. He reminded the Council that they have been talking about ways to bring visitors and revenue to the city. For him the 4<sup>th</sup> is a time for family and fireworks are part of that. He understands both sides.

Councilmember Martin asked Chief Casey's opinion. He said the ones making the worst noise last year were from May Creek Tracts and out of city limits. Those who are going to be reckless or use illegal ones will regardless of the ordinance. For him, fireworks are not a big deal.

There was discussion around smoke and noise, illegal vs. legal fireworks, and people's constitutional rights.

Dorothy Crowshaw said this topic keeps coming back and suggested a vote with the public. Jay Prueher talked about the stress on pets. Chuck Lie said sales tax revenue from fireworks won't bail the city out. He was against fireworks. He also said he thought Rob Martin's shoes would be difficult to fill but that Chief Casey has done a great job.

4. Ordinance 674, Fireworks. With no further discussion, Councilmember Hodo moved to not accept Ordinance 674 amending Title 8 relating to fireworks, and Councilmember Strom seconded the motion. A vote was called for and the motion passed, with Councilmembers Hodo, Martin, Palmer, and Strom voting in favor and Councilmember Jones voting against.

5. Pace Engineering. There have been additional charges for the Water Comprehensive Plan, including responding to comments from the Department of Health and the Department of Ecology. Pace agreed to withdraw \$13,000 in expenses, but the additional charges total \$35,000. Councilmember Hodo moved to give the mayor authority to pay Pace Engineering for the second amendment to their contract for additional charges, and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

**FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS - None**

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Mayor Loen corrected one word on the minutes changing 'trailer' to 'tractor'. Councilmember Hodo moved to approve the May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 minutes as amended and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve vouchers 30614 through 30640, with \$2,200 for payroll and \$27,179.62 for claims, for a total of \$29,379.62 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS - None**

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Councilmember Hodo moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 pm.

 \_\_\_\_\_, Linda L. Loen, Mayor

 \_\_\_\_\_, Lisa Stowe, Clerk

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, June 2, 2015

## CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Loen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmembers Hodo, Jones, Martin, Palmer, and Strom. Also present were Public Works Director John Light, Chief Casey, and Clerk Stowe.

## AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Strom moved to accept the agenda as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo, the motion carried.

## MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Loen talked about the schoolkids who will be creating stencils for the sidewalk. She also has talked to State Parks personnel regarding Ley Road. Mayor Loen encouraged people to purchase raffle tickets for Gold Dust Days.

## STAFF REPORT

Chief Casey talked about new legislation around marijuana businesses and how most won't go into effect until 2016. He will research what cities will be allowed to regulate prior to enacting the legislation. Deputies are working hard on 13<sup>th</sup> Street where drug dealing is going on. He encouraged people to call 911 rather than acting on their own. He talked about recent burglaries and recent assistance received by the Drug Task Force.

Director Light said bids for work on the 5<sup>th</sup> Street sidewalk will be opened on June 18<sup>th</sup>.

## COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Strom asked about the ongoing issue with fees related to parking tickets. There was brief discussion around the fees. Chief Casey is working on this. He said the city can raise the fee amount, and should be able to increase up to as much as \$65 per ticket and still be in line with codes.

Councilmember Martin finished the grant writing class and is excited to start looking into grants.

## CITIZEN COMMENTS

LeRoy Kramer thanked those responsible for cutting grass at the east end of town, and said they did a good job.

## OLD BUSINESS - None

## NEW BUSINESS

1. Water System Comprehensive Plan Update. The Department of Ecology returned the Plan with fourteen comments. Most ask for clarifications and two comments on funding need to be addressed. Part of that response will be letting DOE know the city is doing a rate study and will be implementing changes.

In 2013 the city submitted a coliform monitoring plan and emergency response plan to the Department of Health. Shortly after that submittal DOH changed requirements. Because of those changes, DOH now requires amendments to both plans and won't approve the Water Plan until this is done. Director Light requested the Council to approve a maximum amount of \$2,000 to pay the engineers for this additional work. There was discussion around how the coliform tests were done, the adoption process between both agencies, and the difficulty in having Director Light do the work.

With no further discussion, Councilmember Hodo moved to authorize Mayor Loen to pay Pace Engineering up to \$2,000 for the Health Department requirement and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

2. Ordinance 673 Amending Title 5. Councilmember Hodo moved to accept Ordinance #673 amending Title 5 as presented, for a second reading and adoption, and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

3. Snohomish County Drug and Gang Task Force Interlocal. The annual interlocal was presented for review. There was brief discussion around the annual fee. Councilmember Strom felt it wasn't enough for the assistance received from the Task Force. Chief Casey said the City could choose to fund or contribute personnel. Mayor Loen said she'd rather fund another deputy position to return this area to five deputies instead of the current four. This is something that will be looked at during the budget process.

With no further discussion, Councilmember Strom moved to sign the interlocal and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

4. Ordinance #675 Amending the Comprehensive Plan. The final draft has gone to the Department of Commerce for comments and the city should be able to adopt the Plan during a public hearing at the council meeting of June 16<sup>th</sup>. There was discussion around the public comment process and how this action adopting the ordinance for a first reading begins the final adoption process.

With no further discussion Councilmember Hodo moved to accept Ordinance #675 amending the Comprehensive Plan for an introduction and first reading, and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

5. Ordinance #676 Amending Title 3.31. Clerk Stowe explained that this ordinance will change fund 302 to allow it to be used for any grants, rather than having it exist just for street grants. Councilmember Hodo moved to accept Ordinance #676 amending Title 3.31 for an introduction and first reading and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

6. Bulk Water Meter Purchase. The city needed water meters to replace old and damaged meters. Mayor Loen asked for council approval for this purchase. Councilmember Strom moved to approve paying General Pacific for this purchase of water meters and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried. Councilmember Strom then asked what the cost was for 'Wi-Fi' meters but Mayor Loen was not sure.

#### **FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS**

Councilmember Hodo asked if council packets could be available the Friday before a council meeting. He appreciates having the material on the city website but would also like the hard copies. Clerk Stowe will put packets together and in boxes and then any last minute additions would become amendments.

#### **MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Hodo moved to approve the minutes for May 19<sup>th</sup> and Councilmember Strom seconded the motion. Councilmember Strom then pointed out that '1<sup>st</sup> Avenue West' should have been '1<sup>st</sup> Street'. Councilmember Hodo then moved to amend his motion to approve the minutes of May 19<sup>th</sup> as amended and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

#### **VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve vouchers 30641 through 30673, with \$22,378.76 for payroll and \$25,460.45 for claims, for a total of \$47,839.21 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Dorothy Crowshaw asked where the Green River Ordinance signs went to. Mayor Loen will research this.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Councilmember Martin moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Linda L. Loen, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Lisa Stowe, Clerk

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, June 16, 2015

## **CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL**

Mayor Loen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmembers Hodo, Jones, Martin, Palmer, and Strom. Also present were Public Works Director John Light, Chief Casey, and Clerk Stowe.

## **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Councilmember Hodo moved to accept the agenda as amended and with a second by Councilmember Martin, the motion carried.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Loen said Office Manager Denise Beaston created a postcard to send out the annual water quality report. This change saved staff time and four hundred dollars.

Mayor Loen reminded those present that if anyone wished to give testimony during the public hearing they needed to sign up first.

## **STAFF REPORT**

Chief Casey said quite a few people had passed away recently and that was a depressing part of the job. He also has been working on drug issues.

Director Light said bids for work on the 5<sup>th</sup> Street sidewalk will be opened on June 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:00.

## **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Strom said the city is looking good, and also said he appreciates all the things Mayor Loen does.

Councilmember Palmer will attend a luncheon on broadband services.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

Mayor Loen called to order the Public Hearing of June 16, 2015 regarding the Comprehensive Plan, at 7:07. She reviewed the process for holding the hearing and asked the Council to disclose ex parte or any conflicts of interest. There were none.

Abby Webber, the consultant hired by the city to draft the comprehensive plan, spoke about changes made to the plan, growth management requirements, and noted that no public comments were received during the public comment period.

John Curry, from Woodinville, talked about a lot he owned in the proposed recreational overlay area. Mayor Loen reminded him that the overlay area has been in place for several years and the only change here is adding the map to the comprehensive plan.

With no further public or council comments, Mayor Loen told the Council they could move to approve, approve with conditions, or deny the adoption of the amended plan. Councilmember Strom then moved to approve the Comprehensive Plan as presented and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

Councilmember Palmer then moved to adjourn the public hearing of June 16<sup>th</sup> and with a second by Councilmember Hodo, the motion carried.

