



Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive
Petersburg, AK 99833

Meeting Agenda Borough Assembly Regular Meeting

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

6:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.
When: January 16, 2024 06:00 PM Alaska
Topic: January 16, 2024 Assembly Meeting

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://petersburgak-gov.zoom.us/j/84702596928?pwd=ESjl60GSifyzeoR-WyUXU2QG8-9Agg.XAy0GhldUlkPoaq1>

Passcode: 597280

Or Telephone:

(253) 215-8782 or (720) 707-2699

Webinar ID: 847 0259 6928

Passcode: 597280

1. **Call To Order/Roll Call**
2. **Voluntary Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Approval of Minutes**
 - A. **January 2, 2024 Assembly Meeting Minutes**
4. **Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda**
5. **Public Hearings**
6. **Bid Awards**
7. **Persons to be Heard Related to Agenda**

Persons wishing to share their views on any item on today's agenda may do so at this time.
8. **Persons to be Heard Unrelated to Agenda**

Persons with views on subjects not on today's agenda may share those views at this time.
9. **Boards, Commission and Committee Reports**
10. **Consent Agenda**

11. Report of Other Officers

A. Alaska Municipal League Annual Local Government Conference Report

Assembly Member Fine-Walsh will report on the AML Conference he attended in December.

B. Police Department 2023 Annual Report

Chief Kerr will share his department's 2023 annual report.

C. Borough Safety Committee Report

Committee Chairman Captain Holmgrain has provided a written report on Safety Committee activities.

12. Mayor's Report

There is no written report for this meeting.

13. Manager's Report

A. January 16, 2024 Manager's Report

14. Unfinished Business

15. New Business

A. Resolution #2024-01: A Resolution to Support Efforts to Improve Competitiveness and Resilience of the Alaska Seafood Industry

The Pacific Seafood Processors Association (PSPA) and the Untied Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) are working to provide information and suggested actions to the federal government to help improve global competitiveness and resilience of the Alaska commercial seafood industry. If Resolution #2024-01 is adopted, a signed copy will be sent to Governor Dunleavy, Senator Murkowski, Senator Sullivan and Representative Peltola.

B. Resolution #2024-02: A Resolution Approving a Sole Source Award for Purchase and Installation of a Radio Communications System for the Petersburg School District that is Compatible with the Police Department's Public Safety Communications Network

If approved, Resolution #2024-02 will approve a sole source award of Homeland Security grant funds in the amount of \$50,199 for purchase and installation of a radio communications system that will sync with the Police Department's Public Safety Communications Network.

C. Fisheries Disaster Declaration Request

If approved, the attached letter of request for a Fisheries Disaster Declaration for four Southeast Alaska fisheries (Northern Southeast Herring Spawn on Kelp, Southeast Herring Gillnet, Southeast Red King Crab and Southeast Brown King Crab) will be sent to Governor Dunleavy for his consideration.

D. PMPL Service Truck #20 Replacement Award

Public Works Director Cotta and Utility Director Hagerman recommend approval to purchase a new Altec AT41M aerial service truck to replace Power & Light's Unit 20. Global Rental Co., Inc. has quoted \$187,509 for the vehicle with shipping to Petersburg. \$230,000 was budgeted in the 2024 Motor Pool Power & Light replacement fund approved by the Assembly.

E. United Fisherman of Alaska Membership

Mayor Jensen requested information regarding membership to the United Fisherman of Alaska (UFA). The cost for the Borough to become a Community Supporting Member is \$350 annually. UFA's current Community Supporting Members are: Aleutians East Borough, City of Cordova, City of Hoonah, City of Seward, and the Kodiak Island Borough. Information regarding UFA is attached to this agenda item.

F. Approval for Mayor Jensen and/or Assembly Member Lynn to Travel with Petersburg Medical Center's CEO Hofstetter and CFO McCormick to Juneau to Visit with our Alaska Legislators Regarding the New Hospital Project

Assembly Member Lynn requests Assembly approval for Mayor Jensen and/or Member Lynn to accompany PMC CEO Hofstetter and CFO McCormick to Juneau to discuss with Senator Stedman and other legislators the financial benefits regarding reimbursements and depreciation of a new critical care hospital and how it differs from current financial operations of a critical care hospital. Meetings in Juneau will take place on February 6, 2024, and travel costs will be paid by PMC.

G. Approval for Manager Giesbrecht to Attend the Alaska Municipal League Winter Legislative Conference and Meet with State Agencies

Assembly Member Lynn requests approval for Manager Giesbrecht to accompany Mayor Jensen and Assembly Members Fine-Walsh and Lynn to the AML Conference in February. The Manager is responsible for the Borough budget, and although the forecast is for a slim year for the State budget, it is imperative for the Manager to have the best information when formulating the Borough's FY 25 budget. More importantly, attending this conference provides an opportunity to meet with State agencies regarding projects, concerns and funding. Assembly Member Lynn proposes meetings be set up with the Alaska Department of Transportation to discuss the State Float Dock and Papke's Landing, and with the Alaska Department of Natural Resources to discuss land entitlement conveyance issues and transfer of Papke's Landing to the Borough. Member Lynn feels that meeting in person is important, and the Borough should take advantage of this opportunity. There are available funds in the Travel & Training budget to cover this trip.

H. Approval for Manager Giesbrecht to File Grant Applications for the Dingell Johnson and Pittman Robertson Funds for Repairs to the Papke's Landing Facility

Assembly Member Lynn requested Manager Giesbrecht research whether filing grant applications for the Dingell Johnson Fund and the Pittman Robertson Fund for work to be done on the Papke's Landing facility would be beneficial. Both funds would potentially provide a 75% grant with a 25% Borough match. If the Borough were awarded funds, and they were applied to the estimated \$800,000 in immediate repairs for Papke's, the Borough's portion for the match would be approximately \$200,000. Both grants would require the Borough to hire an Engineer for the work and to complete the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. The Assembly is asked to decide whether to pursue the grant funding and, if so, provide approval to engage the services of an engineering firm to represent the Borough for this project.

16. Communications

17. Assembly Discussion Items

A. Topics for the Work Session with Mental Health Trust and DNR

Manager Giesbrecht requests a discussion regarding the topics for the work session, tentatively scheduled for January 22, 2024, with the Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Office and the Alaska Department of Natural Resources regarding future subdivision development within the Borough.

B. Assembly Member Comments

C. Recognitions

18. Adjourn



Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive
Petersburg, AK 99833

Meeting Minutes Borough Assembly Regular Meeting

Tuesday, January 02, 2024

12:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

1. Call To Order/Roll Call

Mayor Jensen called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Mark Jensen
Vice Mayor Donna Marsh
Assembly Member Thomas Fine-Walsh
Assembly Member Bob Lynn
Assembly Member Scott Newman
Assembly Member Rob Schwartz
Assembly Member Jeigh Stanton Gregor

2. Voluntary Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited.

3. 2023 State of Alaska's Ken Akerley Fire Service Leadership Award

The State Fire Marshal was unable to fly to Petersburg so the award was not presented at this meeting.

4. Approval of Minutes

A. December 18, 2023 Assembly Meeting Minutes

The December 18, 2023 Assembly meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Motion made by Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Seconded by Vice Mayor Marsh.
Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh,
Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz,
Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

5. Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda

The agenda was approved as submitted.

Motion made by Assembly Member Lynn, Seconded by Assembly Member Fine-Walsh. Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

6. Public Hearings

There were no public hearings.

7. Bid Awards

There were no bid awards.

8. Persons to be Heard Related to Agenda

Persons wishing to share their views on any item on today's agenda may do so at this time.

John Murgas, representing himself, requested the Assembly postpone prioritizing the Capital Projects List to allow for more public input.

Erica Kludt-Painter, on behalf of the School District, requested the Assembly continue to list the Roof Replacement Project as a top priority and shared that the project is currently #12 on the State's list.

9. Persons to be Heard Unrelated to Agenda

Persons with views on subjects not on today's agenda may share those views at this time.

No views were shared.

10. Boards, Commission and Committee Reports

There were no reports.

11. Consent Agenda

There were no consent agenda items.

