



**Borough Manager's Report  
Assembly Meeting 03 July 2023**

- ❖ The Delegation has announced the AK awards from the latest round of RAISE grants. The Scow Bay project was not among them. It remains pending as a CDS request in both the House and Senate. The RAISE awards did include \$10 M for the Kake Access Road as one of the four AK projects funded.
- ❖ We received a letter recently from the Regulatory Commission of Alaska noting that when the Borough was formed, the city failed to seek a transfer of our utility certificates from the old City to the new Borough. Karl and Chris will work on getting this completed.
- ❖ Water and Public Works employees recently replaced a failing main valve at Third and Fram Streets.
- ❖ Public Works dug a test pit at the Pump Station 4 wet well site recently to investigate subsurface materials and groundwater/tidewater infiltration issues. The dig went well, with blue clay being encountered sooner than expected and no evidence of groundwater infiltration that would cause problems for the project. The Engineer continues to work on design for the project.
- ❖ New employees at PMPL are being trained to operate the diesel plant in the event of a local power outage. Our customers should expect that restoration of power will take longer than in previous history as the new operators are being trained and getting up to speed on the process.
- ❖ PMPL successfully submitted the application for the DOE Hydro Energy Efficiency grant on June 19th. This grant has the potential to provide up to \$2.8M to the hydro rebuild and shift that same amount of local bond proceeds to the Scow Bay Generator project.
- ❖ Assisted Living continues to work with the Hospital on gathering information for a time clock system like what is used at the Hospital and coordinating nurse coverage for Assisted Living.
- ❖ Property Tax bills were mailed out on Friday, June 30th. The payment due date is October 16th. If you have any questions, please contact the finance department at 907-772-4425.
- ❖ Open enrollment is happening now through July 15th for our new Health Insurance provider: MODA. This means changes to health insurance can be made without a Qualifying Event. Representatives for the Borough's MODA Health Insurance plan will be in Petersburg on Thursday, July 13th. There will be two mandatory meetings at 9 am and 12:30 pm on July 13th for employees that have the Borough's Health Insurance. The meetings will be about an hour long.
- ❖ Martin and crew replaced 20 deck planks on the Rasmus Enge Bridge, to keep the bridge safe for traffic until we can do a full deck replacement later this year.
- ❖ The crew has been working on smoothing out some of the rough patches on Frederick Drive.

- ❖ Still looking for a motor pool mechanic. We have not had any applicants to date. We are considering the development of an apprenticeship type program to fill this position.
- ❖ Motor Pool Foreman Sam Hoschar recently traveled to Florida with representatives from PVFD to inspect the Borough's newly completed fire engine. The new engine looked great and will now be shipped west for final upfitting before being barged to Petersburg.
- ❖ The Borough's Free Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection event was held on June 24th and 25th. The waste collected during the event together with HHW already stockpiled onsite totaled over 29,500 lbs. It was enough hazardous material to completely fill a 40' shipping container, which will now be sent south for proper disposal. Thanks to the Sanitation crew and HHW contractor US Ecology for everything they did to make this event a big success!
- ❖ With our waste transshipment contract set to expire in August, we are still looking into alternate waste disposal providers for the Borough's municipal solid waste and recyclables. We have a couple of quotes in hand and are working through the numbers. We should have a contract recommendation for the Manager and Assembly to consider at the 2nd meeting in July.
- ❖ Building Maintenance assisted Island Refrigeration with a compressor replacement in one of the HVAC units at the Motor Pool shop.
- ❖ We are working on a preliminary estimate for the fire sprinkler system replacement project at the baler.
- ❖ Parks and Recreation will be closed on July 3rd and 4th to host holiday events downtown. Please join them downtown for activities and events!
- ❖ Parks and Recreation will be hosting a Sprint Triathlon on July 8th at 10a. Contact Parks and Rec or Scott Burt for more information.
- ❖ More swimming lessons are coming up next week, contact Parks and Rec for more information and registration.
- ❖ Thank you to Pat Blair and others for their work at the Bike Park location on June 25th! Keep an eye out for more opportunities to volunteer and join the fun!
- ❖ I have asked Glorianne to work with members of the community and the Harbor Board to outline some of the needed repairs to the Sea Plane float and facility. This would be the first step in trying to get the State to take better care of this local asset.
- ❖ The Borough continues to work with our insurance broker and our I.T. vendor on implementation of requirements for cyber insurance coverage. Most of the requirements have been completed.
- ❖ I attended the changing of the command for the Pike last week. Great ceremony and got to welcome the new skipper, Master Chief Kay Jones. Borough staff including Glorianne, Stephanie and I were present, along with Captain Jensen from sector Juneau and representatives from our DC delegation.
- ❖ I met with Chere Klein, the Senators' SE Alaska representative, and Robyn Engibous, Senator Sullivan's DC Deputy Chief of Staff, to discuss Petersburg issues. This was Robyn's first visit to Petersburg. Thanks to Glorianne who made them feel at home.