

**CITY OF RUSTON  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
Tuesday, December 1, 2020**

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

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

At 7:00PM Mayor Hopkins called the regular Council Meeting to order. Councilmembers present were Councilmember Hedrick, Councilmember Hardin, Councilmember Holland and Councilmember Huson. Councilmember Syler was excused. Following the flag salute, Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve the agenda, with a second from Councilmember Hardin passed 4-0.

**MINUTES**

Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve the minutes for the Regular Council meeting of November 17, 2020, with a second from Councilmember Hardin, passed 4-0.

**STAFF REPORT** – Nothing at this time.

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

**BUSINESS** –

**ORD 1538 – 2021 Budget (3rd reading)** – In accordance with State law, the Mayor of the City of Ruston completed and placed on file with the City Clerk-Treasurer a proposed budget and estimate of the amount of monies required to meet the public expenses, interest, reserve funds, and expense of government of the city of Ruston for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021. The Council is required to adopt its budget ordinance prior to January 1, 2021.

The City Council Budget consideration schedule for Fiscal Year 2021 is as follows:

Mayor’s Budget Message to Council:	November 3, 2020
Council discussion of revenue sources:	November 3, 2020
Public Hearing on Revenue Sources	November 17, 2020
Adoption of Tax Levy Ordinance No. 1537	November 17, 2020
Public Hearing on Proposed Budget:	November 17, 2020
Budget Discussion #1:	November 3, 2020
Budget Discussion #2:	November 17, 2020
Budget Discussion #3:	December 1, 2020
Adoption of Final Annual Budget for 2020:	December 1 or 15, 2020

Prior to budget adoption, the City Clerk will have fully complied with state law by publishing

CITY OF RUSTON  
 Regular Council Minutes  
 December 1, 2020

notice of the availability of the budget for public review and publishing notice of the required public hearings on the City’s proposed tax levy and budget (November 17th).

The Final Budget’s beginning balance is \$4,803,771.00 plus taxes, license fees, service charges, fine, forfeitures and other revenues totaling \$9,145,915.00, including inter-fund transfer(s) of \$355,000.00 are combined in the Final Budget for a total expenditures and ending balances amount of \$8,899,494.00. The totals of estimated revenues and appropriations for each separate fund and the aggregate totals for all such funds combined are set forth below:

Fund Name	Resources	Uses
Fund 001 – General Fund	\$ 1,942,392	\$ 1,942,392
Fund 005 – Surplus Real Estate	\$ 1,321,432	\$ 1,321,432
051-060 – Developer Tracking	\$ 28,447	\$ 28,447
Fund 101 – City Street Fund	\$ 478,400	\$ 478,400
Fund 102 – Equipment Reserve	\$ 12,250	
Fund 105 – Street Reserve	\$ 108,100	\$ 108,100
Fund 301 – Capital Construction	\$ 454,200	\$ 422,200
Fund 401 - Electric Utility	\$ 1,352,300	\$ 1,352,300
Fund 402 – Electric Utility Reserve	\$ 418,000	\$ 418,000
Fund 403 – Sewer Utility	\$ 1,891,000	\$ 1,891,000
Fund 404 – Sewer Reserve	\$ 398,000	\$ 398,000
Fund 405 – Garbage Utility	\$ 350,800	\$ 350,800
Fund 406 – Garbage Utility Reserve	\$ 89,000	\$ 89,000
Fund 407 – Storm Sewer Utility	\$ 287,000	\$ 287,000
Fund 410 – Sewer Capital Projects	\$ 204,000	\$ 204,000
Fund 622 – WR Rust Playfield	\$ 46,921	\$ 46,921

Fund 623 – Electric Meter Deposits	\$ 117,800	\$ 117,800
Fund 624 – School Building	\$ 330,200	\$ 330,200
<b>Total</b>	\$ 9,830,242	\$ 9,785,992

Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve Ordinance 1538, with a second from Councilmember Hardin. After discussion Councilmember Hedrick moved to place Ordinance 1538 to a fourth reading at the council meeting of December 15, 2020, with a second from Councilmember Hardin, passed 4-0.

**CLAIMS** – Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve Claims, with a second from Councilmember Hardin, passed 4-0.

**MAYOR’S TIME** – Tucci and Sons will be paid for their work on the 52<sup>nd</sup> Street project. The State will send grant funding in the amount of \$200,000 next week and the City will receive the remaining grant funds for this project in early 2021. Transportation Improvement Board has approved a grant in the amount of \$644,000 for the improvement of 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, which will mirror 52<sup>nd</sup> Street on a larger scope. Mayor Hopkins shared that he was excited to see all the new street improvements within the City. The SEPA amendment has been signed by all parties. City of Tacoma cannot issue permits until all items in the SEPA amendment have been addressed. All items must be satisfied before Building 9-11 permit can be issued. The developer needs to have these permits in hand by January 2021. Once information is available Mayor Hopkins will place information on the City website. Mayor Hopkins noted that municipalities are seeing a huge increase in database hacking. The City will soon have a new automation system in place which will provide greater security protection of the City’s database. The City has also implemented a new permitting system which will streamline current processes and enhance the ability to work remotely.

**COUNCIL TIME** –  
**Councilmember Hedrick** – Nothing at this time.

**Councilmember Hardin** – Noted that 52<sup>nd</sup> Street looks really good, was pleased with the work and happy the City had received grant funding. The one question Councilmember Hardin had was regarding the color of the mat where the sidewalk transitions into the street. It is painted a rust color and should be yellow as it is more visible. Councilmember Hardin asked if the Mayor had contacted the contractor to fix the color. Mayor Hopkins stated he would send an email to the contractor asking the question.

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

**Councilmember Syler** – Was excused.

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

Before the Council Meeting adjourned Mayor Hopkins received an online message, asking if new signs would be placed at the corner of Bennett and 52<sup>nd</sup> Street? Mayor Hopkins respond that new street signs would be going in at 53<sup>rd</sup> Street. Street signs were not part of the 52<sup>nd</sup> Street project. The developer developing the lot at the southeast corner of Bennett and 52<sup>nd</sup> Street will be required to install new street signs. Mayor Hopkins received a second online message asking when the development at Bennett and 52<sup>nd</sup> would begin. Mayor Hopkins noted it was pending a building permit application from the developer. Staff had been working the developer on this project and anticipate work would begin sometime in the spring 2021. Street signs would be one of the last details in the development process.

**MEETING AJOURNED** – At 7:19PM Councilmember Hedrick moved to adjourn, with a second from Councilmember Hardin, passed 4-0.

---

Mayor Bruce Hopkins

ATTEST:

---

Judy Grams