12. Report of Other Officers

A. Petersburg Medical Center

PMC CEO Hofstetter updated the Assembly on Medical Center activities.

13. Mayor's Report

Mayor Jensen wished everyone a Happy New Year and reported that he will be traveling to Juneau to attend the Southeast Conference Mid-Session Summit and the Alaska Municipal League Winter Legislative Conference in February.

14. Manager's Report

There was no report.

15. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

16. New Business

A. 2024 Capital Projects List

The Capital Projects List was unanimously amended to move the School Roof Replacement project to priority #3 and the Airport Bypass Road to priority #7. The list, as amended, was unanimously approved.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Lynn.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

B. 2024 Federal Priority Projects List

The 2024 Federal Priority Projects List was unanimously approved as submitted.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Lynn.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

17. Communications

18. Assembly Discussion Items

A. Assembly Member Comments

Member Fine-Walsh thanked the Assembly for sending him to the Alaska Municipal League Annual Local Government Conference in December and stated that the conference was very interesting. He will provide a report at the next Assembly meeting.

B. Recognitions

There were no recognitions.

19. Executive Session

The Assembly adjourned to Executive Session at 12:22 p.m. to discuss the status of the direct negotiations with the Petersburg Indian Association for the sale of Borough land.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Lynn.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

The Assembly came out of Executive Session at 1:09 p.m.

20. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:11 p.m.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Newman.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

Highlights from the 73rd Annual Local Government Conference by the Alaska Municipal League

1. Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Management: Hazard Mitigation

FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant programs provide funding for eligible mitigation activities that reduce disaster losses and protect life and property from future disaster damages.

Why develop a Mitigation Plan?

- Reduce risk of future disaster losses
- An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure
- Eligibility for FEMA mitigation funding (Pre-Disaster)
- Eligibility for FEMA recovery funding (Post-Disaster)
- Mitigation planning helps communities act now, before a disaster, and to reduce the impact and risk of future disaster losses

Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC) Annual Federal funding opportunity • Community pays 25% cost share / FEMA 75% • Competes with other eligible projects nationwide

Note that BRIC may not be a good fit in most cases for smaller Alaskan communities. Project applicants compete nationwide. HMGP grants may be more realistic as projects only compete at the state level.

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) - Portion of Federal funding when a disaster occurs • NOFO is based on federally declared disaster anywhere in State • State pays 25% cost share / FEMA 75% • Competes with other eligible projects state-wide

FEMA Mitigation Funding: HMGP HMGP is authorized through a major disaster declaration. A governor, tribal chief executive, or equivalent, may request that HMGP assistance. Federally recognized tribes, through their tribal chief executive, may also submit a request for a disaster.

Community/Tribe/Borough must have an adopted, FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP)

- In order to be eligible, projects must be registered in HMP and be "Shovel-Ready"
- Grant application requires extensive documentation, including a Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA)

HMGP Eligible Projects

- Property Acquisition and Structure Demolition
- Property Acquisition and Structure Relocation
- Structure Elevation
- Mitigation Reconstruction
- Flood Risk Reduction
- Stabilization
- Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects
- Tsunami Vertical Evacuation
- Safe Room
- Wildfire Mitigation
- Infrastructure Retrofit
- Structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings
- Wind Retrofit for One and Two Family Residences
- Emergency Generators
- Warning Systems
- Miscellaneous

HMGP Ineligible Projects

- Projects that do not reduce the risk to people, structures, or infrastructure, i.e. a project must increase the level of protection
- Projects for which actual physical work has occurred prior to award
- Projects constructing new buildings or facilities
- Projects that address operation, deferred or future maintenance, repairs, or replacement
- Studies not directly related to design and implementation of a proposed project
- Preparedness measures and response equipment
- Projects that involve land that is contaminated with hazardous waste.

2. Local Government Action on Housing

Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)

Creating ADU-Friendly Regulations: Do's

- Allowing ADU development "By-right"/ministerial approval rather than through a discretionary approval process.
- Blanket use permissions for ADUs in all areas zoned for single-family housing.
- Clear, objective standards intended to mitigate environmental hazards and impact on city resources.
- Regulations should reflect community values without hindering development.

- Set a realistic timeline for producing decisions. ☑No additional off-street parking requirements.
- Reasonable size/height/setback requirements that ensure resulting unit can meet the needs of long term rentals and aging individuals.

Snapshot of Alaska Communities with Existing ADU ordinances:

- City and Borough of Juneau Grants up to \$13,500 provided to 16 homeowners annually
- Petersburg Borough No off-street parking required
- City and Borough of Sitka No off-street parking required can only be used as long-term rentals (90+ days)
- City of Palmer Permit applications reviewed within 30 days

Financing ADUs

- Designated Municipal Funding Schemes
- Grant-Based Subsidies
- Low Interest Loans/Loan Pools
- Property tax abatement
- Free design help or pre-approved, permit ready plans
- Reduce/waive permitting and inspection fees
- Economies of scale.
- RurAL CAP's Mutual Self-Help Housing Program
- Pre-fabricated units

3. Volunteer Fire Departments

Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER)

Authority

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Summary

The SAFER Grant Program provides funding directly to fire departments and national, state, local, or tribal organizations representing the interests of volunteer firefighters to assist them in increasing the number of firefighters to help fire departments meet industry minimum standards and attain 24-hour staffing to protect communities from fire and fire related hazards, and to fulfill traditional missions of fire departments.

The SAFER Grant Program is comprised of two categories:

- Hiring of Firefighters - Including subcategories for rehiring, retention, attrition, and new hires
 - First priority: Rehiring laid off firefighters
 - Second priority: Retention of firefighters who face imminent layoff or filling positions vacated through attrition but not filled due to economic circumstances
 - Third priority: Hiring new firefighters
- Recruitment and Retention of Volunteer Firefighters
 - First priority: Assist departments experiencing a high rate of turnover and with staffing levels significantly below the ideal staffing level required to comply with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards/

The goal of the SAFER Grant Program is to assist local fire departments with staffing and deployment capabilities in order to respond to emergencies, and assure that communities have adequate protection from fire and fire-related hazards. SAFER intends to improve or restore local fire departments staffing and deployment capabilities so they may more effectively and safely respond to emergencies. With enhanced or restored staffing levels, grantees should see a reduction in response times and an increase in the number of trained personnel assembled at the incident scene.

2023 Petersburg Police Department

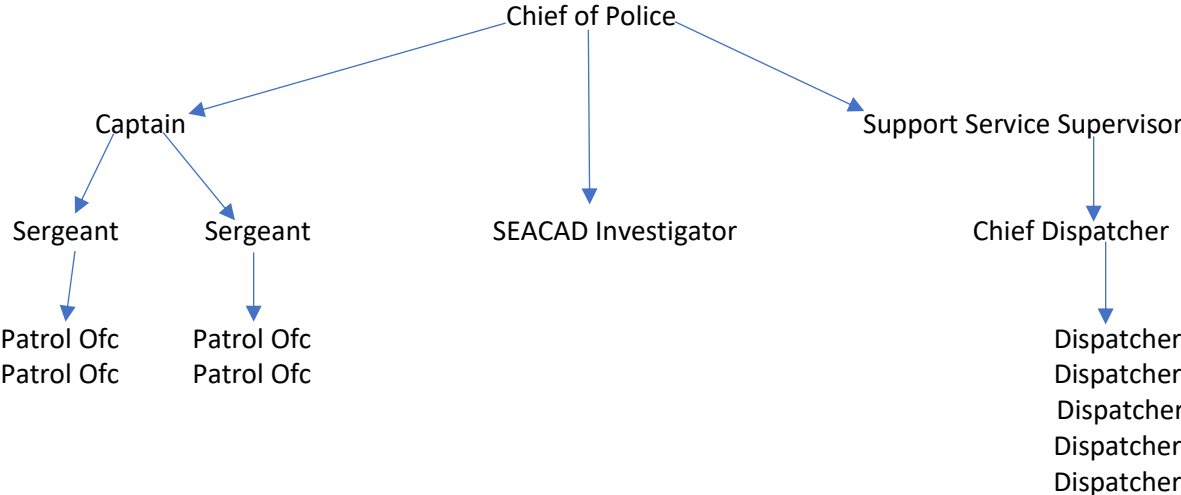


Annual Report

Message from Chief James Kerr

The Petersburg Police Department is made up of caring and courageous professionals who are committed to treating everyone with dignity and respect. Petersburg Police Department enjoys its strong support from Community Members, Borough Manager and Borough Assembly. It's through public trust and community support that the Petersburg Police Department can provide a safe environment for our community and visitors. I'm proud of the men and women of the Petersburg Police Department and feel fortunate to serve the community alongside them as we work in partnership with community members to keep Petersburg a safe and thriving community.

