



**Borough Manager's Report
Assembly Meeting 19 January 2021**

- ❖ All Businesses should have received notice of the Borough's new sales tax software. If businesses have not yet done so, please log on to the website and update your profile as soon as possible. The finance can help if a Business would like to come in have us walk you through the process. Beginning February 1st all businesses will be able to file and pay their monthly sales taxes online.
- ❖ It is expected the Chariot Group will be in Petersburg the last week in January to work on the improvements to the Assembly Chamber audio/visual systems.
- ❖ On 1/4/2021 Shelyn was made aware of exposure to COVID-19 from PMC staff to 6 assisted living residents. Those 6 residents were immediately quarantined and had rapid tests on 1/5. All came back negative and residents continued in quarantine per Health Nurse. All other residents and staff were also tested on 1/5 and those tests came back negative.
- ❖ Shelyn and I met with PMC CEO and Dr. Hess to discuss some improved protocols and communication between the Manor and PMC.
- ❖ On 1/8 and 1/12 the second vaccination inoculations for Covid were given to residents and staff (16 total) at the Manor, and some first-time inoculations were given to residents who missed the first opportunity.
- ❖ Nine (9) EMS and SAR volunteers are participating in an online Pilot Course for Emergency Trauma Technician Refresher. Once complete they will check off skills to receive their certificate good for 2 years.
- ❖ Thank You to the Volunteers who continue to participate in training and respond to emergencies during these abnormal times.
- ❖ Liz is tracking implementation of programs from the Covid-19 Relief Bill. Of note:
 - Paycheck Protection Program (PPP2) loans will be available to small businesses, sole proprietors, and nonprofits. The program is open to first-time qualified borrowers and, for the first time, to businesses that previously received a PPP loan. The SBA recently released applications, which can be downloaded from the borough website. Businesses should contact their bank or lender for more information on how to access this program.
 - The IRS began issuing the second round of Economic Impact Payments. Direct deposit payments have been issued. The IRS urges people to carefully check their mail. Paper checks and debit cards will be mailed in January. Residents can check the status of both first and second payments by using the [Get My Payment](#) tool on IRS.gov.
- ❖ The Streets crew assisted the Water Dept. with repair of a broken water main at the Port Dock that was damaged by a vessel during docking maneuvers.

- ❖ The Motor Pool Shop repair project is out to bid, with bids scheduled to open on February 5th.
- ❖ Supply chain disruptions in the manufacturing sector may result in delays in procuring new vehicles. There are not enough semiconductors to go around, apparently. We are monitoring this issue as it develops.
- ❖ Chris has been selected to serve as the Vice-Chair for the Southeast Alaska Solid Waste Authority.
- ❖ We continue to field inquiries from other local communities looking to upgrade their solid waste operations to convert to a baling system like Petersburg. Our disposal process is already in compliance with AML's proposed policy change that will effectively eliminate shipping municipal solid waste in open-top containers.
- ❖ Volleyball at Parks & Recreation has begun with great turnout! And Adult Basketball has started in the gym for daily morning times, and evenings on Monday's and Thursdays. If community case numbers stay low, we will continue as is!
- ❖ COVID Vaccines for community members aged 65 and older were administered by PMC in Parks and Rec gym on Thursday, Jan 14th. Thank you, PMC, for taking care of our community!
- ❖ Parks and Rec Advisory Board is planning a work session for Feb. 4th at 4p. Please look for more information coming soon!
- ❖ Patrick Fowler and Stephanie met at Sandy Beach last week to tour the park location and to discuss a local complaint regarding purported impediments to the creek. Stephanie explained to him why we left what we did in the area, and he was in complete agreement and found there to be no problem with the creek or any impediment with fish passage. Great having a Director with a master's degree in Wetland Ecology, and who has worked in the past with riparian restoration and assessing fish passage!
- ❖ Petersburg Police Department updated and submitted its Use of Force Policy per the Presidential Executive Order on Safe Policing for Safe Communities (Executive Order No. 13929). Chief Kerr received notification "The policy meets the Executive Order and DOJ Guidance for the use of Choke Holds." This certification was needed to receive Department of Justice and Federal funded Grants.
- ❖ SEAPA reports that the marine cable has been moved up on Sumitomo's production schedule and will be available for install in May/June instead of August/September. This is great news, and we appreciate SEAPA's efforts in applying some pressure to speed up the project and reduce the risk during installation of the cable.
- ❖ The library's Winter Reading Challenge launched on Jan 1 and runs until Jan 31. The library has challenged the community to read 100,000 minutes and we are well on our way to meeting that goal. At the end of the program, everyone who reads 3 hours per week all month will be entered into a prize drawing for a \$100 gift certificate from a local business. Three will be awarded, they are sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Information at <http://psglib.org/>
- ❖ Five 'Discovery Kits' are now available for check out. These are hands-on learning kits for ages 3 and up, more will be added this month. There is a display of the kits in the library foyer and a list of available kits can be found on the library's website: <http://psglib.org/discovery-kits>
- ❖ The library will be offering two classes taught by Lisa Schramek Adams via Zoom: Basic Watercolor & Introduction to Scandinavian Knitting.