

**CITY OF RUSTON  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, July 5, 2016**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

At 7:01 PM Mayor Hopkins called the Regular Council Meeting to order. Councilmembers present were: Jane Hunt, Lyle Hardin, and Lynn Syler. Councilmember Hedrick and Councilmember Kristovich were excused. Following the flag salute, Mayor Hopkins called for approval of the agenda. Councilmember Hunt moved to amend the agenda to add Resolution 632 - Six Year Transportation Improvement Plan, with a second from Councilmember Hardin, passed 3-0. The agenda as amended passed 3-0.

**MINUTES**

Councilmember Hunt moved to approve the minutes for the Regular Council meeting of June 21, 2016, with a second from Councilmember Hardin, passed 3-0.

**STAFF REPORT –**

Ruston City Engineer Jerry Morrisette – Provided an overview of the Six Year Transportation Improvement Plan.

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS** – No public comment at this time.

**BUSINESS**

**ORD 1483** – Update Sewer Connection Fees RMC 21.01.040 (1<sup>st</sup> Reading). The City is authorized to provide sanitary sewer services to properties within the City in accordance with RCW 35A.11.020, 35A.21.150, and Chapter 35.67 RCW. This authority includes the authority to establish charges for the sanitary sewer facilities, including connection charges. RCW 35.67.020; 35.67.190. Sewer connection fees are meant to help ensure that “growth pays for growth” and that the new customers will pay into a system that has been created and maintained by existing customers. The City has charged \$2,000 per connection for new sewer connections for a number of years under RMC 21.01.040. The City has implemented this to be a charge of \$2,000 per unit for new sewer connections and has interpreted this to be \$2,000 per unit of development. In order to ensure clarity in the code on this issue, RMC 21.01.040 should be updated to do the following:

1. State that the connection fee is “per unit”,
2. Define what a “unit” is,
3. Provide for the rounding up of any partial units in the fee calculation,
4. Give the Planning Director the authority to determine the number of units being developed and connected for purposes of this fee, and

5. Provide an appeal process if a developer desires to challenge the Planning Director's interpretation.

The update to RMC 21.01.040 contained in Ordinance 1483 makes these changes. The fee at issue is not changed, however, the code is proposed to be clarified and additional language inserted to make the fee calculation more clear and transparent.

**RES 632** – Adoption of Six Year Transportation Improvement Plan - State law mandates all local jurisdictions to annually adopt and submit to the state a six-year program of transportation improvements, known as the Local TIP. To be eligible to seek federal and state funding, the City must comply with state law and adopt an annual TIP. The six-year Local TIP serves as a general work plan for the development of local transportation systems and, as such, represents an important planning component under the State's Growth Management Act. The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) use Local TIPs as a tool for coordinating the transportation programs of local jurisdictions with those of regional agencies. PSRC monitors Local TIPs for projects of regional significance (to be modeled for air quality conformity) and projects supported by federal funds. These projects are incorporated into the Regional TIP, which is then forwarded for inclusion in the State TIP. In most instances, projects must be included on a Local TIP to be eligible for state and federal grant programs. A Public Hearing on the proposed City of Ruston 2017-2022 TIP project list was held before the City Council on June 7, 2016. Since that time the draft TIP has been updated. Since local TIPs need not be revenue constrained, jurisdictions can include projects they would choose to implement within the timeframe, if funding were available. Jerry provided a summary of the City of Ruston TIP. Councilmember Hunt moved to approve Resolution 632, with a second from Councilmember Hardin, passed 3-0.

**CLAIMS/PAYROLL** – Councilmember Hunt moved to approve Claims and Payroll, with a second from Councilmember Hardin, passed 3-0.

**MAYOR'S TIME** – Wanted to let Council know there have been complaints regarding all the construction in the City and the time it is taking to get a permit. Because of permitting complaints, Mayor Hopkins may ask Council to attend meetings with residents. Mayor Hopkins was confident that residents are being treated fairly through the permit process. Mayor Hopkins wanted to inform Council that over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday it was discovered that Point Ruston was parking cars, charging \$20 per car, on the top deck of the parking garage, which had not been opened to the public. Mayor Hopkins invited John Trueman, representing the Ruston Point Defiance Business District, to come before Council to speak about the proposed Farmers Market. Mr. Trueman gave an update and noted the Farmers Market will be held every Sunday from August 25, 2016 through September 25, 2016, time was still to be determined.

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**COUNCIL TIME –**

Councilmember Hedrick – Was excused.

Councilmember Hunt – Douglas Air Conditioning installed a heating cooling system at her home and had no issues in getting a permit issued.


Councilmember Hardin – Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Kristovich – Was excused.

Councilmember Syler – Was disappointed to hear that Point Ruston parked cars on the roof of the parking garage. If Point Ruston charged \$20 for parking how were they reporting the revenue?

**MEETING AJOURNED -**

At 7:34 PM Councilmember Hunt moved to adjourn, with a second from Councilmember Hardin, passed 3-0.

  
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Mayor Bruce Hopkins

ATTEST:

  
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Judy Grams