



**Borough Manager's Report
Assembly Meeting 21 September 2020**

- ❖ Borough contract Assessors will be in town again this week.
- ❖ I have received a maintenance list for the Clausen Museum. We may need to see if there are local contractors available to do the work as Sam is busy in other areas. This includes helping with repairs at the ball field, preventive maintenance for five other buildings and working on the speakers in the Assembly Chambers.
- ❖ The Petersburg Borough has made \$500,000 available for economic support grants for local small businesses. Developed Application, FAQs, Grant Agreement, webpage, review process to implement program. Applicant information available at: <https://www.ci.petersburg.ak.us/grants>
- ❖ Liz attended a USDA teleconference announcing \$530 million made available to commercial fishermen impacted by retaliatory tariffs. The application period opened on September 14. Applications are processed and paid as they are received. More information on eligibility, how to apply, and a complete list of species here: <https://www.farmers.gov/Seafood>. A Call Center is available for fishermen who would like additional support with the application process. Call 877-508-8364 to speak directly with a USDA employee.
- ❖ The US CENSUS BUREAU announced it will be ending the census count on September 30, 2020, about four weeks earlier than previously announced. As of 9/14, Petersburg's self-response rate is 53.4%. Alaska's response rate is 53.5%, which ranks #51 among the 50 states, DC, and Puerto Rico, or second to last. The national response rate is 65.9%.
- ❖ Thanks to Staff members Mike Bell and Blake Buotte for their work in investigating and showing no voids exist around the low-level outlet pipes at City Creek Dam. This saved the water utility over \$50,000 in engineering and contracting costs.
- ❖ Staff working on brushing back the road to City Creek Dam and at the dam itself, along with plant maintenance including: valve actuator replacement, chemical pump updates, turbidimeter updates and standby generator controls replacement are on the list.
- ❖ Scow Bay 1 Pump Station project may happen in October. Contractor working on submittals and concrete structure procurement.
- ❖ PMPL staff ran the diesel plant from September 8th to a planned end of September 17th for the annual SEAPA maintenance shutdown.
- ❖ Proposals were received for the equipment procurement phase of the Blind Slough Hydro project. McMillen Jacobs is reviewing all proposals in detail and will have a discussion with PMPL staff on September 24th to discuss their findings and recommendations.

- ❖ Wrangell Light and Power has loaned PMPL the use of their 85' bucket truck again this year. Access to this truck is greatly appreciated as it allows PMPL to address many developing danger situations associated with clearing limbs and trees away from the lines safely. The extra length of the boom allows us to go up 30' higher than reachable with PMPL line trucks. We thank Wrangell Light and Power and the City and Borough of Wrangell for the assistance!
- ❖ With the dryer weather, the Public Works crew has been catching up on grading.
- ❖ The Youth Basketball Program will start today with at Parks & Rec.
- ❖ First meeting of the Parks and Rec Advisory Board was scheduled for last week.
- ❖ We started recruiting for a Parks & Recreation Director last week. We expect the process to take a month or so, depending upon if we can get help from the newly formed Advisory Board.
- ❖ Planning for Library fall programs and activities, all will be virtual
- ❖ Library is now open evenings and Saturdays; the meeting rooms remain closed.
- ❖ Sandy continues to work on other COVID-19 related mitigation, including reviewing COVID plans as they are submitted. We hired 3 temporary employees for airport to be screeners/greeters.
- ❖ Ryan has been coordinating with Motor Pool to install additional lighting on Fire Dept vehicles. The SCBA Compressor and Hurst Tools have received their annual maintenance as well.
- ❖ Josh and a volunteer took the online portion for American Heart Association Basic Life Support Instructor. They will have to complete the monitoring portion to obtain their certification.
- ❖ As previously reported, Search & Rescue had a successful mission to rescue an injured Hiker on Petersburg Mountain. They located the injured hiker, assessed them, and immobilized the injury and then brought the injured patient off the mountain in a stokes basket. The rescue went well into the night. The crew did an amazing job, and everyone made it home safely!
- ❖ Sandy encourages everyone to sign up in the "Alaska Travel Portal" and complete the Travel Declaration Form if you will be travelling out of State and returning to Alaska.
- ❖ Petersburg Police attended training on the use of Axon Body 3 cameras. Police Officers are currently utilizing the body cameras and the feedback has been great. The ease of use along with video/audio quality has been a great benefit.
- ❖ Thanks to PMC Doctors who continue to see residents for routine appointments at Assisted Living.