

City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5th Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday, September 19, 2023

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 in person were Councilmembers Lie, Martin, and Sears. Staff members present in person were Director Norris, Chief Whalen, Office Manager Beaston, and Clerk Stowe. Councilmember Russell attended via Zoom.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Lie moved to adopt the agenda as amended to add a check to the vouchers and to add a presentation on Gateway Park sign work, and with a second by Councilmember Sears, the motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Yarbrough attended a meeting with Representative Kim Schrier and representatives from the Department of Natural Resources and the Forest Service for the one-year anniversary of the Bolt Creek fire. During that meeting the Forest Service said fines for illegal fires are set by Congress. The fines are anticipated to increase from \$125 to \$1,000. He also attended a Department of Emergency Management open house. The mayor met with the Miracle Food Network. The group has received a Department of Ecology grant to pay for a more permanent space in Gold Bar. Mayor Yarbrough asked the Council to let him know if they are aware of any availabilities. On a final note, he talked with the PUD about partnering on a grant for electric charging stations.

STAFF REPORT

Chief Whalen addressed enforcement on illegal ATV use, traffic enforcement, and the veteran's outreach. Councilmember Russell asked him about at the previous meeting.

Director Norris gave an update on the Linda Avenue project. He also talked about the donation of used power poles being used as borders to keep people from driving on grass. Councilmember Lie asked him about items people leave in the street right-of-ways and the cost of disposal to the city. This led to discussion around staff time taken up with the junk and how to regulate that with still allowing people to leave free items on their private property. Councilmember Sears questioned whether it would be possible to utilize fines for things left on city property.

Councilmember Lie asked Director Norris about hydrants that were out of service. Director Norris said no hydrants are out of service. There is a particular type of hydrant used for mains rather than fire suppression and they are locked for use by the fire department, not out of service.

Councilmember Russell asked about the quality of parts being used in the Linda Avenue project and there was brief discussion.

Director Norris then finished his staff report by talking about the Park Element draft for the Comprehensive Plan and asked Council to review it prior to the next meeting, where there will be two elements to review. He reminded

the Council that the Comprehensive Plan is an umbrella under which policies come from. As an example, the Plan would say that there is a need for safe pedestrian traffic rather than a crosswalk that will be installed in a specific area.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Sears welcomed Chief Whalen. He also apologized for missing the previous meeting. Councilmember Lie moved to excuse Councilmember Sears' absence and with a second by Councilmember Martin, the motion carried.

Councilmember Lie talked about Snohomish County Tomorrow, ATV updates, bicycles, and the good attendance of the current council.

Councilmember Martin talked about the continuing risk of fire.

Councilmember Russell thanked Chief Whalen for his assistance with the veteran's event.

CITIZEN COMMENTS - none

CONTINUED BUSINESS

Gateway Sign Presentation. The Council was asked to review three samples of artwork for the Gateway sign that is being restored. There was brief discussion around the sign, materials used, and if donations could be accepted for the work. The Council consensus was to use the third sample that includes a sun.

NEW BUSINESS

Accessory Dwelling Units. House Bill 1337 was passed in May and now requires accessory dwelling units (ADUs) to be included in comprehensive plans and city municipal codes. The deadline to have new codes in place is December, 2024. There are conditions that need to be met. Recreational vehicles (RVs) are not considered ADUs. There was a great deal of discussion, including septic requirements, size, if they could be used for short-term rentals (no), and what current codes allow regarding RVs. Discussion then segued off onto other topics such as a current RV moved temporarily because of Linda Avenue work, when municipal code allows temporary living in a RV, enforcement issues, and permits.

Councilmember Sears moved to allow a resident to comment and with a second by Councilmember Martin the motion passed. The resident asked about septic systems and drainfields relating to ADUs and was told he should contact the Health District.

Ordinance #770, Abandoned Buildings. Clerk Stowe presented a draft ordinance in order to begin discussion on regulating abandoned buildings. There was discussion around inspections, timelines, the definitions, penalties, offering a one-year grace period, current nuisance laws, and how to prove if a place is abandoned. After discussion, Councilmember Lie moved to accept Ordinance #770 for an introduction and first reading and with a second by Councilmember Sears, the motion carried.

FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Sears asked if there had been any changes to the volunteer sign-up list and Joe Beavers said he would get a copy to Councilmember Sears.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Councilmember Martin moved to approve the September 5th, 2023 minutes as presented and with a second by Councilmember Russell, the motion carried with Councilmember Sears abstaining.

VOUCHER APPROVAL

Councilmember Martin moved to approve checks numbering 37093 through 37111 with \$525,724.16 for claims and \$1,200.00 for payroll and taxes, for a grand total of \$526,924.16 and 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 7:59 pm.


Steve Yarbrong, Mayor


Lisa Stowe, Clerk/Treasurer

Gold Bar Council Meeting

September 8, 2023

1974

[illegible]