

**CITY OF RUSTON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, February 2, 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 January 19, 2016, with a second from Councilmember Hunt, passed 5-0.

STAFF REPORT –

City Engineer – Jerry Morrissette provided an update on the TIB Winnifred Street project and noted the contractor is working through the punch list and the project is near completion. City Engineer Morrissette is working with the contractor to replace ramps for ADA compliance and ensuring the striping is not yet fixed but is an item on the punch list to be fixed to the City's satisfaction. City Engineer Morrissette noted construction will begin in the next two weeks at the property located north of N 49th and N Orchard owned by Mr. Baumgardner. The project began in 2008. There are four lots located in Tacoma and six lots and the right of way is located in Ruston. Because property is part in Tacoma and part in Ruston it posed many issues, such as storm drains.

COMMENDATION – Mayor Hopkins and City Council Commended Captain Wherrett for his volunteer IT support to the City of Ruston. Councilmember Hardin wanted to personally thank Captain Wherrett for all the time Captain Wherrett gave to the city, especially while on vacation, in support of the Automated Meter System among many other IT support needs.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS – No Public Comments at this time.

BUSINESS

1. Comprehensive Plan Update – Staff Presentation. City Planner Robert White presented an update on the Comprehensive Plan which has been a very tedious and long process. The current Comprehensive Plan, adopted in 2003 contains language that is not applicable anymore and is directed to Ruston being a company town. The newly written Comprehensive Plan provides for a good urban design and required a major rewrite and is now written to State standards. The Comprehensive Plan will formally go before Council at the next council meeting, February 16, 2016 in a Resolution and then it will go before Puget Sound Regional Council for review.

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

CITY OF RUSTON
Regular Council Minutes
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MAYOR'S TIME – City Planner White has spent an enormous amount of time rewriting the Comprehensive Plan. Mayor thanked City Planner White and Planning Commission for all of their efforts. Tacoma Power sent a letter to Point Ruston stating they would continue to provide power without consulting with City of Ruston. Mayor communicated with Bill Gaines letting Tacoma Power know the City of Ruston has legal standing, there is not franchise agreement and they did not have the authority to grant permission without consulting the City of Ruston. Mayor Hopkins received a response from Mr. Gaines who thought it was satisfactory. There will be additional discussion. We will need a franchise agreement if they continue to service Point Ruston. City Engineer and Mayor will be working together on the sewer contract. Mayor thanked City Engineer for managing the rate calculations that appear incorrect. The City's position is very strong. The City of Ruston has posted RFQ's for On Call Civil and Electric Engineer. City Attorney Robertson will be working on all consultant contracts coming up in 2016. Coles continues work at the location on 51st and are hoping to open by end of March 2016. Mayor Hopkins added to Mayor's time a note regarding buildable lots. The City is evaluating a lot located on 49th between Orchard and Baltimore and is property the city owns. There may be an opportunity to make this a buildable lot. It has a culvert on one end and culvert on the other and evaluating this to be a buildable lot.

COUNCIL TIME -

Councilmember Hedrick – Noticed the foundation is now poured at Lot 36 Stack Hill which was LOT 12 at the end of Commercial. This Council had very long, arduous discussion about this property, the view at that location and happy it was resolved. It is good to see a house going in now.

Councilmember Hunt – Agreed with Councilmember Hedrick. Excited to see movement to building on Lot 36 which will bring tax dollars into the city. Councilmember Hunt questioned codes against graffiti on the containers located on Point Ruston's property. How do we get this cleaned up? Mayor Hopkins directed Councilmember Hunt to the Ruston website to complete a Code Enforcement Request.

Councilmember Hardin – Thank you City Clerk and Utility Clerk and their oversight in transitioning to new computers and IT support. Thank you to City Clerk for helping with the Commendation for Captain Jeff Wherrett.

Councilmember Kristovich – Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Syler – Nothing at this time.

MEETING AJOURNED -

At 7:47 PM Councilmember Hedrick moved to adjourn, with a second from Councilmember Hunt, passed 5-0.

Mayor Bruce Hopkins

ATTEST:

Judy Grams

City of
Ruston
WASHINGTON

COMMENDATION

In Recognition of the Service of
Jeff Wherrett

WHEREAS, Jeff Wherret has provided voluntary IT support to the City of Ruston for many years; and

WHEREAS, Municipal government, in order to best serve the needs of residents, must operate efficiently and in an orderly and trustworthy manner; and

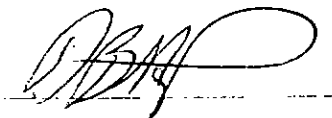
WHEREAS, During his tenure of providing IT support, Jeff has earned the respect and admiration of our citizens, his department, and his co-workers; and

WHEREAS, The City desires to extend to Jeff our appreciation of his years of dedicated service and wish to thank him for his unparalleled IT support;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bruce Hopkins, Mayor on behalf of the Ruston City Council, do, this the 2nd Day of February, in the year 2016, hereby commend:

Jeff Wherrett

For his exemplary service and dedication to the people of the City of Ruston. We furthermore express our sincere appreciation, as well as that of our citizens, for his service to the City of Ruston.



Bruce Hopkins, Mayor