Current Organization Chart of Dispatch and Officers, showing all approved positions.



Petersburg Police Department provides 24/7 coverage to the Petersburg Community utilizing a 4/10 schedule model. Based on staffing levels this model changes to the needs of the organization to provide adequate coverage. Due to staffing levels current scheduling consists of 36/48-hour weeks. This scheduling allowed for officers to fill in open dispatch positions allowing dispatchers time off.

Police Academy Attended 2023

-No officers attended police academy in 2023.

Training Received in 2023

- Domestic Violence updates/refresher
- Sex Assault Response Team
- Max Ordinance/Advanced Sniper Course
- APSIN Full Certification
- Eliminating Risk and Liability in Records
- Redacting Records
- PLS Dispatch Pro January
- PLS Dispatch Pro February
- PLS Dispatch Pro March
- PLS Dispatch Pro April
- PLS Dispatch Pro May
- PLS Dispatch Pro June
- PLS Dispatch Pro July
- PLS Dispatch Pro August
- PLS Dispatch Pro December
- Defensive Tactics
- Arrest and Control Tactics
- Datamaster Recertification
- Firearms Instruction
- First Aid/CPR Training
- Taser 7 user course/class
- HITDA State of Alaska Crime Lab
- HIDTA Drug Investigator Basic
- Reid Technique of Investigative Interviewing and Positive Persuasion
- Active Shooter Drill Ketchikan with port partners and LE partners
- Property & Evidence Room Management

Instructor Level Training Received 2023

-Gracie Survival Tactics (Defensive Tactics)

Instruction Provided by Petersburg PD 2023

- Taser 7 user course/class
- Datamaster recertification
- Firearms Instruction
- Alice Training
- PepperBall Training
- Defensive Tactics

Filed Training Provided by Police Officers and Dispatchers 2023

- Started Police Officer Field Training
- Dispatcher Communications Training

Total Calls for Service (Police) (rpcdtccr.x1 PETZ)

2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
3,180	3,394	3,226	2,931	2,922	2,995

Calls for Service	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault	6	5	7	5	0	1
Robbery	1	0	0	0	0	0
Assault (Not DV)	33	16	14	15	10	8
Agency Assist	154	268	396	439	480	345
Abandoned Vehicle	34	32	14	33	10	22
Animal Problem	140	140	100	66	131	173
Domestic Violence	18	21	19	26	16	9
DVPO Service	22	24	67	23	20	12
Disturbance	239	210	229	125	120	150
Burglary	16	16	13	7	6	7
Fraud	24	44	20	18	28	14
Criminal Mischief	22	10	14	9	16	12
Citizen Assist	179	215	274	338	335	348
Theft	76	86	76	52	39	32
Motor Vehicle Accidents	67	42	41	50	41	40
Harassment	29	15	20	20	16	19
Theft Motor Vehicle	9	1	3	2	1	4
Lost/Found Property	219	216	159	205	149	119
Parking Problem	97	108	49	83	72	43
Welfare Check	451	424	217	281	284	115
Suspicious Circumstances	293	289	244	194	199	323
Trespass	38	29	48	44	22	15

***Complete list of Law Total Incident Report, by Reported Offense available upon request. ***

(rpjlasr.x1)

Arrests	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Arrest	93	135	141	130	75	82

Offenses Charged	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Felony (Offenses)	26	35	31	23	12	15
Misdemeanor (Offenses)	68	134	146	155	70	75
Total Charged Offenses	94	169	177	178	82	90

Dispatch

Calls for Service by Day of Week (rpcdcdt.x1)

2018	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	2018 Total
	461	520	540	573	543	577	569	3783

2019	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	2019 Total
	491	527	518	615	546	652	594	3943

2020	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	2020 Total
	436	595	674	655	625	574	560	4119

2021	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	2021 Total
	516	498	530	537	508	543	623	3755

2022	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	2022 Total
	382	488	470	498	504	493	521	3356

2023	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	2022 Total
	462	451	520	482	475	486	535	3411

Total Dispatch Center Calls for Service (rpcdtccr.x1)

2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
3,783	3,943	4,119	3,755	3,356	3,411

Petersburg Jail

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Bookings	82	105	119	104	70	88
Days Served in Jail (rpjldsr.x1)	271	466	464	524	288	309

January 2024

Written Report from Safety Committee Chairman Captain Holmgrain

The Borough Safety Committee met on December 19, 2023.

The committee completed updating the Hazard Communication section of the Borough Safety Manual.

The committee discussed the locations of Safety Data Sheet binders in each department.

The next meeting date is Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at 1:00 pm.



**Borough Manager's Report
Assembly Meeting 16 January 2024**

- ❖ Derrick got through his first State relicensing. The process has been expanded, and now even involves Medicaid.
- ❖ Assisted living is fully staffed except for a 20 hour a week shift.
- ❖ We will be starting the Medicaid audit in February for Assisted Living.
- ❖ Customers are urged to please protect your water meters! Freezing conditions will break the frost bases on the meter and stop water from entering a home. If you have a water meter that is leaking water, you can call either the public works office or the water plant to have the Borough replace the frost base. Insulating pipes, fixing house skirting and running water at night will help to keep your water service from freezing.
- ❖ Pumpstation 4 land acquisition is complete. Next steps include applying for the ADEC loan increase to fund the construction.
- ❖ The Borough's contractor is finishing up punch list items for the Hydro project. SCADA integration is ongoing. Work to fix a failed control component was completed and the unit is running well. An air vent was added to the tailrace to try and remedy a flow issue to the hatchery at higher generator outputs, but additional work is needed. All contracts are moving to completion and closeout.
- ❖ PMPL is preparing for frigid weather. Diesel generation will likely be needed to supplement SEAPA during the morning and evening system peaks and some transformers around town may get pushed to failure. Customers should please conserve energy where they can.
- ❖ Consultants are finishing up with the Part 12 Safety inspection of the Crystal Lake Dam to be filed at the end of January.
- ❖ The library will be closed on Mondays in January.
- ❖ Thank you to Beverly Richardson, the library's long time plant volunteer. For over a decade she has devoted countless hours to creating an extraordinary plant-filled space at the library.
- ❖ The library launched a new event calendar/meeting room booking system on Jan 9.
- ❖ Petersburg Bike Park is making significant progress, expressed thank you to Matt Kandoll who has worked hours in cold, wet conditions to help make significant progress! Not to forget all other volunteers who have donated their time, equipment, and expertise; including Pat Blair and Brian Richards among others. To add

your name to work party volunteer list, please contact Stephanie Payne at Parks and Recreation.

