

**CITY OF RUSTON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, November 15, 2016**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

At 7:04PM Mayor Hopkins called the Regular Council Meeting to order. Councilmembers present were: Jim Hedrick, Jane Hunt, Lyle Hardin and Deb Kristovich. Councilmember Syler was excused. Following the flag salute, Mayor Hopkins called for approval of the agenda. Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve the Agenda of November 15, 2016, with a second from Councilmember Hunt, passed 4-0.

MINUTES

Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve the minutes for the Regular Council meeting minutes of October 18, 2016 and November 1, 2016, with a second from Councilmember Hunt, passed 4-0.

STAFF REPORT –

Ruston Police – Chief Celis – See attached.

Ruston Fire – Chief Torbet – See attached.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS –

Troy Droubay – Wanted an update on Metro Parks and the slope at the end of Winnifred where the parking lot is being built. Mr. Droubay would like to know what the neighborhood could do to get it back down to the original elevation.

Beth Torbet – Missed the last council meeting and wanted to thank Mayor and Council for stripping the parking on 51st Street and appreciated the quick response. Ms. Torbet noted the Ruston Fire Department holiday dinner will be held on Saturday, December 17, 2016 and asked Council's consideration for the purchase of new tables for the Mary Joyce Community Center in time for the holiday dinner. The current tables are not adequate.

BUSINESS

Ruston Point Defiance Business District – Joseph Atkinson, President of the Ruston Point Defiance Business District thanked Mayor and Council for their public service. Mr. Atkinson noted the Business District was in the middle of their budget process for the 2017 Farmers Market and getting close to a good action plan. The Business District applied for several grants. Two are with the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation for a Smart Grant, a Neighborhood Coalition Grant and another is a Tacoma Arts Commission Grant. These grants will help expand the event, add entertainment and hire a Market Coordinator to run a full season event in 2017. The Business District completed and installed two murals, one at the Sound Starter Building and the other at the Blue Octopus Building. TV Tacoma Matters will carry a segment featuring Mr. Atkinson and the Vice President of the Ruston Point Defiance Business District, producing a piece on the Business District in the next several months.

ORD 1489 – Public Hearing Adopting 2017 Tax Levy (2nd reading). As part of the budget process, Ruston will consider a budget and the revenue sources for City operations and capital expenses. As part of that process, the City is required to hold a public hearing on this topic. The public hearing and the budget and revenue sources was scheduled to coincide with Second Reading on November 15, 2016. Although this levy ordinance increases the property taxes levied by Ruston by the maximum amount allowed by law (one percent plus new construction, etc.), due to refunds during 2016, the increased amount will be less than was collected in 2016. The total estimated 2017 levy amount is \$450,521.55, which includes additional property tax estimated from new construction (\$28,110.08) and the estimated additional revenue from the increase in state-assessed property (\$0.00). In 2016, the City collected \$450,944.07. Ruston is required to adopt its property tax levy in November of each year by ordinance and transmit a certified copy of the ordinance to Pierce County Assessor-Treasurer and to the Pierce County Council no later than November 30th. A Levy Certification must also be transmitted with the Ordinance. Adoption of this Ordinance should be scheduled on the agenda for after the public hearing on the budget and revenue during the meeting on November 15, 2016. Councilmember Hedrick moved to open a Public Hearing on Ordinance 1489, with a second from Councilmember Hunt, passed 4-0. Public Hearing opened and there was no comments made for Public Testimony. Councilmember Hedrick moved to close Public Hearing, with a second from Councilmember Hunt, passed 4-0. Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve Ordinance 1489, with a second from Councilmember Hunt, passed 4-0.

ORD 1484 – Update of Commercial Zone Standards (2nd reading). The City of Ruston has been engaged for the past two years in a major Comprehensive Plan Update. As part of this update process, the Planning Staff and Planning Commission have created a vision for how the City should look. This City vision includes making the Commercial areas of Ruston be of higher quality of design and architectural standards and meeting the needs of Ruston into the future. Under the Growth Management Act, the work of the City does not end when its Comp Plan is updated. As a follow-up to the update, the City must also make its Zoning Code and other development regulations consistent with its updated Comp Plan. In reviewing the various elements of the Zoning Code in need of update, aligning the COM and COM-P zoning standards to make them consistent was among the top priorities of the Planning Commission. As currently written, the COM zone is both inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan and includes standards which are obsolete. Ordinance 1484 fixes this issue and makes the standards consistent with the Comp Plan and internally consistent with the COM-P standards. One such example is the requirement for use-specific setbacks. Under the existing COM zone standards, residential uses have different setback standards from commercial uses. Since the Comprehensive Plan calls for standards which emphasize building placement over building use, (i.e. the design and feel of the street is more important than the uses within the buildings), it would be counterproductive to allow the COM zone standards to remain as written. Ordinance 1484 incorporates this vision in an update to the City's Commercial (COM) Zone.

