

**CITY OF RUSTON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, September 6, 2016**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

At 7:02 PM Mayor Hopkins called the Regular Council Meeting to order. Councilmembers present were: Jane Hunt, Lyle Hardin, Deb Kristovich and Lynn Syler. Councilmember Hedrick joined at 7:05 PM. Following the flag salute, Mayor Hopkins called for approval of the agenda. Councilmember Hunt moved to approve the agenda, with a second from Councilmember Hardin, passed 4-0.

MINUTES

Councilmember Hunt moved to approve the minutes for the Regular Council meeting of August 16, 2016, with a second from Councilmember Hardin, passed 4-0.

STAFF REPORT –

City Engineer – Jerry Morrissette was excused.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS – Nothing at this time.

BUSINESS

ORD 1487 – Complete Streets (1st reading). Earlier this year, the City of Ruston completed work on the multi-year process of adopting a new Comprehensive Plan. The new Comp Plan was adopted by the Council on March 1, 2016 under Ordinance No. 1482. The updated Comprehensive Plan outlines the City’s vision for the future growth and development for Ruston. Part of this vision is for a multi-modal transportation network in and around Ruston. The Comp Plan specifically addresses this need by describing “Complete Streets” to provide transportation for all modes of travel. Although the Ruston Municipal Code already requires that new developments and new road projects provide multi-mode transportation options, in order to ensure that the City’s Comprehensive Plan vision is implemented, adoption of a new chapter 14.09 in the Street and Sidewalk Title of the Ruston Municipal Code to address the criteria and procedures for Complete Streets is recommended. Adopting a Complete Streets Policy into the Ruston Municipal Code also opens up additional funding opportunities and makes the City eligible for additional grant monies which is a significant motivator for bringing this new Ordinance to the City Council at this time. Adopting this Ordinance will open up additional grant opportunities for the City for transportation grant funds.

RES 637 – Appoint New Planning Commissioner. Position #2 on the Ruston Planning Commission expired on June 20, 2016 and is currently vacant. The Mayor recommends appointing Cliff Kendall to fill this seat for the 6-year term which expires on June 30, 2022. In accordance with RMC 1.07.020, the process for appointing Planning Commissioners is an appointment by the Mayor and a confirmation by the Council. Resolution #637 appoints Mr. Kendall to Position #2 for a 6-year term ending June 30, 2022. If Council agrees with the Mayor’s appointment, then adoption of the Resolution is recommended. Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve Resolution 637, 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 – Provided an update on the increased volume of building permits. In July and August 2016, Building Officer Mike Barth received 18 applications, approved 15 applications and completed 76 inspections. Mayor Hopkins spoke to Pierce County Assessor’s Office who will be reassessing Point Ruston. There is high demand and sales at the Point Ruston development. Point Ruston is three years behind in paying property taxes and are close to default. Mayor Hopkins will be reviewing the 2017 Budget and would like to realize revenue on the commercial building on the City of Ruston side of the Point Ruston development.

COUNCIL TIME –

Councilmember Hedrick – Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Hunt – Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Hardin – Commended Lynette Hopkins on her support and organization of the Michael Tallman memorial service held at the Mary Joyce Community Center. The turnout, in honor of Michael, was unbelievable. Councilmember Hardin also thanked Lynette Hopkins for organizing Steve Taylor’s 39 years of service retirement gathering at City Hall. Councilmember Hardin was very proud to participate and be part of the community in wishing Steve Taylor well in his retirement.

Councilmember Kristovich – Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Syler – Nothing at this time.

MEETING AJOURNED -

At 7:28PM Councilmember Hedrick moved to adjourn, with a second from Councilmember Hunt, passed 5-0.

ATTEST:

Mayor Bruce Hopkins

Judy Grams