

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- TOWN COUNCIL MEETS: JANUARY 2ND AND 16TH AT 7 P.M. AT RUSTON SCHOOL
- METER READING: JANUARY 23RD
- SENIORS MEET: JANUARY 6TH 1P.M. AT RUSTON TOWN HALL
- TOWN HALL HOLIDAY CLOSURES:
 - DECEMBER 25TH, MONDAY GARBAGE PICKUP: TUESDAY DECEMBER 26TH
 - JANUARY 1, MONDAY GARBAGE PICKUP: TUESDAY JANUARY 2 ND
 - JANUARY 15TH MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY GARBAGE PICKUP: TUESDAY JANUARY 16TH
- FIRE DEPARTMENT COMMITTEE MEETS: WEDNESDAY JANUARY 3RD 7P.M. RUSTON TOWN HALL

Thank you to the Public Works department, Steve and Steve, our Volunteer firemen, Chief Reinhold, for their prompt response during our night of damaging winds. Although many trees fell, we had no injuries .

The Public Works Department says downed tree limbs and branches will be picked up. It is not necessary to cut them into the 3 foot lengths or to haul them to the garbage pick up place. This collection may well extend into the first of the year, because of the sheer volume. Fallen shingles may be placed in your garbage can, please mind the 70 pound weight limit per can.

Holiday Garbage collection will be the day after the Monday holidays in January. Winter yard waste pick up schedule will be announced soon.

Chief Reinhold is tallying damage information for the Emergency Management Office for Pierce County. If you suffered damage during the storm, please let him know as statistics are kept for these storms. This includes insured and uninsured expenses.

WE WISH YOU A MERRY EVERYTHING AND HAPPY ALWAYS
May the Blessings of this Holiday season extend well into your new year from all of us at the Town of Ruston.

Christmas Tree Recycling. Christmas trees will be picked up for recycling on Thursday January 4th. Trees must be placed where your garbage is usually picked up and should be out by 7 A.M. Trees must have

- NO**
- tinsel
 - stands
 - garland
 - flocking
 - Ornaments
 - Nails or staples

Thank you

Christmas Wrap Recycling. Wrapping paper may be placed in your recycling in a separate bag, but all ribbon must be removed and foil wrapping is not allowed. Recycling containing ribbon and foil will not be picked up.

Thank you Al Abuan who has served the Town as attorney will end his service on December 31. Our new Town attorney will be introduced on January 2nd at the Council meeting.

Non Emergency Dispatch 798-4721 (24hour) use dispatcher number to request a Ruston police officer contact you for urgent non-emergency reasons.



Mayor:
Michael Transue 759-3544

Council
Mary Joyce 759-0536
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 Billing Clerk	Jennie Barton
Office Assistant	Jen Carter
Court Clerk	Diane Turner
Police Chief	Jim Reinhold
Fire Chief	Don Torbet
Public Works	Steve Taylor
	Steve Tucker
Building Official	Frank Mellas

From the Council: The Mayor and Council have spent long evenings working on the Town budget for 2007. This was passed on December 18th. It includes a 4.7% Cost of Living Adjustment for our Town employees.

December 4th: The Council held a public Hearing on the Vacation Ordinance for a portion of the Orchard Street right-of-way north of Court Street and the alley extending westwards from Orchard Street located 120 feet north of Court Street was held. Ordinance No.1200, amending Ordinance 1172 regarding this property, was tabled for consideration of a public walkway to a viewpoint here.

- The Council tabled Ordinance No. 1199 Animal Control Ordinance for consideration at another meeting, only the fee schedule will change with this Ordinance. **ALL RESIDENTS ARE REMINDED TO LICENSE THEIR PETS: IT'S THE LAW** Licenses are renewable in January and are effective for one year. They may not be transferred from one pet to another or shared with family or friends. The present license fees for 2007 are as follows:

- A. Adult Dogs altered \$15.00
Unaltered \$55.00
- B. Adult Cats altered \$15.00
Unaltered \$55.00
- C. Reduced rates for senior citizens, 65 years of age or older, and individuals with a permanent disability.
- Dogs altered \$5.00
Unaltered \$15.00
- Cats altered \$5.00
Unaltered \$15.00

To receive the fee advantage for altered pets, the owner must provide proof of alteration from a Vet.

Replacement fee for tags is \$5.00

Mayor Transue reports the four jurisdictions of the Asarco area (Tacoma, Ruston, Metro Parks and Pt. Ruston) are meeting to review the progress on the site and may return with a proposal that governs the broader aspects surrounding it's uses.

The Council: December 14th for a Special meeting from a study session. The animal Control Ordinance was discussed. The Ordinance was tabled until another meeting.

The 2007 Tax Levy was also passed, Ordinance No. 1203 imposes the 2007 property tax levy rate and can be reviewed at the Town Hall for details.

December 18th: The Animal Control Ordinance was tabled until January 2, 2007.

Ordinance No. 1200 amending No.1172, Vacation of part of Orchard Street, was passed, to include provision for a public viewpoint.

Ordinance No. 1204- 2007 Annual Budget for the Town of Ruston passed.

Ordinance No.1205 also passed, salary rates for our Town employees.

The Council voted to authorize the Mayor to sign contract with the Washington State Patrol to investigate a claim of employee misconduct.

Municipal Court Judge Sandra Allen was reappointed to another term as Ruston's Municipal Court Judge.

Tacoma water rates will increase 7.2% for the new year.

Annual sewer rates are calculated on water consumption during the winter months of November through March. Conservative water consumption can influence your monthly sewer charges for the next year.

Safety reminder from the Fire Department: It's that time when we decorate our homes. Please be extra careful. Remember to keep combustibles away from heat sources. Many decorations are electrical and can over-tax the circuits. Remember "LIGHT EQUALS HEAT." Turn off interior electrical items at night and when no one is home. Outdoor lighting can be put on a timer to make them safe and less expensive. Also make sure any extension cords used are sized properly for the load.

Christmas trees require more water than most people think. Make certain the tree stands you use has adequate water storage and check it daily. This will not only make your home safer but fewer needles will fall off when removing your tree at the end of the season.

A reminder, should the power fail again, **NEVER NEVER bring indoors a gas barbeque or charcoal fireplace. These are deadly sources of carbon monoxide.** Also keep the generator outside, exhaust fumes are also deadly.