



Agenda

Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting

Tuesday, December 16, 2025 at 5:30 PM

City Hall Cowles Council Chambers In-Person & Via Zoom Webinar

Homer City Hall

491 E. Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603
www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Zoom Webinar ID: 991 8847 0047 Password: 125016

<https://cityofhomer.zoom.us>
Dial: 346-248-7799 or 669-900-6833;
(Toll Free) 888-788-0099 or 877-853-5247

CALL TO ORDER, 5:30 P.M.

AGENDA APPROVAL

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA (3 minute time limit)

RECONSIDERATION

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Approval of the November 18 Minutes

VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Designate LAB member to report to council
- [B.](#) Library Director's Report
- C. Fundraising Report
- D. Legislative Report

PUBLIC HEARING

PENDING BUSINESS

- [A.](#) Timeline for 20th anniversary events

NEW BUSINESS

- [A.](#) Annual Review of strategic plan and LAB goals

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

- [A.](#) City Managers Report

[B.](#) LAB Calendar

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE (3 minute time limit)

COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

COMMENTS OF THE BOARD

COMMENTS OF THE BOARD

ADJOURNMENT

Next Regular Meeting is **Tuesday, January 20th, at 5:30 p.m.** All meetings scheduled to be held in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom Webinar.

Library Director's Report

November 30, 2025

General Notes

We're moving forward on installing a security grille at the front entrance. On Nov. 10, city council accepted \$19,000 from the Rasmuson Foundation for the project, and the call for construction bids should go out in early December.

Also on Nov. 10, the city council voted to approve a new privacy policy, which covers the library's text communications with patrons. A new system for sending text messages will go live on Dec. 1.

On Nov. 25, the first new public computers went out on the main floor, and the library's aging laptops have been replaced with new Chromebooks. Along with that comes a new print-management system which finally allows patrons to print from personal devices and library-owned laptops. Getting here has required an enormous effort over a long time, but the City IT department and library staff have done an outstanding job.

On Nov. 29, volunteers from the Friends of the Library set up the giving tree near the front entrance. It will be in place for the whole month of December and briefly into the new year.

Staff Notes

Director's meetings:

- Staff: 3
- LAB: 2
- FHL: 3
- Council: 2
- Department Heads: 1
- Other: Training for boards and commissions, training on Microsoft 365, recreation champions, Homer Foundation annual meeting, planning meeting for Alaska Library Association 2026 conference, IT meetings, Packet Production Committee, Invoice Automation Committee, vendor meetings, grant meeting

Facility

There's a new directional sign on the back door, pointing visitors to go around the building.

Library Advisory Board (LAB)

The LAB set a date to begin viewing the recorded sessions from the United For Libraries conference. The first screening will take place at a special worksession at 4:00 on Dec. 16, just before the regular LAB meeting. There was also some follow up discussion about the boards and commissions training on Nov. 3, a debate about the format for candidate fora, and some clarification on jobs for the 20th anniversary celebrations.

Friends of the Homer Library (FHL)

The board agreed to coordinate with the Porcupine Theater on two showings of *The Librarians*, a documentary about book challenges, at 6:00 pm on Dec. 7 and 5:30 pm on Dec. 11. Following the first showing there will be a panel discussion about these concerns nationwide and how they relate to Homer.

Planning for the February annual membership meeting is underway.

Ongoing Events

- Mondays, 1:30-4:30: Knitting Club
- Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30: Chess Club
- Wednesdays, 10:30-11:00: Toddler Time
- Wednesdays, 3:00-4:45: LEGO Club
- Fridays, 10:30-11:30: Preschool Storytime
- Fridays, 3:30-5:45: Live-Action Role Playing (LARP)
- Saturdays, 10:00-12:30: Alaska Japanese Club
- First Tuesday, 6:30-8:00: SPARC Radio Club
- First Wednesday, 4:45-5:45: Teen Advisory Board
- First Thursday, 1:00-3:00: Literary Ladies
- First and Third Thursdays, 5:30-7:30: Tech Help
- Third Thursday, 10:30-11:30: Radio Storytime on KBBI
- Fourth Tuesday, 4:30-6:30: FHL/HPL Book Club

