

**City of Ruston**

**Est. 1906**

**January 2018**

**5117 N Winnifred Street**

**Ruston, WA 98407**

**www.rustonwa.org**

**253-759-3544**

**Open M-F 9am-5 pm**

**PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- City Council Meets: Next meeting is Tuesday, February 6, 2018 and Tuesday February 20, 2018.
- Regular Council Meetings are held at The Mary Joyce Community Center, 5219 N. Shirley St, at 7:00 PM.
- Planning Commission: Watch the bulletin board and the website for meetings scheduled.
- **Ruston City Hall will be closed the following holiday: Presidents Day, February 19, 2018**

**Mayors Corner**

My first Mayor's corner for the New Year typically has me looking forward to what is slated for the coming year. 2018 has started out quite busy. City of Ruston was made aware that the City of Tacoma was seeking new legislation to allow it to forcibly annex a portion of the City of Ruston without the consent of Ruston, contrary to long established Washington law. To pass legislation to forcibly remove the best commercial property in Ruston and give it to Tacoma would not be in the interests of the people who call Ruston "home" nor would it be in the interest of any small city that is adjacent to a large city. Last week, Representative Jake Fey, Representative Laurie Jinkins and Senator Jeannie Darneille, presented Bill #HB 2880 - 2017-18, Companion Bill #SB 6487 to Local Government.

If you oppose this legislation, please contact your State Representative and State Senator below:

Representative Jake Fey  
Phone: (360) 786-7974  
Email: [jake.fey@leg.wa.gov](mailto:jake.fey@leg.wa.gov)

Representative Laurie Jinkins  
Phone: (306) 786-7930  
Email: [Laurie.Jinkins@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Laurie.Jinkins@leg.wa.gov)

Senator Jeannie Darneille  
Phone: (360) 786-7652  
Email: [jeannie.darneille@leg.wa.gov](mailto:jeannie.darneille@leg.wa.gov)

We are working diligently to preserve Ruston. Thanks for reading - your mayor - Bruce Hopkins

**From the Police Department**

Greetings,

We continue to take reports of thefts from vehicles. It is quite clear that the criminal element has chosen to seek crimes of opportunity within our community. While there have been a couple of recent business burglaries and break ins, that majority of reports are centered around Ruston citizens that for one reason or another have left their car unlocked and in some cases even left the keys in the car. Crime prevention really starts with our citizens first. While we have a comfortable, safe living environment; the transient traffic passing through has become somewhat of a challenge. While we are working on strategies to address this issue please take preventative measures to prevent these crimes from occurring by not leaving valuables visible, locking your cars, homes and businesses. If you have a video and alarm system, all the better.

We have two new officers starting with us this month, Leighton Cox and Sergie Andres. Both have previous experience so if you see them around please feel free to introduce yourselves and talk with them. As these new officers learn their new positions, they will be part of our team to enhance the safety and security of our City.

We are making plans to work on a web site and Facebook revisions at this time. Our plan is to use these forms of communication better to keep you informed of events and developments. Please remember that if you need to talk to an officer the quickest way is to use the non-emergency line at South Sound 911 rather than the police department phone number as we do not have staff in the station to answer the phone. We contract dispatching services through South Sound and they will quickly dispatch one of us to meet or call you.

Thanks, Chief Estes

### **From the Fire Department**

Is your chimney in good working order and safe? Dirty chimneys can cause chimney fires, which damage structures, destroy homes and injure or kill people. Make sure to have your chimney cleaned and inspected annually.

For any emergencies, especially medical emergencies, please call 911 even if you aren't sure you need to go to the hospital. We are always ready and willing to help no matter the situation. Please help us to find your house in an emergency. Please make sure your house numbers are visible from the street.

For any emergencies, please call 911. The Ruston Fire Department

### **From the Public Works Department**

Please take time to check your property to make sure there are no bushes or tree branches overhanging above and along sidewalks. This creates a potential hazard for pedestrians. If you notice any overgrowth, please take care of it as soon as possible. Ruston has an ordinance that addresses this as obstructing streets, alleys and sidewalks. Also, overhead connection from service pole to the residence should be a clear path and maintained by property owner. Notices will be sent out in the form of a letter regarding these concerns.

Thank you. The Public Works Department

#### **MAYOR**

Bruce Hopkins 253-759-3544 [bruceh@rustonwa.org](mailto:bruceh@rustonwa.org)

#### **Council**

Jim Hedrick 253-759-0944 [jimh@rustonwa.org](mailto:jimh@rustonwa.org)  
Jane Hunt 253-759-2364 [janeh@rustonwa.org](mailto:janeh@rustonwa.org)  
Lyle Hardin 253-759-6227 [lyleh@rustonwa.org](mailto:lyleh@rustonwa.org)  
Deb Kristovich 253-988-8121 [debk@rustonwa.org](mailto:debk@rustonwa.org)  
Lynn Syler 253-223-7459 [lsyler@rustonwa.org](mailto:lsyler@rustonwa.org)

**If you need assistance to attend a Council meeting please contact City Hall at 253-759-3544.**

**Emergency – Dial 911 or Non-Emergency Dispatcher**  
253-798-4721

*(24 hour) Use dispatcher number to request a Ruston police officer contact you for urgent non-emergency responses*

#### **City of Ruston Personnel**

Police Department	253-798-4721
Anders Estes	Police Chief
Municipal Court	253-759-8545
City Hall	253-759-3544
City Clerk	Judy Grams
City Attorney	Jennifer Robertson
Fire Chief	Don Torbet
Public Works	Ray Johnson
Permit Coordinator	Chrissanda Walker
Building Services Code Pros	Mike Barth
<a href="http://www.rustonwa.org/services/community-development/code-enforcement">http://www.rustonwa.org/services/community-development/code-enforcement</a>	
City Planner	Rob White