

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



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

## City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday, August 19, 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, Russell, and Sears. Staff members present in person were Public Works Director Norris and Clerk Stowe. Office Manager Beaston attended via Zoom. Chief Whalen was absent and Deputy Fredricksen was present in person.

### AGENDA APPROVAL

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

### MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Yarbrough has been ill for a few weeks and is working on catching up. He said Gold Dust Day seemed to go well, with some minor hiccups. National Night Out was well attended and he thanked Family Grocer for donating hot dogs and the Mann Station for donating water. He met with the opioid treatment van staff and encouraged others to do so as well. The Department of Emergency Management is planning a tabletop exercise for train derailments.

Councilmember Lie asked about the status of the Tree Board. They are active and working on scheduling a meeting. Councilmember Lie then talked about feral apple trees in the park and elsewhere, and the mess they make.

Councilmember Martin asked if Mayor Yarbrough would be attending an opening day lunch.

### STAFF REPORT

Deputy Fredricksen filled in for Chief Whalen in case there were any questions. Councilmember Lie asked if he had seen any difference in traffic with the new radar signs and he said he had noticed people slowing down.

Director Norris had several updates and there was discussion on each topic. There have been problems with water leaks in different locations and an issue with a pressure relief valve. A pipe at Well 3 broke and had to be repaired. Radar signs were installed and there should be data available soon. The old dump truck and street sweeper have been advertised. Because of being short-staffed, mowing has been let go. The maintenance position has been posted. The water fountain for the dog park was ordered but there has been a delivery issue. Playground equipment will be installed shortly. He had a meeting with Community Transit regarding potential changes to routes and encouraged people to give Community Transit feedback.

The watermain replacement on Orchard is complete and came in under budget and so the contractors will be able to add connections between wells in order to cut down on the city having to buy water from the PUD. The next phase is the street overlay and Director Norris reviewed the dates for work. Striping and speed tables will be part of the overlay project.

Well 4 repairs are continuing and as part of the process it may be possible to surplus old equipment related to the pump.

Clerk Stowe said the budget process will be starting and asked the Council to consider any recommendations they may have.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Sears has also been out ill. Councilmember Russell moved to excuse his absence from the last meeting and with a second by Councilmember Martin, the motion carried. Councilmember Sears said he has seen drivers slowing down at the new radar signs.

Councilmember Lie said he introduced himself to the opioid treatment staff and encouraged others to do so. He talked about how busy Lewis Street and the school have been with kids on bikes and other non-powered things. He said the average age he sees on ATVs seems to be around nine years old. He talked about Snohomish County Tomorrow and their discussions around the housing crisis and the costs of including parking in development. He also talked about city municipal code that prohibits parking on the right of way of the highway and said a line needs to be drawn between project cars and junk vehicles.

Councilmember Martin attended a meeting with Heidelberg regarding their expansion plans and a recreational meeting regarding Reiter Foothills and their new parking area. She also reminded people of the fire danger.

Councilmember Russell thanked Director Norris for the radar signs. He talked about the people he talks to in town and those that pick up trash in the park. He sees a lot of people taking pride in their community. He said Office Manager Beaston's work helped people feel safe in the area. He also said everyone he has talked to has been impressed with the contractors and staff on the Orchard project. He also met with opioid treatment staff.

Councilmember Craig met with opioid treatment staff and identified gaps in service, such as transportation and translating services. She is going to a Homeland Security conference in Washington D.C. and will be meeting with representatives. She asked the Council for anything they might like her to talk about. Councilmember Russell brought up the staffing shortage on federal lands and how deputies are having to pickup that shortfall. Councilmember Martin said that is beginning to be addressed and there have been new hirings.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS - none**

**CONTINUED BUSINESS - none**

**NEW BUSINESS - none**

### **FINAL COUNCIL COMMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS**

Councilmember Lie talked about marijuana businesses and how he doesn't like seeing staff spending time on tasks for people who are not citizens. Director Norris said citizens are being vocal about the issues as well, but to staff and the Liquor Control Board. Councilmember Lie said that the council doesn't see that, and compared it to the code violations he sees and doesn't know if they are being addressed or not.

Councilmember Martin thanked Councilmember Craig for attending the upcoming conference.

Councilmember Russell also thanked Councilmember Craig and said he has talked to people about the smell from marijuana businesses.

### **MINUTES APPROVAL**

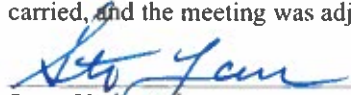
Councilmember Sears moved to approve the July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025, minutes as presented and with a second by Councilmember Russell, the motion carried.

## VOUCHER APPROVAL

Councilmember Martin moved to approve checks numbering 38561 through 38596 with \$20,325.20 for claims and \$63,378.18 for payroll and taxes, for a grand total of \$83,703.38 and checks numbering 38597 through 38624 with \$263,889.47 for claims and \$1,000.00 for payroll and taxes, for a grand total of \$264,889.47 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 7:54 pm.

  
Steve Yarbrough, Mayor  
Lisa Stowe, Clerk/Treasurer