

City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5th Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday, January 4, 2022

OATHS OF OFFICE

Clerk Stowe administered Oaths of Office to Mayor Yarbrough and Councilmembers Lie, Martin, and Phillips. They were then seated and the normal agenda presented.

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Yarbrough called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm via Zoom. Present were Councilmembers Lie, Martin, Phillips, and Sears. Also present was Chief Hess, Office Manager Beaston, Director Norris, and Clerk Stowe.

AGENDA APPROVAL

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

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Yarbrough welcomed 2022. He thanked the public works crew for the hours of snow plowing and Office Manager Beaston for fielding phone calls. He presented a letter of support for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) regarding a grant application for improved parking at Reiter Foothills. After brief discussion, there was no opposition to signing the letter.

STAFF REPORT

Chief Hess reviewed both his monthly report and the annual report. He said the holiday parade had good turnout even with bad weather. Gift cards were provided for kids at Christmas. Dealing with abandoned vehicles is on hold due to snow plowing. He also reviewed incident coverage for Gold Bar city limits and the Gold Bar region, with four deputies covering 350 square miles.

Director Norris talked about the snow plowing, with eighty man-hours of plowing since Christmas. He reviewed a handful of streets that did not get plowed until this day. Two streets still need to be done. He reviewed issues with old City vehicles and with chains repeatedly breaking. Councilmember Martin thanked him and staff for the plowing work.

Director Norris is creating an advisory committee to begin the process of reviewing and possibly updating zoning and development. He suggested Councilmember Lie be part of that committee. He will also be a member, and would like at least one member of the public to be involved. There was discussion around what the advisory committee can and can't do. After discussion, Councilmember Lie moved to approve establishing an advisory committee and with a second by Councilmember Phillips, the motion carried.

Clerk Stowe asked if any Councilmember was interested in representing the City on the Health District Board. She also said she had two applications for the open Council position and that will be on the next agenda.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Sears thanked staff for plowing as well as those citizens who helped others.

Councilmember Lie thanked the crew for keeping streets clear. He also thanked Office Manager Beaton for her monthly report. He spoke briefly about the open council position and said he hoped the Council did a good job choosing the next councilmember.

Councilmember Martin thanked City employees for doing the plowing. She voiced concerns about the impact of cold weather on the homeless and has a list of available shelters. She also thanked Mayor Yarbrough for his letter of support to DNR.

Councilmember Phillips thanked staff for plowing.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Clerk Stowe reviewed the process for citizen comments, including what would be allowed and what would not.

Dan Leupold thanked the City crew for keeping streets clear. He then went on to question the background of Director Norris and repeated his concerns regarding the new development.

Clerk Stowe reminded citizens again that comments about personnel and their ability to do their jobs was not appropriate for a Council meeting. If a resident has concerns about a staff member, that concern should be taken to the Mayor, who administers personnel. It is not the purview of the Council.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

Wallace Falls Court Final Plat. Director Norris presented the final plat which included a list of requirements by the Hearing Examiner, which the developer has met. The final plat meets all conditions and zoning requirements. After brief discussion, Councilmember Lie moved to approve the Wallace Falls Court Final Plat and with a second by Councilmember Sears, the motion carried.

Ordinance #755, Amending Title 15. Councilmember Sears moved to accept Ordinance #755 for a second reading and approval, and with a second by Councilmember Phillips, the motion carried.

Ordinance #756, Amending the 2021 Budget. Councilmember Sears moved to accept Ordinance #756 for a second reading and approval, and with a second by Councilmember Martin, the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Consulting Agreement, Housing Action Plan, Blueline. This consulting agreement is part of the Housing Action Plan grant with the City of Sultan to assess housing needs to complete the required update of the City Comprehensive Plan. After discussion, Councilmember Sears moved to authorize the mayor to enter into the Consulting Agreement, and with a second by Councilmember Phillips, the motion carried.

Skykomish Water System Agreement. This is similar to the agreement in place with Big Bend, but is anticipated to require an hour of staff time per month. There was discussion around billing and that this is an interlocal agreement rather than a for-profit contract. Councilmember Sears moved to authorize Mayor Yarbrough to sign the Skykomish Water System Agreement and with a second by Councilmember Phillips, the motion carried.

Grotto Water System Interlocal. This agreement is for emergency assistance only as Grotto has a water system manager. After brief discussion, Councilmember Sears moved to authorize Mayor Yarbrough to sign the Grotto interlocal and with a second by Councilmember Phillips, the motion carried.

FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Sears said he would like a report from public works at meetings. Clerk Stowe reminded the Council that personnel matters should go to the Mayor and the Mayor then directs staff as needed.

Councilmember Lie talked about the advisory committee and his hopes that more residents will take a more active role in the community. He said he also did not hear Councilmember Martin's reason for missing the last meeting.

Mayor Yarbrough reminded the Council that Councilmember Phillips absence would also need to be excused. Councilmember Sears then moved to excuse Councilmember Phillips's absence and with a second by Councilmember Lie, the motion carried.

Councilmember Phillips asked about budgeting for increased police presence. Clerk Stowe reminded her that the Sheriff contract had extra hours built into it that could be used for where the Council felt best, and that the budget had already been approved.

Clerk Stowe requested clarification that the previous motion was for excusing Councilmember Phillips only and not Councilmember Martin. She reminded the Council that a Councilmember does not have to publicly disclose their reason for not being at a meeting. Councilmember Phillips then moved to excuse Councilmember Martin's absence and with a second by Councilmember Sears, the motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVAL

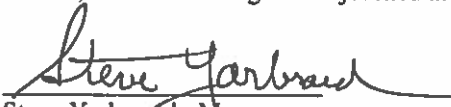
Councilmember Martin moved to approve the December 7th, 2021 minutes as presented, and with a second by Councilmember Sears, the motion carried.

VOUCHER APPROVAL

Councilmember Martin moved to approve checks numbering 35701 - 35731, with \$22,423.27 for claims and \$1,200.00 for payroll and payroll taxes, for a total of \$23,623.27 and checks numbering 35732 – 35770 with \$13,270.60 for claims and \$45,082.66 for payroll and payroll taxes, for a total of \$58,353.26, and with a second by Councilmember Sears, the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Sears moved to adjourn the meeting and with a second by Councilmember Phillips, the motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 pm.


Steve Yarbrough, Mayor


Lisa Stowe, Clerk