

**CITY OF RUSTON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

Tuesday, May 17, 2022

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 Kristovich, Councilmember Syler, and Councilmember Jensen. Councilmember Huson was excused. Following the flag salute, Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve the agenda, with a second from Councilmember Kristovich, passed 4-0.

MINUTES - Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve the minutes for the Regular Council meeting of May 3, 2022, with a second from Councilmember Kristovich, passed 4-0.

STAFF REPORT –

Ruston Police – Chief Bautista – See attached. Councilmember Jensen wanted to know more about the Police Commission and its open position. Chief Bautista explained the commission oversees all ranking and the scoring of applicants. Open positions were appointed by the Board of Commissioners. Mayor Hopkins clarified that the board is known as the Civil Service Commission.

Ruston Fire – Chief Allen – See attached.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS –

Melissa Paz – Wanted to know about the alley behind her home and what appears to be construction at that location. The garbage truck goes through this alley to service all the homes on Court Street. Ms. Paz wanted to know if this property was city right of way or private property.

BUSINESS – Nothing at this time

PAYROLL – Councilmember Hedrick moved to approve Payroll of May 5, 2022, with a second from Councilmember Kristovich, passed 4-0.

MAYOR'S TIME – Mayor Hopkins responded to Ms. Paz's public comment regarding construction in the alley behind her home and what was right of way versus private property. Mayor Hopkins noted the property was private and that the City had not received building permit applications from the property owner for the lots. Once a home or structure is built on the lots the garbage trucks will be rerouted for pickup.

Mayor Hopkins provided an update on the entity interested in leasing space at the Ruston School building. The City's accounting firm completed a review of the entity's financials making certain they were a well-established business before the City committed to a lease agreement. A lease agreement has been drafted and presented to the potential tenants and negotiations have begun. Once the City secures a tentative agreement Mayor Hopkins will present to Council for consideration and approval. Mayor Hopkins provided an update on the ongoing plan to move the Ruston Fire Department into old City Hall with the intention to surplus the current fire residence. Chief Allen is exploring the renovation of old City Hall to ensure the needs of his fire department and he continues to work with Councilmember Hedrick, Public Safety liaison.

Councilmember Hedrick – Expressed how pleased he was to see the improvements to Baltimore Street going south on 49th Street finally taking place. This was part of the Point Ruston development mitigation and had not been the developers priority for a long time. Councilmember Hedrick provided additional information related to Ms. Paz public comment regarding the private property on Commercial Street. There were private property signs placed by a Ruston resident not the property owner.

Councilmember Kristovich – Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Syler – Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Huson – Excused.

Councilmember Jensen – Nothing at this time.

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

Mayor Bruce Hopkins

ATTEST:

Judy Grams



**Chief's Report
Ruston Police Department
Tuesday, May 17, 2022**

Chief of Police:

During the previous 28 days the Police Department logged 156 calls for service. Calls include traffic stops, 911 calls or security/vacation checks and other miscellaneous calls service. This is slightly more than the same period in 2021.

The Department has been consistently sending one or two officers to work the anti-racer strike force team per week. Assigned Ruston officers work with counterparts from Tacoma, Pierce County, and Lakewood, and can call upon the strike force to respond to Ruston when race gatherings occur in our city. Additionally, our officers often respond to back up the assigned night shift officer whenever assistance is needed such as during a recent collision involving an underage DUI driver who was also carrying a pistol.

There are still two vacancies at the Department, one of which will likely be filled in early June. However, that officer will enter a training phase that will likely last through the summer months, culminating with an assignment to the Basic Law Enforcement Academy in the fall. We continue to fill secondary officer shifts with our two part-time officers on the weekends.

The Police Commission will need to fill a vacancy as Richard Shook has opted to allow his appointment to expire. The Commission oversees many police civil service matters such as ranking applicants and certifying promotional processes. The method for filling the position will be determined at the next meeting on May 23rd.

Prepared by Nestor Bautista

Ruston Fire Department Monthly Review April 2022

Tuesday, May 17, 2022

Presented by Chief Bruce Allen

Total Incidents (YTD) 38, April: 13(4 Fire/Service, 9 Medical Aid)

Volunteer Hours: April 815 Hours, YTD 2902 Hours

Membership Roster (18 out of 25): (15 Members, 3 Officers)

State of the Business:

- I'm proud to announce Patrick Peden was promoted to Lieutenant.
- Tyler Grover is doing well at the Browns Point Academy; they just finished their live burn.
- Josiah Figueroa is doing well in EMT Class.
- We have a new resident at the station, Jacob Ring, he's an EMT/Firefighter.
- We have 3 strong applicants going through hiring process.
- All fire tools are fully operational.

Ruston Fire Department's Master Business Objectives for 2022

OBJECTIVE	START DATE	TARGET COMPLETION	COMPLETE	ACTION OWNERS
Recruitment	1/2022	<i>ongoing</i>	18 of 25	B. Allen
CPR Training	1/2022	<i>ongoing</i>	100%	S. Anderson
Fire Training	1/2022	<i>ongoing</i>	100%	P. Peden