



**Borough Manager's Report  
Assembly Meeting 07 February 2022**

- ❖ As things have thawed out over the last couple of weeks, Public Works has received a high volume of calls about broken meter bases and ruptured water lines.
- ❖ Plans and specs for the Public Works culvert project are being finalized. We are hoping to get this project out to bid before end of this month.
- ❖ Working on budget preparation in all departments. Supplies costs have gone up, in some cases way up.
- ❖ Harbor Board met on February 1<sup>st</sup> and reviewed the proposed rate increases and draft budget and discussed Scow Bay. They approved both the proposed rate increases and the draft budget with a few suggestions for staff to consider.
- ❖ The Large Crane was successfully rebuilt, installed and back in operation by the end of January and in time for the Tanner crab season.
- ❖ Tour ship schedule is starting to firm up – last year's number was 66 landings and so far, we are roughly at 50. Staff is optimistic a few more will get added this month and schedule will fill up a bit.
- ❖ Staff met with SEALASKA concerning supporting the Borough request for general investigation study by the USACE for Scow Bay.
- ❖ Harbor Staff met with Alan Murph concerning conceptual design for Papke's Landing.
- ❖ Congratulations to Ray for passing the 2018 UPC Plumbing Inspector exam.
- ❖ Small business owners across the state have started to receive notice of award regarding the State of Alaska's American Rescue Act Plan (ARPA) Business Relief Program. If you applied and have not heard back, be on the lookout for an email from [ARPAGrant@jedc.org](mailto:ARPAGrant@jedc.org) and/or search your SPAM folders.
- ❖ The library's 'Build a Better World' Challenge ran through Jan 31. Two winners were selected, the Friends of the Library will make a \$500 donation to the non-profit of their choice.
- ❖ The Voices of Séet Ká Kwáan radio show/podcast will launch Thursday Feb 3 on KFSK at 10am. The project is a collaboration between the library, the Petersburg Indigenous Awareness Committee and KFSK. It is funded with a grant from the Institute of Museum & Library Services and the Alaska State Library, Archives & Museums. The website is [www.psglib.org/voices](http://www.psglib.org/voices)
- ❖ Former Petersburg resident John McCabe recently donated \$10,000 to the Petersburg Library Art Education Endowment. His contributions to date are \$131,540. The balance of the fund is \$180,453. A portion of

earnings from the fund provide ongoing support for arts programs at the library.

- ❖ The library will be closed Feb 7-10 for inventory, staff training, and projects.
- ❖ Staff installed three new turbidimeters at the water treatment plant recently. The new units are quicker to respond to changes in water turbidity which will help with quality control at the plant.
- ❖ Disinfection By-product samples from last month froze during transit to the lab so had to be retaken.
- ❖ Wastewater Staff is planning to replace the small diameter force main under the Dock Street pier that services the USCG float.
- ❖ PMPL recently issued an RFP for an in-frame overhaul of one of the Caterpillar generators.
- ❖ Our new mechanic was able to go to Wrangell recently and get some training from a Master EMD mechanic during some work on WMLP's equipment.
- ❖ Dielectric testing was recently completed on all line trucks and all hotsticks. One line saw failed testing and was destroyed. A new saw is on order.
- ❖ Thanks to Jody for her help moving the electric revenue bond issue through the Bond Bank. The Bank Board of Directors approved our application on January 27<sup>th</sup>. No final information on interest rates yet, but now that the Bond Bank has approval from their Board they will move toward solidifying terms for loans to Petersburg, Ketchikan Gateway Borough, Juneau, and Seward.
- ❖ Parks and Rec is hosting Family Game Nights in the Activity Room on Tues and Friday nights 6:30p-8:30p. Membership card is required for adult check-in. Contact Parks and Rec for more information.
- ❖ Jim conducted a tour of the department for a possible job applicant while providing an overview of what a Dispatcher/Corrections Officer duties consist of. This opportunity is available to anyone who is interested in the dispatch corrections position.
- ❖ Officer Waechter is preparing for the 17 weeklong Police Academy in Sitka.
- ❖ AML has been working with the Community Jails across Alaska to increase jail funding. Information has been gathered and a letter was sent to Department of Corrections and DPS Finance Subcommittees.
- ❖ Sandy monitored potential tsunami event because of Tonga underwater volcanic eruption on January 15, 2022 and conducted a meeting regarding tourist season and covid mitigation measures.
- ❖ Josh conducted an ETT class for five participants and is working on recertification process for volunteers (EMT-1, 2, 3).
- ❖ At-home COVID antigen test kits are available at the Police Dept, Library, and Fire Department
- ❖ The Airport Travel Testing contract ended on January 31, 2022. Thanks to PMC for running that program for the community.