

City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5th Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday, October 18, 2022

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Yarbrough called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The meeting was held in a hybrid format, by Zoom and in person. Present were Councilmembers Lie, Martin, Russell, Phillips, and Sears. Also present was Public Works Director Norris and Office Manager Beaston.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Mayor Yarbrough asked that the agenda be amended to allow Snohomish County Health District Representative Joseph Hun to be at the beginning, because of time constraints. Councilmember Sears moved to amend the agenda to allow the Health District Representative presentation prior to the Mayor's Report and with a second by Councilmember Russell the motion carried.

Snohomish County Representative Joseph Hun introduced himself as a City of Sultan Councilmember and thanked the Council for allowing him to speak earlier in the meeting. He stepped in as the representative for the Health District when his fellow Councilmember had to step down. Councilmember Hun went on to say that he is very transparent and if anyone has any questions and/or concerns he's very easy to contact. He talked briefly about the transition that the Health Department is going through, getting vaccinated, and that the new Covid vaccine update was now out. Councilmember Lie would like to see periodic updates rather than the blackhole void as previously and said he believes the Health District is a very important part of government and he'd like to know rather than having to root around. Councilmember Hun stated there might be a new letter, but his term ends in December when the Health District transitions into Snohomish County and he is unsure of where it goes from there but he will do his best to keep Council informed.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Yarbrough had nothing major to report except all were all hoping for the rain that is forecasted to put this chapter behind us. AWC Risk Management is encouraging staff and elected officials to take a training on cyber security. For those who haven't, he can provide information on doing so.

STAFF REPORT

Director Norris stated that the crew has been working on the catch basins for that last week and have completed about three quarters of the stormwater systems. Staff have had good success with the new truck and trailer in getting it done so we are saving a bunch of money. One thing that was schedule that citizens might have seen was a street sweeper that was hired for around those locations with stormwater catch basins that have a lot of debris. They did not get to a portion of May Creek Road; the DOC crew will finish that. No one had any questions.

Office Manager Beaston had no report.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Sears stated that this was a sad week for the community with the losses of Bob Delvecchio of Sky Valley Fire Department and Karen Sample who was a teacher and activist out in Index.

Councilmember Lie stated that there was no Snohomish County Tomorrow meeting last week, that it will be happening next week. There will be a November meeting but he will be unable to attend. Councilmember Lie talked about the fire discussion that happened at the last meeting and he still can't believe that people need to burn. He hopes the fire department will continue to enforce the burn ban.

Councilmember Martin thank councilmember Lie and Sears. She talked more about burning issues.

Councilmember Russell talked more about the burning issues and people not getting the information.

Councilmember Phillips apologized for missing the last meeting. She asked to be excused if she hadn't been already. Mayor Yarbrough stated that she had been excused.

CITIZEN COMMENTS - None

CONTINUED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Yarbrough stated that our first new business is a Health District Presentation.

Ragina Gray from Snohomish County Health Department gave a slide show presentation on the different divisions and what they do. Ms. Gray talked briefly about the new Health Officer and she went on to talk about the merging of Snohomish County and Snohomish County Health.

Mayor Yarbrough asked about Board and Bylaws, but said it sounded like a lot of it will be changing.

Councilmember Lie he's always been a fan of the Snohomish Health District but frustrated with the lack of local communications and the lack of meaningful response but that will hopefully change with the merging.

Public Works Director Rich Norris had some questions on septic systems and stated that when someone is currently submitting for a building permit, they are required to have the Health Department's approval on the septic system and he's often guiding people on the process and wanted to know if that process would be changing and moving from Health or if that would be moving to Snohomish County Planning. Ms. Gray stated that currently they are planning on continuing that process into the future. There is the possibility that as they move into the Snohomish County building that they can change some workflows to maybe help the process and assist people with septic approvals before applying for a permit.

Councilmember Phillips asked about the septic complaints and solid waste complaints and how those are reported and handled. Ms. Gray talked about the process.

Councilmember Russell stated that he was glad to see the organization out blowing their own horn as he doesn't believe anyone knows what the Snohomish County Health Department does and thanked Ms. Gray for getting that information out there.

Resolution NO. 20-12, Land Purchase. Mayor Yarbrough stated that the County reached out to the City regarding three parcels along the Wallace River that the County had obtained ten years ago due to taxes not being paid. Since it was already being used as a park-like setting with an easement that goes through Stickney Mt. Place, the County reached out to see if the City wanted to pay the back taxes and take over the property and maintain it for public use.

Councilmember Sears asked about what the property could be used for and if park equipment could be used there. Public Works Director Norris stated that it's in the Native Growth Protection Area and so we can do interpretive trails and that type of thing. There is a large lawn area that the City currently has been maintaining for many years, but he doesn't believe that playground equipment would work back there. Councilmember Martin asked if that property flooded. Director Norris stated one lot does, but it's further back. Councilmember Lie talked about people who purchase properties and he's all for the City doing so. Much discussion ensued.

Councilmember Sears made a motion to approve Resolution 22-12 with Councilmember Lie seconding the motion. Mayor Yarbrough called for any further discussion. Councilmember Martin stated that on their handout the Resolution was 22-10. Much discussion ensued about the resolution number and if the City would have to maintain anything for flooding.

Councilmember Sears amended motion to pass resolution 22-10 and with a second from Councilmember Phillips, the motion carried.

FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Yarbrough talked about the landslide reports.

Councilmember Lie would like to put the links on the website and that someone needs to reach out to King County to have the back road repaired.

Councilmember Martin talked about the amount of money that was needed to repair that back road and that it has increased since it was last discussed.

Councilmember Russell would like to see the links on all the sites. Much discussion ensued about the website.

MINUTES APPROVAL

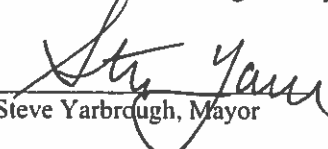
Councilmember Sears made a motion to approve the October 4th, 2022 minutes as presented and with a second by Councilmember Lie, the motion carried.

VOUCHER APPROVAL

Councilmember Martin moved to approve checks numbering 36354-36376 with \$17,628.25 for claims and \$1,621.01 for payroll and payroll taxes, for a total of \$19,249.26 with a second by Councilmember Sears, the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Sears moved to adjourn the meeting and with a second by Councilmember Russell the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.


Steve Yarbrough, Mayor


Denise Beaston, Office Manager