

City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5th Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday, January 16, 2024

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Yarbrough called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The meeting was held in hybrid format, by Zoom and in person. Present in person were Councilmembers Lie and Martin. Staff members present in person were Director Norris and Clerk Stowe. Councilmembers Russell and Sears attended via Zoom. Councilmember Phillips arrived at 7:07 pm and attended via Zoom. Office Manager Beaston attended via Zoom.

AGENDA APPROVAL

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

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Yarbrough said the city can now accept credit and debit cards and that the Snohomish Health District is formally dissolved and now part of Snohomish County. There was brief discussion around both items.

STAFF REPORT

At a previous meeting, councilmembers asked about codifying regulations around parking in no-parking areas designated by red paint on curbs. Director Norris let them know this regulation is already in city codes.

Director Norris reminded people that Wednesday evening at 6:00 pm there will be a public hearing for a conditional use permit submitted by Rico's Pizza. He also talked about the cold weather, and pipes and water meters freezing. Staff have been plowing and sanding weekends and evenings.

Clerk Stowe asked the council if they would like to have an entrance conference with the auditors. After discussion the consensus was to invite the auditors to hold the entrance conference via Zoom during a regular council meeting.

Clerk Stowe said there are two check registers for vouchers. One is for the extra USDA payment made by direct withdrawal in December. The EFT check needed to be dated the end of December to match the transaction and bank statements. The second register is the normal billing for the period.

Office Manager Beaston spoke briefly about the fees associated with debit/credit card payments. Fees are set by the vendor and the city does not receive that money. The fees are a percentage of the amount paid, so if a person makes a large payment, the fee is going to be higher. She also reminded people that with this cold weather, she is allowed to adjust off overage charges when there is a leak as long as there is proof of the leak having been fixed, such as photos or receipts.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Sears said he is glad to be back and hopes everyone is staying warm in this cold weather.

Councilmember Lie talked about an upcoming discussion by the PUD on housing and capital investments that will be at the next Snohomish County Tomorrow meeting January 24th. People can attend via Zoom. He also spoke about Senate Bill 5770 relating to revising the 1% property tax cap. He recommended letters of support from councilmembers.

Councilmember Russell said he might join Councilmember Lie in a letter of support. Clerk Stowe reminded councilmembers that they are allowed to send letters as individual councilmembers but if they send something representing the city as a whole, it would need prior approval by the council.

Councilmember Martin spoke briefly about the Health District dissolution.

Director Norris added a comment letting the council know the city received a grant for paving Linda Avenue from 6th to 8th.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Curtis Kimble spoke about utilizing land east of the dog park for a hosted campground. Mayor Yarbrough said the city does not own that land. Director Norris said it is owned by Burlington Northern railroad and the Department of Transportation and there are restrictions on use.

PUBLIC HEARING

Clerk Stowe called the public hearing to order at 7:25 pm and reviewed hearing procedures. The applicable agenda was review of the draft Comprehensive Plan and Resolution #23-09 amending the fee schedule. No councilmember had any reason to recuse themselves from the hearing.

There was a great deal of discussion around the draft comprehensive plan. Discussion included residents Joe Beavers, Emily Ellson, Greg Killingsworth, Curtis Kimble, and Julia Palekha. Points discussed included parks, open spaces, maps, parking for recreation areas, the need for a community center, septic systems and their impact on aquifers, health district approval of septic systems, lot size, city-owned properties, public easements and rights of ways, soft paths and pedestrian only trails, impacts on homeowners, removing a soft path that isn't feasible from the draft map and adding one that is more feasible, city ownership of agricultural and forestry lands, bicycle paths, and further review of the draft at another public hearing. No action was taken by motion but a consensus was reached to remove one trail from the draft map and add the other trail discussed.

Clerk Stowe then reviewed Resolution #23-09, repealing resolution #23-08 and replacing it with more complete rate information. After brief discussion Councilmember Sears moved to repeal Resolution #23-08 and accept Resolution #23-09 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Phillips the motion carried.

With no further business, Councilmember Sears moved to adjourn the public hearing and with a second by Councilmember Phillips, the motion carried. The public hearing was adjourned at 8:12 pm and the council returned to the regular agenda.

CONTINUED BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS - none

FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Sears thanked all those who attended the meeting.

Councilmember Lie spoke briefly about comments by Joe Beavers, and how he would like to have more direct cooperation between the city and the health district.

Councilmember Russell thanked Chief Whalen and deputies for a job well done regarding a recent homicide.

Councilmember Phillips thanked those who attended the meeting and for their ideas.

Councilmember Martin also thanked people for attending.

MINUTES APPROVAL

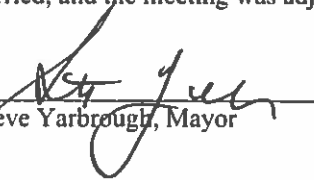
Councilmember Lie moved to approve the January 2nd, 2024, minutes as presented and with a second by Councilmember Russell, the motion carried with Councilmember Sears abstaining.

VOUCHER APPROVAL

Councilmember Martin moved to approve check number 37346 for \$300,000 and checks numbering 37347 through 37377 with \$226,492.92 for claims and \$1,200.00 for payroll and taxes, for a grand total of \$527,692.92 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 8:17 pm.



Steve Yarbrough, Mayor



Lisa Stowe, Clerk/Treasurer