

# City of Gold Bar

EST. 1910



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

## City of Gold Bar Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday, March 17, 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, Martin, and Russell. Staff members present in person included Chief Whalen, Public Works Director Norris, and Clerk Stowe. Office Manager Beaston attended via Zoom. Councilmember Sears was absent and had previously informed the council.

### AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Russell moved to adopt the agenda as presented and with a second by Councilmember Martin, the motion carried with Councilmember Lie voting opposed.

### MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Yarbrough updated the council on Tree Board activities including the upcoming Arbor Day tree planting. There was brief discussion regarding trees planted previously. He then said the Small Business Association (SBA) met in council chambers to help local businesses with flood damage obtain low interest loans.

### STAFF REPORT

Chief Whalen talked about recent calls, an upcoming award ceremony, and the recent farewell lunch for Deputy Gallina. Councilmember Lie asked if the Forest Service had hired a replacement for law enforcement yet, which they have not.

Director Norris said staff assisted Skykomish with a water main break and snow plowing. Playground equipment is being refurbished. Councilmember Craig asked for a timeframe and staff are waiting on weather, then Gateway Park will be first. Councilmember Lie asked for an update on the sidewalk project. The Department of Transportation will be going out for bids in the spring and depending on the contractor, the project may be in 2026 or 2027.

Councilmember Russell asked if there was a problem with the slide in Gateway Park. There is not; staff were just checking that all parts were there.

Clerk Stowe will be looking into the possibility of contracting with a person for review of financial reports as an alternative to audits every year. She will bring information to the council. Councilmember Lie asked about the cost of the recently concluded audit, but she was not sure of the total cost.

Office Manager Beaston continues to have recurring issues with specific dogs, whose owners have been cited multiple times.

### COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Lie talked about upcoming voting with Snohomish County Tomorrow regarding Woodway and Bothell, and the potential impacts to affordable housing. He talked about the planning commission the city used to have, the difficulty in filling positions, the value of planning commissions, and that he feels one should be recreated.

He also talked about short-term rentals and wants that subject back on an agenda. He then talked about the need for councilmembers to do their own research, the recently concluded audit, and the importance of reading the audit report. He said it was time to review resolution 20-01 relating to procurement. Clerk Stowe said she was already working on updating that resolution and had been for a few weeks. When she has a draft ready for action it will come to the council.

Councilmember Russell attended the farewell lunch for Deputy Gallina and said Deputy Gallina left behind a lot of well-trained officers. Councilmember Russell also said he will be attending an upcoming AWC training, and that he had talked to local businesses about the SBA opportunity.

Councilmember Craig attended the recent fire commissioners' meeting and thanked the council for excusing her recent absence.

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Zack Leake spoke about being opposed to short-term rentals, encouraged the council to review municipal codes, and talked about the importance of community and long-term neighbors, the need for housing, and that there are opportunities for short-term rentals outside of city limits.

### **CONTINUED BUSINESS - none**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

*Resolution #26-04, Amending Financial Plan.* After brief discussion, Councilmember Lie moved to approve Resolution #26-04 as presented and with a second by both Councilmembers Russell and Craig, the motion carried.

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

Councilmember Lie talked about small and attractive assets and the need for the council to review bills.

Councilmember Russell also talked about small and attractive assets and thanked staff for their work.

### **COUNCIL MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilmember Martin moved to approve the March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026 minutes as presented and with a second by Councilmember Russell, the motion carried with Councilmember Lie voting opposed.

### **VOUCHER APPROVAL**

Councilmember Martin moved to approve checks numbering 39057 through 39080 with \$59,344.37 for claims and \$1,000.00 for payroll and taxes, for a grand total of \$60,344.37 and with a second by Councilmember Russell, the motion carried.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Russell moved to adjourn the meeting and with a second by Councilmember Craig, the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:36 pm.

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Steve Yarbrough, Mayor

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Lisa Stowe, Clerk/Treasurer