

**CITY OF RUSTON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, May 5, 2020**

The City Council of the City of Ruston met on this date via Virtual Teleconference

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

At 7:03PM Mayor Hopkins called the regular Council Meeting to order. Councilmembers present were Councilmember Hedrick, Councilmember Holland, and Councilmember Syler. Councilmember Hardin and Councilmember Huson were absent. Following the flag salute, Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve the agenda, with a second from Councilmember Holland the agenda passed 3-0.

MINUTES

Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve the minutes for the Regular Council meeting of April 7, 2020, with a second from Councilmember Holland, passed 3-0. Regular Council meeting of April 21, 2020 was cancelled, no minutes.

STAFF REPORT – Nothing at this time.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS – Nothing at this time.

BUSINESS –

RES 710 – Litigation Services – Pacifica Law Group - The City was recently served with a declaratory judgment lawsuit brought by Point Ruston and some of its subsidiaries. In order to defend this lawsuit, the Ruston City Attorney’s Office recommends hiring of specialized legal counsel to represent the City on this issue. Matt Segal of the firm Pacific Law Group is an experienced litigator on behalf of cities. Mr. Segal has submitted to the City his standard legal services agreement for approval. This agreement is a very typical legal services fee agreement. Mr. Segal’s discounted hourly fee is \$395 per hour with partners having rates ranging from \$310 to 375 per hour and associates having rates that range from \$235 to \$285 per hour. This contract will allow Pacifica Law Group to provide the City of Ruston with litigation services for this case and any other matters the City may refer to them in the future. Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve Resolution 710, with a second from Councilmember Holland, passed 3-0.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY – ORD 1529 – Temporary Encampments, ORD 1530 – Amend RMC 25.01.020, ORD 1531 – Update RMC 25.07.020, ORD 1532 – Amend RMC 19.01.010 and RMC 19.01.011 will be addressed at Council meeting of May 19, 2020. Councilmember were asked to read and familiarize themselves for discussion at that time.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL – Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve Claims and Payroll, with a second from Councilmember Holland, passed 3-0.

MAYOR’S TIME – Nothing at this time.

COUNCIL TIME –
Councilmember Hedrick – Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Hardin – Absent.

Councilmember Holland –Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Syler – Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Huson – Absent.

MEETING AJOURNED – At 7:12PM Councilmember Hedrick moved to adjourn, with a second from Councilmember Holland, passed 3-0.

Mayor Bruce Hopkins

ATTEST:

Judy Grams