- Tuesday following the first City Council meeting of the month, 12:00-1:00: Conversations with a Councilmember (schedule may vary depending on availability)

Special Events

- Nov. 1, 1:00-3:00: Plant Club.
- **Nov. 10: City council approves revisions to the library privacy policy.**
- Nov. 11: Library closed for Veterans' Day.
- **Nov. 13: New laptops begin circulating.**
- **Nov. 13, 5:30-7:30: First computer-skills class. If successful, this will become a biweekly event.**
- Nov. 15, 12:30-4:45: Kachemak Bay Bridge Club.
- Nov. 18, 5:00-7:30: Kachemak Bay Bridge Club.
- **Nov. 25: The library begins replacing public computers. The new print-management system goes live.**
- Nov. 27-28: Library closed for Thanksgiving.
- **Dec. 1: The library implements a new text-messaging system.**
- Dec. 9, 4:30-6:00: Crafternoon makes gift boxes for teens and tweens.
- **Dec. 11, 6:00-7:30: Brian Smith visits the library to talk about his memoir and the trilogy of books in the Ida Mae Joy series.**
- **Dec. 12, 1:00-2:30: Bird feet with the Pratt.**
- **Dec. 13, 10:00-2:00: Pop-Up Plant Sale.**
- Dec. 24: Library closes at 1:00 for Christmas Eve.
- Dec. 25: Library closed for Christmas Day.
- **Dec. 30, 10:30-12:00: Teen Read with snacks.**
- Dec. 31: Library closes at 1:00 for New Year's Eve.

2026

- Jan. 1: Library closed for New Year's Day.
- **Jan. 1-Mar. 31: Art in the Library displays works by local artist Joella Clove.**
- **Mar. 28: Celebration of Lifelong Learning.**

- **Apr. 1-Jun. 30: Art in the Library displays works by local artists Taz Tally and Christina Whiting.**
- **Jul. 1-Sept. 30: Art in the Library displays works by local artist Jim Lavrakas.**
- **Sept. 19: Tentative date for celebration of 20 years in the current library building.**