The update proposed standards for the COM zone that are consistent with the standards of the Commercial-Pearl (COM-P) Zone. On September 21, 2016, a public hearing was properly noticed and held by the Planning Commission on Ordinance 1484 to elicit community input. Following the public hearing, the Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend Council approval of this Ordinance. Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve Ordinance 1484, with a second from Councilmember Hunt, passed 4-0.

ORD 1485 – Construction Code Update (2nd reading). Under State law, the City is required to adopt the State Building Codes. The only flexibility that the City has regarding these codes is to enact stricter requirements. The City is not permitted to relax any of these standards. The exception to this requirement is if a provision is deemed “optional” by the State Building Code Council. The Washington State Building Code Council has adopted several of the 2015 editions of the various International Building Codes for to be adopted and enforced by local jurisdictions after July 1, 2016. Therefore, these updates were brought forward to Council for adoption. Mike Barth, the City Building Official, has carefully reviewed all the code changes and is recommending that the City Council adopt these codes as shown in this ordinance. All the revisions are housekeeping updates (changing the edition dates, re-numbering or deleting appendices to track with State adopted versions, etc.) except for a change to the adopted Uniform Plumbing Code whereby we are adding a cross-reference to the Code Enforcement Chapter 12.40 RMC. This is the chapter used to enforce all the Ruston Construction Codes. This is consistent with the rest of the Title. Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve Ordinance 1485, with a second from Councilmember Hunt, passed 4-0.

ORD 1486 – IPMC Update to 2015 Version (2nd reading). This is a companion ordinance to Ordinance 1485. Ordinance 1485 updates the City’s adoption of state construction codes to the current versions and makes housekeeping amendments. This Ordinance updates the City’s adoption of the International Property Maintenance Code to the 2015 Edition (Ch. 12.05 RMC). No “housekeeping” amendments to Chapter 12.05 of the Ruston Municipal Code are needed except for updating the version adopted (RMC 12.05.010) and adding the new companion to the IBC – the International Residential Existing Buildings Code (RMC 12.05.030). Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve Ordinance 1486, with a second from Councilmember Hunt, passed 4-0

ORD 1490 – Update RMC 16.03.050 Street Parking (3rd reading). The City received a request from Metro Parks Tacoma to allow parking on certain streets while the Point Defiance Park update is in process. Specifically, MPT requested that the City open the following “no parking” zones to allow parking:

1. Parking on the north side of 54th Street between Pearl Street and Bennett Street (RMC 16.03.050(e)(14)); and
2. Parking any time of day on the east side of Pearl Street from N. 49th Street to N. 54th Street (RMC 16.03.050(e)(2)).

To continue to work collaboratively with Metro Parks Tacoma, staff recommends an update to the parking restrictions to facilitate use of the waterfront and Point Defiance Park by updating RMC 16.03.050(e) to allow the parking as requested.

In addition, RMC 16.03.050(e) (16) prohibits parking in the Ruston Way Tunnel. Because the Tunnel is no longer in use as a City right of way, this restriction should be removed from having parking restrictions as a housekeeping matter. On October 4, 2016, Council set this matter over for later consideration on the November 15, 2016 Council Meeting. Councilmember Hedrick moved to amend Ordinance 1490 changing section 13 to “on either side of North Park Avenue between Pearl Street and Bennett Street”, with a second from Councilmember Hunt, Ordinance 1490, passed as amended, 4-0.

ORD 1491 – 2017 Annual Budget (1st reading). In accordance with State law, the Mayor of the City of Ruston completed and placed on file with the City Clerk-Treasurer a proposed budget and estimate of the amount of monies required to meet the public expenses, interest, reserve funds, and expense of government of the city of Ruston for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017. The Council is required to adopt its budget ordinance prior to January 1, 2017.

The City Council Budget consideration schedule for Fiscal Year 2017 is as follows:

Mayor’s Budget Message to Council:	November 15, 2016
Council discussion of revenue sources:	October 18, 2016
Public Hearing on Proposed Budget:	December 6, 2016
Public Hearing on Revenue Sources:	November 15, 2016
Budget Discussion #1:	October 18, 2016
Budget Discussion #2:	November 15, 2016
Budget Discussion #3:	December 6, 2016
Budget Discussion #4:	December 20, 2016
Adoption of Tax Levy:	November 15, 2016
Adoption of Final Annual Budget for 2017:	December 20, 2016

Prior to budget adoption, the City Clerk will have fully complied with state law by publishing notice of the availability of the budget for public review and publishing notice of the required public hearings on the City’s proposed tax levy (scheduled for November 15th) and budget (scheduled for December 6th).

