

**CITY OF RUSTON  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, September 19, 2017**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

At 7:00PM Mayor Hopkins called the Regular Council Meeting to order. Councilmembers present were: Jane Hunt, Lyle Hardin, Deb Kristovich and Lynn Syler. Councilmember Hedrick was excused. Following the flag salute, Mayor Hopkins called for approval of the agenda. Councilmember Hunt moved to approve the agenda of September 19, 2017, with a second from Councilmember Hardin, passed 4-0.

**MINUTES**

Councilmember Hunt moved to approve the minutes for the Regular Council meeting of September 5, 2017, with a second from Councilmember Hardin, passed 4-0.

**STAFF REPORT** –

Ruston Police – Chief Estes – See attached.

Ruston Fire – Chief Torbet – See attached.

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS** – No Public Comments at this time.

**BUSINESS**

**Ruston-Point Defiance Business District** - Joseph Atkinson, President, presented a serious issue with City of Tacoma. Tacoma was planning to eliminate fourteen parking stalls on the Tacoma side of Pearl, from the Antique Sandwich Shop on 51<sup>st</sup> and Pearl going north beyond 52<sup>nd</sup> and Pearl, which will be a permanent change. Mr. Atkinson's main concern was that the City of Tacoma had not communicated with Ruston-Point Defiance Business District. The business district will be working to stop this from happening. Mr. Atkinson noted the business district was healthy and was generating new business.

**CLAIMS/PAYROLL** – Councilmember Hunt moved to approve Payroll, with a second from Councilmember Hardin, passed 4-0.

**MAYOR'S TIME** – Sent to Councilmembers City of Ruston Police Sergeant Rod Baker's write up regarding police equipment upgrade. Sergeant Baker researched the need for newer vehicles to replace what the City currently has and recommended the Ruston Police department go with Chargers, which are dependable, safe and have cost advantages. Mayor Hopkins brought this before Council for consideration requesting to purchase outright rather than financing the vehicles. Mayor Hopkins made note the need to support both the Police and Fire departments and he continued to promote public safety. Council also promoted public safety and was supportive of the Ruston Police and Ruston Fire Departments. Council was in favor of being proactive and purchasing the Charges outright. Councilmember Hardin questioned the current concerns surrounding the Ford Interceptors and their exhaust issues. Chief Estes noted the City's two Interceptors do not have the issues, however, Chief Estes will purchase carbon monoxide detectors to place in each car to be safe. Mayor Hopkins presented that the Ruston Fire Department had concerns regarding medical aid access into the Point Ruston garage.



CITY OF RUSTON  
Regular Council Minutes  
September 19, 2017

On behalf of Chief Torbet, Mayor Hopkins presented the Ruston Fire Department's need to purchase a pickup truck and equip it with medical equipment to better provide aid services inside the garage. Mayor Hopkins reminded Council that he will be out of town for the October 3, 2017 and October 17, 2017 Council meetings.

**COUNCIL TIME –**

**Councilmember Hedrick** – Was excused.

**Councilmember Hunt** – Inquired on the status of the Point Ruston parking garage. Mayor Hopkins responded that Point Ruston has a temporary Certificate of Occupancy not a Certificate of Occupancy due to outstanding issues. The City continues to work with Point Ruston for compliance.

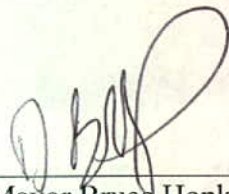
**Councilmember Hardin** – Shared his discussion with Ruston Fire Chief Don Torbet who adjusted the Fire Department budget to support the purchase of the pickup truck and necessary equipment. Councilmember Hardin thanked both the Ruston Police and Ruston Fire Departments for all their hard and dedicated work and know how stretched both departments were.

**Councilmember Kristovich** – Nothing at this time.


**Councilmember Syler** – Asked what other public garages were doing in getting medical aid inside a garage and how secure is it to keep a vehicle inside the garage free from vandalism? Assistant Chief Bruce Allen responded to both inquires. Proctor Fire Department uses a pickup truck and the Ruston Fire Department would work with Point Ruston to identify a secure location.

**MEETING AJOURNED -**

At 7:37PM Councilmember Hunt moved to adjourn, with a second from Councilmember Hardin, passed 4-0.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Bruce Hopkins

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Judy Grams



**Chief's Report  
Ruston Police Department  
August 2017**

**Chief of Police:**

During the month of August the Police Department responded to 298 calls for service in Ruston. This number is made up of dispatched calls, officer initiated calls, and traffic stops, and it does not include any calls for service that took place in the City of Tacoma where Ruston officers responded. That is compared with 163 calls for service in August, 2016.

**39**

There were ~~34~~ cars impounded under the suspended driver impound program during July.

CASES OF NOTE: Sergeant Baker and I received a call about a stolen car with GPS sitting at Point Ruston. We responded and found that the car was sitting in the parking garage. We waited at both exits until the car left and then stopped it before it could get on the road and flee. A documented gang member out of Seattle was in possession of the car and booked.