- ❖ Parks and Rec are working with engineers to assess the plumbing repairs needed at the Aquatic Center, with the assistance of Public Works.
- ❖ Last chance to join the Lifeguard Course! The course will run Jan 19-21 with 6 online hours before course begins. Must attend all 3 days. Please contact Scott Burt at Parks and Rec for more information.
- ❖ The gym schedule has changed with the beginning of Youth Volleyball and addition of AAU Basketball teams. Please check our Facebook page, website, and flyers at facility for more information.
- ❖ The State of Alaska released its population estimate for 2023. The Petersburg Borough's population was estimated at 3,367, a slight increase over the previous year.
- ❖ Over 130 building permits were issued in 2023, which is an increase over the previous year, with a construction value over \$5.5 million. Nine new dwelling units were permitted in 2023, which is an increase over the previous year's five.
- ❖ Public Works sawcut some concrete slabs to provide inspection access for Parks-N-Rec as part of their ongoing investigation into the sewer issues at the pool complex.
- ❖ The Motor Pool auction in December was a big success and all surplus vehicles and equipment listed – 8 units total – were sold.
- ❖ Vehicle replacement inspections for FY25 are finishing up and we are finalizing the list of recommended replacements and extensions for the upcoming budget year.
- ❖ Still looking for a Motor Pool mechanic – the position has been open since May 2023.
- ❖ The Southeast Alaska Solid Waste Authority (SEASWA) has been invited to apply for Denali Commission grant funds to facilitate solid waste planning for the Southeast Alaska region, with an award amount of up to \$500,000. If secured, this grant would provide for some extensive study and planning to determine the most cost-effective ways to dispose of solid waste for communities in the Southeast Alaska region.
- ❖ The Christmas windstorm badly damaged our HHW storage tent, and it is not salvageable. We intend to replace this structure with a couple of 24-foot shipping containers and will be budgeting for this expense in FY25.
- ❖ Western Marine re-convened on Jan 9th to finish the SH dredge project. Final push involves dredging the 400 row along the beach which includes pulling out 8 finger floats and removing them temporarily to give both barges access to the area. Lots of boats getting temporarily relocated the next couple of weeks and the Harbor Staff appreciates the boat owner's patience with the project.
- ❖ Reminder to boat owners to regularly check their vessels, there has been an unusual amount of wind and heavy rain. The harbor crew is noticing more snapped lines, tarp damage and cords unplugged due to the weather activity.

**PETERSBURG BOROUGH, ALASKA
RESOLUTION #2024-01**

**A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT EFFORTS TO IMPROVE COMPETITIVENESS
AND RESILIENCE OF THE ALASKA SEAFOOD INDUSTRY**

WHEREAS, efforts to improve global competitiveness of Alaska commercial seafood have benefits to the entire seafood industry, including harvesters, processors, and support businesses, as well as communities and the state of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Alaska seafood comprises more than 60% of U.S. harvested seafood and is a critical part of food production for the United States; and

WHEREAS, Alaska seafood is also exported to about 100 countries; and

WHEREAS, Alaska seafood is subject to global market factors directly affecting its value, whether it is sold in the U.S. or exported; and

WHEREAS, Alaska seafood currently faces exceptional national and global challenges including trade policy and non-reciprocal tariffs that favor other nations, high supply/inventory, high costs/inflation, reduced consumer demand, and global competitors that are less regulated, less sustainable, and/or have lower operating costs than domestic seafood producers; and

WHEREAS, these challenges affect the economic viability of fishermen, processors, and local communities dependent on fish landing taxes across the state of Alaska, and

WHEREAS, seafood is not fully integrated into USDA policies or programs designed to ensure domestic food security, supply chain integrity, and support for harvesting and processing businesses similar to other domestic protein sources; and

WHEREAS, the lack of domestic seafood recognition in U.S. trade policy objectives and priorities results in market conditions that reduce the value of Alaska seafood and accessibility to global markets, and creates an unlevel playing field; and

WHEREAS, current Dietary Guidelines for Americans recommend two to three servings of healthy seafood a week per person, yet domestic consumption rates remain less than half that level; and

WHEREAS, the Government Accountability Office issued a 2022 report finding that while nutritional guidelines recommend school-aged children receive between four and ten ounces of seafood per week, the National School Lunch Program only delivers roughly three ounces of seafood per year to these students; and

WHEREAS, 30% of duties collected on imported marine products is deposited into the Saltonstall-Kennedy (SK) Fund, 60% of which by law is designated to fund the SK grant program to promote and develop US-produced seafood, yet less than 5% is used to fund the SK grant program; and

WHEREAS, NOAA is currently creating an implementation plan for the National Seafood Strategy which necessitates collaboration across multiple national agencies that affect the viability of Alaska seafood; and

WHEREAS, the Federal government's Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee issued the 2023 National Export Strategy that includes a chapter on Seafood Industries, highlighting forthcoming efforts to improve interagency coordination and global market competitiveness for domestic seafood producers.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Petersburg Borough Assembly supports efforts by the federal government to:

Improve and expand existing agency functions that support US seafood, including:

- Improve coordination and collaboration across multiple federal governmental agencies that affect the economic viability of Alaska seafood via the implementation plan for NOAA's National Seafood Strategy and Chapter 9 of the Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee's 2023 National Export Strategy
- Expand use of USDA Foreign Agricultural Service trade missions and other export market development assistance to include seafood
- Improve the efficacy (e.g., timing, scope) of and maintain or increase the use of government purchasing programs for Alaska produced seafood
- Improve the utility and applicability of governmental policies on recapitalization, vessel construction, tax structures, workforce accessibility, energy, and infrastructure
- Increase government funding for new product development, testing, promotion, and marketing of US produced seafood (e.g., NOAA's Saltonstall-Kennedy grant program)
- Strengthen government planning for and execution of fisheries science and management, especially as needed to improve our understanding of and response to climate impacts on living marine resources

Integrate US seafood production into national food policy strategies and USDA programs designed to support domestic food production, including:

- Create an Office of Seafood Policy and Program Integration within USDA to fully integrate US seafood into USDA policy strategies and programs designed to ensure domestic food security, supply chain integrity, and support for harvesting and processing businesses, similar to other terrestrial sources of protein; coordinate USDA seafood support programs with seafood-related programs of other agencies; and provide a point of entry for seafood producers to more effectively engage with USDA
- Increase re-investment in US seafood producers and related support businesses via expanding eligibility of USDA low-interest loans or loan guarantees to fishermen and processors
- Fully integrate seafood and seafood nutritional guidance into national strategies for improving public health and nutrition

Restore fairness and reciprocity for international trade in U.S. seafood products, including:

- Embed and improve seafood expertise and leadership in the office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) to coordinate seafood trade objectives among USTR offices, coordinate USTR seafood trade programs with seafood efforts of other agencies, and provide a point of entry for seafood producers to more effectively engage with USTR

- Improve trade policy via USTR and other agencies to create a more reciprocal tariff structure for seafood exports and imports, reduce burden and risk associated with non-tariff barriers, and develop more effective tools for monitoring supply chain traceability and deterring Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing
- Resolve the unbalanced and unfair seafood trade relationship between Russia and the United States

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Petersburg Borough Assembly on January 2, 2024 .

Mark Jensen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Debra K. Thompson, Borough Clerk



PSPA Position to Improve Global Competitiveness and Resilience of the Alaska Seafood Industry October 2023

Alaska seafood currently faces exceptional national and international challenges including trade policy and non-reciprocal tariffs that favor other nations, high global supply and existing unsold inventory for salmon and whitefish throughout the entire supply chain, high relative costs due to inflation and other factors, reduced consumer demand post-pandemic, and foreign seafood competitors that are less regulated, less sustainable, and have lower operating costs than domestic seafood producers. These global market factors directly affect the value of Alaska seafood, whether it is sold in the U.S. or exported. The recent confluence of events has lowered the value of commercial seafood across the nation, including for Alaska, and resulted in market collapse. While some challenging market conditions will improve over time, the need for federal governmental agency leadership and collaboration (Department of Commerce/NOAA, USDA, USTR, FDA) to recognize, elevate, and support the domestic seafood industry is necessary to improve our overall competitiveness and resilience, as is the need to fully maintain core data collection efforts that form the foundation of the management structure.

The Alaska seafood industry is made up of thousands of small and independent fishermen businesses, processing businesses, support businesses including transportation, brokers, buyers, and marketing for consumer/retail markets, and rural coastal communities (many of which are not accessible by road). Their well-being, as well as Alaska's economy, depends on the competitiveness and resilience of the entire Alaska seafood supply chain. Alaska produces approximately 5 billion pounds of sustainable seafood every year – more than 60% of U.S. harvested seafood – and is dependent on access to both U.S. markets and export markets to be viable. Improving the global competitiveness of Alaska's seafood benefits the entire seafood industry: harvesters, processors, support businesses, communities, and the state of Alaska.

