

City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5th Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, May 2, 2017

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Pro-Tem Davis called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present was Councilmembers Dawson, Diaz, and Wallace. Also present was Chief Casey, Public Works Director Light, and Clerk Stowe. Mayor Hodo was unable to attend the meeting.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Wallace moved to amend the agenda to include Resolution #17-06 and Councilmember Dawson seconded the motion. Councilmember Diaz then moved to amend the motion to include correcting the amount of claims listed on the agenda, and with a second by Councilmember Wallace the amended motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT - None

STAFF REPORT

Chief Casey talked about an upcoming Search and Rescue effort to locate a missing person. He also talked about the extreme danger of carfentanyl. This drug can be life threatening at minute amounts, can be absorbed through the skin if touched, and is equally dangerous if inhaled. It can be a white powder or liquid. He said to not assume a white powder is cocaine or meth, to stay away from it, and to call 911. He also talked about an uptick in burglaries including guns and said gun owners should lock up their weapons.

Clerk Stowe presented a thank you card to the Council from the Red Hats for the City's assistance with the recent egg hunt. She said the City's financial report for 2016 is done and available for review at the City Hall. She also presented an email from the Health District regarding the services they provide and responding to the City's decision to not relinquish rights in the Rucker building.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Pro-Tem Davis talked about meetings she attended, including the Sky To Sound Water Trail.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Dorothy Crowshaw said she has a problem with office staff receiving a five percent salary increase while the men only received a four percent increase. Clerk Stowe told her that for the past two years the Council has worked to bring pay for employees up to comparable wages with cities with similar populations. As part of that, all staff received a three percent increase in wages. Council determined that office staff were still below comparable wages, while maintenance staff was not, and because of this, did another one and a half percent increase for office staff. Clerk Stowe pointed out that these increases had nothing to do with gender or specific employees, and were related only to bringing pay up to comparable wages.

Ms. Crowshaw then said that maintenance staff working four ten-hour weeks were not receiving full holiday pay. Clerk Stowe said that the City's personnel manual allows for a maximum of ten holidays during the year, at eight hours each. Those staff who choose electively to work four ten-hour weeks were told about the difference in holiday hours when they chose to change their work shifts. City employee Richard Baker said that he had not been told and

Clerk Stowe disagreed. Clerk Stowe then stated that a Council meeting was not the appropriate venue to talk about personnel issues. Personnel issues should be directed to the Mayor or discussed in an Executive Session.

Chuck Lie thanked Clerk Stowe for what she brings to City Hall. He also talked about the May 17th auction of the Singletary timber sale. He appreciated the Council for listening to him regarding this sale.

Sheri Blansett said she did not approve of the salary increase for office staff because office staff sat and used their brains while maintenance staff was out breaking their backs each day. She finds it hard to believe that office staff do more, thinks the salary increase was unfair, and feels maintenance staff were short-changed. Clerk Stowe reiterated that this was a two-year process the Council had worked on and if she had concerns she should address them directly to the mayor.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

1. Financial Update. A draft for Stormwater rate changes has not yet been completed.

2. Ordinance #706, Amending the 2017 Budget. Clerk Stowe told the Council that the amount of revenue remaining in the Recycling Fund had changed from \$62,344.12 to \$62,897.97 since the last Council meeting, and the ordinance was amended to reflect that. She clarified that the City had already done an ordinance closing the recycling fund and that this ordinance amends the budget to shift revenue from the recycling fund to the general fund. Councilmember Wallace moved to accept Ordinance #706 as amended and with a second by Councilmember Diaz the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Snohomish County Tomorrow (SCT) Representative. SCT is the regulatory group for growth management, creating planning policies for the County. They have several sub-groups that meet at different times. Typically cities appoint a representative to this organization and in the past, former Councilmember Palmer was the representative. SCT asked the City to appoint a new representative. Clerk Stowe contacted them asking for clarification of meeting times and exactly what the representative was being appointed to. She has not yet heard back from anyone. After discussion the Council chose to table making an appointment until further information was received.

2. Resolution #17-05 Amending the Personnel Manual. This resolution led to a great deal of discussion. Councilmember Dawson encouraged the Council to read the manual.

Discussion included the eight-hour holiday for those working ten-hour days. Chief Casey reminded the Council that City staff receive a personal holiday and those hours could be used to make up the difference. Clerk Stowe reminded the Council that those staff who work four ten-hour days have chosen to do so. She also said that the holiday hour issue only affected two staff members, herself, and the public records officer, as they are the only two hourly employees. The remaining employees are salaried and as such the difference in holiday hours does not affect them. She also reminded the Council that all employees electing to work ten-hour days were told about the holiday issue prior to choosing the shift. Councilmember Wallace said his place of work did the same thing, with holidays being only eight hours no matter what shift the employee worked. He pointed out the hours only changed when the employee worked overtime on a holiday.

Public Works Director Light said that City employees used to always work four ten-hour shifts and this was never a problem. Clerk Stowe replied that while things may have been done a certain way in the past, auditing requirements had changed.

Councilmember Diaz moved to table Resolution #17-05 for further review and with a second by Councilmember Dawson the motion carried.

3. Resolution #17-06, National Police Week. There was discussion around how many years National Police Week had been running. Chief Casey pointed out wording at the end of the Resolution around Peace Officers Memorial Day within the National Police Week. Clerk Stowe will amend the wording. Councilmember Wallace moved to accept Resolution #17-06 as amended and with a second by Councilmember Dawson the motion carried.

FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS

MINUTES APPROVAL

Councilmember Wallace moved to accept the April 18, 2017 minutes as presented and with a second by Councilmember Diaz the motion carried with Councilmember Dawson abstaining.

VOUCHER APPROVAL

Councilmember Diaz moved to approve checks 32115 through 32143 with \$6,471.79 for claims and \$34,514.00 for payroll and payroll taxes, for a total of \$40,985.79 and with a second by Mayor Pro-Tem Martin the motion carried.

FINAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

Sheri Blansett asked when time cards were discontinued. Clerk Stowe said she could not respond to that as it was before she was hired. Ms. Blansett then began to talk about an employee she feels is not at the City Hall all the time. Clerk Stowe stopped her and repeated that a Council meeting was not the venue to talk about employee issues. Clerk Stowe told her to submit something in writing to the mayor or call the mayor and request a meeting.

Joe Beavers said Clerk Stowe was correct, that the Council's job was to set policy and the Mayor's job was to administer that, and that employee issues were the purview of the Mayor, not the Council.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Councilmember Wallace moved to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilmember Diaz, the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 pm.

_____, Davi Martin, Mayor Pro-Tem

_____, Lisa Stowe, Clerk