

City of Ruston

Est. 1906

February 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, March 6, 2018 and Tuesday March 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's Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 31, 2018 at 10AM

Refreshments of muffins, juice and coffee will be available following at the Mary Joyce Community Center.

For Bunny Patrol, Donations to the Easter Egg Fund or to Donate individually wrapped candy please contact Lynette at 253-759-3544



Mayors Corner

We had record attendance at our town hall meeting last month that was fueled by Tacoma's pursuit of annexing the Ruston side of the Pt Ruston project. The annexation attempt would have required a change in state law and our legislators who, in theory represent us, proposed the bills. The City of Ruston was forced into a situation in which we were strong armed (newspaper quote) into relinquishing our oversight to Tacoma. While this prevents the threat of annexation it has removed our direct oversight of the project and leaves us vulnerable to Tacoma's interpretation of the Master Development Plan and their enforcement of building codes. The city has processed the Silver Cloud Hotel permit and it is awaiting pickup. We also approved the Public Market plans. With these two in motion we will have to wait and see how much development gets done with Tacoma at the helm.

One take away I have from this entire process is how the overwhelming majority of Ruston residents vehemently wanted to remain Ruston. This was evidenced by the onslaught of emails and phone calls our state representatives received from Ruston residents. Your comments, whether written or spoken, were extremely articulate and well presented. Ruston residents represented the City at the state legislators open house, Saturday, February 17, 2018 and our residents, once again, presented Ruston's position on a on a very touchy subject with grace. I can only find consolation in hearing the opponents against the LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas) plant, who followed the Ruston delegation, confront the same legislators by shouting "Liars" at them. I again reiterate, it is an honor to represent you.

Thanks for reading – your mayor – Bruce Hopkins

From the Police Department

The Ruston Police Department is in the process of growing, so if you see two officers in a patrol car we are training new officers. Please feel free to introduce yourself if the officers are not in the middle of a traffic stop or call for service. Ruston tends to get officers from other agencies, rather than officers that have no experience. We do this to bring in experienced officers that can work on their own much sooner than a brand-new officer. Many officers from other agencies are not used to a community like Ruston, where the citizens like and support their officers. Take it from me, it takes a little getting used to.

On a related note, I have announced my retirement effective in July most likely. I will have 29 years as a civilian officer and 35 years total experience including my military law enforcement time. There will be an announcement and search for a new Chief and I am certain that a great Chief is out there.

Thanks, Chief Estes

From the Fire Department

The Ruston Fire Department has been busy completing commercial fire inspections. We have found a trend and want to pass safety tips along to our residents. As a society we are becoming more dependent on electrical power. We simply have more items to plug into outlets than in the past. So how do we plug in 6 things to a single outlet? There are many items commercially available and I'm sure most of us have these items in our homes. Please be certain the device you use has overload protection. A circuit breaker that stops the flow of power should it become overloaded. Also, these devices are only safe when plugged directly into an outlet. The same is true for portable heating units. Should they be used, only plug them directly into an outlet. If anything feels warm, unplug the device. Let's stop the fire before it starts. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact us.

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

From the Public Works Department

Take control of your energy use. A smart thermostat is a wise way to reduce how much energy you are using to heat your home, especially in the winter when higher bills can often take us by surprise. You might forget to turn down the heat when you leave for work, but your smart thermostat will remember. Lower energy means lower bills. I would like to also mention that liquid material discarded in garbage totes tend to leak from the truck which then transfer to your streets and alleys. Putting cat litter in the liquid container is a good way to change liquid from a liquid form to a solid clump.

Thank you. The Public Works Department

MAYOR

Bruce Hopkins 253-759-3544 bruceh@rustonwa.org

Council

Jim Hedrick 253-759-0944 jimh@rustonwa.org

Jane Hunt 253-759-2364 janeh@rustonwa.org

Lyle Hardin 253-759-6227 lyleh@rustonwa.org

Deb Kristovich 253-988-8121 debk@rustonwa.org

Lynn Syler 253-223-7459 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
http://www.rustonwa.org/services/community-development/code-enforcement	
City Planner	Rob White