Seafood is not currently integrated into many USDA policies or programs designed to ensure domestic food security, supply chain integrity, and support for harvesting and processing businesses, at the same level as terrestrial sources of protein. At the same time, the USDA's Dietary Guidelines for Americans and the Food and Drug Administration's Seafood Consumption Advice recommend increased fish consumption for a healthy diet, especially for pregnant women and children, yet domestic consumption remains less than half of the recommended levels for adults and significantly below the nutritional guidelines recommended for school-aged children via the National School Lunch Program. At the international level, the lack of domestic seafood recognition in U.S. trade policy objectives and priorities results in non-reciprocal trade relationships and market conditions that reduce the value of Alaska seafood relative to seafood-producing competitors in other countries with lower tariffs. While Alaska has absorbed significant costs in adhering to sustainable fisheries management requirements and building responsible supply chain management practices, Alaska seafood has incurred significant losses in export markets, undermining years of investment and making it increasingly difficult to rebuild a competitive position in global seafood markets.

www.pspafish.net

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Suite 100
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907 223 1648

JUNEAU

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Suite 200
Juneau, AK 99801
907 586 6366

SEATTLE

1900 W. Emerson Place
Suite 205
Seattle, WA 98119
206 281 1667

WASHINGTON DC

20 F Street NW
Floor 7
Washington, DC 20001
202 431 7220

PSPA and its member processors support efforts of the federal government to:

1. Improve and expand existing agency functions that support US seafood, including:

- Strengthen government planning for and execution of fisheries science and management, especially as needed to improve our understanding of and response to climate impacts on living marine resources
- Improve coordination and collaboration across multiple federal governmental agencies that affect the economic viability of Alaska seafood via the implementation plan for NOAA's National Seafood Strategy and Chapter 9 of the Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee's 2023 National Export Strategy
- Expand use of USDA Foreign Agricultural Service trade missions and other export market development assistance to include seafood
- Improve the efficacy (e.g., timing, scope) of and maintain or increase the use of government purchasing programs for Alaska produced seafood
- Improve the utility and applicability of governmental policies on recapitalization, vessel construction, tax structures, workforce accessibility, energy, and infrastructure
- Increase government funding for new product development, testing, promotion, and marketing of US produced seafood

2. Integrate US seafood production into national food policy strategies and USDA programs designed to support domestic food production, including:

- Create an Office of Seafood Policy and Program Integration within USDA to fully integrate US seafood into USDA policy strategies and programs designed to ensure domestic food security, supply chain integrity, and support for harvesting and processing businesses, similar to other terrestrial sources of protein; coordinate USDA seafood support programs with seafood-related programs of other agencies; and provide a point of entry for seafood producers to more effectively engage with USDA
- Increase re-investment in US seafood producers and related support businesses via expanding eligibility of USDA low-interest loans or loan guarantees to fishermen and processors
- Fully integrate seafood and seafood nutritional guidance into national strategies for improving public health and nutrition

3. Restore fairness and reciprocity for international trade in U.S. seafood products, including:

- Embed and improve seafood expertise and leadership in the office of the U.S. Trade Representative to coordinate seafood trade objectives among USTR offices, coordinate USTR seafood trade programs with seafood efforts of other agencies, and provide a point of entry for seafood producers to more effectively engage with USTR
- Improve trade policy via USTR and other agencies to create a more reciprocal tariff structure for seafood exports and imports, reduce burden and risk associated with non-tariff barriers, and develop more effective tools for monitoring supply chain traceability and deterring Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing
- Resolve the unbalanced and unfair seafood trade relationship between Russia and the United States



2023: A perfect storm of economic circumstances hits Alaska seafood

Many coastal communities in Alaska depend on Alaska seafood for food security and for an economic foundation that sustains their economies. Often, the health of the Alaska seafood industry and the health of these communities are interdependent. In 2023, the culmination of multiple economic factors has created dire economic conditions, resulting in a free-fall of seafood prices, millions of dollars in losses and, in some cases, processors had to stop buying fish to reduce further losses.

Experts estimate the state and its coastal communities lost \$2 billion in 2023: \$1 billion in lost first wholesale revenues and \$1 billion in decreased spending on vessels and facilities. Fishermen and processors have borne the brunt of these impacts to date. With conditions [unlikely to notably improve in 2024](#), the effects will continue to affect communities and more businesses and residents across the state. The Alaska seafood industry is facing economic conditions unlike any since the collapse of salmon value in the 1990s, except this time, it is across multiple species.

The higher standards in the U.S., for fisheries management, environmental and social considerations, and worker safety, mean it costs more to produce seafood compared to countries with lower standards. In Alaska, those costs are even higher due to the remote location of most of the fisheries and processing operations. These safeguards help keep our fisheries sustainable and ethical, yet, we face an uneven playing field from countries that harvest seafood without similar regulatory costs.

Today's problems are a result of the confluence of at least a dozen global and national economic factors occurring simultaneously, a few of which include:

1) Increased costs

- Total statewide wages for seafood processing workers increased [30% from 2021 to 2022](#). They had previously [doubled from 2002 to 2020](#).
- Operational costs for fishermen and processors increased due to historically high inflation in 2021 and 2022.
- Shipping [costs increased between 113% and 1000%](#), depending on route, 2020 to 2022.
- Supply chain of custody costs to ensure the sustainability and social responsibility of US fisheries mainly due to other 'bad actors', such as China
- Cost of compliance with U.S. environmental standards relative to other countries

2) Excess inventories of several abundant species harvested in Alaska and other countries in 2022 and 2023, including sockeye and pink salmon, sablefish, and pollock, [which will likely continue into 2024](#).

3) Decreasing demand as consumers react to inflation and post-COVID conditions

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- 4) **Russian war on Ukraine**, leading Russia to sell seafood on the global market at historically low prices in 2023 to secure cash, lowering seafood value overall
- 5) **Unfair trade policy**, including key trade relationships that reduce the value of Alaska seafood relative to other countries with lower tariffs. This includes Russia's 2014 ban on importing US seafood into Russia, while [Russia exports its seafood to the U.S. via China](#)

Clearly, there's much that must be done to stabilize Alaska's seafood industry, beginning with good information about the problems we are facing today. That's why the [Board of the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute explained the "extraordinary circumstances"](#) from a market perspective, and the [United Fishermen of Alaska hosted and recorded a webinar](#) with seafood processors to discuss the current challenges of seafood markets. While many must take measures to survive, we need to look beyond today and toward a future in which everyone thrives. Alaskans need to create a public dialogue about the problem and the solutions in Alaska's fishing communities, Juneau, and Washington DC. At the federal government level, [PSPA has identified several changes](#) that would help:

- 1. Improve and expand existing agency functions that support US seafood, including:**
 - Improve coordination and collaboration across multiple federal agencies that affect the economic viability of Alaska seafood via the implementation plan for NOAA's National Seafood Strategy
 - Include seafood in USDA Foreign Agricultural Service trade missions
 - Increase government purchases of Alaska seafood
 - Improve government policies to assist in recapitalization, vessel construction, tax structures, workforce accessibility, energy, and infrastructure
 - Increase government funding for new product development, testing, promotion, and marketing of US produced seafood
- 2. Integrate US seafood production into national food policy strategies and USDA programs designed to support domestic food production, including:**
 - Create an Office of Seafood Policy and Program Integration within USDA to fully integrate US seafood into USDA policy strategies and programs
 - Expand eligibility of USDA low-interest loans or loan guarantees to fishermen and processors
 - Fully integrate seafood and seafood nutritional guidance into national strategies for improving public health and nutrition
- 3. Restore fairness and reciprocity for international trade in U.S. seafood products, including:**
 - Embed seafood expertise and leadership in the office of the U.S. Trade Representative to elevate seafood in trade agreements
 - Improve trade policy via USTR and other agencies to create a more reciprocal tariff structure for seafood exports and imports
 - Develop more effective tools, like harvest certificates, for monitoring supply chain traceability and deterring Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing
 - Resolve the unbalanced and unfair seafood trade relationship between Russia and the U.S., including support for the Alaska delegation's efforts to block imports of Russian seafood processed in China or other countries



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 20229, Juneau AK 99802-0229

Phone: (907) 586-2820

E-mail: ufa@ufa-fish.org **Website:** www.ufa-fish.org

2024 UFA National Policy Platform

United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) represents 37 commercial fishing organizations participating in fisheries throughout the state and the federal fisheries off Alaska's coast. UFA's mission is to promote and protect the common interest of Alaska's commercial fishing industry as a vital component of Alaska's social and economic well-being. Alaska seafood represents more than 60% of all seafood harvested in the U.S. and is a critical part of domestic food production, as well as export markets in about 100 countries worldwide. Alaska seafood is subject to global market factors that directly affect its value, whether it is sold in the U.S. or exported.

