

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

## City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday, October 15, 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.

### **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Councilmember Sears moved to approve the agenda as presented, and with a second by Councilmember Martin, the motion carried.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor was out of town and appreciated the work the staff did keeping him informed and up to date. There will be no Coffee with the Mayor during the months of November, December, and January.

### **STAFF REPORT**

Chief Casey said there had been more search and rescue calls lately because it's getting dark earlier and people aren't prepared for that. He also reviewed the monthly report and three-year analysis, that shows a decreasing trend in burglaries. He hopes that is a realistic trend for the area. He also said he was approached by a person wanting to know why the City doesn't have a municipal code, or signs, prohibiting the use of firearms in the city limits.

Director Norris talked about the recent repairs to city vehicles and hopes they will be able to handle all snow plowing this year. They are finishing up the system flushing, and have completed cleaning all the catch-basins.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Sears reminded everyone that the next Council meeting also falls on election day, and encouraged people to vote.

Councilmember Martin has an upcoming meeting regarding the river trail.

Mayor Clem asked the Council if they had opinions on Chief Casey's comment about firearms. Councilmember Phillips felt there was no problems and that signs won't stop people. Councilmember Yarbrough agreed. Mayor Clem said to email him if people want it on the agenda later.

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Joe Beavers talked about the budget for State parks, Wallace Falls parking, cameras now installed that people can use with their phones to check for parking, and about how to find funding.

Chuck Lie agreed with Mr. Beavers that infrastructure for the park needs to be built. He brought lollipops to hand out to children that come into City Hall, and then encouraged staff to continue their work keeping storm drains clean. He reminded staff how that task has reduced flooding, and the importance of public safety.

Brian Davis has volunteered for the park department for many years and is thankful for new striping on Ley Road that gives clear options for parking. He has been getting comments from people that appreciate the changes.

## **CONTINUED BUSINESS**

*Resolution 19-13, Anderson Lane.* Clerk Stowe talked briefly with the City's interim lawyer, who is working on what the City would need to do legally, to incorporate this private road. He asked what the benefit to the City was. Director Norris talked about the municipal code regarding bringing streets up to code, and how that seems to be relevant only to sub-divisions.

Councilmember Martin asked if the first step wasn't making sure all the homeowners were in agreement. Director Norris said each homeowner has to have their title changed because currently, 1/15<sup>th</sup> of their title relates to the private road ownership.

Councilmember Phillips made a motion to allow citizen comments on this topic and with a second by Councilmember Sears, the motion carried.

Jerry Denlocker spoke about the history of the road, previous flooding issues, and that the street will continue to decay without improvements. There was brief discussion around his comments.

Councilmember Phillips asked if it was easier for the City to get grants to upgrade the street, or the homeowners. Director Norris said again that the street was not in bad enough shape to be a priority for grants, and that it would take years to be eligible, so bringing the street into the city won't enhance opportunities for residents. Mayor Clem said that in general, though, small things like potholes could be fixed, although he also pointed out that the street fund is the least healthy and has no funds.

Councilmember Yarbrough asked what the lawyer was looking at. Mayor Clem said the costs to the City and any legal issues. He also said the issue goes back to the homeowners to see if they will change their titles. He said while there is no financial benefit, the Council needed to ask themselves if there was a community benefit or ethical obligation.

Councilmember Phillips asked if absorbing the road would help with snowplowing. Director Norris reminded the Council of the newly adopted snowplow ordinance. In that, private roads are low priority, and if the street became part of the City, it would still be low priority in a snow event.

Councilmember Martin said there was a financial benefit to the homeowners to be relieved of the burden to maintain the street, and that was a huge incentive for the property owners to change their titles.

Director Norris reminded the Council that this would be setting a precedent for other private roads in the city limits. He will come to the next meeting with how many streets there are in the City that are private, and how many homeowners would be affected.

**NEW BUSINESS**

*Election Drop Box Contract.* This contract relates to the drop box at Gateway Park where ballots can be left. There was brief discussion around the term of the contract, the use of the word ‘local’ in relation to costs (assumption is that it pertains to ‘County’), and the costs to the County in having a drop box vs. mailing ballots. After discussion, Councilmember Yarbrough moved to authorize the Mayor entering into this agreement, and with a second by Councilmember Sears, the motion carried.

**FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS**

Councilmember Sears moved to excuse Councilmember Phillips’ absence from the last Council meeting, and with a second by Councilmember Yarbrough, the motion carried, with Councilmember Phillips abstaining.

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Martin moved to amend the minutes of October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 to correct wording regarding a meeting she attended, and with a second by Councilmember Sears, the motion carried.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Martin moved to approve checks 33982 – 3400, with \$14,156.80 for claims and \$1,200.00 for payroll and payroll taxes, for a total of \$15,356.80. Mayor Clem pointed out an error in the check numbering and the motion died for lack of a second. Councilmember Martin then moved to approve checks 33982 – 3400, with \$14,156.80 for claims and \$1,200.00 for payroll and payroll taxes, for a total of \$15,356.80, and with a second by Councilmember Sears the motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Councilmember Phillips moved to adjourn the meeting and with a second by Councilmember Sears, the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

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William Clem, Mayor

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Lisa Stowe, Clerk