

City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5th Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, May 17, 2016

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Hodo called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Present were Councilmembers Dawson, Diaz, Martin, Wallace, and Ware. Also present was Chief Casey and Clerk Stowe.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Wallace moved to approve the agenda as presented and with a second by Councilmember Dawson the motion carried. Clerk Stowe said the final citizen comment section would actually be the open forum.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Hodo has a meeting set up with a property owner to discuss parking issues around Wallace Falls. The property owner is considering allowing parking, with groups like the Boy Scouts collecting fees and the money then donated to that group.

Mayor Hodo will attend a meeting June 3rd with the County Council regarding tax increases for law enforcement.

Mayor Hodo asked the Council to research a Transportation Improvement District. The city considered this in 2014 but at the time it was complicated. Legislation has now made it a simpler process. He reminded the Council that at the time, potential revenue for the city would have been around \$40,000 and that if the city does not elect to create a district, the County will set one up and the city won't see any revenue. He recommended that the Council start their research with Municipal Research Services Center.

Mayor Hodo also asked the Council to consider offering insurance coverage to employee spouses.

Mayor Hodo asked Ray Coleman to speak to the Council regarding Law Enforcement Week. Mr. Coleman talked about the history of National Law Enforcement Week and the memorial wall in Washington DC. He asked that everyone remember all those lost and named those lost in Washington. He included the K9 officers who died in the line of duty. He suggested people look at the Officers Down Memorial Page online for more information on those officers who's End of Watch was this year. He asked everyone to remember our deputies and to help keep them safe.

STAFF REPORT

Chief Casey said flags were to be at half-mast on the 18th in memory of the local National Guard member who was killed recently. Chief Casey also talked about the Proctor Creek fire. He said the fire department did a great job containing the fire with wind blowing like it was. Chief Casey then reminded everyone how cold the river water still is, and the dangers of that cold, the high water levels, and the risks of whitewater.

Regarding Mr. Coleman's presentation, Chief Casey talked about protecting communities, personal protection, and the Below One Hundred program to help in reducing deaths and impacts on the community.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Martin said she was proud of agency responses to the fire and asked everyone to be aware of increased fire danger.

Councilmember Ware said he'd been previously excused from attending this meeting but was able to after all.

Councilmember Dawson has a son in law enforcement and talked about what can be done to help keep officers safe. Chief Casey said it helps to be the eyes and ears of law enforcement, to be aware of a person's surroundings and to call in. He also said it was equally important to not hesitate to report police officers if they are do something unsafe. Last year more officers died from intentional violent acts than in car accidents, which were the more typical causes of officer death.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Tracy Cotterill thanked Chief Casey and officers for their response to another issue with the VFW Hall and renters. She wondered if VFW needed a business license since they rented the building out. She also asked about a feasibility study with the PUD.

Dorothy Crowshaw said if liquor is offered at the VFW then a liquor license is required but the VFW is a non-profit organization so no business license is required. She also said there is supposed to be no noise after 10:00 pm and nominal noise prior.

Mayor Hodo said he hasn't heard anything about the feasibility study and the Council could take that up if they wished.

Vicky McDaniel thanked Mr. Coleman and asked for more information on Law Enforcement Week. She also asked Councilmember Martin to pass on her thanks for the hard work done on the fire. She said things were well organized and people were kept well informed. She asked if anyone knew how it started but there is no information on that yet.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

1. Water Usage Thresholds. Clerk Stowe told the Council that the difference between using 6,000 gallons and 7500 gallons works out to around \$9.00 in additional fees. Councilmember Diaz moved to increase water usage to 7500 gallons in the months of June, July, and August, and Councilmember Wallace seconded the motion. Clerk Stowe then asked the Council to disclose any financial benefit from this action. Each Councilmember has the potential to benefit financially simply from living within city limits and the benefit would be the same as for any resident. Councilmember Ware said he has a blueberry farm business but did not benefit financially as he does not use water for the farm. Clerk Stowe then said that none of the financial benefit disclosures precluded Councilmembers from voting on the motion. Mayor Hodo then called for a vote and the motion carried.

2. Resolution #16-04, Public Records Processing Procedures. Councilmember Diaz moved to adopt Resolution #16-04 and Councilmember Ware seconded the motion. Councilmember Dawson had concerns about the section on accepting oral requests. After discussion the Council felt the city should not accept oral requests. Clerk Stowe will ask the city attorney about making changes.

Councilmember Wallace had concerns about the disclaimer of liability and the statement that if staff acted on good faith they would not be accountable. He felt that was in conflict with the list of RCWs attached, because if there was a violation of the RCW, staff could still be accountable whether they acted in good faith or not. Clerk Stowe will also ask the city attorney about this. Councilmember Wallace also recommended changing a phrase relating to contact information.

Because further information was needed before taking action, Councilmember Diaz asked Clerk Stowe for the best way to handle the motion he'd made. After brief discussion Mayor Hodo called for a vote and the motion died for lack of action.

Councilmember Wallace then moved to have the resolution sent back to the city attorney for answers to their questions and with a second by both Councilmembers Diaz and Dawson, the motion carried.

3. Ordinance #691, Amending Title 5, Business Licenses. Councilmember Ware moved to accept Ordinance #691 for an introduction and first reading and with a second by Councilmember Wallace the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Ordinance # 692, Amending Title 15, Buildings and Construction. Councilmember Wallace moved to accept Ordinance #692 for an introduction and first reading and with a second by Councilmember Ware the motion carried.

2. Resolution #16-06, Financial Plan. Councilmember Ware moved to accept Resolution #16-06 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Diaz the motion carried. Councilmember Dawson asked about voter registration fees and that he thought voting was free. Clerk Stowe explained that cities pay a percentage of election costs, based on the number of registered voters in city limits.

FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Wallace asked to be excused from the June 21st and July 5th Council meetings. Councilmember Martin moved to excuse Councilmember Wallace and with a second by Councilmember Diaz the motion carried.

Councilmember Martin reminded everyone that Law Enforcement Week also included EMTs.

Councilmember Diaz asked if insurance for spouses, as brought up earlier by Mayor Hodo, wasn't standard for cities. Mayor Hodo told him only if cities could afford it. There was brief discussion around costs and what percentage the city would cover. With no further discussion, Councilmember Ware moved to allow insurance coverage for spouses and with a second by Councilmember Diaz the motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Councilmember Wallace moved to accept the May 3rd, 2016 minutes as presented and with a second by Councilmember Diaz the motion carried.

VOUCHER APPROVAL

Councilmember Diaz moved to approve vouchers 31367 through 31392, with \$2200.00 for payroll and \$31173.24 for claims, for a total of \$33373.24 as presented and both Councilmembers Martin and Wallace seconded the motion. Councilmember Dawson asked about the difference in payroll costs as compared to the previous meeting. Clerk Stowe said employees are paid monthly but that some elected to take a mid-month draw. With no further discussion a vote was called for and the motion carried.

OPEN FORUM

Tracy Cotterill asked if the city had plans to make fireworks education a higher priority this year. After discussion, Clerk Stowe said she would ask Office Manager Beaston about putting up signs earlier than normal.

ADJOURNMENT

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

 _____, Lee Hodo, Mayor

 _____, Lisa Stowe, Clerk

