

# 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