



**Borough Manager's Report  
Assembly Meeting 01 July 2024**

- ❖ Ken Birch has been making progress in replacing the Elderly Housing greenhouse entrance.
- ❖ The Streets Dept installed some storm drain piping to eliminate standing water near the Elementary School.
- ❖ Recent warm weather has allowed us to get dust control treatment down on our dirt streets. We have some dust control solution left but may need to order more before the season is over.
- ❖ Grading and pothole repair continue. Most streets were graded recently, there are a couple in Severson's Subdivision that still need to get done.
- ❖ The crew dug some ditches at the ballfield to facilitate new lighting and other electrical improvements. We are also assisting Petersburg Little League with installation of new fencing. This project is ongoing.
- ❖ Chris is working with the Streets crew to identify a better model of street sweeper for spring sand pickup. The current unit has proven inadequate for this task, and we are unable to increase its performance to satisfactory levels. Once we have a suitable unit identified, we will be approaching the Assembly about budgeting for an early replacement of the current street sweeper.
- ❖ Sanitation is coordinating with the Chamber for garbage service over the 4th of July holiday.
- ❖ The Sanitation Dept is very busy right now with lots of local construction projects ongoing, cruise ships/harbor garbage, and fish processors ramping up for the summer season.
- ❖ As of July 1st, the Water and Wastewater Depts will be incorporated back into Public Works. We are working with Utility Director Hagerman and Departmental staff on the details of the transition, which will likely take several months to fully implement.
- ❖ Chris is working with Borough Administration to finalize an interview schedule for the Assistant Public Works Director position. To date, we have 3 in-house applicants for this position.
- ❖ Harbor Parking is being enforced along Harbor Way and Middle, South Harbor and long term at Drive Down and remind people the parking is very tight so might be wise to have a backup plan for leaving vehicles for long periods of time.
- ❖ Remind boaters of the no wake zone outside all 3 harbors and responsibility for wake is on the owner/operator.
- ❖ Harbor Staff met with ADOT representatives to talk about Scow Bay project and clarify design and ADOT boundaries that was included with an updated application for additional tideland conveyance and submitted

to DNR this week.

- ❖ USCG is back with their (2) fast boat response team for the next month or so. They will be on patrol in Fredrick Sound, Wrangell Narrows and on the south end in the Stikine/Wrangell area.
- ❖ The library's summer reading programs are in full swing with over 250 local children, teens and adults participating. Thank you to the many local businesses and individuals whose donations make these programs possible.
- ❖ The Lead Service Line Inventory surveys should be coming to water customers with this month's mailing of utility bills. The utility requests that our customers take the time to complete the survey and submit the information as soon as possible. Thanks to all customers of the water utility!
- ❖ The wastewater dept is still waiting for release of our draft discharge permit from the EPA so that we can make comments on any portion of the permit that doesn't make sense to us.
- ❖ The PS4 project continues to move toward bidding, with a target of this fall to time the bidding period with the seasonality of the construction industry. We should see more bids and better bids as contractors look to fill their schedules for the next construction season.
- ❖ PMPL staff continues to deploy AMI meters in the community. The meters communicate their readings back to the municipal building via a low-power radio frequency and will improve billing accuracy and customer service for electric customers. Questions can be directed to PMPL at 907-772-4203.
- ❖ Thank you to our customers that were able to conserve power during the last billing cycle. The annual SEAPA shutdown went smoothly from the utility's perspective and all power saved by our customers has helped to minimize the diesel fuel adjustment charge included in the utility billing at the end of July.
- ❖ EPS is almost complete with 30% plans and specifications for a design-build bid package for the next Scow Bay generator.
- ❖ The line crew has been cleaning out materials and supplies from the 14th Street pole yard to make room for the Harbor Department's storage needs.
- ❖ Nurse call system is up and running at Assisted Living. Working out a couple kinks in the paging system.
- ❖ Wrapping up the contract with Home Health for the Bingo program.
- ❖ I have talked with the state and have received a TB paper that the staff can fill out and if they answer the questions right then they do not have to get a TB shot and that will save us money on TB Shots every year.
- ❖ Nils from AML will be in Petersburg for the AMLIP (Investment Pool) meeting July 15-17. While here, Nils will host a conversation with community stakeholders about potential projects that line up with some federal grant programs. "Stakeholders" in this case would be both boroughs' staff, school districts, tribes, utilities, ports and harbors. Wrangell has been invited.