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Gold Bar City Council then resumed at 7. 27 pm.

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Tracy Cotterill brought up issues she has with renters using the VFW Hall. The problems include parties with loud music and other violations of the city's nuisance ordinance. She contacted VFW with no response. She left a message with the Mayor on the past Saturday night but Mayor Loen was out of town. She also called 911. Councilmember Palmer asked if the problems were with VFW members, but Cotterill said it's the renters using the building.

Clerk Stowe suggested a letter from the city to the VFW president, and that Cotterill continue calling 911, which Chief Casey also suggested. Chief Casey is working on this issue.

Cotterill then asked for an update on getting potholes on Linda Avenue filled. Mayor Loen said this is on the maintenance list and will look into it.

Chuck Lie started to talk about ATV use but Mayor Loen reminded him that this is the time for discussion of things not on the agenda.

### **OLD BUSINESS - None**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Ordinance #676 Amending Title 3.31. Councilmember Hodo moved to accept Ordinance #676 amending Title 3.31 relating to changing the name of fund 302 for a second reading and approval. With a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

2. Resolution #15-05, ATVs during Gold Dust Days. Councilmember Strom felt that this would be a test of ATVs on city streets for a few days. Councilmember Hodo said the city has already gone through this issue and had a public comment period and the majority of people did not want ATVs in the city. Mayor Loen said this would be during Gold Dust Days only to allow easier access to the parade. Councilmember Martin asked if this meant it was allowed only because of access issues. Mayor Loen said yes, but the resolution also allowed use for all three days of the event. Councilmember Palmer pointed out this would free up parking spaces near events.

Councilmember Martin moved to accept Resolution #15-05 as written and with a second by Councilmember Strom, the motion was opened for discussion.

Chuck Lie presented a handout about Deer Flats. He said he saw no need to have access to the streets, felt this was unnecessary, is not in the comprehensive plan, and is not part of the city's culture.

Joe Beavers said the resolution could be amended to allow use on Saturday only as the day of the parade, and that the use would answer the issue of parking.

Tracy Cotterill said the survey by the city showed people did not want this use and she felt the resolution is a toe in the door to allowing ATVs in the city.

Councilmember Hodo moved to amend the motion to allow ATVS on public streets on Saturday, the day of the parade, only, and Councilmember Palmer seconded the amended motion.

Chuck Lie talked about social media and how this ATV use is offensive to him.

Jay Prueher talked about people riding lawnmowers on city streets to be in the parade, and abusing privileges.

Clerk Stowe, Dorothy Crowshaw, and Mayor Loen reminded all present that discussion at this point could only be on the motion.

With no further discussion on the motion Mayor Loen called for a vote and the amended motion carried.

3. Resolution #15-06, Gold Dust Days. The resolution was amended to place the letter 'I' in parentheses. Councilmember Strom moved to accept Resolution #15-06 as amended and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

4. Ordinance #677 amending the 2015 budget. Treasurer Stowe said that the city had received a Growth Management grant two years ago but that final expenditures and revenues were in this year as well. Because those were not budgeted for, the budget needs to be amended to reflect those costs. Councilmember Strom moved to accept Ordinance #677 for an introduction and first reading, and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

5. Water Use Efficiency. Director Light said the city needs to establish new goals for the next six years. He talked about past goals and how the city has exceeded those goals. He applauded all the efforts by citizens to conserve water. He suggested a new goal that the city reduce summertime usage by 5% over the next six years. There was discussion around water rates, the current water rate study, continuing needs such as monitoring fire department hydrant use, replacing meters, and replacing water mains. There was also discussion on gallons used per person, how to publicize the need to conserve, the need to finalize the rate study, the need to conserve now rather than waiting until there is a need, and the possibility of creating a program to water on odd/even days.

With no further discussion, Councilmember Strom moved to create a goal of reducing summertime water usage by 5% over six years, and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

#### **FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS**

Councilmember Palmer agreed with Tracy Cotterill that getting an early start on conservation of water was a preventative action.

#### **MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Hodo moved to approve the minutes for June 2<sup>nd</sup> as presented and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

#### **VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve vouchers 30675 through 30699, with \$2,200 for payroll and \$18,962.91 for claims, for a total of \$21,162.91 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

#### **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Jay Prueher said that water conserved was not held in any retaining ponds for future use so this meant denying water was for no reason as it can't be reclaimed. He felt people might as well use it. He also asked to have the city's animal control officer deal with the coyote problems. Mayor Loen told him that wild animals were not the officer's responsibility and that this would be done through the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Jay Prueher talked the need for residents to have fire proof roofs and how this impacts insurance. He felt the city's building code should be amended.

Tracy Cotterill said there are places in town totally unkempt and are fire hazards. She would like to see a way to get those places cleaned up. She also thanked the Council for their support on the VFW issue.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Councilmember Hodo moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm.

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Linda L. Loen, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Lisa Stowe, Clerk





# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, July 7, 2015

## CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Loen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmembers Hodo, Jones, and Palmer. Also present were Public Works Director John Light, Chief Casey, and Clerk Stowe. Councilmember Hodo moved to excuse Councilmember Strom's absence and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried. Councilmember Hodo moved to excuse Councilmember Martin's absence and with a second by Councilmember Jones the motion carried.

## AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Hodo moved to accept the agenda as amended and with a second by Councilmember Palmer, the motion carried.

## MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Loen invited everyone to attend the Mayor's Cup Race on the 18<sup>th</sup>. She also reminded everyone that the Sultan Shindig was coming up.

Regarding problems with a drone in city limits, Mayor Loen has researched FAA guidelines. Local government can regulate air space under 400 feet so she will be speaking with the city attorney. She wants people to enjoy having a drone but not at the expense of privacy, and not when it becomes harassment.

## STAFF REPORT

Chief Casey talked about an incident on 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. West where a man called to a child and then ran off. There is no evidence that this was a kidnapping attempt, but may be classified as luring. It might have been as simple as a homeless person asking for food or the other end of the spectrum. What is known is that a police dog alerted at the site so someone was there and deputies will keep looking. Chief Casey also talked about increases in domestic violence, etc., which is not surprising with the high heat. There was a robbery at a local restaurant. He also said the 4<sup>th</sup> was good in Gold Bar and people seemed to recognize the fire hazard.

Director Light attended a Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) workshop that included a site visit for potential projects for next year. He talked about these and the possibility of grants.

## COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Hodo thanked the mayor for her work and Clerk Stowe for getting council information into their boxes. He thanked Joe Beavers for his volunteer work. He also thanked Director Light, Clerk Stowe, the Mayor, and the Council for all the hard work that was done on the water comprehensive plan, which has finally been approved. He said lots of hours went into this project and the council appreciated the work.

Councilmember Jones' vehicle was broken into and he reminded people to lock doors.

## CITIZEN COMMENTS

Ray Coleman asked about the date and time for Gold Bar's National Night Out. He has also researched drones since he had one at his back fence. He suggested anyone feeling harassed by the drone should call 911. He then spoke briefly on a study done on service calls for local jurisdictions.

Bobby Stillwater talked about being cited for two vehicles parked in front of his business. He said he knows who is complaining, and that person also had a vehicle parked in the city parking lot who did not receive tickets. He's extremely frustrated and feels others should have also been ticketed. He threatened to park a bus in that area if the city continues to allow the other person to park his vehicle there.

Jeff Lesley introduced himself as the person now running Right-Way Auto. He said he has no quarrel with Rico's Pizza. When the tickets were issued he was told the vehicles had to be five feet from the sidewalk. He asked for clarification where it was okay to park. He said the past week there was a bus parked there for four days that received no tickets. He asked for guidelines to abide by so he can run his business. He doesn't want tickets or problems.

Mayor Loen said the five-foot designation had to do with safety. This led to discussion around who built the sidewalk and who was responsible for it, as well as pointing out that there is a large right of way there that belongs to the Department of Transportation. Mayor Loen offered to look further into this issue. As discussion continued, Councilmember Hodo called for a point of order and reminded all present that this was a Council meeting and not a town hall meeting. Jeff Lesley said he could see the safety issue for that corner, and Mayor Loen offered to meet with him and with Bobby Stillwater.

**OLD BUSINESS - None**

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Ordinance #678 amending Title 15.26. Clerk Stowe explained that this ordinance, along with the two that follow on the agenda, were the result of consultant recommendations to update code after the adoption of the comprehensive plan. Councilmember Hodo moved to accept Ordinance #678 amending Title 15.26 relating to impact fees, for an introduction and first reading. With a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

2. Ordinance #679 amending Title 16.12. This amendment also relates to the comprehensive plan. Councilmember Hodo moved to accept Ordinance #679 amending Title 16.12 relating to review criteria, for an introduction and first reading. With a second by Councilmember Jones the motion carried.

