

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



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

## City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday, November 5, 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. Present in person were Councilmembers Martin and Russell. Staff members present in person were Chief Whalen, Public Works Director Norris, and Clerk Stowe. Office Manager Beaston attended via Zoom. Councilmembers Phillips and Sears attended via Zoom. Councilmember Lie was absent.

### **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Councilmember Sears moved to adopt the agenda as amended to move up the Evergreen Health presentation and with a second by Councilmember Russell, the motion carried.

### **AUDIT EXIT CONFERENCE**

Auditors Erika Davies and Jen Rozler presented the exit conference for the 2023 financial audit. They reviewed the audit packet, which will be available for the City to place on its website. They gave an overview of audits and why they matter, talked about providing best practice recommendations, methods of reporting, what it means to be cash-based for reporting, and details for the next audit in Fall of 2025. The City's audit results should be posted on the auditor's website by next week.

After the presentation, Councilmember Russell moved to authorize the mayor to sign the audit representation letter and with a second by Councilmember Phillips, the motion carried.

### **EVERGREEN HEALTH PRESENTATION**

Lisa La Plante and Megan Wirsching gave a presentation on the state of health care. Discussion included the importance of local services, updates to the Monroe hospital, the need for a larger space, the financial health of the hospital, new capital purchases and upgrades, emergency services, an open position on the board, the benefits of a public hospital, and the impacts of growth in the area. Councilmember Martin talked about positive growth and Councilmember Russell thanked them for their efforts.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Yarbrough attended meetings related to emergency planning and preparing for the coming winter. He said the recent Trunk or Treat was a success, and that he will be attending a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the opening of a new business.

### **STAFF REPORT**

Chief Whalen briefly reviewed calls for the month, the success of Trunk or Treat, and the possibility of having a weekly police blotter on the city's website.

Chief Whalen then called for a moment of silence in memory of former Snohomish County Sheriff's Deputy Steve Haley, who passed away on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mr. Haley was a compassionate and caring man who will be greatly missed.

Director Norris gave a brief update on the Fall View project, staff work preparing for winter, and the good job a staff member is doing with street sweeping.

Clerk Stowe said Steve Haley will be missed and she had many good memories of working with him.

Office Manager Beaston also spoke about Steve Haley and their long friendship.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Lie was unable to attend the meeting and notified the Mayor. Councilmember Sears moved to excuse Councilmember Lie, and with a second by Councilmember Russell the motion carried.

Councilmember Sears thanked the auditors for attending, and the staff from Evergreen Health for their presentation. He also encouraged people to vote.

Councilmember Martin talked about how hard it was to lose a comrade and the impact to the fire department.

Councilmember Phillips thanked the auditors, Evergreen Health, and Clerk Stowe for her work on the audit. She also offered her condolences on the loss of Steve Haley.

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS – None**

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

Clerk Stowe called the public hearing to order at 7:51 pm with an applicable agenda including the 2025 budget and Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs). She briefly reviewed the public hearing process.

Ordinance #781 relating to the 2025 budget was presented. Discussion included the upcoming Orchard Avenue watermain replacement and potential grant for paving, that there will be no increase in water rates, and the health of specific funds. After discussion, Councilmember Sears moved to accept Ordinance #781 for an introduction and first reading, and with a second by Councilmember Phillips, the motion carried.

Ordinance #780 amending zoning Title 17 relating to ADUs was presented. This ordinance will not be finalized until December in order to give the Council time to fully review it. Director Norris talked about legislative requirements, the impact on septic systems and permitting ADUs, lot sizes, the Health District, and the number of ADUs allowed on lot sizes. After discussion, Councilmember Phillips moved to accept Ordinance #780 for an introduction and first reading and with a second by Councilmember Russell the motion carried.

Councilmember Sears then moved to adjourn the public hearing and with a second by Councilmember Russell, the motion carried. The public hearing was adjourned, and the normal agenda returned to at 8:13 pm.

### **CONTINUED BUSINESS - None**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

*Resolution #24-08, 2025 Property Taxes.* This annual resolution and associated levy certification were presented for discussion and action. Councilmember Sears moved to approve Resolution #24-08 relating to 2025 property taxes and to authorize signing the Levy Certification, and with a second by Councilmember Russell, the motion carried.

*Drug Task Force Interlocal.* Clerk Stowe reviewed changes between this interlocal and the previous one and there was brief discussion around the benefits of the interlocal. Councilmember Sears moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the interlocal and with a second by Councilmember Russell, the motion carried.

*Ordinance #782 Amending the 2024 Budget.* After brief discussion, Councilmember Sears moved to accept Ordinance #782 amending the 2024 budget for an introduction and first reading, and with a second by Councilmember Phillips, the motion carried.

**FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS**

Councilmember Martin thanked Clerk Stowe for her audit work, as did Councilmember Russell.

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

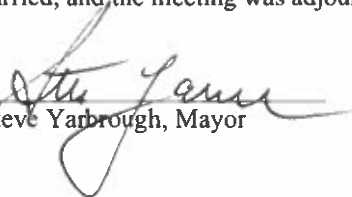
Councilmember Russell moved to approve the October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024, minutes as presented and with a second by both Councilmembers Martin and Phillips, the motion carried.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Martin moved to approve checks numbering 37966 through 38004 with \$134,234.87 for claims and \$51,148.05 for payroll and taxes, for a grand total of \$185,382.92 and with a second by Councilmember Sears, the motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmembers Sears moved to adjourn the meeting and with a second by Councilmember Russell, the motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm.

  
Steve Yarbrough, Mayor

  
Denise Beaston, Office Manager