

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



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

## City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday, February 3, 2026

### **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 Sears. Councilmember Martin attended via Zoom. Staff members present in person included Chief Whalen, Public Works Director Norris, and Clerk Stowe. Office Manager Beaston attended via Zoom.

Councilmember Sears moved to excuse Councilmember Russell's absence and with a second by Councilmember Lie, the motion carried.

### **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Councilmember Sears moved to adopt the agenda as amended to add Ordinance #792 under continued business and with a second by Councilmember Craig, the motion carried.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Yarbrough attended the recent hearing for a short-term rental and participated in a call with mayors and Representative Schrier, where traffic on SR2 and road closures were discussed.

### **STAFF REPORT**

Chief Whalen highlighted calls, including how many were deputy-initiated and proactive. He also talked about a recent pursuit that Deputy Grassetth was able to safely end, a robbery at the Mann station, and an interagency pursuit. He said Deputy Gallina will be relocating out of state and will be missed. There was discussion around equipment used for pursuits.

Director Norris said the city was able to donate woodchips to the Startup Event Center. He attended a kick-off meeting with the Department of Commerce regarding upcoming work on affordable housing. Councilmember Lie asked about a vacant lot near Family Grocer and there was brief discussion around zoning and potential uses.

Clerk Stowe said the audit was in its final review stage and an exit conference was scheduled for the next council meeting.

Office Manager Beaston said there have been issues with dogs at large on Reiner Road and 19<sup>th</sup>. Utility bills will go out in the mail on the 4<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Yarbrough reminded people how to sign in if they wished to comment during the citizen comment portion of the meeting.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Sears reminded people to vote for the upcoming school elections.

Councilmember Lie talked about using ballot boxes instead of the post office, the State Patrol presence, the need to follow legislation, and Snohomish County Tomorrow and housing bills. He also said he wanted to see short-term rentals on the next agenda because people are against them and feel they destroy communities. Councilmember Sears reminded everyone that the current ordinance was created because short-term rentals had no regulations and would have been allowed anywhere in the city. Because of that, the current ordinance was created to restrict those rentals.

Councilmember Martin thanked Councilmember Sears for excusing her absence from the last meeting.

Councilmember Craig is watching legislation coming out and also looking at short-term rentals. She was glad to see the installation of little book libraries and would like to see a food pantry at one of the parks.

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Joe Beavers talked about a crosswalk on SR2, giving its background, his safety concerns, and that he had contacted representatives and elected officials but received no replies. He feels the council should have some say in safety concerns.

### **CONTINUED BUSINESS**

*Ordinance #792 Amending Titles 13, 17, and 18, Gold Bar Municipal Codes.* After brief discussion about grammatical changes, Councilmember Sears moved to accept Ordinance #792 for a second reading and adoption as amended, and with a second by Councilmember Craig, the motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

*Resolution #26-03, Amending the Personnel Manual.* After brief discussion, Councilmember Sears moved to accept Resolution #26-03 as presented and with a second by Councilmember Craig, the motion carried.

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

Councilmember Sears will be sad to see Deputy Gallina leave, and he will be missed.

### **COUNCIL MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Sears moved to approve the January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026 minutes as presented and with a second by Councilmember Craig, the motion carried.

### **TOWN HALL MEETING RECORD**

Councilmember Lie felt the town hall meeting was one of the most valuable things the city has done in a while. Councilmember Martin pointed out an error in the meeting record notes that said all

councilmembers were present, because she was absent. Councilmember Sears moved to approve the amended record and with a second by Councilmember Craig the motion carried.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Martin moved to approve checks numbering 38945 through 38988 with \$106,960.16 for claims and \$54,274.34 for payroll and taxes, for a grand total of \$161,234.50 and with a second by Councilmember Sears, the motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Sears moved to adjourn the meeting and with a second by Councilmember Craig, the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:38 pm.

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Steve Yarbrough, Mayor

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Lisa Stowe, Clerk/Treasurer