3. Ordinance #680 amending Title 17.44. This amendment also relates to the comprehensive plan. Councilmember Hodo moved to accept Ordinance #680 amending Title 17.44 relating to permitted uses, for an introduction and first reading. With a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

4. Ordinance #677 amending the 2015 budget. Councilmember Hodo said this amendment has been discussed previously, with no changes. Councilmember Hodo moved to accept Ordinance #677 amending the 2015 budget for a second reading and adoption, and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

5. Awarding of Bid for 5<sup>th</sup> Street Project. Director Light talked about the bid process for this TIB grant and costs under the grant. The low bidder was researched and Director Light received only favorable comments. The company is not on any No Bid lists and they met all the bid criteria. Because of that, Director Light asked for a motion to award the bid. Councilmember Hodo moved to award the 5<sup>th</sup> Street Project bid to Northend Excavating, Inc., out of Granite Falls and Councilmember Palmer seconded the motion. During discussion on the motion, Councilmember Jones asked if there were any anticipated change orders or issues. Director Light did not think there would be. One thing peculiar to this grant is the stencils by school kids for the sidewalk, but the company had been informed and will work with the city. With no further discussion on the motion a vote was called for and the motion carried.

6. Resolution #15-07 Gold Dust Days International Waters. The civil war re-enactors would like to preside over a wedding in the US2 park. To do so, the area must be declared International Waters for that specific time period only. Mayor Loen was asked if the city had the authority to do this, which it does, for ceremonial purposes. There was

light banter around this subject, including that Chief Casey would need to add a parrot to his uniform. With no further discussion Councilmember Hodo said that as Mayor Loen had researched the legality of this, he moved to approve Resolution #15-07 declaring US2 as International Waters for Gold Dust Days only, and with a second by Councilmember Jones the motion carried. No Council action was taken regarding the proposed parrot.

7. Hiring of Office Person. Mayor Loen and the Council agreed to hire a person to assist staff when creating the 2015 budget. Mayor Loen would now like to move forward with hiring this person from a temp agency. Doing this through the agency would allow a trial period to make sure there is enough work for this staff addition and will also allow the city to make sure the person is right for the city before permanent hiring. Councilmember Hodo moved to grant Mayor Loen authority to hire through a temp service and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

**FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS - None**

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Hodo moved to approve the minutes for June 16<sup>th</sup> as presented and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried. Councilmember Hodo thanked Clerk Stowe for doing a good job with the minutes, so there is no problem seeing what happened at a meeting.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve vouchers 30700 through 30742, with \$25,394.34 for payroll and \$50,344.18 for claims, for a total of \$75,738.52 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Dorothy Croshaw thanked Councilmember Hodo for his accolades to the staff.

Councilmember Jones said the city has the hardest working staff, and Councilmember Palmer said especially for a city the size of Gold Bar.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Councilmember Hodo moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Jones the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Linda L. Loen, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Lisa Stowe, Clerk

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, July 21, 2015

## CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Loen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmembers Hodo, Jones, Palmer, and Strom. Also present were Public Works Director John Light, Chief Casey, and Clerk Stowe. Councilmember Hodo moved to excuse Councilmember Martin's absence and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

## AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Hodo moved to accept the agenda as amended and with a second by Councilmember Jones, the motion carried.

## MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Loen reminded everyone that Gold Dust Days is this weekend, the Index Arts Festival is August 1<sup>st</sup>, and National Night Out is August 3<sup>rd</sup>. She said she came in last at the mayor's race but was the most entertaining. She also said work on the 5<sup>th</sup> Street sidewalk would be going until mid-September.

## STAFF REPORT

Chief Casey and the deputies have been very busy with calls that included two drownings and several thefts. He said there would not be a helicopter at the National Night Out event but that there will be a fun parade and other activities.

Clerk Stowe received a scholarship to attend a budget training seminar in August at no cost to the city. Mayor Loen and Councilmember Hodo both said Stowe would receive her normal pay during those two days as the seminar will benefit the city.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS** - none

**CITIZEN COMMENTS** - none

**OLD BUSINESS** - none

## NEW BUSINESS

1. Ordinance #678 amending Title 15.26. Clerk Stowe said the Council had reviewed the strikethrough version showing changes, and that they had a clean version in their packets so they'd see what was being acted on. Councilmember Hodo moved to adopt Ordinance #678 amending Title 15.26 relating to impact fees as presented, and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

2. Ordinance #679 amending Title 16.12. Councilmember Hodo said that since the Council had reviewed these ordinances and since no changes were needed, he moved to adopt Ordinance #679 amending Title 16.12 relating to review criteria as presented. With a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

3. Ordinance #680 amending Title 17.44. Councilmember Hodo moved to accept Ordinance #680 amending Title 17.44 relating to permitted uses as presented and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

4. Resolution #15.08, Building permit fees. Clerk Stowe said this resolution updated the fee schedule to include building permit fees. Director Light said the last time fees were raised was in 1998. Councilmember Jones asked if this change brought the fees more in line with what city costs were and Director Light said it did. Clerk Stowe said this change also brought the fees more in line with the international building code. With no further discussion, Councilmember Hodo moved to adopt Resolution #15-08 relating to building permit fees as presented and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

5. Ordinance #681 adopting the water comprehensive plan. Councilmember Strom moved to accept Ordinance #682 relating to the adoption of the water comprehensive plan for an introduction and first reading and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

6. Salary Review. Mayor Loen reminded the Council that when the 2015 budget was adopted the Council asked to review staff wages mid-year. Clerk Stowe reminded the Council that by the end of June fund totals in expenditures should ideally be below 50%, which means that the city is spending half, or less than half, of the amounts budgeted for expenditures at the half-way point in the year. She said the only fund over 50% was the litigation fund at 56.3%. The fund closest to 50% was the general fund at 35.1%. Mayor Loen said that there would be expenses coming up related to three ongoing litigation cases.

Councilmember Hodo said he remembered interim treasurer Harry Oestreich talking about what it would cost to give staff a 4% increase and the figure was out of the ballpark. Councilmember Palmer said he talked to Oestreich later, who said he'd made a mistake in that figure. Clerk Stowe reminded the Council that during that budget process no percentage was agreed on and that there had been talk about increasing by 2.4%, 3%, and 4%.

Councilmember Hodo asked Clerk Stowe to bring a report to the next meeting that would show what each percentage increase would mean in actual figures. Clerk Stowe agreed and said that just because the financial health of the city might be good that didn't necessarily mean spending should happen.

7. Ordinance #682, Streets, Sidewalks, and Public Places. This amendment adds wording to the title clarifying parking or driving on public lands such as in the watershed protection area or parks. There was discussion around this including wording on skateboards and roller skates. That wording previously existed in the title and is not being amended. There was also discussion around whether signage would be needed, that typically warnings were issued unless a person was a repeat offender, and parking near where a park has yet to be formally constructed. Councilmember Jones would like to see families able to pull off in that area and enjoy a picnic.

With no further discussion, Councilmember Strom moved to accept Ordinance #682 amending Title 12 relating to streets, sidewalks, and public places for an introduction and first reading and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

8. August Council meeting. Because the date of the August Council meeting coincides with National Night Out, a different date was discussed. Councilmember Hodo moved to change the meeting of the Gold Bar City Council to Wednesday, August 5, 2015 and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

#### **FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS**

Mayor Loen said that the County Assessor will be in Gold Bar on August 7<sup>th</sup> to hold a special filing period for Council positions two, four, and five. Clerk Stowe explained that since no one filed for those positions during the regular filing period, this special filing period was required. By holding it in Gold Bar, residents would be saved having to drive to Everett to file.

#### **MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Hodo moved to approve the minutes for July 7<sup>th</sup> as presented and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried with Councilmember Strom abstaining.

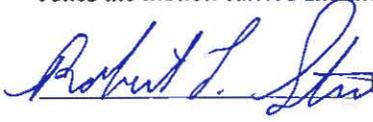
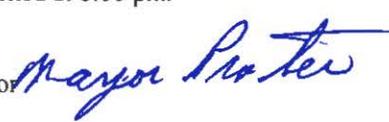
**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

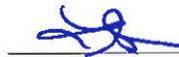
Councilmember Palmer moved to approve vouchers 30743 through 30771, with \$2,200 for payroll and \$17,164.35 for claims, for a total of \$19,364.35 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS** - none

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business. Councilmember Hodo moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Jones the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

 Linda L. Loen, Mayor 

 , Lisa Stowe, Clerk

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Wednesday, August 5, 2015

## CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Pro-Tem Strom called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The date of the meeting was changed due to National Night Out. Present were Councilmembers Hodo, Jones, Martin, and Palmer. Also present were Public Works Director John Light, Chief Casey, and Clerk Stowe.

## AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Hodo moved to accept the agenda as presented and with a second by Councilmember Martin, the motion carried.

## MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Pro-Tem Strom said National Night Out was successful, with lots of young people attending.

## STAFF REPORT

Chief Casey said Deputy Griner worked hard to bring in those who catered more to kids and family for National Night Out. He was happy with the turnout.

Clerk Stowe welcomed Bonnie Jones, hired by Mayor Loen as an assistant.

## COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Hodo said he hoped the city could keep Ms. Jones and that she was local.

Councilmember Martin attended a meeting with the Sky Valley Chamber of Commerce about the arts scene in the valley. She found it encouraging that there was so much local talent, and that it could be used as impetus to bring people to the area. She saw a need for more hotels and bed and breakfasts.

Mayor Pro-Tem Strom attended the Index Arts Festival and was astounded at the talent in the area.

## CITIZEN COMMENTS - none

## OLD BUSINESS - none

## NEW BUSINESS

1. Ordinance #681 adopting the water comprehensive plan. Councilmember Hodo moved to accept Ordinance #681 relating to the adoption of the water comprehensive plan for a second reading and adoption. With a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

2. Salary Review. There was a great deal of discussion around whether staff should receive an increase in pay. Discussion included the need for executive session when specifics were to be discussed, staff duties, the long-

running discrepancy in pay compared to similar cities, the city's budget, upcoming costs to the city, litigation costs, that increases would be spread across funds, the number of 'hats' staff wear, the difficulty in replacing staff at the current rate of pay, the recent State increase of 1.9%, the fact that those employees are union and paid higher to begin with, comparing Gold Bar to other cities that also have legal issues, the difficulty in hiring staff due to being able to go somewhere else for less work and more money, that salaries don't reflect all the job duties staff do, the cost of living increase of 2% granted last year, if the city could afford increases over the long range, the difficulty in anticipating future costs, reserve funds and audits, the goal of increasing reserve funds, and speculation over future expenditures.

The Council elected to continue discussion at the next meeting.

3. Ordinance #682, Streets, Sidewalks, and Public Places. Councilmember Hodo moved to accept Ordinance #682 relating to Streets, Sidewalks, and Public Places for a second reading and adoption. With a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

4. Ordinance #683 Amending Title 10, Parking. This ordinance is relating to increasing the cost of parking tickets in order to cover court costs. Councilmember Martin moved to accept Ordinance #683 relating to Parking for an introduction and first reading, and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

#### **FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS**

Councilmember Palmer said the mayor has been talking about doing an art show for Gold Bar and he thinks it's a good idea. Richard Baker suggested combining a farmer's market with an art show. Councilmember Martin said that Sky Valley has an arts council which is an umbrella organization that knows about all these things. She talked about the number of people who attend the Index Arts Festival. Joe Beavers talked about how consistency is needed to make these types of events successful. There was also discussion around having a regular swap meet. Joe Beavers also said that these types of events needed lots of volunteers, and hopefully volunteers not on social security. Mayor Pro-Tem reminded everyone that this part of the agenda was not the place for this level of detail.

#### **MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Hodo moved to approve the minutes for July 21<sup>st</sup> as presented and with a second by Councilmember Jones the motion carried.

#### **VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve vouchers 30772 through 30804, with \$22,845.73 for payroll and \$91,543.14 for claims, for a total of \$114,358.87 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

#### **CITIZEN COMMENTS - none**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Councilmember Hodo moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

 \_\_\_\_\_, Linda L. Loen, Mayor

 \_\_\_\_\_, Lisa Stowe, Clerk

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, August 18, 2015

## CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Loen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmembers Hodo, Jones, Martin, Palmer, and Strom. Also present were Public Works Director John Light, Chief Casey, and Clerk Stowe.

## AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Strom moved to accept the agenda as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo, the motion carried.

## MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Loen said the city is going forward with the sidewalk beautification project and stencils were being created.

## STAFF REPORT

Chief Casey said there have been some issues with tourists and vehicle thefts between Snohomish and Index. He also talked about property recovery and the hope that the result of the property recoveries will result in a reduction in thefts.

Director Light updated the Council on the 5<sup>th</sup> Street sidewalk project. He also talked about Animal Control Officer Beaston's recent capture of a pig with pink toenails.

## COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Palmer thanked Clerk Stowe for all the work done that the Council requested. He also thanked the staff in general for all the work they do.

Councilmember Martin thanked Chief Casey for the work he is doing, and talked briefly about the fire situation.

Councilmember Jones suggested the city consider collecting donations to help those impacted by the fires.

## CITIZEN COMMENTS - none

## OLD BUSINESS - none

## NEW BUSINESS

1. Community Transit PowerPoint Presentation. Todd Morrow with Community Transit gave a presentation on the transit system. Discussion included transit investments, helping the economy grow, protecting the quality of life, population projections, development in community transit corridors, the number of riders on busy weekdays, the return of Sunday service, and the challenge of keeping up with demand. He said the city has the opportunity to grow by asking voters for increased community transit buses, especially along the Highway 9 corridor. He said fares only cover 25% of transit cost, with ADA service being the most expensive. He said that Community Transit is not for

profit and they see the job as providing social service. He agreed that there are fewer people in Gold Bar riding the buses but that is because this is where the route begins and riders are picked up as it goes along. He compared this to Darrington where there are also few riders and said that people deserve service so it's the right thing to do even though only a few people ride.

2. Salary Review. Councilmember Strom presented his calculations on how the salary increases would impact reserves. There was discussion around percentages, the need to amend salaries through the ordinance process, and whether to make increases retroactive. After discussion Councilmember Hodo moved to create an ordinance amending the pay scale giving all employees a 4% increase, retroactive to the date of this council meeting. With a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried. Clerk Stowe thanked the Council for doing the research and work involved in this decision, and for allowing her to walk the fine line between giving them the information they need while also being a staff member impacted by their decisions. Councilmember Jones said that Clerk Stowe did a good job walking that line.

Councilmember Strom reminded everyone that this decision doesn't end the salary discussions as some positions need to be looked at. The Council also needs to look at those positions without benefits. Councilmember Palmer agreed and Councilmember Martin mentioned again all the hats that staff wear.

3. Ordinance #683 Amending Title 10, Parking. Councilmember Hodo moved to accept Ordinance #683 relating to parking fines for a second reading and adoption and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

4. 2015 Sidewalk Funding Application. This grant application is for a sidewalk along 10<sup>th</sup> Street. Director Light talked about this project and presented the application. The grant would be for \$261,027, with the city's portion being \$26,103. Applying for the grant obviously doesn't mean the city will get it. Councilmember Martin asked if there would be any impacts to the water main but Director Light said the water main is on the opposite side of the street. Councilmember Hodo moved to give Mayor Loen authority to accept the project and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

5. Replenish Meter Setters. Director Light said the back stock of meter setters has been used. There is a need right now for one, and he would like to order more to build back up the stock. He presented an invoice in the amount of \$1861.50. Councilmember Martin asked if these were used on a regular basis, which they are. Councilmember Strom asked if these were the ones that are Wi-Fi readable. Director Light said that these are the setters, not the meters themselves. Councilmember Hodo moved to approve \$1861.50 for the purchase of meter setters and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

6. 2015 Small City Preservation Program. Director Light said this would be a grant for street overlays next year, for 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, which gets a lot of traffic. This project would create an overlay from SR2 up to the first speed bump, depending on asphalt costs. He said it will be an easier project than the one on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue West. The grant would be in the amount of \$179,930 with the city's portion being \$17,993. Councilmember Martin asked about continuing the overlay all the way to May Creek but Director Light said the city would be unlikely to get a grant for a project of that size. Councilmember Hodo said that stretch of 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue was in bad need. Councilmember Jones said that since parking fees were now raised the city could start ticketing the people who block the street and damage the street with their heavy use. Councilmember Strom moved to give authority to Mayor Loen to enter into this grant process and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

7. EC Power Systems Contract. Director Light said this is a renewal of the contract in place with the company for review and maintenance on well generators. Councilmember Strom asked Director Light if he was happy with the service, which he is. Councilmember Hodo moved to renew the contract with EC Power Systems and with a second by Councilmember Jones the motion carried.

#### **FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS**

Councilmember Strom said it was nice to be looking at spending funds on positive things.