Homer Public Library Statistical Summary for 2024

Date: 13-Aug-25

CIRCULATION	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Y.T.D.
TOTAL (*Included)	14,636	14,431	15,039	14,426	14,469	13,937	15,411	15,254	13,542	13,354	13,191	12,558	170,248
*Physical Print/Audio/Video	11,344	11,115	11,546	11,133	11,081	10,772	12,113	11,988	10,389	10,315	10,134	9482	131,412
*Other Physical items (n. 2)	91	90	75	83	92	96	113	106	99	101	97	109	1,152
*Alaska Digital Library	2,936	2,975	3,219	2,990	3,118	2,893	2,967	2,985	2,879	2,768	2,821	2858	35,409
*Flipster e-magazines	41	18	36	18	21	41	14	8	61	26	18	3	305
*Kanopy streaming video	224	233	163	202	157	135	204	167	114	144	121	106	1,970
INTERLIBRARY LOANS													
Incoming (Borrowed)	19	11	12	11	21	14	11	11	14	11	16	14	165
Outgoing (Lent)	28	26	24	28	28	17	20	21	18	14	9	23	256
BUILDING USE													
Gate Count	8,880	8,111	8,662	8,564	9,795	8,258	9,312	8,596	8,636	8,460	7,467	6465	101206
Study Rooms (# of group sessions)	266	238	229	206	205	180	197	234	222	241	239	211	2668
Study Rooms (# of people)	499	454	442	373	390	309	344	415	399	427	462	376	4890
Meeting Room (# of group sessions)	27	30	36	34	31	38	29	22	24	35	23	26	355
Meeting Room (# of people)	206	214	309	213	254	244	256	205	231	329	243	197	2901
INTERNET USE													
TOTAL (*Included)	2,315	3,288	3,045	3,065	2,324	2,111	2,782	3,333	2,464	2,367	1,793	1,686	30,573
*Wireless Internet sessions	1,169	2,190	1,923	1,926	1,221	1,011	1,616	2,122	1,262	1,127	885	897	17349
*Hardwired Internet sessions	1,146	1,098	1,122	1,139	1,103	1,100	1,166	1,211	1,202	1,240	908	789	13224
Website visits (sessions)	3,415	3,136	2,813	2,861	2,825	2,697	2,888	2,809	2,729	2,803	2,263	2,227	33,466
PROGRAM ATTENDANCE (n. 1)													
TOTAL (*Included)	1,205	1,101	1,223	1,216	1,436	1,196	1,415	1,064	1,231	1,214	1,021	891	14213
*Programs for Age 0-5	900	884	922	990	891	845	867	821	975	841	676	630	10242
*Programs for Age 6-11	31	47	62	24	239	171	288	74	134	135	101	82	1388
*Programs for Age 12-18	26	16	41	37	54	52	62	50	46	45	7	14	450
*Programs for Age 19+	150	134	196	131	115	84	63	119	74	108	56	36	1266
*Programs for All Ages	98	20	2	34	137	44	135	0	2	85	181	129	867
OUTREACH													
# Events	3	1	2	2	5	4	0	2	2	2	2	3	28
# People	11	9	9	9	11	18	0	20	10	20	10	4	131
NEW CARDS ISSUED													
City	38	24	20	25	17	37	45	36	36	37	33	28	376
Borough	19	28	21	20	18	17	44	19	20	17	19	12	254
Temporary	1	0	0	0	1	8	2	1	2	0	0	0	15
Reciprocal	0	0	3	1	4	2	6	6	3	1	2	1	29
VOLUNTEER HOURS													
# of people	71	75	76	90	87	84	93	81	81	105	79	72	994
# of hours	248	217	243	251	360	293	308	264	248	242	246	156	3076
MATERIALS ADDED													
Books	287	219	155	248	337	192	209	186	114	229	182	177	2535
Audio	9	9	11	25	12	9	0	5	5	10	26	6	127
Video	41	34	33	29	32	26	32	38	12	17	16	34	344
Serials	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Electronic Resources	50	41	60	28	106	167	84	90	51	136	47	77	937
MATERIALS REMOVED													
Books	73	25	57	106	116	223	282	306	593	76	89	34	1980
Audio	21	74	4	8	0	1	1	0	0	0	3	0	112
Video	0	101	1	34	0	37	31	41	2	0	1	0	248
Serials	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
Electronic Resources	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
REVENUES DEPOSITED													
Fines/Fees/Copies	1000.00	791.00	1453.00	1405.60	932.06	1100.20	1422.15	869.31	1355.65	815.40	634.97	699.24	12,478.58
Building Fund (151-)													0.00
Library Gifts (803-)													0.00
Endowment													0.00
Grants	725.00									1829.00	11633.00		14,187.00
TOTALS	1,725.00	791.00	1,453.00	1,405.60	932.06	1,100.20	1,422.15	869.31	1,355.65	2,644.40	12,267.97	699.24	\$26,665.58

Data not available yet or incomplete

Note 1: Program attendance includes all programs sponsored by the library or the Friends of the Library. It does not include meetings of community groups. Programs are sorted by the age of the target audience, but totals include all attendees (i.e. parents as well as toddlers, etc.)

Note 2: Other physical items includes electronic devices, kits, toys, board games, sports equipment and videogames.

