



**Borough Manager's Report  
Assembly Meeting 6 April 2015**

- ❖ An "Emerging Themes" document as part of the Comp Plan process was released for public feedback. The document outlines what was heard through various public engagement efforts. Contractors to return in mid-May.
- ❖ Joe B. just completed continuing education credits for building inspector, plumbing inspector, and plans examiner.
- ❖ Petersburg & Wrangell was the cover story on the Feb. issue of TravelAge West magazine and is also in the national edition of Coastal Angler. PEDC and Wrangell CVB sponsored a familiarization trip of the area for the writer.
- ❖ Funded in part through a USDA grant written by PEDC, the Petersburg's Farmers Market hosted the first ever SE AK Grower's Conference from Feb 28<sup>th</sup> – March 1, 2015. Over 40 attended the event.
- ❖ The library has received a \$2900 grant from First Bank for the 2015 Summer Reading program. Thank you to the local branch staff for supporting our requests year after year.
- ❖ The library has signed a one year contract with GCI to continue the existing service for the library's internet. This is the highest level of service offered by GCI and, we decided against any additional costs to boost speeds.
- ❖ The *One People Canoe Society* presented a very successful Paddle Making Workshop for the library March 27-29. Thanks to everyone who helped make this happen: Petersburg School District, Petersburg Indian Association, Tides Inn, Alaska Native Brotherhood/Sisterhood, and Haa Aani/Sealaska.
- ❖ Primary base station for the Police Station is not operational. Working on a long term solution that will incorporate FCC, and operational needs for the departments that rely on the radio system.
- ❖ The PD project continues with plans to bid for construction in Sept. Architect indicates updated cost estimates will be available in May.
- ❖ Radio tower project RFP closed last week. No bids were received. Ofc. Holmgrain is working with grant authorities to coordinate alternatives.
- ❖ The Chief is coordinating with Alaska Association of Chief of Police, the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, and others regarding the expected loss of funding for community jails.
- ❖ Ofc. Holmgrain and Inv. Rosse are on limited duty. In addition, Ofc. Ben King's last day with the Borough was Mar. 8<sup>th</sup>. A selection process is underway. The next available academy will begin in August with a November completion. Corey Rowley has been hired as a temporary officer in the meantime and is doing well.
- ❖ Inmate in our jail was able to break a metal hook off of a locker in the prisoner shower/employee restroom, during the shower rotation. The hook was broken and fashioned in a way to be used as a potential weapon.
- ❖ Power & Light is in the process of putting together a committee to assist in the selection of a pole and fixture type for the anticipated replacement of our downtown street lights.
- ❖ With the elimination of the Program Coordinator position at Parks & Recreation we are evaluating all events and programs to decide which ones we will be able to continue and which will be discontinued.

- ❖ Parks and Recreation will begin closing the facility from 1- 3 pm Monday-Friday on May 1<sup>st</sup> as part of our expense reductions. This time will be used to prepare and coordinate programs.
- ❖ We had to cancel the Firefighter 1 class due to a lack of students.
- ❖ Sandy is working with Petersburg Medical Center staff to coordinate future training with the hospital and EMS. She completed a First Aid/CPR/AED to the Police Dept (x 2 classes) and Power and Light.
- ❖ I have asked Sandy to work on a rate study for the Ambulance rates which have not been adjusted for many years. We expect to propose an increase in the Ambulance fees once this study is completed.
- ❖ The training room at the Fire Station continues to get a lot of use. We are looking into charging a fee for use to help offset the costs associated with set-up, take-down and clean up (janitorial services).
- ❖ We had an EMT-2 refresher course (30 hours) in February that was co-sponsored by Airlift Northwest. We have 11 EMT-2's and 1 EMT-3 that have recertified and Sandy has gone through the process to become recertified as an EMT-1 Instructor and an American Heart Association Basic Life Support Instructor.
- ❖ Thanks to Bob Carter (Volunteer SAR Capt) who has been working with the Boy Scouts for obtaining merit badges. They have worked on orienteering and other Search and Rescue techniques.
- ❖ Tamico Inc., PND & Staff attended the substantial walk through on the Drive Down Facility project on 3/30/15. There were a few minor clean –up items, but overall in great shape.
- ❖ Crane #2 is back up and running. Final bill for rebuild came in at just about \$40,000, with rebuild and shipping. Thanks to Mike Luhr for assisting with the pressure testing and fitting check.
- ❖ Tour ship schedule has been assembled. The prescheduled stops continue to fall off. For 2015 we have 80 stops, down from 103 in 2014. We hope to pick up a few as the summer progresses.
- ❖ Public works has continued to remove the graffiti on the N. Nordic Drive retaining wall with varied success. Although the graffiti paint has faded, it is still likely the crew will need to paint over the vandalism when the weather improves.
- ❖ The public works crew has shifted to our standard spring work projects. This includes cleaning the storm drain catch basins, street cleaning (Tuesday's and Fridays), ditching, grading and pothole filling as the weather allows.
- ❖ The wastewater treatment plant and its crew will be featured in Treatment Plant Operator magazine. They received this honor as a result of being awarded the "Plant of the Year" from the Alaska Rural Water Association in 2014.
- ❖ Karl will be distributing additional information concerning the recycling transition via Facebook in the near future. The information will focus on distribution of Frequently Asked Questions and will allow residents to pose additional questions or request clarifications on Facebook.
- ❖ The Fire department SUV has been delivered. This unit will allow the crew cab pickup to be assigned to the Search and Rescue branch of the department and the ancient ambulance that was in (unreliable) use by the SAR team to be sold.
- ❖ KNIK Construction has mobilized equipment to Petersburg and will be staging their asphalt plant at the Borough quarry for work on the airport runway. They will pay a lease rate to the Borough or provide equal value to the Borough in the form of asphalt paving once their work with ADOT is complete.
- ❖ ADOT has yet to announce a construction schedule for the South Nordic and Haugen Drive project although they are receiving submittals from the Contractor and expect to hold a pre-construction meeting in the near future.