

City of Ruston

253-759-3544

Est. 1906

**5117 N Winnifred Street
Ruston, WA 98407
www.rustonwa.org**

April 2018

Open M-F 9am-5pm

PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

- City Council Meets: Next meeting is Tuesday, May 1, 2018 and Tuesday May 15, 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.

Mayors Corner

With the increased traffic to Pt Ruston and Pt Defiance we find our city struggling with significant traffic challenges. We are expecting higher traffic volumes this summer than we saw last year. The Pt Ruston developer has traffic mitigation measures that they will need to implement soon. Tacoma is overseeing the traffic mitigation for the development and there are milestones that trigger the improvements. All the traffic improvements are in the City of Tacoma, but they have a direct impact on Ruston residents getting to and from your homes. The mitigation is in phases and is triggered by traffic counts. Included in the first phase is new curb, gutter, and sidewalks on Baltimore Street from N 49th St to N. 46th St. These improvements will widen the roadway and allow for better traffic flow in and out of Ruston.

Traffic in and around Winnifred St and 51st St led to council evaluating whether a traffic light was needed instead of the current four ways stop. The recommendation was to keep the four ways stop and seek a grant for pedestrian traffic signalization. The plan is to signalize the intersection and allow pedestrians to initiate a four-way directional crossing signal. We will find out in the coming months whether we were successful in obtaining the grant money for this project.

Thanks for reading – your mayor – Bruce Hopkins

From the Police Department

In recent weeks the Ruston PD has seen an alarming trend in bank fraud against Ruston residents. I have not noted any commonality among the victims. Some have had checks taken and cashed, while another had a debit card used to purchase services online. In most of the cases there is almost no way of identifying the crook because they are purchasing services instead of items to be delivered. These cases are particularly frustrating because the victims are often scammed out of hundreds of dollars before they know the money is gone. So, let me take this opportunity to make some suggestions to keep your hard-earned money secure. Change access codes and passwords frequently. I was once told that when daylight savings time starts and stops is a great time to change your smoke alarm batteries (sorry to steal your thunder Chief Torbet). Why not take that time to also change passwords on your financial accounts.

If you use checks to pay bills make sure you drop those checks off in a mail box like the one in front of City Hall. Don't put them in your mail box in front of your house because it is very easy for someone to stop by and help themselves. When you order new checks have them delivered somewhere secure. Maybe a work address or a relative that is home all the time.

Just a few small changes to the way you do business can save you hundreds of dollars.

Thanks, Chief Estes

From the Fire Department

Tips for Fire Safety:

- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas
- Test smoke alarms every month. If they're not working, change the batteries
- Talk with all family members about a fire escape plan and practice the plan twice a year
- If a fire occurs in your home, **GET OUT, STAY OUT and CALL FOR HELP**. Never go back inside for anything or anyone

At your request, we will come and help change batteries in your smoke detectors, look for overloaded circuits and talk about escape plans. This is a great chance to meet your firefighters, make sure your kids are comfortable with seeing us in all of our gear and most importantly, make sure your home is as safe as possible to prevent a fire from happening. Please contact Chief Torbet to schedule a visit at dont@rustonwa.org.

The Ruston Fire Department

From the Public Works Department

There is quite a lot of yard work going on in our little City these days. Everything is green and growing!

A reminder to all – your yard waste must be placed in your City-issued cart or it will not be picked up. If you are generating more yard waste than your cart will hold, you can request another yard waste cart for an additional fee. Information is available at Ruston City Hall.

Thank you. The Public Works Department

MAYOR

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

Council

Jim Hedrick 253-759-0944 jimh@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
Bradley Huson 253-759-6391 bradleyhuson@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