

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



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

## City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday, September 16, 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, and Martin. Councilmembers Russell and Sears attended via Zoom. Staff members present in person were Chief Whalen, Public Works Director Norris, and Clerk Stowe. Office Manager Beaston attended via Zoom.

### **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Councilmember Russell moved to adopt the agenda and Councilmember Sears seconded the motion. Mayor Yarbrough explained the agenda had been amended and the motion died for lack of vote. Councilmember Russell then moved to adopt the agenda as amended and with a second by Councilmember Craig, the motion carried.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Yarbrough said the Tree Board met to review samples of tree ordinances and that BARS codes had been changed to more easily track Tree Board expenses. Councilmember Lie asked if trees on private property would be regulated, which they would not. Mayor Yarbrough then talked about the need for an interlocal between the city and the Snohomish County Conservation District and there was brief discussion. Councilmember Lie then asked for an update on the opioid treatment van, but Mayor Yarbrough had none.

### **STAFF REPORT**

Chief Whalen said Deputy Mayhall will be temporarily filling in for another deputy. He reviewed recent calls and city code violations. Councilmember Russell said he had noticed on social media that people were having windshields broken out. Chief Whalen said a suspect had been identified.

Director Norris said the Orchard Avenue project came in \$50,000 under bid but the city will still have to do a budget amendment. He updated the council on the overlay project, speed tables, and adjustments made to speed radar signs. He also said the city had hired a new employee who was local. Councilmember Lie talked about the state of fences on Stickney Mountain Place and asked if they were city responsibility, which they are. Councilmember Lie then asked about a bill to Snohomish County, which was for hauling away the RV abandoned on the highway. Councilmember Russell asked if a comparison could be made on speeds before and after the speed bumps are done, which Director Norris will be doing. Councilmember Lie then asked for an update on Well 4. The new pump is installed and electrical work will be done this week.

Clerk Stowe apologized for the confusion around the agenda.

Office Manager Beaston sent out a year-to-date report on code enforcement.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Lie thanked resident Phil Peksanli for his comments at the previous meeting regarding electric vehicles inside buildings and said the city was welcome to ban them. He reviewed municipal code relating to fruit trees and could not find any code that banned them but felt the Tree Board should address the issue. He reviewed the agenda for the upcoming Snohomish County Tomorrow meeting. He gave his ATV update, and asked Mayor Yarbrough for the status of the upcoming train simulation. Mayor Yarbrough said the Department of Emergency Management (DEM) is working on details. Councilmember Lie then thanked Office Manager Beaston for her report and said it helps him understand what happens at city hall.

Councilmember Martin talked about the current red flag warning for fire danger. She also said there is an upcoming recreation coalition meeting in October.

Councilmember Russell thanked Office Manager Beaston for her report. He then talked about ongoing fires, their risk, and their speed.

Councilmember Craig talked about legislative updates regarding the potential to allow longer trucks, reviewed statistics, and asked the council if they were interested in sending letters. She will be attending a forum put on by the Association of Washington Cities in October.

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS - none**

### **CONTINUED BUSINESS**

*Ordinance #785, Amending Title 12.* After discussion, Councilmember Sears moved to accept Ordinance #785 for a second reading and adoption, and with a second by Councilmember Martin, the motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS - none**

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

Councilmember Lie returned to Councilmember Craig's comments on trucks. He moved to add this to the agenda and with a second by Councilmember Russell, the motion carried.

The council then discussed the sample letters against allowing larger trucks on the highway. Councilmember Lie moved to approve the mayor signing the sample letters if it was clear all the councilmembers approved rather than some rogue mayor, and with a second by Councilmember Sears the motion carried.

Councilmember Martin said the Heidelberg company will host an open house on the 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss increasing production and starting hard rock mining.

Councilmember Russell also talked about the Heidelberg proposal.

### **MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Russell moved to approve the September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025, minutes as presented and with a second by Councilmember Sears, the motion carried.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Martin moved to approve checks numbering 38653 through 38678 with \$156,993.75 for claims and \$1,000.00 for payroll and taxes, for a grand total of \$157,993.75 and with a second by Councilmember Sears, the motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Russell moved to adjourn the meeting and with a second by Councilmember Sears, the motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

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Steve Yarbrough, Mayor

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Lisa Stowe, Clerk/Treasurer