Homer Public Library Statistical Summary for 2025

Date: 11-Dec-25

CIRCULATION	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Y.T.D.
TOTAL (*Included)	14,671	12,980	14,190	13,685	13,428	14,851	15,822	15,186	14,544	14,231	12,716	0	156,304
*Physical Print/Audio/Video	11,415	10,220	10,821	10,273	10,126	11,739	12,772	11,875	11,457	11,028	9,541		121,267
*Other Physical items (n. 2)	126	108	106	132	111	107	97	131	121	118	105		1,262
*Alaska Digital Library	2,995	2,551	3,136	3,096	2,968	2,889	2,790	3,025	2,852	2,878	2,831		32,011
*Flipster e-magazines	13	17	14	3	22	13	8	24	4	11	22		151
*Kanopy streaming video	122	84	113	181	201	103	155	131	110	196	217		1,613
INTERLIBRARY LOANS													
Incoming (Borrowed)	21	22	20	13	14	15	7	10	18	16	6		162
Outgoing (Lent)	36	25	22	31	21	25	26	22	18	29	22		277
BUILDING USE													
Gate Count	9,261	7,817	8,254	8,757	8,908	8,859	9,441	8,988	9,434	8,702	8,391		96,812
Study Rooms (# of group sessions)	320	283	313	327	310	257	303	298	299	345	218		3,273
Study Rooms (# of people)	608	517	609	618	574	571	633	529	560	689	460		6,368
Meeting Room (# of group sessions)	32	29	32	35	28	32	36	28	26	32	27		337
Meeting Room (# of people)	308	354	348	342	240	220	326	264	265	323	271		3,261
INTERNET USE													
TOTAL (*Included)	2,377	1,963	2,350	2,193	2,322	2,773	2,919	2,813	2,618	2,434	1,762	0	26,524
*Wireless Internet sessions	1,259	1,013	1,182	1,111	1,305	1,680	1,786	1,649	1,589	1,407	995		14,976
*Hardwired Internet sessions	1,118	950	1,168	1,082	1,017	1,093	1,133	1,164	1,029	1,027	767		11,548
Website visits (sessions)	3,016	2,590	2,945	2,793	2,593	2,772	2,707	2,746	2,719	2,661	2,093		29,635
PROGRAM ATTENDANCE (n. 1)													
TOTAL (*Included)	1,253	1,469	1,173	1,244	1,416	1,147	1,477	1,100	1,140	1,218	953	0	13,590
*Programs for Age 0-5	897	1,109	846	853	755	775	812	819	771	876	675		9,188
*Programs for Age 6-11	163	178	177	155	346	177	248	81	190	141	119		1,975
*Programs for Age 12-18	94	41	46	49	33	48	138	63	31	76	33		652
*Programs for Age 19+	34	94	61	75	137	52	34	50	57	44	57		695
*Programs for All Ages	65	47	43	112	145	95	245	87	91	81	69		1,080
OUTREACH													
# Events	4	2	3	3	2	4	2	3	3	3	2		31
# People	11	14	9	10	10	15	10	13	14	16	15		137
NEW CARDS ISSUED													
City	35	9	27	16	34	47	29	31	25	22	16		291
Borough	28	16	22	20	24	33	33	24	30	35	21		286
Temporary	0	0	0	1	8	2	7	3	0	0	3		24
Reciprocal	2	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	1	1	0		9
VOLUNTEER HOURS													
# of people	90	85	78	108	75	64	80	53	75	85	71		864
# of hours	231	226	271	312	257	174	250	141	272	229	202		2565
MATERIALS ADDED													
Books	228	193	174	339	323	340	359	208	108	219	236		2727
Audio	13	7	0	23	2	7	9	3	0	4	13		81
Video	26	40	27	26	43	27	7	24	7	31	22		280
Serials	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0		3
Electronic Resources	55	19	0	102	49	49	77	20	52	44	39		506
MATERIALS REMOVED													
Books	33	98	37	89	60	12	131	73	0	144	336		1013
Audio	20	0	1	0	0	20	40	0	0	0	0		81
Video	0	8	3	127	0	2	0	64	0	0	0		204
Serials	0	2	0	23	4	0	0	0	0	0	0		29
Electronic Resources	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
REVENUES DEPOSITED													
Fines/Fees/Copies	934.46	969.45	909.37	779.40	1151.05	1257.15	767.55	888.15	1234.50	946.00	592.30	284.95	10,714.33
Building Fund (151-)													0.00
Library Gifts (803-)													0.00
Endowment													0.00
Grants			1000.00							7000.00	19000.00		27,000.00
TOTALS	934.46	969.45	1,909.37	779.40	1,151.05	1,257.15	767.55	888.15	1,234.50	7,946.00	19,592.30	284.95	\$37,714.33

Data not available yet or incomplete

Note 1: Program attendance includes all programs sponsored by the library or the Friends of the Library. It does not include meetings of community groups. Programs are sorted by the age of the target audience, but totals include all attendees (i.e. parents as well as toddlers, etc.)

