

City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5th Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, June 6, 2017

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

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

AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Diaz moved to accept the agenda as presented and with a second by both Councilmember Dawson and Wallace, the motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT - None

STAFF REPORT

Chief Casey talked about work on stolen vehicle cases. He talked about a call earlier that was emotionally difficult for the family involved as well as the police and fire personnel that responded.

There was discussion around National Night Out. Over the past couple of years attendance has dropped dramatically to where last year's parade had only six people. Things like the helicopter, K9 units, and a climber's wall are no longer available. Sultan on the other hand, with a larger volunteer base and more resources, attracts crowds. Chief Casey asked the Council if Gold Bar should continue with this event or join with Sultan. If the Council wishes to continue then Chief Casey asked them to give him ideas on how to increase participation. Councilmember Wallace said he will meet with Chief Casey.

Clerk Stowe reviewed the budget report with the Council. She also gave them a handout on a state legislature bill that requires Gold Bar to place a ballot drop box in city limits. She asked the Council to review the letter, specifically the requirements around locating a drop box, and be prepared to make suggestions for locations at the next meeting.

Director Light said the annual sanitary survey by the Department of Health was completed. This was a four hour review of the whole water system. Some minor things were noted such as old screens at outfalls that have since been replaced. The complete report won't be available for at least a month.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Martin attended a meeting on the river trail. Gold Bar is not being considered a focus point due to not having a boat launch.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Danny Scott introduced himself as a new resident to Gold Bar. He asked about the sirens he hears because there seemed to be so many. Chief Casey explained that the sirens are calls for police and EMS.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

1. Financial Update. Mayor Hodo deferred this agenda item to the next meeting.
2. Resolution #17-05 amending the Personnel Manual. After brief discussion, Councilmember Diaz moved to adopt the Resolution 17-05 version changing employees to all salaried, and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

Because of this action, Clerk Stowe asked for an amendment to the agenda to present an ordinance for a first reading. Gold Bar municipal code includes a clause stating that the clerk/treasurer position is hourly, so it needs changing to match the action just taken by resolution. Councilmember Diaz moved to amend the agenda and accept Ordinance #706 relating to Title 2 for an introduction and first reading, and with a second by Councilmember Wallace the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. July Council Meeting Date. The July Council meeting falls on the 4th of July holiday. There was discussion around alternate options and the need to potentially move the August meeting as well. There were difficulties in matching schedules for all Councilmembers. It was clarified that bills would still be paid through the Finance Committee if there was no meeting. After discussion, Councilmember Wallace moved to cancel the July 4th Council meeting, and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried. No decision was made regarding the August Council meeting date.

2. Interagency Child Abduction Response Team (ICART) Agreement. Clerk Stowe introduced this agreement and Chief Casey explained that it creates a team of resources that include cities and towns for when a child has been abducted. Since the team has already been created there will be no requirement for Gold Bar to send personnel or financial resources to the team. After discussion, Councilmember Wallace moved to enter into the ICART agreement and with a second by Councilmember Diaz the motion carried.

3. Resolution #17-07 Amending Fee Schedule. This resolution amends the fees associated specifically with bulk water usage. During a recent company's usage of Gold Bar water, it was determined that the fees no longer covered staff time or costs. Councilmember Diaz moved to adopt Resolution #17-07 as presented and with a second by both Councilmembers Martin and Wallace the motion carried.

4. Water Usage. Clerk Stowe reminded the Council that last year they chose to increase the threshold of water usage during the months of June, July, and August. It was not specified at that time whether the action was for that year specifically, or to happen every year. Clerk Stowe reminded the Council of the water rate study and the water comprehensive plan that agree with federal and state regulations to conserve water. She said that if the Council chooses to increase the usage again this year, they should provide justification for not following the conservation regulation. A way to encourage residents to conserve water is by charging them for overage.

Councilmember Martin said the decision at the time was made in order to soften the blow of the increase to the water assessment bill. Clerk Stowe reminded the Council that there were two pots of money. The assessment pot is specifically for capital projects. The rate pot is specifically for normal operating procedures and level of service. Director Light said that operating costs go up with increased usage.

There was further discussion around the costs of overage, the purpose of raising or not raising thresholds, and the dramatic increase in water usage over Memorial weekend. After discussion, Councilmember Wallace moved to keep the threshold at six thousand gallons year round and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried, with Councilmember Diaz opposed.

FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Wallace asked for an update on speed signs. Director Light said holes had been dug and they hope to start pouring cement shortly. Chuck Lie has volunteered to help.

Councilmember Wallace talked about the upcoming fire season and asked if the city had any regulations on unkempt properties with grass and weeds over four feet tall. Mayor Hodo will talk to fire department personnel regarding the

hazard. Director Light said the City of Lyndon has regulations for this and he will find a sample. Clerk Stowe might be able to create a draft ordinance for the next meeting.

Councilmember Dawson asked if the speed signs were solar or electric. Director Light told him they are solar. Councilmember Dawson also talked about the height of grass and thought there might already be something on the books. Councilmember Wallace said the only thing he found related to grasses and plants that crossed from private property to public areas. Mayor Hodo said he believes the majority of these properties are ones that have been foreclosed on so no one is taking care of them.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Councilmember Martin moved to amend the May 16, 2017 minutes to correct a typographical error and with a second by Councilmember Wallace the motion carried.

VOUCHER APPROVAL

Councilmember Diaz moved to approve checks 32170 through 32205 with \$94,726.74 for claims and \$36,121.18 for payroll and payroll taxes, for a total of \$130,847.92 and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion carried.

FINAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

Danny Scott said where he'd previously lived residents could fill their swimming pools for free if they made the pools available for fire suppression. Councilmember Martin said that typically happens with in-ground pools and most above-ground pools don't have the volume of water needed.

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 8:09 pm.

_____, Lee Hodo, Mayor

_____, Lisa Stowe, Clerk