

**CITY OF RUSTON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

At 7:00PM City Clerk Laurie Cassell called the regular Council Meeting to order. City Clerk Cassell called Councilmember Hedrick forward to administer the Oath of Office. Councilmembers present were Councilmember Hedrick, Councilmember Holland, Councilmember Syler, Councilmember Huson and Councilmember Jensen. Mayor Hopkins was excused. Councilmember Syler moved to elect Councilmember Hedrick as Mayor Pro Tem, with a second by Councilmember Holland, passed 5-0. Following the flag salute, Councilmember Syler moved to approve the agenda, with a second from Councilmember Huson, passed 5-0.

MINUTES - Councilmember Syler moved to approve the minutes for the regular Council Meeting of January 2, 2024, with a second from Councilmember Holland, passed 5-0.

STAFF REPORT –

Ruston Police Chief Bautista – See attached.

Ruston Fire Chief Allen – See attached.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS – Nothing at this time.

BUSINESS –

ORD 1571 – Update of Public Works Standards (Chapter 12.09 RMC) - (1st reading) – This City first adopted public works standards in August 2013 by enacting Ordinance-1416. This is updated from time to time when standards change. The most recent update was via Ordinance No. 1500 on November 21, 2017. Since that time new standards have been created (such as street trees) and others have been updated. The updated standards include the following:

1. The Standard Specifications and Standard Plans for Road, Bridge and Municipal Construction, promulgated by the Washington State Department of Transportation (2024 version is the latest);
2. Ruston Design Manual (2018 version is the latest);
3. 2023 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (11th Edition – updated December 2023);
4. Tacoma Stormwater Management Manual (July 2021 is most recent version);
5. Tacoma Right of Way Design Manual (2018 is the most recent version);
6. Tacoma Right of Way Restoration Policy (new this update);
7. Traffic Control Handbook (new this update);
8. Sewerage Works Design Manual (updated in May of 2023, with Lagoon and Liner Design Guidelines from April 2023);
9. Street Light Standards (updated in 2021);

10. Street Tree Manual (new this update);
11. Tacoma Street Utility Standards (partial update in 2021);
12. Tacoma Traffic Signal Standard Plans (partial update in 2017); and
13. Sign Fabrication Manual (updated in 2021).

Since Ruston is surrounded on three sides by Tacoma, it makes sense for Ruston to have the same or similar standards as Tacoma. Under state law,¹ the City is permitted to adopt the codes and standards of other government agencies by reference, including those adopted or published by the State and by other cities. The City Planner, City Electrical Engineer, and City Engineer all have reviewed all of the public work's standards proposed for adoption by the City of Ruston and support adoption.

Councilmember Jensen would like to have the agenda's posted earlier than Friday as there was a lot of information on the Public Works Standards that involved extensive review for codification items. She would like input from Councilmember Huson on the Street Tree Manual.

Councilmember Hedrick said the Council can take time to discuss Ordinance 1571 and they do not have to pass it at the next meeting on February 6, 2024. Councilmember Jensen would like to have input from residents on the City of Ruston's standard specifications and has requested a presentation from staff.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL – Councilmember Syler moved to approve Claims for January 16, 2024, and Payroll for January 5, 2024, with a second from Councilmember Holland, passed 5-0.

MAYOR'S TIME – Was excused.

Councilmember Hedrick – He thanked the voters for approving him for another term and the passage of the Levy LID Lift. He takes his service to the City of Ruston very seriously and is proud to live and raise his kids in Ruston.

Councilmember Holland – Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Syler – Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Huson – Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Jensen – She thanked the volunteers for the successful blood drive and the great feedback from residents. The next blood drive will be in May.

¹ RCW 35A.12.140.

CITY OF RUSTON
Regular Council Minutes
January 16, 2024

MEETING AJOURNED – At 7:21PM Councilmember Syler moved to adjourn, with a second from Councilmember Holland, passed 5-0.



Mayor Hopkins

ATTEST:



Laurie Cassell

Ruston Fire Department Monthly Review for December 2023

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

Presented by Chief Bruce Allen

Total Incidents (YTD) 178, December 11 (3 Fire/Service, 8 Medical Aid)

Volunteer Hours: November 1785 Hours, YTD 17,504 Hours

Membership (25 out of 25): (22 Members, 3 Officers, 1 Chief)

State of the Business

- Membership is full with a few applicants in the wings.
- Firefighter I class is finished and we now have 3 new Firefighters.
- We will have at least 2 firefighters in the Firefighter II class next month.
- We are moving forward with billing for medical transports, in early 2024.
- All fire tools are fully operational.



**Chief's Report
Ruston Police Department
Tuesday, January 16, 2024**

Calls for Service Total September thru December:	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	815	830

The Automatic License Plate Reader (ALPR) the Department purchased on a 2022 mini-grant from the State of Washington are completely installed and operational. The data collected has been instrumental in providing leads for crimes in the area, including one shooting in Ruston. We also provide data from this asset to the Tacoma Police Department and South Sound 911.

Officer Wayne Lake has been on light duty since November after suffering an injury in a foot pursuit with a felony suspect. We learned he will not require surgery and he expects to return to full duty end of February.

Prepared by Nestor Bautista