Councilmember Palmer brought up the farmer's market discussed at the last meeting and asked to have that put on the next agenda for further discussion. Councilmember Martin said the Herald had an article about a Gold Bar man with a Japanese food truck, and that something like this was an example of what could be done at a farmer's market.

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Hodo moved to approve the minutes for August 5<sup>th</sup> 2015 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve vouchers 30805 through 30841, with \$2,200 for payroll and \$110,816.69 for claims, for a total of \$113,016.69 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Glenrose Williams asked what a meter setter was and Director Light explained.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Councilmember Martin moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

 \_\_\_\_\_, Linda L. Loen, Mayor

 \_\_\_\_\_, Lisa Stowe, Clerk

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, September 1, 2015

## CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Loen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmembers Hodo, Jones, Martin, Palmer, and Strom. Also present were Deputy Gray and Clerk Stowe.

## AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Hodo moved to accept the agenda as presented and with a second by Councilmember Strom, the motion carried.

## MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Loen received forty-five signatures asking the city to look once again at the issue of allowing WATVs on city streets. She reminded the council that the survey the city had done on this issue was returned with 132 votes against allowing the activity. She asked the Council if they wished to readdress the issue in light of the new signatures. Councilmember Palmer asked how many signatures were required. Clerk Stowe reminded him that this was not an official petition so it would simply be a matter of whether the Council wanted to look at the subject again. Councilmember Martin said a lot of people did not respond to the survey and people she'd spoken with were actually in favor. Councilmember Strom said that obtaining signatures was a lot of work and that these forty-five people should be heard. Councilmember Hodo suggested checking with the county to find out if they were going to open May Creek Road to the use because opening that road made a difference. Clerk Stowe reminded the Council that at this point all that was needed was a decision whether to have the issue on the agenda at the next meeting. If they wished to discuss the matter at this meeting, she said they should amend the agenda to add it as an agenda item. The consensus was to have the item on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

Mayor Loen reminded everyone that school starts back up this coming Tuesday and to watch for schoolkids.

## STAFF REPORT

Deputy Gray filled in for Chief Casey and was present in case anyone had information to pass on to the Chief.

## COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Strom will miss the next two meetings. He also said he'd heard reports of bacteria in the rivers.

Councilmember Palmer asked for an update on the sidewalk paving project. Mayor Loen said the artwork would be placed on the edges of the sidewalk rather than in the center where there would be heavier traffic.

Councilmember Martin thanked Mayor Loen for all the work she has put into the children's artwork. She reminded people the state fair was going on, and then said the fire department will be holding their annual rummage sale on Labor Day, and that donations are being accepted.

## CITIZEN COMMENTS

Dorothy Croshaw asked the Council to use their microphones.

**OLD BUSINESS - none**

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Gold Bar Farmer's Market. Councilmember Palmer would like to see this happen. There was brief discussion around talking to other farmer's markets in neighboring cities to see if those people would also like to come to Gold Bar. The Council also talked about other entities that could be approached, such as the Sky Valley Chamber of Commerce. Councilmember Palmer said these groups needed to be talked to and asked for someone to take that on. Councilmember Martin will talk to the Chamber and suggested that the Council work on some fact finding.

2. Ordinance #685, Amending 2015 Salaries. Councilmember Hodo moved to accept Ordinance #685 amending 2015 salaries for an introduction and first reading, and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

3. Smart Village Project Presentation. David Joner with Smart Village Project Associates spoke for some time, with his talking points including the following: utilizing investors from China and Iran who are waiting to invest in Gold Bar, how those investments will bring 'high-tier residential, commercial, entertainment, agriculture' etc. to Gold Bar, how they will build warehouses that will work at night, that there will be no cost to the city (although later he said that there would be a payback process), how the company will provide jobs and help those people obtain green cards and citizenships, that the first business would be Mr. Joner's business building a new type of car, how they will bring an urgent care facility to Gold Bar, and so on. He also talked about his car business in depth, as well as the businesses of two friends, one which, he said, has developed a way to clean all the litter in the city of Beijing, the other which has developed a way to take contaminated fracking water and clean it until it's drinkable.

Councilmember Palmer asked about the fracking by-products and what happens to the contaminants. There was brief discussion on this until it was decided the topic did not pertain to Gold Bar.

Councilmember Jones asked where Mr. Joner specifically was going to build his warehouse for the 400 jobs he says will be created. Mr. Joner stated there was no room in Gold Bar but he might be able to find a place in Startup. Councilmember Jones then asked what wages would be paid to these employees and Mr. Joner said wages would be competitive.

Mr. Joner then began to discuss the project further but Mayor Loen stopped him. Councilmember Strom then asked him what he wanted from Gold Bar. Mr. Joner said he wanted to hear that Gold Bar loved the concept and 'let's go for it'. Councilmember Strom asked him what that, specifically, meant, and pointed out he still had not heard what Mr. Joner wanted from Gold Bar. Mr. Joner said a letter from the city saying the city liked the project.

No action was taken.

**FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS - None**

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Strom moved to approve the minutes for August 18<sup>th</sup> 2015 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Martin, the motion carried.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve vouchers 30842 through 30876, with \$23,154.74 for payroll and \$49,515.61 for claims, for a total of \$72,670.35 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Two people asked Mr. Joner for a written summary of his proposal.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Councilmember Martin moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

 \_\_\_\_\_, Linda L. Loen, Mayor

 \_\_\_\_\_, Lisa Stowe, Clerk

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, September 15, 2015

## CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Loen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmembers Hodo, Jones, Martin, and Palmer. Also present was Clerk Stowe. Councilmember Hodo moved to excuse Councilmember Strom's absence and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

## AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Hodo moved to accept the agenda as presented and with a second by Councilmember Martin, the motion carried.

## MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Loen said the children's artwork is now installed in the 5<sup>th</sup> Street sidewalk. Councilmember Martin said this will be in the newspaper.

## STAFF REPORT

Clerk Stowe is working on the budget.

## COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Hodo asked for an update on the water rate study. There will be a meeting for staff on the 17<sup>th</sup>, and a presentation should be prepared for the Council by the council meeting on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

Councilmember Palmer said the sidewalk artwork is nice, and Councilmember Martin said the city looks like a real city with the sidewalk.

## CITIZEN COMMENTS

Glenrose Williams asked for an update on newspaper reports about fecal coliform in the rivers. There was discussion including the location of reports, which appear to be outside of Gold Bar and closer to Sultan, the agencies involved, and potential sources, including campers or failed septic systems. There appear to be no clear facts on the reports and numerous versions of the story. If people see foamy water in the rivers it is recommended that they contact the Department of Fish and Wildlife and/or the Department of Ecology.

**OLD BUSINESS** - none

## NEW BUSINESS

1. Ordinance #685, Amending 2015 Salaries. Councilmember Hodo moved to accept Ordinance #685 amending 2015 salaries for second reading and adoption and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

2. Ordinance #686, Title 3. Ordinance #686 relating to revenue and finance was presented for an introduction and first reading. This ordinance relates to Council review of budgets at the fund level vs. the line item level, and the need for Council approval for expenditures that are already approved within the budget process at the fund level. Discussion included the need to renumber the subsections of the title in the final version, that the Council will still need to grant approval for capital expenditures, and emergency funds. After discussion Councilmember Hodo moved to approve Ordinance #686 amending Title 3 for an introduction and first reading, and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

3. Ordinance #684 Amending Building Codes. Ordinance #684 was presented for an introduction and first reading. Clerk Stowe, Director Light, and Chief Casey have been working on this draft for some time in order to bring building codes up to date, to add in the underlying RCWs, and to make regulations easier to enforce. After discussion, Councilmember Hodo moved to accept Ordinance #684 amending building codes for an introduction and first reading, and with a second by Councilmember Jones the motion carried.

#### **FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS**

Councilmember Martin continues research and work on farmer's markets. There was brief discussion around this.

#### **MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Hodo moved to approve the minutes for September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Martin, the motion carried.

#### **VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve vouchers 30877 through 30903, with \$2,200 for payroll and \$24,729.40 for claims, for a total of \$26,929.40 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

#### **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

A resident asked for an update on the presentation on Smart Cities from the last meeting. Mayor Loen said there would be no action unless the Council wanted to pursue it. Councilmember Hodo saw no reason to put any more time into that. Councilmember Palmer prefers to do work within the city without foreign investors. Councilmember Martin said the presentation was overwhelming but the city also needs to look at growth. Councilmember Jones talked about the inability to get the presenter to give factual answers, that the presenter talked to him about a development company that does not appear to exist, and that the presentation was all smoke and mirrors. He is in support of development in Gold Bar but other options should be explored and, as the adage says, if something seems too good to be true it usually is. Mayor Loen also said that the presenter told her afterwards that if the city was listed as the owner in these investments, the funds would be a loan. Councilmember Hodo said any further interactions must include specifics such as blueprints that could be researched.