Alaska seafood currently faces exceptional national and global challenges including (1) trade policy and non-reciprocal tariffs that favor other nations, (2) high levels of supply and current inventory, (3) high operational costs and inflation, (4) reduced consumer demand, (5) and global competitors that are subject to less regulations with lower operating costs, but are also less sustainable than domestic seafood harvesters and processors. These challenges affect the economic viability of harvesting and processing businesses, and our local communities that are dependent on seafood commerce and fish landing taxes across the state of Alaska.

United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) supports efforts to improve global competitiveness and resilience of the Alaska commercial seafood industry (including harvesters, processors, support businesses, communities and the state of Alaska). Achieving global competitiveness and resilience for U.S. seafood requires a multi-pronged approach across multiple government offices. For example, NOAA is currently creating an implementation plan for the National Seafood Strategy which necessitates collaboration across multiple national agencies that affect the viability of Alaska seafood. The Federal government's Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee issued the 2023 National Export Strategy that includes a chapter on Seafood Industries and highlights forthcoming efforts to improve interagency coordination and global market competitiveness for domestic seafood producers. To further coordinate and move that effort forward we strongly advocate for the creation of an ***Office of Seafood Policy and Program Integration*** within USDA.

In addition, we identify the following as UFA's National Policy statements.

1. Alaska seafood is a valuable component of national food security, health, and commerce.

Wild seafood from Alaska is responsibly harvested, and one of the best sources of essential nutrients. In Alaska we are incredibly proud of our sustainably managed commercial fisheries, and believe our sustainability distinguishes us from many foreign competitors. This message should continue to be pushed out to the American public to encourage more domestic consumption of U.S. seafood.

Seafood is nutritious, but Americans don't eat enough of it. UFA supports integrating seafood into national strategies for improving public health and nutrition. Updated guidance from the FDA recommends increased fish consumption for a healthy diet, especially for pregnant women and children. Current Dietary Guidelines for Americans recommend two to three servings of healthy seafood a week per person, yet domestic consumption rates remain less than half that level. The Government Accountability Office issued a 2022 report finding that nutritional guidelines recommend school-aged children receive between four and ten ounces of seafood per week, but the National School Lunch Program only delivers about three ounces of seafood per year to these students.

2. Integrate seafood into USDA policy strategies/programs and increase USDA Section 32 purchases of Alaska seafood.

UFA advocates for integrating seafood into U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) policies and programs to help ensure domestic food security, supply chain integrity, and provide support for harvesting and processing businesses - similar to that already available to other domestic protein sources. The lack of recognition for domestic seafood in U.S. trade policy objectives and priorities results in market conditions that reduce the value of Alaska seafood and accessibility to global markets. This creates an unlevel playing field that harms domestically harvested Alaska seafood.

As a way to help level the playing field UFA appreciates and encourages increasing government purchases of Alaska seafood, e.g., Section 32 purchases. UFA also suggests increased re-investment in US seafood via USDA low-interest loans and loan guarantees for fishermen and processors, and expansion of USDA Foreign Agricultural Service trade missions and other export market development assistance to include seafood.

3. Ensure U.S. seafood trade policies and strategies best support the seafood industry.

UFA seeks improved trade policy work through the United States Trade Representative (USTR) in order to create a more level playing field for Alaska seafood. We see the positive pattern in day-to-day trade policy formulation and implementation where USTR works hand-in-glove with USDA on agricultural trade. However, there is no comparable process on seafood within the Department of Commerce. We encourage expanding USTR's focus on seafood, including adding additional seafood expertise, in order to develop effective policy positions to help Alaska seafood trade. Our members also strongly support resolving the unbalanced and unfair seafood trade relationship that allows Russian-harvested seafood to continue to enter the U.S. duty free due to its "substantial transformation" in third-party countries, usually China.

4. Increase investment to improve and update domestic infrastructure for U.S. seafood.

Alaska is a commercial fishing powerhouse, but even it has aging fishing fleets and processing facilities. Our seafood industry would greatly benefit from investments to modernize our seafood infrastructure. Modernizing and replacing commercial fishing vessels would increase efficiency and safety on the water, while modernizing processing facilities would increase efficiency while creating opportunities for more value-add processing in the U.S. Concerted effort to bring more seafood processing back to the U.S., rather than continuing to ship product overseas, will create a tremendous opportunity for U.S. seafood. Updating seafood industry infrastructure will benefit our coastal fishing communities, and increase local and national food security by eliminating the need to ship product overseas. UFA also supports government policies that reduce our domestic operating costs, including policies on recapitalization, vessel construction, tax structures, workforce accessibility, and energy.

5. Fully funded fisheries science/management and industry promotion & marketing grants.

Core fishery surveys provide necessary information that underpins our entire science-based management system. Existing core surveys must continue, and NOAA should consider expanding what is considered core to account for rapidly changing ocean conditions and shifting fish stocks (for example, adding regular surveys in the Northern Bering Sea or increasing surveys in the Gulf of Alaska to occur annually). In addition, UFA advocates for increased funding to the Saltonstall-Kennedy (SK) Fund, which currently derives funding from 30% of duties collected on imported marine products. The SK act provides that 60% [of the 30%] go to the SK grant program to promote and develop US-produced seafood, however, less than 5% is currently used to fund the SK grant program. UFA supports increasing federal funding for new product development, testing, promotion, and marketing of US produced seafood through Saltonstall Kennedy Funds, provided federal funding for fisheries science and management is not compromised.

**Petersburg Borough, Alaska
RESOLUTION # 2024-02**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING A SOLE SOURCE AWARD FOR PURCHASE AND
INSTALLATION OF A RADIO COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM FOR THE
PETERSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT IS COMPATIBLE WITH THE POLICE
DEPARTMENT’S PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK**

WHEREAS, the Petersburg Borough was awarded and accepted Homeland Security Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (MVA) 23SHSP-GY23 grant funding of \$50,199 for the purchase and installation of a radio communications system for the Petersburg School District; and

WHEREAS, the system is required to be compatible and seamlessly sync with the Police Department’s Public Safety Communications Network; and

WHEREAS, the Petersburg Police Department exclusively utilizes Motorola communications hardware/software; and

WHEREAS, ProComm Alaska is the sole certified Motorola dealer in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, ProComm Alaska has a proven track record with the Borough having designed and constructed the Public Safety Dispatch Center in the Police Department, as well as fulfilling other contracts for procurement and installation of various communications equipment for the Borough; and

WHEREAS, ProComm Alaska continues to provide annual maintenance for all Borough Public Safety communications equipment; and

WHEREAS, ProComm Alaska has submitted a design proposal to facilitate the School District Radio Project grant submission; and

WHEREAS, MVA Grants has pre-approved ProComm for the sole source award as per federal contracting regulations.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Petersburg Borough Assembly approves of the award to ProComm Alaska for the purchase and installation of a radio communications system for the Petersburg School District that is compatible with the Police Department’s Public Safety Communications Network for an amount not to exceed \$50,199.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Petersburg Borough Assembly on January 16, 2024.

Mark Jensen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Debra K. Thompson, Borough Clerk



MEMORANDUM

TO: Steve Giesbrecht, Borough Manger
FROM: Captain Randal Holmgrain
SUBJ: **Recommendation for Sole Source PSG School District Radio Communications Award to ProComm Alaska**
DATE: 12/28/2023
CC: Chief Kerr

The Borough was awarded and accepted MVA 23SHSP-GY23 grant funding of \$50,199.00 for the purchase and installation of a PSG School District Radio Communications system. This system is required to be compatible and seamlessly synch with the Petersburg Public Safety Communications Network which is comprised of all Motorola equipment.

