

**CITY OF RUSTON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

Tuesday, September 17, 2024

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

At 7:00PM Mayor Hopkins called the regular Council Meeting to order. Councilmembers present were Councilmember Hedrick, Councilmember Syler, Councilmember Jensen and Councilmember Holland. Councilmember Huson was excused. Following the flag salute, Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve the agenda, with a second from Councilmember Syler, passed 4-0.

MINUTES - Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve the minutes for the regular Council Meeting of September 3, 2024, with a second from Councilmember Syler, passed 4-0.

STAFF REPORT –

Ruston Police Chief Bautista – See attached.

Ruston Fire Chief Allen – See attached.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS – Nothing at this time.

BUSINESS –

RES 797 – Update to Master Fee Resolution - The City updates its Master Fee Resolution from time-to-time. This occurs generally once per year with an effort made to consider these fees contemporaneously with the budget. The last update was September 19, 2023 with the adoption of Resolution #771. The changes to the Fee Resolution since last year include:

- Increasing fees by 5 percent to keep up with inflation;
- The language in Section 2.1.C regarding administrative fees has been clarified so that the 5 percent administrative fee will be based on each invoice. This gets rid of the flat fee of \$173 per application. This will more closely match the administrative costs of preparing multiple invoices for a project.
- The permit fee for street tree alterations has been deleted as the Council decided not to adopt that procedure.
- The legal review fees have been modified to not be a set fee, but rather to be a passthrough fee based upon the amounts the City is charged.

The updated fees will support the services provided and keep up with the City's increased costs. Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve Resolution 797, with a second from Councilmember Syler, passed 4-0.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL – Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve Claims for September 17, 2024 and Payroll for September 5, 2024, with a second from Councilmember Syler, passed 4-0.

MAYOR'S TIME – Mayor Hopkins provided updates on the City's continued work with EPA and Ecology and grant funding. The guardrail at 51st and Bennett guardrail was taken out by an intoxicated driver and will be replaced in the near future. The City continued to hold discussions on what Rust Park should look like and hoped any upgrades could be funded with grants. The 49th and Baltimore undergrounding project is moving along nicely with telecommunication and electric lines coming down.

Councilmember Hedrick – Nothing at this time.


Councilmember Syler – Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Huson – Was Excused.

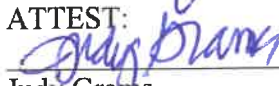
Councilmember Jensen – Thanked Council for the extra time given to review Resolution 797 – Update to Master Fee Resolution. Councilmember Jensen wanted to invite everyone to participate in the Red Cross Blood Drive to be held at the Totem Yacht Club on October 25, 2024. Councilmember Jensen shared that the Council Retreat held on September 17, 2024 was a great success.

Councilmember Holland – Nothing at this time.

MEETING AJOURNED – At 7:15PM Councilmember Hedrick moved to adjourn, with a second from Councilmember Syler, passed 4-0.



Mayor Hopkins

ATTEST:


Judy Grams



**Chief's Report
Ruston Police Department
Tuesday, September 17, 2024**

The Law Enforcement Youth Camp is a summer camp program run by law enforcement officers from throughout Pierce County. Founded in 1974, it allows disadvantaged kids to have positive interactions with law enforcement officers who serve as counselors. Campers learn leadership traits, community-building, and engage in activities like horseback riding, boating, swimming, zip lining, and campfires.

This summer Officer Rachel Barlow served as a camp counselor. It is the first time Ruston sent an officer since the camp opened, and we will continue to support upcoming events at the Northwest Trek in October, and their Christmas party in December.

Prepared by Nestor Bautista

Ruston Fire Department Monthly Review for August 2024

Tuesday, September 17, 2024

Presented by Chief Bruce Allen

Total Incidents (YTD) 121, August 16 (4 Fire/Service, 11 Medical Aid)

Volunteer Hours: June 1,978 Hours, YTD 14,659 Hours

Membership Roster (24 out of 25): (21 Members, 3 Officers)

State of the Business

- Our Roster will be full this next week with the return of 2 former members plus a recent Bates Graduate that all have their FF1 and EMT certificates.
- Our 4 members at the Browns Point Academy are doing well.
- We have one possibly two challenging the 1403 requirement to become firefighters.
- Engine 39 will be going in for its annual pump test soon.