Dorothy Crowshaw complained about a freezer in a yard with its door still attached, and multiple real estate signs on city right of way. Both will be looked into.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Councilmember Jones moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

 Linda L. Loen, Mayor

 Lisa Stowe, Clerk

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, October 6, 2015

## CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Due to the absences of Mayor Loen and Mayor Pro-Tem Strom, Clerk Stowe requested the Council to appoint a Mayor Pro-Tem for this meeting. Councilmember Martin moved to appoint Councilmember Hodo as Mayor Pro-Tem for the October 6, 2015 Council meeting and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

Mayor Pro-Tem Hodo called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmembers Jones, Martin, and Palmer. Also present were Public Works Director Light, Chief Casey, and Clerk Stowe. Councilmember Jones moved to excuse the absences of Councilmember Strom and Mayor Loen and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

## AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Palmer moved to amend the agenda to move the water rate study discussion to the first item under New Business and with a second by Councilmember Martin, the motion carried.

**MAYOR'S REPORT** – No report

## STAFF REPORT

Chief Casey talked about an ongoing Amber Alert for a missing teen with an infant. Because aspects did not match strict criteria, this Amber Alert was not broadcast. The teen is believed to be in the Index area. Also believed to be in the Index area is a person of interest in a violent assault in Monroe. This person is also wanted for dragging a deputy with a vehicle. The man has connections to Gold Bar. Chief Casey said his name has not yet been released but that people should expect to see both local police and federal officers looking for the man.

Chief Casey also talked about the new computer system and that is currently being tested. It goes live October 27<sup>th</sup> which may result in delays for low level response calls as people are still learning the system.

Director Light said the city is flushing hydrants between 10:00 pm and 2:00 am in order to have the least amount of impact on residents. He talked about the 5<sup>th</sup> Street sidewalk project being complete, and that there was a slight cost overrun in the amount of approximately \$1800 due to extra concrete for the sidewalk artwork. Director Light has applied for a grant for similar work to be done on 10<sup>th</sup> Street, and has also applied for CDBG funds to replace the water main in the same location.

## COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Martin invited people to attend the fire department auxiliary pancake breakfast on October 10<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 am until 11:00 am at the station in town.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS** - None

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Water Rate Study Discussion. Katy Isaksen gave a presentation with information from the ongoing water rate study. Discussion included capital improvement projects, average residential water use, residential base rates, consumption rates, reserve contributions, assessment for capital and debt, cost averages, rates for commercial users, rates for users outside city limits, capital facilities charges, the age of the water system, increasing costs of repairs, requirements to provide a level of service to customers, the dramatic improvements that have been made in leak prevention, and that utilities need to be sustainable.

After discussion Councilmember Hodo felt it might take the Council one or two special meetings to absorb all the information and come to decisions. The staff feels any changes should be in place by January 1<sup>st</sup> which helps with budgeting.

Clerk Stowe thanked Ms. Isaksen for the work she has done on the study for the city, and for presenting all the information in such a comprehensive manner.

Councilmember Jones pointed out that some of the proposed residential rates are very close to what is being charged in the County. Ms. Isaksen said that the PUD raises their rates every year in increments, rather than doing a large jump to catch up.

Councilmember Martin has been reading articles on rate increases for other entities and everyone is facing the need to prepare for aging infrastructures.

2. Ordinance #686, Title 3. Ordinance #686 relating to revenue and finance was presented for action. Councilmember Palmer moved to adopt Ordinance #686 amending Title 3 as presented, and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

3. Ordinance #684 Amending Building Codes. Ordinance #684 was presented for action. Councilmember Palmer moved to adopt Ordinance #684 amending building codes as presented and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

4. Department of Emergency Management Interlocal. This is an interlocal renewed every three years for emergency services. Councilmember Martin moved to authorize Mayor Loen to sign the DEM interlocal as presented and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

5. Councilmember Jones moved to amend the agenda to correct New Business item 'retention pond cleaning estimate' to 'catch basin cleaning estimate' and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried. The estimate is from Econo-Vac, the company regularly used for cleaning the catch basins for the city. Their quote for the job came in at \$7,523 which is under the \$11,000 that was budgeted. Director Light was not sure if the estimate included dumping fees. Councilmember Martin moved to authorize Mayor Loen to approve the proposal for catch basin work up to the budgeted amount of \$11,000 and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

**FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS -None**

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve the minutes for September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Martin, the motion carried.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve vouchers 30904 through 30935, with \$27,288.82 for payroll and \$13,226.50 for claims, for a total of \$40,515.32 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Dorothy Crowshaw pointed out that the agenda listed the minutes as September 1<sup>st</sup> rather than September 15<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Councilmember Martin moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Jones the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

 \_\_\_\_\_, Linda L. Loen, Mayor

 \_\_\_\_\_, Lisa Stowe, Clerk

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, October 20, 2015

## CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Loen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmembers Hodo, Jones, Martin, and Palmer. Also present was Clerk Stowe. Councilmember Martin moved to excuse Councilmember Strom's absence and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

## AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Hodo moved to accept the agenda as presented and with a second by Councilmember Palmer, the motion carried.

## MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Loen talked briefly about the water rate study, including planning to send a letter out to residents.

## STAFF REPORT

Chief Casey talked about the new computer system that goes live October 27<sup>th</sup>. The current system will continue to work as a backup during the transition period.

## COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Hodo asked for clarification regarding the water rate letter that will go out to citizens. He reminded the Mayor that the new rates need to go into effect January 1<sup>st</sup> and that the rate increase has to be done one way or another.

Councilmember Palmer continues work on internet providers.

Councilmember Martin said the fire department breakfast was a success.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS** - None

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

## NEW BUSINESS

1. Budget Update. Treasurer Stowe talked about what the Council can expect to see in the upcoming budget ordinance. These included things like budgeting for two upcoming grants, improving kennels used for animal control, the need for more small tools, predicted increases in tax revenue, and the possibility that some capital purchases budgeted for in 2015 may roll over into 2016.

2. Water Rate Study. There was a great deal of discussion around the proposed rate increases. Discussion points included meter sizes, usage, commercial increases, assessments vs. usage, the number of years to take action on, and comparisons with rates charged by PUD.

There was also a great deal of discussion around discounts for those with low incomes. Councilmembers felt very strongly about not causing hardships for seniors. Discussion included sliding scales, how many residents currently receive discounts, the need to fix an aging infrastructure, size of households, and the need to make decisions based on what the city needs rather than what other districts charge.

It is anticipated that a draft resolution will be ready for review at the next Council meeting.

3. Annual Certification of Board of Health Representative. Snohomish Mayor Guzak has represented East County towns and cities for a few years now and is willing to continue representation. Councilmember Hodo moved to accept Mayor Guzak as Gold Bar's representative to the Board of Health and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

**FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS -None**

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Hodo moved to approve the minutes for October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Martin, the motion carried.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve vouchers 30936 through 30962, with \$2,200.00 for payroll and \$258,835.86 for claims, for a total of \$261,035.86 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS - None**

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business. Councilmember Martin moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

 \_\_\_\_\_, Linda L. Loen, Mayor

 \_\_\_\_\_, Lisa Stowe, Clerk

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, November 3, 2015

## CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Loen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmembers Hodo, Jones, Martin, Palmer, and Strom. Also present were Clerk Stowe and Chief Casey.

## AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Hodo moved to accept the agenda as presented and with a second by Councilmember Strom, the motion carried.

## MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Loen said the city was in the audit phase for 2014 and things were looking good so far. She will have more results in the next couple weeks.

## STAFF REPORT

Clerk Stowe received flyers from AWC listing trainings for elected officials if anyone is interested.

Chief Casey talked about the new computer system and said it is working well. Reporting is a little slower than normal so the focus is on higher priority cases. Statistics on the current report may be a bit skewed as they are trying to meld that report with the new system. The report only goes to the 27<sup>th</sup> of October. He also talked briefly about a domestic violence call where one of the deputies ended up attacked by a dog, and that a deceased person was found near Sultan. The person of interest in that case is in custody.

## COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Strom is glad to be back and Councilmember Martin is also glad he's back.

## CITIZEN COMMENTS

Joe Beavers spoke about the utility tax on water and that it is currently paid by those on city water. He said there are those within city limits that are on PUD water and do not pay that utility tax to the city. He feels they should.

