



**Borough Manager's Report
Assembly Meeting 20 December 2021**

- ❖ The library is planning our annual winter reading challenge, this year the theme will be 'Build A Better World'. The program runs through the month of January. Community members are challenged to read and do good deeds for the chance to win \$500 for their favorite local non-profit. The program is sponsored by the Friends of Petersburg Libraries.
- ❖ The library is now a community distribution site for home COVID tests, along with the Fire Department and the PD.
- ❖ The last week could be summed up in one word: SNOW! The unusually heavy snowfall has kept the public works crew very busy. During last weekend's major snow event it was "all hands-on deck" and we also had staff from the Sanitation and Motor Pool departments pitching in to help keep roads open. Outstanding teamwork by everyone to get the job done!
- ❖ With the break in the weather, we are working to uncover fire hydrants, clean out snow dumps and widen streets before the next snow event. We do request people to avoid plowing snow into the fire hydrants. This slows down emergency response if needed.
- ❖ The Motor Pool Shop repairs are substantially complete, and we are working on contract punch and close-out items. The crew is beginning to shift equipment over from the temporary shop quarters in the Public Works building.
- ❖ In addition to regular operations and assisting Public Works with snow removal, the sanitation crew has been busy with snow removal at the baler and landfill. Garbage and recycling pickups have been complicated by all the excess snow, but the crew is doing a great job keeping up with our regular collection schedules.
- ❖ With freezing temperatures here, the water department wishes to remind our customers to make sure water lines and meters are protected from freezing.
- ❖ Alaska Municipal League has drafted a letter for submission to the ADEC Commissioner and it is being reviewed by the 301(h) group prior to going to the elected bodies for signature.
- ❖ Adam Day has been hired as our next Powerplant Mechanic/Operator. He will maintain his lineman certificate of fitness in case he is needed in that capacity, and he'll be receiving substantial training from Bob Ziemke before Bob's retirement next August. The department will begin looking for a journeyman lineman to fill out the crew soon.

- ❖ The line crew has been very busy dealing with dozens of reports of trees and branches encroaching on the power lines due to heavy snow. Thanks to the community for reporting potential problems and for understanding when branches need to be trimmed or trees need to be removed due to snow damage or encroachment. Call 772-4203 to report branches in the power line.
- ❖ Customers are requested to maintain accessibility to their electric meters and water meters. Not only does this help the meter reader do her job, but access to the meter and main disconnect is important in the event of a fire.
- ❖ Big thanks to harbor staff for working through their weekends and well over their 8 hour shifts to keep equipment running and maintain traffic & access throughout the entire port & harbor system. We lost 1 boat but the potential for losing quite a few more was there. We also appreciate the four guys who came down and gave us a hand plowing and shoveling in those early hours, Jim Engell, Chris Clark, Jordan Reid and Aaron Phillips jumped in and made all the difference. We also appreciate the Public Works crew who took care of approaches and parking lots to allow boat owners access to their vessels. Lastly thank you to Charles Davis & Thomas Mercer for assistance in raising the vessel and to Derek Gibb for clearing areas when our equipment went down.
- ❖ Harbor staff has been working with USACE to finalize the pre-bid stage of dredge construction of the South Harbor project.
- ❖ Fire/EMS is working on a schedule to offer Emergency Trauma Technician Course.
- ❖ Parks & Rec. added an outside light to the pool deck door! Also, some lights around the Activity Room!
- ❖ Stephanie set up a meeting with some local contractors to discuss the Racquetball lights. A new frame for the fixtures and electrical work is required.
- ❖ We have completed a new passholders agreement for Parks & Rec. It will be used going forward.
- ❖ The Manor is open for visitors. Masks required. Call 772-2445 with any questions.
- ❖ Elderly Housing and Assisted Living both full with wait lists.
- ❖ PMC Doctors continue to see residents for routine appointments at Assisted Living.
- ❖ Getting ready for our Elderly Housing HUD REAC inspection December 29th. Inspector will fly in on the 28th.
- ❖ Again, a big thank you to everyone involved in the snow removal process. Many Borough Departments, Alaska DOT and members of the public helped throughout town and in the Harbors.
- ❖ I attended a meeting sponsored by AML to discuss issues important to Alaska Coastal Communities. Mayors and Managers from throughout Alaska were invited, and we had about 40 participants. Notes from the meetings and future dates will be distributed when completed by AML.
- ❖ I have reached out to both Sealaska and Tlingit & Haida Housing to discuss possible collaboration opportunities in Petersburg. Housing and harbor infrastructure are tops on the list at the moment.