

Town of Ruston

October 2007

5117 N Winnifred Street
Ruston, WA 98407
(253) 759-3544
Open M-F: 9am – 5 pm

PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Town Council Meets: November 5th & November 19th at 7:00 PM at Ruston School
- Meter Reading: November 20th & December 20th
- Seniors will meet on November 3rd at 1:00 pm at Ruston Town Hall

COUNCIL NEWS

Ordinance No. 1230

On October 1, 2007, the Ruston Town Council had an initial reading for Ordinance No. 1230 – Amending Chapter 9.19 Public Disturbance Noises and Establishing Maximum Environmental Noise Levels. It was adopted on October 16th, and will become effective when approved by the Department of Ecology. The ordinance establishes maximum environmental noise levels based on state law, as measured by a decibel meter; and establishes that certain noise can constitute an unreasonable disturbance to the public regardless of the maximum environmental noise level. Violation of the noise ordinance is punishable as a civil infraction, but will be punishable as a criminal offense if the responsible person is cited for five separate offenses within a five year period.

Ordinance No. 1232

On October 16, 2007, the Ruston Town Council approved Ordinance No. 1232 amending the 2007 budget. Increases were set for legal services both general and special, police wages and benefits, and professional services for AWC (Association of Washington

Cities) to help us perform a review of the Town's process and procedures. It is hoped that this review will provide valuable recommendations to the Mayor and Council about how the Town is doing operationally, where our strengths and weaknesses are, and where we can make improvements. This analysis will help us identify areas of our Town's regulatory areas and management that can be bettered in the short term. The letter from Assistant Director for Insurance Services Paul Chasco is available at town Hall for your review. Paul states that "Ruston has been discovered". We expect that our \$500 match of \$2,500 will get us 80 – 120 hours of work.

Ordinance No. 1233

The Ruston Town Council approved Ordinance No. 1233 authorizing an extension of the Franchise Agreement between Comcast of Tacoma, Inc. and the Town of Ruston until June 30, 2008 in order to give the Town Attorney time to work with Comcast on a new franchise agreement.

Ordinance No. 1234

This Ordinance was presented to the Council for adopting rules for requesting public records and responding

to requests for public records and appointing the Town Clerk as the Town of Ruston's Public Records Officer. This Ordinance will be brought back at the next regularly scheduled council meeting on November 5th.

Quiet Title Action

The Ruston Town Council approved a settlement agreement between the Town of Ruston and Point Ruston, LLC for an additional right of way through the plat for the Stack Hill plat alteration. After a preliminary investigation of the facts, there does not appear to be a sufficient legal basis to contest the Plaintiff's claim that the right of way dedicated in the Bay View Addition plat was opened for public use in the five years between 1889 and 1894.

FORMWATER GRANT

The staff of Huitt-Zollars has put together and submitted a grant application to the Department of Ecology to conduct a study and to provide a capacity analysis, and the need for impervious surface regulations and storm water treatment regulations for development and redevelopment for the Town of Ruston. The Mayor indicated he'd recommend town funding to assist in funding this needed analysis.

STREET SAFETY

Watch out for our little folks when they are out trick or treating on Halloween.



VETERANS DAY CLOSING

Ruston Town Hall offices will be closed Monday, November 12, 2007 in observance of Veteran's day. Regular garbage pick-ups scheduled for Monday, November 12th will be done on Tuesday, November 13th. Be sure and thank a veteran.

BUDGET SESSIONS

The 2008 budget will be presented starting in early November.

FIRE COMMITTEE

The Fire Committee will be putting figures together as a result of their study, they will present this information at a future Council meeting or study session.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME!

Remember to turn you clocks back on Sunday November 4th at 2:00 am.



GRANTS & UPDATES

Carl Stixrood of Huitt-Zollars and his staff have been working on a 1) Sidewalk Grant; 2) a CTED Grant; and 3) a Tacoma SEPA Update.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Mayor Transue is accepting applications for three positions that will comprise the Civil Service Board. Please submit letters of interest to Ruston Town Hall.

LAND USE

AWC has offered us the services of Carol Morris, who is their land use and growth management expert. Carol will help us identify areas within our land use codes that need updating.

RUSTON SCHOOL COMMUNITY CENTER WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS?

At the Council Meeting on September 17, 2007 Councilman Everding presented a worksheet about possible polices for the use of the school community center that included sample rules from other municipalities and other Ruston documents.

The goal is to get community input on how to use the Ruston School gymnasium space (now named the Mary Krilich Joyce Community Center).

Who should be able to use the space and under what conditions? Do you have other ideas? The worksheet is a listing of possible times for inclusion in a future Ruston policy so feel free to pick and choose from the options in the worksheet. You can pick up a copy of the worksheet at Town Hall and then provide your input and responses to Councilman Everding directly and/or to the Council.

B & O TAX CHANGES

Business Owners: be aware of the changes coming to the B&O tax in Ruston, which will be required before January 1, 2008. State law requires that each city/town with a local B&O tax adopt allocation and apportionment provisions as part of an updated model B&O tax ordinance. Get more information about this, and the streamlined sales tax changes at: www.dor.wa.gov.

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Ruston Town Hall offices will be closed Thursday, November 22nd and Friday, November 23rd in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday. Garbage will be picked up for the whole Town on Wednesday, November 21st and Monday, November 26th

Your Officials

Mayor

Michael Transue	759-3544
Council	
Mary Joyce	759-0538
Del Brewer	752-5902
Robert Pudlo	759-7539
Bob Everding	761-8455
Wayne Stebner	752-2041

Emergency – Dial 911

Police Department	761-0272
Municipal Court	759-8545
Town Hall	759-3544
Town Clerk	Karen Murphy
Utility Clerk	Jennie Barton
Office Assistant	Tara Evans
Court Clerk	Diane Turner
Police Chief	Jim Reinhold
Fire Chief	Don Torbet
Public Works	Steve Taylor
	Steve Tucker
Building Official	Frank Mellas