

City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



107 – 5th Street, Gold Bar, WA 98251

City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday, September 2, 2025

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

AGENDA APPROVAL

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

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Yarbrough reviewed key dates for 2026, and the 250th anniversary of the signing of the constitution and potential city activities. He also said the Heidelberg company will have an open house, and the City will begin the interview process for the open maintenance position. Finally, the Tree Board will be meeting to begin work on a tree ordinance.

Councilmember Lie talked about feral apple trees in the park and that he feels they should be removed to comply with regulations.

STAFF REPORT

Chief Whalen apologized for missing the last meeting and appreciated Deputy Fredrickson filling in for him. He reviewed the number and type of calls for the region during August. There has been an increase in burglaries and he reviewed those investigations. He thanked city staff and outside agencies, including Sky Valley Fire, for assistance with National Night Out. He then reviewed recent search and rescue/recovery calls and issues with door-to-door solicitations. Councilmember Lie asked for more details relating to specific calls and there was brief discussion. Councilmember Russell thanked Chief Whalen and staff for cleaning up the bridge area.

Director Norris talked about issues relating to staff shortage, upcoming schedules for the Orchard Street overlay, and upcoming installations for water in the dog park and new playground equipment. Councilmember Lie asked about a bill for bridge inspection, which is required annually. Councilmember Russell asked about the speed table work, which will happen with the Orchard overlay. Councilmember Lie also talked about the timing for traffic calming devices as part of the Orchard project.

Clerk Stowe was absent but left a staff report relating to other agenda items.

Office Manager Beaston talked about code enforcement reports and there was brief discussion. Councilmember Lie then asked about door-to-door permits and she clarified none have been issued because door-to-door solicitation is not allowed in city limits. A company can have a business license but that does not allow them to do door-to-door solicitation. Councilmember Russell reiterated his comments from the last meeting regarding thanking Denise for her work for the community.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Lie talked about the proposed round-about at Sultan Basin Road, emails he receives relating to truck trains, right-of-way signage issues, and the Heidelberg project and its potential impact on traffic.

Councilmember Martin talked about the current red flag warning for fire danger and upcoming events.

Councilmember Russell talked about messes from ornamental trees.

Councilmember Craig talked about her recent trip to Washington D.C. and topics discussed during that trip, including traffic impacts, forest service staffing, development, federal funding impacts on disaster readiness, and overall takeaways. There was consensus among the councilmembers to allow the sharing of photos from this trip with Councilmember Craig representing the City. Mayor Yarbrough thanked Councilmember Craig for her efforts.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Phil Peksanli talked about recent burglaries and RCWs relating to wheeled vehicles not being allowed inside city buildings.

CONTINUED BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution #25-07, Personnel Manual. After brief discussion, Councilmember Sears moved to approve Resolution #25-07 as presented, and with a second by Councilmember Craig, the motion carried.

Ordinance #785, Amending Title 12. After discussion, Councilmember Sears moved to accept Ordinance #785 as amended to correct numbering on the document for an introduction and first reading, and with a second by Councilmember Craig, the motion carried.

FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Lie thanked Mr. Peksanli for his reminder about wheeled vehicles.

Councilmember Martin repeated her comments about the red flag warning.

Councilmember Russell pointed out his wheeled vehicle is a scooter then asked Chief Whalen if he was aware of any direct issues related to the opioid van in the city. Chief Whalen said the uptick in burglaries were related to one person and not the opioid van.

Councilmember Craig talked about an upcoming meeting relating to truck trains and the low number of patients using the opioid treatment van. She feels from past experience that the people using the treatment van are not the people that the city needs to be worried about.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Councilmember Russell moved to approve the August 19th, 2025, minutes as presented and with a second by Councilmember Sears, the motion carried.

VOUCHER APPROVAL

Councilmember Martin moved to approve checks numbering 38625 through 38652 with \$21,346.62 for claims and \$46,407.07 for payroll and taxes, for a grand total of \$67,753.69 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 7:49 pm.

Steve Yarbrough, Mayor

Lisa Stowe, Clerk/Treasurer