

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



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

## City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday, December 2, 2025

### **CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL**

Mayor Pro-Tem Russell 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. Staff members present in person were Chief Whalen, Public Works Director Norris, and Clerk Stowe. Office Manager Beaston attended via Zoom. Councilmember Sears was previously excused from this meeting.

### **OATHS OF OFFICE**

Snohomish County certified the recent election and Clerk Stowe administered the Oaths of Office to Councilmembers Craig, Martin, and Russell. The Oath of Office will be administered to the mayor when he returns.

### **AGENDA APPROVAL**

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

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Pro-Tem Russell said staff have been excellent support for him as mayor pro-tem. He has been enjoying walking around town talking to people and appreciates the livable community.

### **STAFF REPORT**

Chief Whalen reviewed calls, updated the council on the recent theft from the maintenance building and the associated arrest, and spoke briefly about hosting the upcoming Shop with a Cop.

Director Norris said staff have been working on stormwater and getting plows ready. He also talked about changes to security after the recent burglary. Director Norris then presented copies of a letter received by residents of Fall View in opposition to a short-term rental. He explained the council has no jurisdiction over this application but that he will make the letter and petition part of the exhibit that goes to the Hearing Examiner, where the final decision will be made. The council could elect to change municipal code for future applications, but current submissions are reviewed under current code. Councilmember Lie reminded the council about two citizens who came before the council prepared with valid points and as a result of their presentation, restrictions were made.

Councilmember Lie asked about a bill for vehicle cameras. The cameras were funded through an AWC grant. Front and rear cameras are now on the F350, F150, dump truck, sweeper, and sedan. There was

brief discussion around the recordings and how they are not retained but are specific for any potential incidents. Councilmember Lie asked about an on-demand light for crosswalks, which has not yet been ordered. He then asked about the number of accessory dwelling units, and one is being built.

Office Manager Beaston said dog tags have been ordered so renewal notices will be going out.

## **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Lie reviewed meetings he attended, including Washington Wild, Snohomish County Parks, and meeting with the audit team. He spoke briefly about the need to support multi-modal transportation between Gold Bar and Index, including a trail that could link Wallace Falls State Park and Index. He would like to see a resolution that recognizes the need for this, and will draft an example for the mayor and clerk.

Councilmember Martin said there is an upcoming recreation meeting in Sultan. She spoke briefly with Chief Whalen about the noise of racing cars.

Councilmember Russell talked about a specific vehicle that might be of interest, the importance of cameras in vehicles, that the salmon run appears to be over, and the need to be aware of wildlife when hiking.

Councilmember Craig attended the AWC legislative session for the upcoming year and topics included the rising cost of indigent defense and housing. She also talked about public safety and feels Gold Bar should look at this in the future.

## **CITIZEN COMMENTS - none**

## **CONTINUED BUSINESS**

*Ordinance #790 Amending the Personnel Manual.* Councilmember Lie moved to accept Ordinance #790 for a second reading and adoption and with a second by Councilmember Craig, the motion carried.

*Ordinance #787 Amending the 2025 Budget.* Councilmember Lie moved to accept Ordinance #787 for a second reading and adoption and with a second by Councilmember Craig, the motion carried.

*Ordinance #788 Adopting the 2026 Budget.* Councilmember Lie asked about capital projects for 2026. There are none for water, but upcoming capital projects for parks and work on city hall. He then moved to accept Ordinance #788 for a second reading and adoption and with a second by Councilmember Craig, the motion carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

*Drug Task Force Interlocal.* There was brief discussion around the small increase in the annual cost and the benefits to the city. Chief Whalen said the manager has offered to meet with the council to give more information about what they do, and Councilmember Lie would like to see this happen. After discussion, Councilmember Russell moved to authorize the mayor or mayor pro-tem to enter into this interlocal and with a second by Councilmember Lie, the motion carried.

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

Councilmember Russell wished everyone a wonderful holiday season.

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Russell moved to approve the November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025, minutes as presented and with a second by Councilmember Martin, the motion carried.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Martin moved to approve checks numbering 38811 through 38848 with \$15,142.06 for claims and \$50,543.77 for payroll and taxes, for a grand total of \$65,685.83 and with a second by Councilmember Russell, the motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Lie moved to adjourn the meeting and with a second by Councilmember Russell 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