The totals of estimated revenues and appropriations for each separate fund and the aggregate totals for all such funds combined are set forth below:

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Fund Name	Resources		Uses	
Fund 001 – General Fund	\$	874,973	\$	1,389,736
Fund 005 – Surplus Real Estate	\$	2,925,495	\$	2,925,495
Fund 101 – City Street Fund	\$	68,500	\$	55,880
Fund 102 – Equipment Reserve	\$	9,730	\$	9,730
Fund 105 – Street Reserve	\$	108,000	\$	-
Fund 110 – Winnifred Street	\$	1,000	\$	1,000
Fund 301 – Capital Construction	\$	258,000	\$	258,000
Fund 401 - Electric Utility	\$	626,300	\$	599,088
Fund 402 – Electric Utility Reserve	\$	251,000	\$	251,000
Fund 403 – Sewer Utility	\$	1,047,000	\$	1,045,651
Fund 404 – Sewer Reserve	\$	260,000	\$	260,000
Fund 405 – Garbage Utility	\$	269,400	\$	255,636
Fund 406 – Garbage Utility Reserve	\$	36,650	\$	36,650
Fund 407 – Storm Sewer Utility	\$	223,000	\$	219,681
Fund 410 – Sewer Capital Projects	\$	182,000	\$	182,000
Fund 622 – WR Rust Playfield	\$	28,421	\$	22,235
Fund 623 – Electric Meter Deposits	\$	92,000	\$	92,000
Fund 624 – School Building	\$	192,050	\$	204,231
Total	\$	7,453,519	\$	7,808,013

Approval of this Ordinance adopts the 2017 Budget and establishes the appropriations necessary to authorize expenditures for each of the City's funds as detailed in Ordinance 1491.

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

MAYOR’S TIME – Nothing at this time.

COUNCIL TIME –
Councilmember Hedrick – Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Hunt – With the 2017 election there may be additional funding available for infrastructure and will keep an eye out for grants at the State level.

Councilmember Hardin – Provided an update on Metro Parks and community concerns. Councilmember Hardin continues to wait for a response from Debbie Terwilliger of Metro Parks, regarding the meeting Mayor Hopkins and City Planner White had a few weeks back. Councilmember Hardin will continue his follow up with Metro Parks and will inform the community as new information is made available. Councilmember Hardin was pleased with the amendment to Ordinance 1490 and recommended that all street excavation permits require City Attorney response.

Councilmember Kristovich – Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Syler – Was excused.

MEETING AJOURNED -

At 8:06PM Councilmember Hedrick moved to adjourn, with a second from Councilmember Hunt, passed 4-0.

ATTEST:

Mayor Bruce Hopkins

Judy Grams



**Chief's Report
Ruston Police Department
Tuesday November 15, 2016**

Chief of Police:

During the month of October the Police Department responded to 174 calls for service in the City of Ruston. This does not include calls for service outside the city limits. Two calls of note were both DUI collisions. One call involved two hit and runs and another collision where the driver was arrested. The other was a DUI where the vehicle crossed over the median on N Winnifred St and struck an unoccupied vehicle. This driver was also arrested for DUI and domestic assault.

The police department joined together with the fire department to hand out candy to children for Halloween at City Hall. We also took this opportunity to make child ID cards for the parents to have. We had a successful turn out for both and made approximately 45 ID cards.

Other Personnel Issues:

We are currently beginning the background investigation on another officer at this time. One of our officers is currently out for medical reasons and we anticipate he will be out for approximately three months.

Civil Service Commission:

We exhausted the last list of five candidates that we had for a lateral position. The Civil Service Commissioner has posted a job listing for a Police Sergeant and we are hoping to get a few applicants for this position. The posting closes on November 23rd.

Equipment:

The new vehicle we purchased from Federal Way was recently painted to match our new vehicles. It will now go to Larsen Sign to have the graphics done and then we can begin transferring equipment from one of our older cars to that car. We will then look to sell one of the older vehicles we have.

Training:

Officers have participated in the annual Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC). Due to the calls listed above a couple of us were unable to attend but there is another training being offered in the spring.

Please contact me by phone (253) 761-0272 or by email victor.celis@cityofruston.net if you have any questions or concerns regarding this month's report.

Submitted By:
Victor M. Celis
Chief of Police
11/15/16



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

Ruston Fire Department Monthly Review for October 2016

Tuesday, November 15, 2016

Presented by Chief Torbet

Total Incidents: 9 (0 Fire/ Service, 9 Medical Aid)

Total Volunteer Hours: Total 2020 Hours October 225 Hours

Membership Roster (out of 25): 22 (15 FF, 7 Officers)

Recent Membership Changes: Add Liam Mireles

State of the Business:

- We had the opportunity to drill in a vacant house on Bennett street along with Bates fire students. Thank you to Captain Piper for organizing and leading this event
- New tires on the aid van
- All SCBA bottles have been hydro-tested
- All recruits are CPR certified
- Welcome back Liam Mireles
- All vehicles and fire tools are fully operational
- Recurring CPR training is offered quarterly for the Ruston community. Over 160 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.
- **Fire Station tours** are provided to the public when resources are available. Please contact rustonfire@rustonwa.org for further information.

Ruston Fire Department's Master Business Objectives for October 2016

OBJECTIVE	START DATE	TARGET COMPLETION	COMPLETE %	ACTION OWNERS
Recruitment	10/2016	<i>ongoing</i>	22 of 25	WHERRETT/SHERMAN
CPR Training	10/2016	<i>ongoing</i>	100%	ANDERSON