Note 2: Other physical items includes electronic devices, kits, toys, board games, sports equipment, videogames and tickets to the movie theater.



MEMORANDUM /AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Timeline for 20th Anniversary Celebrations

Item Type: Action memorandum
Prepared For: Homer Library Advisory Board
Date: December 11, 2025
From: Dave Berry, Library Director
Through:

At previous LAB meetings, we’ve drafted a list of potential events for celebrating the 20th anniversary of the library’s present building and assigned tasks to various board members. The time has come to develop a detailed timeline of those events, including (where possible) deadlines, collaborators and financial considerations.

As of Dec. 11, we have the following deadlines in mind:

- December:
 - Meet with KBBI staff about possible scheduling
- January:
 - Contact KBBI participants
 - Meet with porcupine theater about movie showings
 - Research contents for time capsule
- February:
 - Preparation meeting with KBBI participants
 - Prepare discussion guide for KBBI event
 - KBBI Coffee Table event
- August:

- Purchase container for time capsule (at the latest)
- September:
 - Movie showings throughout the month
 - Dedication of time capsule

Recommendation:

Develop a timeline for the 20th anniversary celebrations, with as much detail as possible.

Basic Information

KBBI Coffee Table

Name of Event

A Wednesday in February, 9 – 10 AM

Date and Time

KBBI Studio

Location

Homer community

Target Audience

Kathy Carssow

Organizer (i.e. LAB member in charge)

Detailed Information

Inform community about the history of the library, current services provided by the library, and anniversary celebration events.

Purpose of Event

Coffee Table Guests: Dave Berry, Marcia Kuzmal, another person knowledgeable of or part of the library's early history, Nancy Lord ?

Host: Josh Krohn?

Collaborators (list name(s) of businesses or individuals; contact info can be excluded)

Upcoming Deadlines

Kathy will talk with Josh to about possibilities and report to LAB – December 16

Kathy will contact potential participants – Early January

Kathy will schedule a prep meeting with participants – 2 weeks before event

Kathy will prepare a discussion guide for broadcast – 1 week before event

None

Anticipated Costs

KBBI staff and air time

Anticipated Contributions

Outline of Event Schedule

Basic Information

Name of Event

Movie showings at The Porcupine Theater

Date and Time

September 2026 (scattered throughout month/specifically September 19?)

Location

The Porcupine Theater, Homer Alaska

Target Audience

Community of Homer/HPL Patrons

Organizer (i.e. LAB member in charge)

Deb Curtis (and anyone who wants to help!)

Detailed Information

Purpose of Event

Celebration of HPL in current location. Celebration of Libraries/Library Staff/Patrons in general!

Collaborators (list name(s) of businesses or individuals; contact info can be excluded)

Susanna Webster (The Porcupine Theater)

Upcoming Deadlines

Meet with Susanna in January. I have communicated with her, but just an initial reach-out. I will set a meeting time in January.

Anticipated Costs

Advertising (Flyers, ads in Homer News, ads on KBBI radio)

Costs for purchase of movies?

Door prizes at movie showings? (Coupon for books for sale at the library, gift certificate at Homer Bookstore/Old Inlet Bookstore, other door prize ideas?)

Anticipated Contributions

Outline of Event Schedule

Library/Librarian themed movies

Popular movies from 2006

Scattered throughout the month of September 2026

Specific movie on September 19th, 2026 at the Porcupine Theater

Basic Information

Name of Event

Homer Public Library 20th Anniversary TIME CAPSULE

Date and Time

September 19, 2026

Location

Homer Public Library

Target Audience

Library Patrons and Community of Homer

Organizer (i.e. LAB member in charge)

Red Asselin-Martin, Deb Curtis, Daniel Christ

Detailed Information

Purpose of Event

Thinking toward the future and the next 20 years at Homer Public Library.