Officer Grubb attempted to stop a car this month that ended up fleeing from him. In fleeing the driver did damage to a residence in Ruston and fled down residential streets at high speed. Officer Grubb wisely discontinued the pursuit due to extreme risk to the public. He and Sergeant Baker conducted some investigation and were able to identify the driver, also a documented gang member out of Seattle. She had several warrants for her arrest in King County and the Pierce County Prosecutor has started the process to issue warrants for the Ruston case.

Another car also fled an attempted traffic stop, fleeing at 70 MPH down Pearl. That pursuit was also discontinued due to public safety concerns. That driver was also eventually identified and a warrant is being issued for him.

Lastly Officer Grubb stopped a car for a minor traffic violation. Through his investigation he discovered that the driver was in the country illegally and was using a stolen social security number to establish an identity to work and bank. The real owner of the social security number was a 17 year old high school student in Camano Island that had no idea his identity had been stolen.





**Chief's Report  
Ruston Police Department  
August 2017**

**Chief of Police:**

During the month of August the Police Department responded to 298 calls for service in Ruston. This number is made up of dispatched calls, officer initiated calls, and traffic stops, and it does not include any calls for service that took place in the City of Tacoma where Ruston officers responded. That is compared with 163 calls for service in August, 2016.

**39**

There were ~~34~~ cars impounded under the suspended driver impound program during July.

CASES OF NOTE: Sergeant Baker and I received a call about a stolen car with GPS sitting at Point Ruston. We responded and found that the car was sitting in the parking garage. We waited at both exits until the car left and then stopped it before it could get on the road and flee. A documented gang member out of Seattle was in possession of the car and booked.

Officer Grubb attempted to stop a car this month that ended up fleeing from him. In fleeing the driver did damage to a residence in Ruston and fled down residential streets at high speed. Officer Grubb wisely discontinued the pursuit due to extreme risk to the public. He and Sergeant Baker conducted some investigation and were able to identify the driver, also a documented gang member out of Seattle. She had several warrants for her arrest in King County and the Pierce County Prosecutor has started the process to issue warrants for the Ruston case.

Another car also fled an attempted traffic stop, fleeing at 70 MPH down Pearl. That pursuit was also discontinued due to public safety concerns. That driver was also eventually identified and a warrant is being issued for him.

Lastly Officer Grubb stopped a car for a minor traffic violation. Through his investigation he discovered that the driver was in the country illegally and was using a stolen social security number to establish an identity to work and bank. The real owner of the social security number was a 17 year old high school student in Camano Island that had no idea his identity had been stolen.

**Other Personnel Issues:**

Sgt Rod Baker has completed his state mandated training and is now a fully certified law enforcement officer.

**Civil Service Commission:**

Nothing to report.

**Equipment:**

Nothing to report.

**Training:**

The entire department will be attending firearms training and Emergency Vehicle Operations Training in the coming weeks.

Please contact me by phone (253) 761-0272 or by email [anders.estes@rustonwa.org](mailto:anders.estes@rustonwa.org) if you have any questions or concerns regarding this month's report.

Submitted By:  
Anders Estes  
Chief of Police





Ruston Fire Department | 5117 North Winnifred | Ruston, WA 98407

## Ruston Fire Department Monthly Review for August 2017

Tuesday, September 19, 2017

Presented by Bruce Allen

**Total Incidents:** 16 (2 Fire/ Service, 14 Medical Aid)

**Total Volunteer Hours:** Total 1401 Hours August 309 Hours

**Membership Roster (out of 25):** 16 (10 FF, 6 Officers)

**Recent Membership Changes:** Add Kendal Seeman, Savannah Strand, Dominique Springs

### State of the Business:

- We had another successful Night Out Against Crime and the Court Street block party
- Michael Anderson has been approved as an OTEP instructor
- All new members are going through driver training with Captain Piper
- Former councilman Mike Wendell passed away quietly at home after a long battle with COPD
- We will be focusing on training new members in core firefighting competencies
- PPV fan in for routine service
- Recurring CPR training is offered quarterly for the Ruston community. Over 170 people have been **CPR certified** since the training has been offered. Although we didn't meet our goal of 100% CPR certification for the city, we continue to provide training as needed. As always, community members may enroll at City Hall or by emailing [rustonfire@rustonwa.org](mailto:rustonfire@rustonwa.org).
- **Fire Station tours** are provided to the public when resources are available. Please contact [rustonfire@rustonwa.org](mailto:rustonfire@rustonwa.org) for further information.

### Ruston Fire Department's Master Business Objectives for August 2017

OBJECTIVE	START DATE	TARGET COMPLETION	COMPLETE %	ACTION OWNERS
Recruitment	8/2017	<i>ongoing</i>	16 of 25	WHERRETT/MILLER
CPR Training	8/2017	<i>ongoing</i>	100%	ANDERSON