ProComm Alaska is the certified Motorola dealer for the State of Alaska. ProComm has a proven track record with the Borough. ProComm was the awarded contractor for the design/construction of the Petersburg Public Safety Dispatch Center and awarded other contracts to include procurement/installation and continued maintenance contracts for all Borough Public Safety communications equipment to include Vesta E911, repeaters, antennae, vehicle and hand-held radios.

ProComm submitted the design proposal and estimated budgetary calculations to facilitate the School District Radio Project grant submission. This includes the small, building mounted antennae, 50-watt repeater/hardware, two base stations, 20 hand-held radios, installation labor, programming, logistics and FCC licensing. Reference attached budgetary document. *Note* initial budget reflects 1 base station, 30 hand-held radios which I subsequently changed to 2 base stations and 20 hand-helds with a new overall budgetary estimate of approximately \$50,199.00 dependent upon current pricing which ProComm will verify. Further, MVA Grants has pre-approved ProComm for the sole source award per federal contracting regulations.

As such, I am recommending ProComm be awarded the sole source purchase/installation of the PSG School District Radio Communications project.

Respectfully,

Randal Holmgrain

Attachments:
 ProComm Alaska Budgetary Document
 MVA Sole Source Approval Doc

Petersburg Borough Police Department

PO Box 329 Petersburg, AK 99833 · Phone (907)772-3838 Fax (907)772-3504

www.petersburgak.gov

Q5579 Petersburg School District – Two-way Radio System

Proposal to
***PETERSBURG BOROUGH SCHOOL
DISTRICT***

Presented by
PROCOMM ALASKA LLC

December 2022

BUDGETARY

The design, technical, and cost information furnished with this proposal is to be considered proprietary information of ProComm Alaska LLC. Such information is submitted with the restriction that it is to be used only for the evaluation of the proposal, and is not to be disclosed publicly or in any manner to anyone other than those employed by Petersburg Borough School District required to evaluate the proposal, without the express written permission of ProComm Alaska LLC.



Q5579 Petersburg SD Radio System
Petersburg Borough School District
December 2022

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The objective of this project is to provide a BUDGETARY quote to Petersburg Borough School District (PBSD) for a new VHF, two-way radio system. This system will improve communication between PBSD employees during everyday operation but also will enable radio communication with Petersburg Public Safety personnel during emergency situations on schoolgrounds. New system will consist of a single (1) VHF, 50-watt repeater, one (1) base station and thirty (30) portable radios. The system, to support interoperability with local PD, will operate in VHF (140 -174MHz band). In addition to providing radio equipment, PCA will also assist PBSD with obtaining proper FCC License. Installation services are presented separately in the event PBSD decides to perform the installation either wholly or in part with their own crew.

Petersburg Borough School District has requested a quote from ProComm Alaska LLC (PCA) for the completion of this project.

2.0 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Number: Q5579
Purchaser: Petersburg Borough School District (PBSD)
End User: Petersburg Borough School District
Proposal Date: 12/19/2022
Prepared By: Richard Johnson, Jarek Grzeda

STATEMENT OF WORK

3.0 PURPOSE OF STATEMENT OF WORK

PCA presents this Statement of Work (SOW) to summarize project deliverables and define project responsibilities. It is the intent of PCA that this document be a mutually agreed upon document and reflects the most current understanding of task responsibilities.

The SOW will express the actual work involved for the installation and optimization phase of the project, the installation standards that will be followed, and the responsibilities of both PCA and PBSD in the completion of the contract. A final SOW must be approved by PBSD prior to contract execution.

4.0 STATEMENT OF WORK AMENDMENT PROCEDURE

Changes to this document must be submitted by a written request from either PBSD or PCA, and approved by the other party. A Change Request form is included in Appendix A of this document and will be used to identify the Scope of Work of the requested change.

Page 2 of 7

Design, engineering and pricing information contained in this offering is considered confidential, proprietary and trade secret and may not be shared with any person or agency not directly associated with the addressee without the express written consent of ProComm Alaska, or its designees.

https://procommak-my.sharepoint.com/personal/cmoore_procommak_com/Documents/Documents/PCA/Q5579_PSD_Radio_System_BUD_12192022.docx



Q5579 Petersburg SD Radio System
Petersburg Borough School District
December 2022

PCA will determine whether additional equipment, services, modification to the time line, and relevant pricing changes are needed in order to implement the Change Request.

Approval for any additional expenditure must be obtained by PBSD prior to the commencement of any additional work or ordering of equipment as a result of the Change Request.

PBSD will officially notify PCA of approval of the Change Request by providing a signed Change Request or a Notice-to-Proceed reflecting the changes.

PCA will proceed with all due diligence to incorporate the changes approved in the Change Request.

5.0 PROCOMM ALASKA RESPONSIBILITIES

- 5.1 PCA will be responsible for providing radio equipment, programming radios and delivering these radios to Peterburg SD in Peterburg, Alaska.
- 5.2 If PBSD decides to purchase installation services with the equipment, PCA installation team will be dispatched to Petersburg to install on (1) repeater and one (1) base station.
- 5.3 PCA will also provide hardware specific to installation of antenna and grounding system at proposed location of the repeater and base station.
- 5.4 PCA will support PBSD during process of obtaining FCC license (estimated cost of the License and our services have been included on this quote)

6.0 PETERSBURG BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1 Provide State Department of Labor determination if Little Davis Bacon applies to contract prior to issuing Purchase Order. Current proposal pricing is based off non Little Davis Bacon work. Should a determination occur that Title 36 (Little Davis Bacon) applies, ProComm Alaska will issue a change order to the PBSD for the adjusted labor rates.
- 6.2 The changes to the communications systems affected by this proposal may require changes to the underlying FCC License. The FCC holds the Licensee exclusively responsible for compliance at all times. Estimated cost of obtaining valid FCC license have been included in this quote.
- 6.3 If elected, PBSD may be responsible for installation of antenna and grounding system at both locations: repeater and base station.
- 6.4 If PCA will be doing the installation, we may require assistance from the SD personnel in form of availability of man lift, drilling through thick concrete walls, providing detailed pictures of proposed location of fixed radio sites etc.



Q5579 Petersburg SD Radio System
Petersburg Borough School District
December 2022

7.0 QUALIFICATIONS AND ASSUMPTIONS

- 7.1 It is assumed that PBSB radios will operate in VHF band to be compatible with the band used by local Police/Fire Departments.
- 7.2 It is assumed that most radios will only be used for internal communication using dedicated PBSB channels.
- 7.3 It is assumed that a few new radios will be programmed with additional channel, PPD1, which will be used during emergency situation to communicate with Petersburg Public Safety Dispatch.
- 7.4 It is assumed that new radios will be operating in a digital mode on channels used by the School District and in analog mode when communicating with Public Safety Dispatch.
- 7.5 It is assumed that this is a **BUDGETARY** quote only. The final price may be different depending on when equipment will be purchased and which services PBSB wants to include with the equipment (installation of fixed radios, assistance with obtaining FCC license etc.)

8.0 WARRANTY & LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

ProComm Alaska shall make available to PBSB any product warranties made by the manufacturer(s) of the software, products, or services utilized by ProComm Alaska in connection with goods and services provided hereunder, to the extent transferable and without recourse.

ProComm Alaska shall warranty that the installation is free from defects in parts and labor for a period of 30 days from the date of installation provided such defects are communicated in writing within that period. ProComm Alaska shall correct reported deficiencies at its principal location or other location which ProComm at its sole discretion shall agree at no additional charge to the PBSB.

Except as expressly set forth above or in a contract signed by an officer of ProComm Alaska LLC, ProComm Alaska makes no warranties, expressed or implied, including warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose, in connection with materials or work order and the transactions contemplated hereby.

In no event shall ProComm Alaska be liable to PBSB for any indirect, special or consequential damage or lost profits arising out of or related to materials or work or the performance of breach hereof. Even if ProComm has been advised of the possibility thereof, ProComm's liability to PBSB hereunder, if any, shall in no event exceed the total of the charges paid to ProComm hereunder by PBSB.



