

City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5th Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday, June 4, 2019

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Clem called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmembers Martin, Phillips, Sears, and Yarbrough. Also present was Director Norris, Chief Casey, and Clerk Stowe. Councilmember Wallace had previously informed the Council that he would not be present.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Yarbrough moved to amend the agenda to add Resolution 19-06 and with a second by Councilmember Sears, the motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT - none

STAFF REPORT

Chief Casey said they have been busy with search and rescue calls.

Director Norris talked about the paving project at 1st Street and May Creek Road. He thanked staff for all their help. He also mentioned work the Department of Corrections crew did.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Sears talked about a meeting he had with Representatives and with Attorney General Bob Ferguson.

Councilmember Martin talked about how to report non-emergencies and safety.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Chuck Lie appreciated Director Norris's work fixing the intersection and said that may pick speeds up. He also talked briefly about traffic.

The remainder of those signed up to speak during citizen comments related to agenda items.

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing was called to order at 7:10 pm for the purpose of reviewing the City's Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program as detailed in Resolution 19-05. Clerk Stowe reviewed the

requirements of the public hearing and no Councilmember disclosed any reason to be recused from the hearing.

Director Norris introduced the plan and reviewed revisions and projects. There was brief discussion around prioritizing projects; the difference between water capital projects as listed in the water comprehensive plan and street capital projects; and funding availability. After discussion, Councilmember Martin moved to accept Resolution No. 19-05 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Sears, the motion carried.

Councilmember Sears then moved to adjourn the public hearing and with a second by Councilmember Phillips, the motion carried. The regularly scheduled Council meeting was returned to at 7:20 pm.

CONTINUED BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance No. 726 Amending Title 2. Mayor Clem gave the background to this Ordinance. It separates the duties of litigation attorneys from city attorneys and changes the requirements for contracting with the City. The changes allow the City to hire City attorneys at a lower rate than litigation attorneys, and broadens the pool from which the City can hire attorneys. After brief discussion, Councilmember Sears moved to accept Ordinance No. 726 for an introduction and first reading, and with a second by Councilmember Phillips, the motion carried.

Resolution 19-06, Traffic Control Devices. The City owns two traffic control devices and they record data such as the number of cars that pass and the speed travelled. These devices are not cameras but clocks and speedometers. The City has not collected that information, but Director Norris was able to do so recently. As a result, the City needs a policy in place. There was discussion around traffic counts and data collected. Councilmember Yarbrough moved to adopt Resolution No. 19-06 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Martin, the motion carried.

Ordinance No. 727 Relating to WATV Use. It should be noted that the City did not utilize a signup sheet for citizen comments during this discussion and as such, it was not recorded which speakers lived within city limits and which did not.

Councilmember Sears corrected a Revised Code of Washington (RCW) citation.

Chief Casey talked about the requirement for liability insurance.

Councilmember Phillips said there was nothing about commercialized vehicles. Mayor Clem said there wouldn't be, because if the vehicles are legal on the street, they are legal whether it's for commercial or private use. This led to brief discussion on licensing for businesses, equipment, and insurance.

Councilmember Sears asked if there was a way to limit the usage to those who live in the city limits, but there is not.

Councilmember Sears then moved to open a citizen comment period relating to ATVs and with a second by Councilmember Yarbrough, the motion carried. Mayor Clem reminded people about the comment process.

Those people who commented on ATVs included Pete Everist, Chuck Lie, Steve Hansen, John Graham, Dave Cotterill, Tracy Cotterill, Jackie Bendewald, and Denise Beaton.

Discussion included allowing handicapped people access to local businesses; concerns about adding more traffic to the May Creek Road issue, especially on weekends; addressing current traffic issues before adding another layer of traffic; the need for fair assessment by the Council; the desire to enjoy the vehicles; tying access to streets in the County that allow ATV use; noise levels; the potential lack of enforcement; the ability of deputies to write citations based on citizen statements; the age and actions of those who currently ride illegally on streets; if the activity becomes legal, would there be more illegal use; the size of the vehicles; the opportunity of the Council to take its time in deciding; whether the use could be put out for a vote; safety; usage during snow; current traffic issues, including on the highway; and the requirement for safety flags.

Mayor Clem closed the comment period and thanked everyone for keeping the discussion civil. He said while it is nice to know who is for and who is against issues, Councilmembers are elected to represent people. It is clear this is a divisive issue and a difficult choice. But a continuing issue is a lack of candidates to be on the council. Some seats run unopposed and one seat will be vacant since no one has signed up. Citizens have a voice when they elect representatives. No matter the decision made, it will be unpopular with one group or the other, and that has to be weighed.

Councilmember Martin said she was here when the topic was discussed before and the opinions expressed then are being expressed now by the same percentage of people. A survey was sent out before and people didn't respond, and then were shocked when the decision went against their opinion. She was glad to see so many people at the meeting. She felt if people are already using WATVs on city streets she would rather see it regulated.

Councilmember Phillips said there is no way to enforce the problem now. Mayor Clem said he hears the concerns related to illegal use and also the underlying concerns that legalizing use could increase the illegal use.

Councilmember Yarbrough asked Chief Casey to clarify the citation process for deputies and that they do not have to witness a violation. Chief Casey talked about that process. He also said Gold Bar has the right to set enforcement priorities for deputies. He suggested the Council not make a decision based on thinking there was no enforcement, and that the goal of deputies was compliance, not revenue.

After discussion, Councilmember Yarbrough moved to accept Ordinance No. 727 for an introduction and first reading and with a second by Councilmember Martin, the motion carried.

Snohomish County Contracts. These contracts are setting in place policies and establishing formats relating to future contracts with Snohomish County for project assistance. Councilmember Sears moved to authorize Mayor Clem to enter into these two contracts and with a second by Councilmember Martin, the motion carried.

FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Martin talked about an upcoming recreation coalition meeting.

Councilmember Phillips thanked Director Norris for work on the street.

Chief Casey reminded everyone that National Night Out will be the first Tuesday in August and to contact him or a deputy if anyone would like to volunteer or participate.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Councilmember Sears moved to accept the minutes of May 21st as presented, and with a second by Councilmember Phillips, the motion carried.

VOUCHER APPROVAL

Councilmember Martin moved to approve checks numbered 33703 through 33728 with \$3,185.62 for claims and \$37,188.35 for payroll and payroll taxes, for a total of \$40,373.97 and with a second by Councilmember Sears, the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Councilmember Yarbrough moved to adjourn the meeting and with a second by Councilmember Phillips, the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm.

William Clem, Mayor

Lisa Stowe, Clerk