## OLD BUSINESS - None

## NEW BUSINESS

1. Water Rate Study. The Council asked at the last meeting for how many people are on the reduced rate for low income. Mayor Loen said there are about twenty. She said the city lawyer also agreed that assessments can be based on meter size. Mayor Loen thinks the city should do this because of the higher replacement costs of larger meters as well as increased usage. There was discussion about the current rates.

Discussion also centered around 'trying on' the increased rates for two years, sending a letter out once the resolution is drafted for discussion, commercial usage, and rates for mobile home units. No motion or action was needed at this time.

2. Resolution #15-09, Property Taxes. Clerk Stowe presented the draft resolution with an increase of 6% to include banked capacity. She explained that she chose this percentage because the city had elected to take banked capacity last year. She suggested that the Council consider instead simply taking the 1% increase, especially when weighed against the upcoming increase in water rates. The Council agreed and Clerk Stowe will present a revised version of the resolution at the next meeting that will reflect the 1% change.

3. Levy Certification Authorization. Clerk Stowe said this is the second part of the property tax certification and should be tabled until the resolution is presented at the next meeting.

4. 2016 Budget Update. Clerk Stowe presented reports for the proposed budget. While the Council adopts a budget at the fund level, she included a line item report for their information. She asked them to review the draft figures and reports, and bring any questions to her over the next two weeks. She will have this proposed budget in ordinance format at the next Council meeting, which then leaves the Council two more meetings to review and take action.

**FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS**

Councilmember Jones reminded people that with daylight savings time changing it is darker and children will be harder to see. He asked that people remember to slow down and keep an eye out for the kids.

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Hodo moved to approve the minutes for October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Martin, the motion carried.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve vouchers 30963 through 30996, with \$25,412.17 for payroll and \$20,843.87 for claims, for a total of \$25,412.17 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo the motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Joe Beavers talked about the recent rain and stormwater regulations. He drove around during the heavy rain and found that storm drains had water up to curbs, that grassy swales stayed pretty clear except for swales where people parked, and that the May Creek road drain was totally flooded. He said the Stormwater ordinance reflects the amount of rain that falls within a 24-hour period but should also reflect the amount of rain that can fall in a heavy fall event in a short amount of time.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Councilmember Jones moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

 , Linda L. Loen, Mayor

 , Lisa Stowe, Clerk

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, December 1, 2015

## CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Loen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmembers Hodo, Jones, Martin, and Palmer. Also present were Public Works Director Light, Clerk Stowe and Chief Casey.

Councilmember Hodo moved to excuse Councilmember Strom's absence and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

## AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Martin moved to accept the agenda as presented and with a second by Councilmember Hodo, the motion carried.

## MAYOR'S REPORT

The tree lighting ceremony will be December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

The 2014 financial audit is almost complete and the exit meeting will be December 15<sup>th</sup>. The city continues to improve.

## STAFF REPORT

Chief Casey talked about the new computer system and the ongoing learning curve. There have been a few burglaries in town, as well as one assault behind the blueberry farm in the homeless camp. Chief Casey rescued a barred owl after a resident reported seeing it caught in a fish net. The owl is doing well.

Director Light said the city did not get the grants for the 10<sup>th</sup> Street sidewalk or the 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue overlay projects. He will meet with the Department of Transportation for any grants that might be out there. The water main grant is still a possibility.

## COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Palmer has found some good leads on internet services and continues to work on that.

Councilmember Martin said the Red Hat group is accepting donations for stockings for children and are asking for things like soaps, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and socks. She thanked Mayor Loen for allowing the group to fill stockings at the city hall.

Councilmember Jones talked about new storage units that have been constructed in the area of Amanda Avenue and SR2. Some residents now have their views consist of these new structures, which drops their property values. There was discussion around the structures being of legal height and in the commercial zone, and the possibility of revising municipal codes.

## CITIZEN COMMENTS

Jane Bogliri asked for the city's sign ordinance.

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Resolution 15-11, Draft Water Rate Fees. Mayor Loen reviewed proposed changes to water rates. This draft resolution is the result of the recent water rate study conducted over the last few months and discussed at previous meetings. She said now was the time for the Council to discuss the tightrope of balancing the need for revenue with what's realistic for residents.

There was a great deal of discussion around overage rates, removal of commercial and residential 'per connection' fees, commercial base rates, assessment charges per water meter size, and accepting changes for one or two years.

Council discussion was interrupted by residents in the audience. Clerk Stowe reminded them that there would be a time for citizen comments and that discussions by residents made it difficult for the Council to hear.

Council discussion then moved to the change to minimum usage of 5,000 gallons and the hardship this would create for businesses.

When the Mayor called for citizen comments, Joe Beavers suggested removing the size of meters from the equation, keeping the minimum usage at 5,000, but then charging everyone the same rate for overage use.

Jane Bogliri said she thought the city wanted to encourage business but this could make businesses close doors. She said she also generates revenue from the city through business licensing and sales tax, which residents do not. She then engaged the Mayor in discussion around why the city is doing this and the credentials of the company that did the water rate study. At this point Councilmember Hodo called for a point of order and said there would be no arguments between citizens and the Council. The conversation overrode Councilmember Hodo and Mayor Loen utilized the gavel to restore order.

Mayor Loen said she hoped residents and the Council would make suggestions prior to the next Council meeting.

2. Resolution 15-10, Deposits. Mayor Loen said this resolution was to clarify when bank deposits should be done, and was created at the recommendation of the auditor. Councilmember Jones moved to accept Resolution 15-10 relating to deposits as presented and Councilmember Martin seconded the motion.

At this point Councilmember Hodo exited the meeting. Clerk Stowe noted the time of his departure at 7:45 pm and informed the Council that a quorum still existed and they could continue with the agenda.

Mayor Loen then called for a vote on the motion and the motion carried.

3. Ordinance #687, 2016 Budget. Clerk Stowe presented the draft ordinance. She reminded the Council about the change regarding rolling up sub-funds and talked about the need to monitor spending, especially with the general fund. Revenue for the general fund is difficult to control due to the majority coming from taxes outside the city's power to change. A difficulty for the Council will be looking at raising water rates when at the same time there may be a need to increase the general fund revenue the city can control, such as animal licensing and business licensing. The biggest difficulty for the general fund is the litigation expenses, which can be anticipated to continue. She also talked about the Stormwater fund as this one is also challenged to come up with revenue to cover expenses.

There was discussion around possible increases in motor vehicle fuel tax revenue due to House Bills adopted by the legislature, state revenues decreasing which will trickle down to the city, and that in the coming year if new expenditures are presented the Council should also remember to look at where revenue will come from to cover those.

Estimates from Backwoods Construction for potential projects in 2016 were discussed. Clerk Stowe used these as an example of how spending should be monitored for the coming year. For example, one was for repairs to the area where dogs are impounded and kept. Some of the work on the estimate is needed for safety and security, but some are improvements that might be able to wait until the following year.

One estimate was for the demolition and replacement of the gazebo in the SR2 park. This led to discussion around who owned the property and what costs were actually the city's.

With no further discussion, Councilmember Jones moved to accept Ordinance #687 for an introduction and first reading, and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

Stowe asked that the Council bring comments, questions, and suggestions to her prior to the next Council meeting in order to have any revisions ready for the meeting.

4. Ordinance #688, Amending the 2015 Budget. Clerk Stowe presented this amendment to the 2015 budget and talked about the need to amend the budget for fund 302 relating to grants. This is the only fund in need of amendment for 2015. After brief discussion, Councilmember Palmer moved to accept Ordinance #688 relating to amending the 2015 budget for an introduction and first reading, and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

5. Ordinance #689 Amending Title 3, Petty Cash. This ordinance was created on the recommendation of the auditor and relates to how often the petty cash fund must be replenished. Councilmember Martin moved to accept Ordinance #689 relating to Title 3, Petty Cash for an introduction and first reading, and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

6. Northend Excavating. An estimate from Northend Excavating was presented for work on Stormwater facilities, including retention ponds. Director Light said this proposal was budgeted for \$35,000 in the 2015 budget but due to work loads and weather it was unlikely the work would be completed prior to the end of the year. He asked the Council to consider rolling this over into the 2016 budget. Stowe said she would have to adjust revenues in order to maintain a balanced budget.

Councilmember Martin moved to accept the bid for Stormwater improvements in the 2016 budget and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

7. Resolution 15-09, Property Taxes. This resolution was item #8 on the agenda but Clerk Stowe asked to discuss it first as the Levy Certification was the second part of this resolution. This resolution relates to property taxes for the coming year. Councilmember Palmer moved to accept Resolution 15-09 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Jones the motion carried.

