



**Borough Manager's Report
Assembly Meeting 16 March 2026**

- ❖ Dawson Construction achieved 65% design on the Scow Bay #2 generator project and is working to provide a 65% cost estimate.
- ❖ PMPL would like to thank Steve (Wally) O'Brocta of Temsco for flying a crew to reset the over-velocity valve at the dam on March 9 - after it tripped during a system restart. Steve's flight skills in trying conditions were excellent as usual and he saved the day on March 9th! Thank you!
- ❖ PMPL crews have been busy with snow removal recently, ensuring access to critical facilities and system switches. The public is asked not to pile snow in front of or on electrical infrastructure.
- ❖ Due to this past year's unusually wet weather patterns, Crystal Lake has remained consistently at a high level, allowing the Blind Slough hydro plant to operate at relatively high outputs for this time of year. Based on our observations, we believe current lake levels may be the highest we have seen in March.
- ❖ Pending a bid award by the Assembly, PMPL will place orders for the downtown streetlights soon. If all goes to plan, we should receive the light poles in August and will then plan for installations to begin this fall.
- ❖ The library has received an \$8,750 grant from First Bank and the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines for the 2026 Summer Reading Program.
- ❖ The library has an open request for proposals for janitorial services beginning April 1, 2026. Deadline for submissions is Tuesday, March 17, 2026, at 4:00 PM. Details are on the Borough website.
- ❖ Director Cabrera is working on turning the planning commission's recommendation into an amendment to Title 19 for a communications tower ordinance. The Borough attorney and Director Cabrera hope to have it ready for the first meeting in April. These provisions will then already be incorporated into Title 19 when it is applied non-area-wide.
- ❖ We have received an application to lease property at Thomas Bay by Brett Martin. He won the Forest Service timber contract so would like some property to set up operations, including a bunkhouse. The borough may need to create a service area at Thomas Bay before granting the lease.
- ❖ Since we lost our plumber in town and Ketchikan Mechanical is not planning to return until May, we can't plumb in trench drains at the Cold Storage. Director Cabrera has asked DEC to grant another provisional permit. Marv did have new larger drain opening installed in the processing area as recommended by DEC.
- ❖ Streets Staff continue to manage snow removal operations in response to ongoing winter conditions. Foreman Martin Odegaard marked 20 years of service in the Streets Department on March 9.

- ❖ Our new Motor pool apprentice has begun training on preventative maintenance tasks and is assisting with snow removal and equipment repairs. Additionally, Unit 22 was loaded onto the ferry and sent to Juneau for warranty work.
- ❖ The building maintenance team repaired the Police Department garage door and is awaiting parts needed to complete the library sidewalk repair. Staff are also keeping up with snow-related maintenance needs.
- ❖ The wastewater department supervisor conducted a facility tour for a Petersburg *Pilot* reporter, providing an overview of current processes. The supervisor also discussed anticipated requirements for the upcoming pretreatment facility. The team reviewed HDR Engineering's 60% design plans for the outfall repair. The plans are expected to be conformed for construction and ready for bid by the 20th of March.
- ❖ Most available staff time outside of routine duties in the Water department has been dedicated to snow-related work. ARWA recently recognized Petersburg with the Alaska Water System of the Year Award, highlighting our strong compliance record and overall operational performance.
- ❖ Lots of snow removal. Thanks to all the Borough & State crews for helping us clean up the parking lots and driving areas. Feels like we are in a holding pattern WAITING on spring!
- ❖ Calls and emails coming in for summer harbor activity, looks like a good amount of traffic is expected.