



**Borough Manager's Report
Assembly Meeting 16 October 2017**

Library and Parks & Rec.

- ❖ The Library held the Manhattan Short Film Festival in late September, 50 people attended.
- ❖ We also hosted a special presentation in the Library by an author from Juneau about the WWII Japanese interment and how it impacted southeast Alaska communities. 29 people attended and stories were shared by residents.
- ❖ Curiosity Creates, our weekly afterschool STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math) program for elementary school kids is going well with 10-30 kids in attendance at every session.
- ❖ Oktoberfest is Saturday 10/28 in the Community Gym. We welcome you to join us in the fun!
- ❖ Pumpkin Patch Plunge will be on Monday 10/30 from 6-9pm. \$10 entry for those that wish to catch a pumpkin while they swim, afterwards decorating and movie watching will happen in the gym.
- ❖ Parks and Rec wishes to establish a Friends of Parks and Rec non-profit group. We are looking for people who are interested in joining us in shaping the future of the Parks and Recreation Department.
- ❖ Ira and Jesse winterized all public bathrooms 10/10/17. Due to the mild weather we were able to keep them open slightly longer this year. They will be closed until May.

Police Department and Fire/EMS/Search and Rescue

- ❖ Chief Swihart and Capt. Hamilton met with other SE Alaska law enforcement executives, as well as supervisors from federal agencies, on October 5th & 6th, in an effort to reestablish a regional drug investigation task force. The group finalized a Memorandum of Understanding. Lt. Scott Erickson from Juneau PD was elected Chairman of the Board and Juneau Police Department was elected to be the governing agency. It is hoped that the task force will be operational before the end of the year. All police agencies between Yakutat and Ketchikan have expressed some level of commitment to the effort.
- ❖ The Fire Department Volunteers run a "Learn Not To Burn" program in the Elementary School during Fire Prevention Week (October 8-14). The volunteers visited classrooms (Kindergarten thru 5th grade) and did age specific presentations (Oct 10-12), reaching approximately 230 kids.
- ❖ Emergency Trauma Technician course will start October 29th and run through November 20th. The pre-requisite course of Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers will be offered October 21st. (Looking for volunteers!)
- ❖ Search and Rescue branch has been mobilized several times in the last few months. People have been located prior to them hitting the field. Better to be called and not needed, then needed and not called!

Electric Department

- ❖ The Power & Light remodel is in the final stages of the internal building demolition. So far everything is going well.
- ❖ The 350 Generator replacement project is complete. Two new transformers have been installed and new primary wire is in place.
- ❖ The PFI switch project has been split into dirt work and electrical phases. The dirt work contract, officially titled the PMPL Retaining Wall project, is up for award. The electrical work will be accomplished through a professional services contract with EPS of Juneau, who will be visiting Petersburg on October 16th to review the project needs prior to issuing a proposal.
- ❖ On October 8th, a contactor that controls the operation of the main street streetlights failed. Thanks to PFI for loaning the department a spare to keep the lights in operation while a replacement contactor is shipped.

Sanitation Department

- ❖ The local scrap metal and junk car roundup is going well. As of October 5th, we have taken in over 400,000 lbs of metal from the community.
- ❖ A change in Chinese import policy is changing the face of recycling on the West coast. Impacts and changes to Petersburg's recycling program are not fully known as of the writing of this report, but staff will be working hard to get the word out to the public once the information is available.

Community and Economic Development

- ❖ Liz Cabrera, along with myself, Jody Tow and Glorianne Wollen, participated in Army Corps meetings last week regarding dredging of South Harbor.
- ❖ PEDC and the Chamber of Commerce hosted writers Fran Golden and David Molyneaux earlier this summer. They really enjoyed their time in Petersburg, especially their tour with Tongass Kayak Adventures and conversation with Viking Travel owners. David Molyneaux recently published an article in The Miami Herald about his time in Alaska. According to the Alaska Travel and Tourism Association, the story was read by nine million viewers and has an estimated ROI value of \$447,163.30. This is the second story he has published in the Miami Herald about Petersburg.

Motor Pool & Public Works

- ❖ Staff did some exploratory digging at Pump Station 7 to verify the piping connections available. The department is still hoping to accomplish the Pump Station 7 force main installation prior to winter.
- ❖ Staff worked on removing old fencing and a tree at the back of the PD parking lot to re-establish a snow dump in that area.
- ❖ Staff will be digging in a Christmas tree stand in front of the municipal building soon.
- ❖ Staff removed the "Our Town" mural for the Arts Council so that it can be refurbished.
- ❖ Snow plow preparations are complete for winter.