Collaborators (list name(s) of businesses or individuals; contact info can be excluded)

Not sure yet what might be included in the capsule

Upcoming Deadlines

January 2026: Begin research into type of vessel and begin acquiring items to include in time capsule.

Reach out to (ideas):

- *Patrons of HPL (stories, favorite things at HPL today....)
- *Local schools in Homer for youth input (not sure how to do this yet)
- *Chamber of Commerce (2026 Homer Visitor's Guide)
- *Homer News (articles from 2026 that include HPL)
- *List of top 20 BOOK check-outs from HPL in 2026 (different categories)

-
- *List of top 20 BOOKS in the nation in 2026 (fiction and non-fiction)**
 - *Chat GPT for top 20 songs/movies/trends of 2026**
 - *Alaska coin from 2026 or similar items**
 - *Friends of HPL sticker/item (from 2026)**
 - *2026 Library card for a “famous” or “in memory of” HPL patron**
 - *Photo of current library staff/photos of events at library in 2026/event flyers from 2026**
- Solicit more ideas from LAB and Friends of HPL**

Anticipated Costs

Vessel for Time Capsule

Plaque for Time Capsule (to be stored in library until 2046)

Some items to be enclosed in capsule will need to be purchased (not many?)

Anticipated Contributions

Library Director and Library staff to decide location of vessel storage for 20 years!

Donors for some of the items mentioned (items to go into capsule)

Outline of Event Schedule

January: Red, Daniel, Deb meet – begin planning. Divide up jobs. Plan for next meeting -monthly at minimum

February-August:

- *Purchase vessel
- *Gather input on what to put in vessel (help from Library Director)
- *Gather input from Library Director and Library Staff – where to put vessel
- *Gather items to store in vessel
- *Plaque design (is there someone local who can make a plaque?)
- *Plan for how to celebrate the Time Capsule with HPL Patrons and community of Homer – input needed from HPL staff and possibly Friends of HPL



MEMORANDUM /AGENDA ITEM REPORT

LAB Strategic Plan and Goals

Item Type: Action memorandum
Prepared For: Homer Library Advisory Board
Date: December 8, 2025
From: Dave Berry, Library Director
Through:

According to the LAB calendar, the December meeting features the annual review of the LAB’s goals and strategic plan. Staff do not recommend any changes at this point.

Recommendation:

Review and, if appropriate, revise the LAB’s goals and strategic plan.



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Office of the City Manager

491 East Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

citymanager@cityofhomer-ak.gov
(p) 907-235-8121 x2222
(f) 907-235-3148

Memorandum

TO: Mayor Lord and Homer City Council
FROM: Melissa Jacobsen, City Manager
DATE: November 19, 2025
SUBJECT: City Manager's Report for November 24, 2025 Council Meeting

Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives for the HERC Completed

Through the State's Brownfield Assessment and Cleanup (DBAC) Program, the City engaged the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and BGES environmental consultants to assess the HERC property. The consultants reviewed previous Hazardous Building Materials Inventories, conducted a data gap analysis, performed additional sampling of building materials and soils (including testing for lead contamination from deteriorating lead-based paint around both buildings), and developed an Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA). The ABCA evaluates five cleanup alternatives with rough order magnitude cost estimates to assist informed decision-making on safe demolition, disposal and eventual site repurposing.

The complete report can be found at <https://dec.alaska.gov/Applications/SPAR/PublicMVC/CSP/SiteReport/27933>. This information, with an Executive Summary will be made available on the City website in the near future. City staff will be following up with DBAC Program staff to evaluate potential next steps and opportunities to advance the project through additional DBAC assistance and hope to present options to City Council in the first quarter of 2026.

HERC Multi-Purpose Room

The Multi-Purpose room has been closed since late June after lead based paint flaking and dust from the interior windows and frames was discovered. Public Works is finishing up the necessary remediation work in the space. The carpet in the room was removed as part of the clean up, so getting flooring replaced is a next step in getting the room back in use. We're looking forward to having that space accessible again early 2026!

