

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

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

At 7:01 PM Mayor Hopkins called the Regular Council Meeting to order. Councilmembers present were: Jim Hedrick, Jane Hunt, Lyle Hardin, Deb Kristovich and Lynn Syler. Following the flag salute, Mayor Hopkins called for approval of the agenda. Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve the agenda, with a second from Councilmember Hunt passed 5-0.

MINUTES

Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve the minutes for the Regular Council meeting of December 15, 2015. Councilmember Hunt moved to amend minutes for December 15, 2015 to excuse Councilmember Hunt, with a second from Councilmember Hardin, minutes for December 15, 2015 as amended, passed 5-0.

STAFF REPORT –

City Engineer – Jerry Morrisette provided an update on the TIB Winnifred Street project and planned to meet with the contractor to go over a punch list and walk through of the work completed on Friday, January 8, 2016 at 1PM. Mayor Hopkins provided a status update on the retaining wall failure on 51st Street. The City paid for emergency repair of the retaining wall to prevent further collapse in the street. Mayor Hopkins also authorized a survey by the City Engineer’s office and it was established it is not the City’s property. Mayor Hopkins thanked the City Engineer’s office for their quick response along with their help with the storm drain repair on Baltimore Street. The City Engineer’s office is investigating who constructed the storm drain at that location. The Pearl Street Project is now on hold until 2017. Councilmember Hardin was encouraged by the punch list and the meeting to be held with the contractor and wanted to be sure stripping was discussed. Councilmember Hardin also noted his concern for the safety of residents who walk on 51st Street and would like a bypass in place as soon as possible.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS – No Public Comments at this time.

BUSINESS

- 1. Ordinance 1481** – Amendment of Chapter 12.05 RMC International Property Maintenance Code (1st reading). In January 2015, the City Council created the Office of the Hearing Examiner by adoption of Ordinance No. 1450 which is codified as Chapter 1.20 of the Ruston Municipal Code (“RMC”). During the period between August and December of 2015, the City Council adopted multiple ordinances to implement the hearing examiner system. It was recently discovered that Chapter 12.05 of the Ruston Municipal Code also needed to be updated for its appeal procedures to be consistent with the use of a hearing examiner and enforcement through the general Code Enforcement Chapter 12.40 RMC. This update involves the following revisions:

RMC 12.05.050 Violations. This replaces a reference to the Building Code Advisory Council with the reference to the Hearing Examiner. The City has no Building Code Advisory Board at this time and the appellate body designated by Chapter 12.40 RMC is the hearing examiner. Changes from “town” to “city” are also made.

RMC 12.05.070 Unsafe structures and equipment. This section addresses unsafe structures and discusses procedures for Notices to Vacate. Because the City also uses Notices to Abate and Notices of Violation, the language is expanded to include these other types of Notices.

RMC 12.05.090 Means of Appeal. In this section the detailed appeals procedures which provides appellate authority to the “City Building Code Advisory Board” are deleted and replaced with a cross-reference to the Title 12 Enforcement Chapter 12.40 RMC. This update will make the appeals procedures under the Construction Codes Title 12 internally consistent. This update also fixes an issue with Chapter 12.05 which already cross-reference Chapter 12.40 RMC as the enforcement mechanism yet continued to contain an appeals procedure that differed from Chapter 12.40 RMC. In order to ensure this consistency amendment takes effect promptly, waiver of First Reading is requested with Second Reading and Adoption occurring on January 5, 2016. Councilmember Hedrick moved to waive first reading and move to second reading, with a second from Councilmember Hunt, passed 5-0. Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve Ordinance 1481, with a second from Councilmember Hunt, passed 5-0.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL – Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve Claims and Payroll, with a second from Councilmember Hunt, passed 5-0.

MAYOR’S TIME – Catholic Community Services delivered their first lease payment. Mayor Hopkins reached out to Point Ruston because their lease expires at the end of March 2016 and received confirmation from Mike Cohen that Point Ruston would like to enter into another lease for a minimum of 5 years with another 5year option. Mayor Hopkins noted the importance of striping the north lot as parking becomes a premium and the need for additional handicap parking. Council asked Mayor Hopkins to meet with Tacoma regarding City of Tacoma Interlocal Agreement, had it scheduled but had to cancel. Mayor Hopkins planned to meet next week and will report back to Council.

COUNCIL TIME -
Councilmember Hedrick – Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Hunt – Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Hardin – Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Kristovich – Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Syler – Nothing at this time.

CITY OF RUSTON
Regular Council Minutes
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MEETING AJOURNED -

At 8:00 PM Councilmember Hedrick moved to adjourn, with a second from Councilmember Hunt, passed 5-0.

Mayor Bruce Hopkins

ATTEST:

Judy Grams