8. Levy Certification. Councilmember Jones moved to authorize Mayor Loen to certify the property taxes for 2016 and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

**FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS - None**

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Jones moved to approve the minutes for November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Palmer, the motion carried.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve vouchers 30997 through 31023, with \$2,200 for payroll and \$19,067.77 for claims, for a total of \$21,267.77 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Jones the motion carried. These vouchers are from the November 17<sup>th</sup> Council meeting that was cancelled due to the storm event.

Councilmember Palmer then moved to approve vouchers 31024 through 31058 with \$24,062.36 for payroll and \$24,178.34 for claims for a total of \$48,240.70 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Glenrose Williams was part of a meeting a few years ago related to the SR2 gazebo and ownership was not clear. It was also not clear who built the original gazebo. This led to further discussion around whether the owners would allow a new gazebo to be built if the old one was demolished, comparisons to similar instances in Sultan and Startup, what responsibilities were the property owner's, and potential liability to the city.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Councilmember Martin moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

 \_\_\_\_\_, Linda L. Loen, Mayor

 \_\_\_\_\_, Lisa Stowe, Clerk

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, December 15, 2015

## **CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL**

Mayor Loen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmembers Jones, Martin, Palmer, and Strom. Also present were Public Works Director Light, Clerk Stowe and Chief Casey.

Mayor Loen announced with great sadness the resignation of Councilmember Hodo. He was a valuable member of the Council and will be missed.

## **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Councilmember Strom moved to accept the agenda as presented and with a second by Councilmember Martin, the motion carried.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Loen thanked everyone who volunteered and showed up for the tree lighting ceremony. She then reviewed the procedure for applying for a Council seat.

## **STAFF REPORT**

Chief Casey said things are getting better with the new computer system. He talked briefly about vehicle prowls and burglaries. He then talked about acceptable conduct during a Council meeting and reminded people of the rules of conduct.

Clerk Stowe thanked the auditors for the recent audit process.

## **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Strom was sorry about Councilmember Hodo and also thanked Councilmember Jones for his service.

Councilmember Martin echoed missing Councilmember Hodo. She said he was a strong, knowledgeable, and contributing member of the Council.

## **CITIZEN COMMENTS - None**

## **OLD BUSINESS - None**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Auditor Exit Debriefing. Auditors Kristina Baylor, Brian Goldrick, and Cami Bilderback reviewed the city's audit of 2014. There were no findings and Ms. Bilderback said the city had taken significant steps to resolve previous findings. She also said staff was very timely in responding to audit requests, which allowed time spent on the audit to be kept at a minimum. Things that are either in the process of being improved, or still need some work, included

cost allocations, procurement process, and the financial position which has improved but still needs monitoring. Councilmember Strom brought up the limited staff to do the work and the auditors agreed and offered resources. Regarding the financial review portion of the audit, the city is moving forward and management recommendations were made. Councilmember Martin thanked the auditors for the positive report.

2. Ordinance #687, 2016 budget. Councilmember Strom moved to adopt Ordinance #687 adopting the budget for 2016 as written and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

3. Ordinance #688, 2015 budget amendment. Councilmember Martin moved to adopt Ordinance #688 amending the 2015 budget as written and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

4. Ordinance #689, petty cash. Councilmember Strom moved to adopt Ordinance #689 amending Title 3 relating to petty cash as presented and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

5. Resolution #15-12, Personnel Manual. Clerk Stowe presented the draft personnel manual, which needs to be updated. She asked the Council to read through the manual and bring any comments or questions to her.

6. USDA Banking. Clerk Stowe said the city typically pays the annual USDA loan payment by check but that USDA would prefer an automatic withdrawal. After brief discussion, Councilmember Strom moved to authorize setting up automatic withdrawals for the USDA payment and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

7. Board of Health Appointee. The Council elected Snohomish Mayor Guzak as representative to the Board of Health, but she has decided to step down. Councilmember Martin moved to accept Monroe Councilmember Rassmussen as the Board of Health representative for Gold Bar and with a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried.

8. CDBG Grant Authorization. Director Light asked for authorization from the Council to apply for a grant in the amount of \$100,000 for water main work on 10<sup>th</sup> Street. Councilmember Palmer moved to authorize Public Works Director Light to apply for the CDBG grant for water main work and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

9. Department of Corrections Contract. This contract is for the work crews utilized by the city. Councilmember Martin said they did a lot of good work. She then moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into the contract with the Department of Corrections and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

10. Resolution #15-11, Water Rate Fees. There was a great deal of discussion around the proposed water rate changes based on Department of Health recommendations and the results of the Water Rate Study.

Tracy Cotterill understands the need for the increase but feels like it's a double hit between raising rates and lowering usage.

Brooke Aldridge asked who was being targeted, what other conservation efforts were being taken, and what his percentage of the increase would be. He said the city was bankrupt, and that business owners had created a consortium of lawyers who will say 'poo-poo'. Councilmember Martin told him the city was not bankrupt.

Ralph Wood talked about money borrowed from the water fund for litigation and asked if those funds were encumbered. Mayor Loen told him that the money borrowed had been fully paid back into the water fund and had nothing to do with the rate increase.

Titan Cox talked about the decrease in the amount of water vs. the rate increase per gallon and feels this is out of line. He said either the money or the usage needed to change.

Councilmember Jones asked Director Light about the average life of the water system. There was discussion around the aging infrastructure and costs of replacement.

Brooke Aldridge talked about the cost to him because of owning multiple units. Mayor Loen told him the lower rate for multiple users.

Councilmember Martin reminded everyone that the Resolution would not be acted on at this meeting and that the Council would consider all comments.

John Dawson asked about the criteria used to replace the system, where replacement would start, and over what period of time this would happen. Director Light discussed this. Mr. Dawson then asked if there was a map with the phases delineated. Director Light said maps were on the website and within the Water Comprehensive Plan which can be reviewed at the city hall. Director Light also offered to meet with Mr. Dawson.

Ralph Wood and Mayor Loen talked about rates.

Brooke Aldridge asked what his bill would be for his multiple units and said he provided affordable housing. He asked for a response from the Council but rather than waiting until the Council was able to respond he became agitated and left the Council chambers.

Councilmember Palmer talked about how the rate study covered a period of twenty years but the Council is trying to decide on one year and rates that would work without stress to people.

Steve Fore said the rate increase is nothing more than putting a finger in a dyke. He would like to see town hall meetings where everyone who had a stake in the system could find a way to pull together.

Councilmember Jones asked what would happen if the city did not raise the rates. Clerk Stowe said the city would no longer be in compliance with the Department of Health as it would not be able to provide the level of service required through the Water Comprehensive Plan.

Councilmember Strom said the other side of discussion is water conservation, which is federally mandated.

Councilmember Palmer thanked Steve Fore for being willing to help the city. He said the rate increase may not be a lot of money but it was better than forgetting about it, and that the city is hoping to balance keeping expenses down while building a reserve.

Steve Fore said that people needed to get together to find other solutions and asked again for town hall meetings. Councilmember Palmer said he is personally taking into consideration all input and offered to meet with Mr. Fore.

John Dawson said there is not a lot of information on what the residents will get back and that people need to see what is coming back to them, such as a plan for repairing the system. Clerk Stowe said the resolution deals only with the rate increase, but the plans Mr. Dawson referred to were in the city's Capital Improvement Plan and the Water Comprehensive Plan. Clerk Stowe said the Capital Improvement Plan is updated each year and the Council had been working on the Water Comprehensive Plan since 2003, with public hearings, but few people attend Council meetings until an issue touches their pocketbook.

Mayor Loen said anyone can come to the city hall to review the Water Comprehensive Plan and in concluding the discussion, invited people to come to the city hall. Resolution #15-11 will be continued until the January 5<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

#### **FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS**

Councilmember Jones said this was his last Council meeting. He talked about the low attendance at Council meetings and encouraged everyone in the audience to get more involved. He said the city is not a profit organization and won't be making money on the rate increases. He felt it was a shame that it comes to people getting a letter to make them come out to a meeting, and that involvement is more important especially in small cities.

Councilmember Martin said she would miss Councilmember Jones, as did Councilmember Strom. Councilmember Strom then recommended audience members to give being a Councilmember a try. He thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve.

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Martin moved to amend the minutes for December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 to correct the spelling of Jane Boglivi's name and with a second by Councilmember Jones, the motion carried with Councilmember Strom abstaining.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve vouchers 31059 through 31080, with \$2,200 for payroll and \$13707.16 for claims, for a total of \$15907.16 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Strom the motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Steve Fore said the mayor needs to go out and visit residents. He also talked about past road work.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Councilmember Strom moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Palmer the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Linda L. Loen, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Lisa Stowe, Clerk