Fire Hydrant Replacement

As of this writing, contractors are working on replacement of three fire hydrants along Pioneer Avenue. I reported out in July that the spruce tree on the City Hall corner of Pioneer Avenue and Kachemak Way would have to come down as part of the project to ensure safe and successful hydrant replacement and protect public infrastructure. Replacing the hydrant required excavation up to 10 feet deep and severing major roots could destabilize the tree or lead to its decline or death, posing a safety risk. The tree was taken down earlier this week and for liability reasons the tree was retained by the contractor who took it to Dibble Creek for disposal. The City of Homer Streetscape Plan addresses landscape design and recommends plantings for areas which will assist staff in planning what's next for that space. The fire hydrant replacement project was long overdue.



Pioneer Avenue Bathrooms

It's that time of year again, and we are seeing issues with the in-town restrooms. The past couple of days as soon as Public Works staff unlock them, people are moving into them for most of the day. They are smoking, putting cigarette butts out on the walls and floors, one person has their dog in there with them and the dog isn't potty trained, and graffiti, on top of just leaving messes in them. The bathrooms are going to remain locked for the time being in hopes of breaking this pattern, however, historically it doesn't seem to make much impact.

Homer Volunteer Fire Department

The Homer Volunteer Fire Department recently conducted some outdoor night training on Beluga Lake and were treated to a great show. Thanks Captain Chelsea Marsh for the great photos!



Homer Police Department

HPD had over 70 teen challengers participate in a dodgeball tournament earlier this month. Team Stinky Feet took the title (No, that wasn't the HPD team), and a fun time was had by all.



City Manager Meetings and Events:

November 12th – Conversations with a Councilmember

November 13th - Homer Foundation Annual Meeting

November 20th – Microsoft 365 Pilot Team Meeting

And, ongoing weekly meetings with Departments, Mayor and Councilmembers, and City Attorney

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

2026 Calendar

	AGENDA DEADLINE	MEETING	CITY COUNCIL MEETING FOR REPORT*	ANNUAL TOPICS/EVENTS
JANUARY	Wednesday 1/14 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 1/20 5:30 p.m.	Monday 1/26 6:00 p.m.	
FEBRUARY	Wednesday 2/11 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 2/17 5:30 p.m.	Monday 2/23 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Review of Library Fees, Policies, Rules & Regulations • Annual Review of Board's Bylaws • Celebration of Lifelong Learning • Strategic Plan & Goals
MARCH	Wednesday 3/11 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 3/17 5:30 p.m.	Monday 3/23 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reappointment Notices Sent Out
APRIL	Wednesday 4/15 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 4/21 5:30 p.m.	Monday 4/27 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms Expire April 1st • National Library Week, Library Workers Day, & Library Legislative Day
MAY	Wednesday 5/13 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 5/19 5:30 p.m.	Tuesday 5/26 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election of LAB Officers
JUNE	No Regular Meeting			
JULY	No Regular Meeting			
AUGUST	Wednesday 8/12 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 8/18 5:30 p.m.	Monday 8/24 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library Budget Review *may not be applicable during non-budget years • CIP Draft Recommendations • Advisory Body Training Worksession
SEPTEMBER	Wednesday 9/09 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 9/15 5:30 p.m.	Monday 9/28 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library Card Sign-up Month
OCTOBER	Wednesday 10/14 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 10/20 5:30 p.m.	Monday 10/26 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve Meeting Schedule for Upcoming Year
NOVEMBER	Wednesday 11/11 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 11/17 5:30 p.m.	Monday 11/23 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Friends of Libraries Week
DECEMBER	Wednesday 12/9 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday 12/15 5:30 p.m.	Monday 1/11/27 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Review of Strategic Plan/LAB Goals

*The Board's opportunity to give their report to City Council is scheduled for the Council's regular meeting following the Board's regular meeting, under Agenda Item 8 – Announcements/ Presentations/ Borough Report/Commission Reports.