

**CITY OF RUSTON**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Tuesday, January 21, 2020**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

At 7:01PM Mayor Hopkins called the regular Council Meeting to order. Councilmembers present were Councilmember Hedrick, Councilmember Hardin, Councilmember Holland, Councilmember Syler and Councilmember Huson. Following the flag salute, Mayor Hopkins called for approval of the agenda. Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve the agenda, with a second from Councilmember Hardin the agenda passed 5-0.

**MINUTES**

Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve the minutes for the Regular Council meeting of January 7, 2020 with a second from Councilmember Hardin, passed 5-0

**STAFF REPORT –**

Ruston Police – Chief Bautista – See attached.

Ruston Fire – Chief Allen – See attached.

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS** – Nothing at this time.

**BUSINESS –**

**Oath of Office – Councilmember Hedrick and Councilmember Syler**

**RES 702-B - Adopting Amended 6-Year Local TIP 2020-2025** – City Planner, Rob White provided an overview of Resolution 702-B. On June 18, 2019 the City Council held a public hearing on the adoption of the City’s 6-Year Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). Following the public hearing, Council adopted the TIP by passage of Resolution No. 702. Shortly after the passage of Resolution No. 702, the City staff met with a grant representative of the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) to discuss the condition of Ruston’s transportation network and to help prioritize potential projects which would allow the city to both maintain existing streets as well as make progress in its Complete Streets efforts to improve pedestrian safety. As a result of this meeting, it was suggested by TIB that an amended 6-Year TIP should be presented to Council for approval so that its projects may be considered in the upcoming TIB grant application cycle in August. Council the adopted an amended TIP on July 16, 2019 by adoption of Resolution No. 702-A. The City has since applied to TIB for four chip and seal projects, two of which were not on the City’s adopted TIP. TIB approved funding for all four chip seal projects proposed by the City. The City needs to amend the adopted TIP to add these two chip and seal projects. These will be projects 15 and 16. TIB needs the City to send a copy of the adopted TIP with these projects included in order to commit to project funding. There is no direct fiscal impact of adopting the 2020-2025 Transportation Improvement Program. However, the projects listed on the TIP become eligible for federal and state grant funding. Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve Resolution 702-B, with a second from Councilmember Hardin, passed 5-0.

**RES 707 – First Amendment to Fircrest Court ILA** - In the third quarter of 2018, the City entered into an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Fircrest for municipal court services. The initial term of that agreement expired on December 31, 2019 but has been automatically renewed per the terms of the agreement. The original contract price was \$232,000 for up to 2,500 cases, with addition cases costing the City \$90 per case. This expense is offset to some degree by Ruston receiving any/all fines or other payments made to the Court on Ruston cases. Fircrest has requested to amend the Interlocal Agreement to increase the annual cost by \$4,000. The First Amendment to the Agreement makes this change. In all other respects, the agreement is unchanged. Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve Resolution 707, with a second from Councilmember Hardin, passed 5-0.

**PAYROLL** – Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve Payroll, with a second from Councilmember Hardin, passed 5-0.

**MAYOR’S TIME** – Mayor Hopkins extended his gratitude to Councilmember Hedrick and Councilmember Syler for their public service and their continued commitment to the City of Ruston with another four years in office. Mayor Hopkins noted the City Clerk would be meeting with the Silver Cloud Public Relations Officer that week. City of Ruston received a letter from Point Ruston’s legal counsel, Bill Lynn, requesting that the City not charge Point Ruston sewer connection fees for their properties located in Ruston. The City informed Point Ruston that Ruston was willing to provide a credit towards connection fees for the costs of constructing the public portions of the sewer system within the City’s boundaries. More to come on this challenge. For the past two years City of Ruston has attempted to sign on to Pierce County’s permitting system, which Pierce County claimed they could extend out to the City. The City of Ruston appreciated Pierce County’s offer however the reality is Pierce County’s technology cannot extend out. Ruston implemented tools internally and would continue to do business as is, while exploring other systems to better service permits in the future.

**COUNCIL TIME** –

**Councilmember Hedrick** – Thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve the City of Ruston for another four years.

**Councilmember Hardin** - Councilmember Hardin reviewed the budget and was reminded that the City passed an ordinance, adopted in August 2019, which charges a tax on commercial parking in the City of Ruston and which the parking garage was part of. The ordinance states taxes are based upon the percentage of the gross income. Mayor Hopkins and Councilmember Hardin reviewed the Point Ruston parking garage, managed by Republic Parking, tax submission to find only forty percent of gross receipts were reported under commercial parking and the other sixty percent of gross receipts were reported under retail.

The City believes all gross receipts should be applied to the commercial parking tax. The City Attorney sent a letter to Republic Parking noting an error in their submission. Councilmember Hardin wanted share the information so everyone would be aware of this. Should the City receive push back, Councilmember Hardin proposed amending the ordinance from currently charging tax based on gross income to a per parking stall fee. In researching this Councilmember Hardin found that other cities, such as Seattle, were structured this way.

**Councilmember Holland** –Nothing at this time.

**Councilmember Syler** – Nothing at this time.

**Councilmember Huson** – Nothing at this time.

**MEETING AJOURNED** – At 7:14PM Councilmember Hedrick moved to adjourn, with a second from Councilmember Hardin, passed 5-0.

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Mayor Bruce Hopkins

ATTEST:

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Judy Grams



**Chief's Report  
Ruston Police Department  
Tuesday, January 21, 2020**

During the month of December 2019, the Police Department logged 114 CAD incidents with the South Sound 911 dispatch system; this is 9 less police incidents than December 2018.

- The director of Point Defiance Park/Dune Peninsula has requested a meeting to open dialog with the Department regarding contract police services in 2020.
- The Department carefully monitoring developments in the possibility the Freedom Fair is moved closer to our city; no further information is available as of today.
- We anticipate the various marathons through the city will commence in March and last into mid-late summer.
- Three very excellent retired police officers have applied to work part-time of with the Department; background investigations will begin within the month.
- Thank you for the approval of our 2020 budget.

Prepared by Nestor Bautista



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

## Ruston Fire Department Monthly Review for December 2019

Tuesday, January 21, 2020

Presented by Chief Bruce Allen

**Total Incidents: 2 (1 Fire/ Service, 1 Medical Aid)**

**Total Volunteer Hours: Total 9694 Hours November 1149 Hours**

**Membership Roster 22 (out of 25): (18 FF, 4 Officers)**

### State of the Business:

- We lost 2 members to Valley Regional Fire Authority ( LT Wilder and FF Rollosson)
- We promoted Brian Skobel to Lieutenant to replace LT Wilder
- All fire tools are fully operational
- We have 4 people interested in becoming firefighters for our community
- The Food and Toy Drive was a success
- We are working with 4 other local volunteer departments on a new Regional Fire Academy to start in late February

### Ruston Fire Department's Master Business Objectives for December 2019

OBJECTIVE	START DATE	TARGET COMPLETION	COMPLETE	ACTION OWNERS
Recruitment	1/2020	<i>ongoing</i>	22 of 25	B. Allen
CPR Training	1/2020	<i>ongoing</i>	100%	S. Anderson
Fire Training	1/2020	<i>ongoing</i>	100%	M. Anderson