Q5579 Petersburg SD Radio System
 Petersburg Borough School District
 December 2022

9.0 PRICING SUMMARY (BUDGETARY, not a final pricing)

Materials, Logistics and Labor Cost.

Item	Description	Price
1	Hardware: hardware related to antenna and grounding system for a repeater and base station operation	\$3,200.00
2	Equipment: One (1) Motorola SLR5700, VHF, 50-watts out repeater capable of operating in digital (DMR) or analog (FM) mode	\$5,350.00
3	Equipment: One (1) Motorola XPR5550E, 50 watts, VHF mobile radio in base station configuration (power supply, deskset MIC are included)	\$1,550.00
4	Equipment: Thirty (30) Motorola XPR3500e, portable radios, with standard batteries and standard chargers	\$26,150.00
5	Labor: System staging and radio programming - PCA Shop in Anchorage	\$1,750.00
6	Labor: Travel time and on-site radio installation (base station and a repeater) by PCA team	\$9,115.00
7	Engineering	\$1,500.00
8	Logistic expenses related to the trip by PCA installation team to Petersburg for system installation and shipping cost	\$6,750.00
9	Cost of FCC License for new repeater, base station and up to 50 new subscriber radios (Estimated)	\$2,000.00
Total Project Cost		\$57,365.00

For the total project ProComm Alaska quotes: **\$57,365.00**

9.1 Pricing Guarantee (BUDGETARY, not for sale)

Prices quoted are dependent on the quoted price of PCA suppliers which are guaranteed for a limited time. Therefore, PCA will guarantee the price quoted for a period of 30 days. If Notice to Proceed exceeds period specified, PCA reserves the right to pass on subsequent increases in costs to PBSB

10.0 TERMS & CONDITIONS (BUDGETARY)

- PBSB agrees to pay 75 percent of the agreed upon sum at time of contract issuance.
- PBSB agrees to pay the remaining 25 percent of the agreed upon sum upon PBSB acceptance of the completed work.



Q5579 Petersburg SD Radio System
Petersburg Borough School District
December 2022

- This quote is valid for 30 days from submittal date.

11.0 ACCEPTANCE (**BUDGETARY, not for sale**)

Unless specifically indicated in Section 10.0 (Terms & Conditions) above, acceptance of this proposal and issuance of a purchase order or other purchasing documentation by an authorized representative of the PBSB will constitute a contract to perform under the terms and conditions of this proposal.



Q5579 Petersburg SD Radio System
Petersburg Borough School District
December 2022

APPENDIX A CHANGE REQUEST FORM

Change Request No.: _____ **Date:** _____

Requester: _____ **Telephone:** _____
Title: _____

Description of Change:

Equipment or Services Required:

Time Line Modification:

Dollar Value of Change (including tax): \$ _____

Approvals:
PBSD - _____
Authorized By/Title/Date
ProComm Alaska - _____
Authorized By/Title/Date

Procurement Method Report Sole Source / Inadequate Competition

Use this form for Procurements (purchases/orders) that are Sole Source or Inadequate Competition. (Note: this is not the same as a pre-bid contract, if the purchase is using a pre-bid contract please use the appropriate form.)

Subrecipients shall accomplish **three (3)** requirements with this form: (1) identification of procurement method, (2) SAMS check, and (3) certification signature. (Project Manager's signature is adequate certification that competition was done, and that the Subrecipient is complying with the most stringent procurement procedures-whether federal, state, or local).

Reminder: Procurements must be conducted applying the most stringent of applicable procurement requirements (whether federal, state or local). Jurisdictions must adhere to their local requirements for all procurements if they are more stringent than those listed below.

Subrecipient: Petersburg Borough

Grant Award/Disaster Number: 23SHSP-GY23 **PBD/PW/PJ:** 1

Procurement Method (per each Purchase/Order)

This may include multiple invoices for each purchase or order.

NOTE: DHS&EM will no longer approve (nor reimburse) this type of procurement after the purchase is made. E-mail to mva.grants@alaska.gov for approval

Sole Source/Inadequate Competition	
Vendor:	ProComm Alaska LLC
Purchase Amount:	\$50,199.00
<p>Justification for Vendor Selection – Provide justification for Vendor Selection in the below box. Please include any written supporting documents providing justification for vendor selection. Explanations of exemptions must contain findings of fact. Evidence must be included, consisting of material facts sufficient to independently determine that the findings of fact listed are true and accurate. Factual evidence may consist of written documents, records, supporting data, affidavits, or other information proving that the findings of fact are true and accurate. Itemized listings of findings of fact and material factual evidence should be included or attached.</p> <p>Petersburg Borough Public Safety communications systems exclusively utilizes Motorola products to include radios, transmitters, receivers, repeaters ET AL. The referenced project for All Hazards and Terroristic Threat School District radio communications capability was designed with a Motorola repeater, base stations and portable hand-held radios to ensure quality communications and interface with our existing FCC Phase II P25 compliant network.</p> <p>ProComm Alaska is the certified Motorola dealer in the State of Alaska and has previously been the awarded contractor for the design, purchase, installation and contracted maintenance of all Petersburg radio communications systems and equipment to include the Petersburg Public Safety Communications Center. As such, ProComm has the ability and site-specific knowledge/experience to ensure seamless integration of the new Petersburg School District repeater and base stations system into the existing Public Safety radio network/system. ProComm has a proven track record of dependability on all past Borough procurement/installation and current/continued maintenance for all Petersburg Communications Center systems and equipment.</p> <p>With ProComm being based in Alaska, potential logistical delays are not anticipated.</p>	
Send to DHS&EM for approval prior to purchase	

System for Award Management (SAMS) report is required for selected vendor

SAMS Report is a Mandatory Subrecipient Action	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1. Check System for Award Management (SAM) for debarment/suspension.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2. Print SAMS report page and attach to this form.

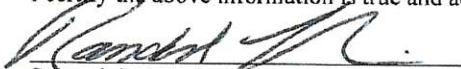
Certification

PMR Sole Source / Inadequate Competition

1 of 4

Revised June 2018

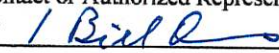
I certify the above information is true and accurate. Documents related to this procurement are on file and available upon request.


Subrecipient Project Manager's Signature

12/23/2023
Date

Randal Holmgrain, Captain
Printed Name and Title

E-mail signed form to mva.grants@alaska.gov

DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Disapproved	<input type="checkbox"/> Returned for Further Justification
SAA/GAR Point of Contact or Authorized Representative		Date
Bill Dennis / 		12.27.23



January 17, 2024

Honorable Governor Dunleavy
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Dunleavy,

Commercial fishing is a prominent economic driver for Southeast Alaska. In 2021, Petersburg was ranked as the #21 fishing port in the United States by weight and #33 by value, landing 44.3 million pounds of seafood worth \$38.3 million. Petersburg's fleet fishes for many seafood species, including, but not limited to, salmon, halibut, crab, shrimp, herring and black cod.

In recent years, low salmon returns and even lower salmon prices from processors have stretched our commercial fishing fleet to the breaking point with many boat owners unable to pay their crews their full share at the end of the salmon fishing season in 2023. In addition, many fisheries have been declared by ADF&G to be closed for nearly a decade due to low stock abundance; or, in the case of Southeast Alaska's Brown King Crab fishery, opened at such a low catch level that the fishery is economically unviable for our commercial fishermen to participate in.

Disaster Declarations have recently been issued for 14 fisheries in waters off Alaska's interior coast for salmon, red king crab, tanner crab, and cod for fishing seasons ranging from 2018 through 2022.

The Petersburg Borough Assembly requests a Disaster Declaration, due to low abundance causing undue financial hardship on Southeast Alaska's commercial fishing fleet, for the following fisheries:

L21A Northern Southeast Herring Spawn on Kelp Fishery for 2015-2023
G34A Southeast Herring Gillnet Fishery for 2014-2023
K19, K29, K49, K69 Southeast Red King Crab Fishery 2012-2016 and 2018-2023
K29, K39, K59, K69 Southeast Brown King Crab Fishery 2015-2023

It is to be noted that participation in the above fisheries is nearly 100% Alaskan.

Please feel free to reach out to me for more information, if needed. Thank you for considering our request.

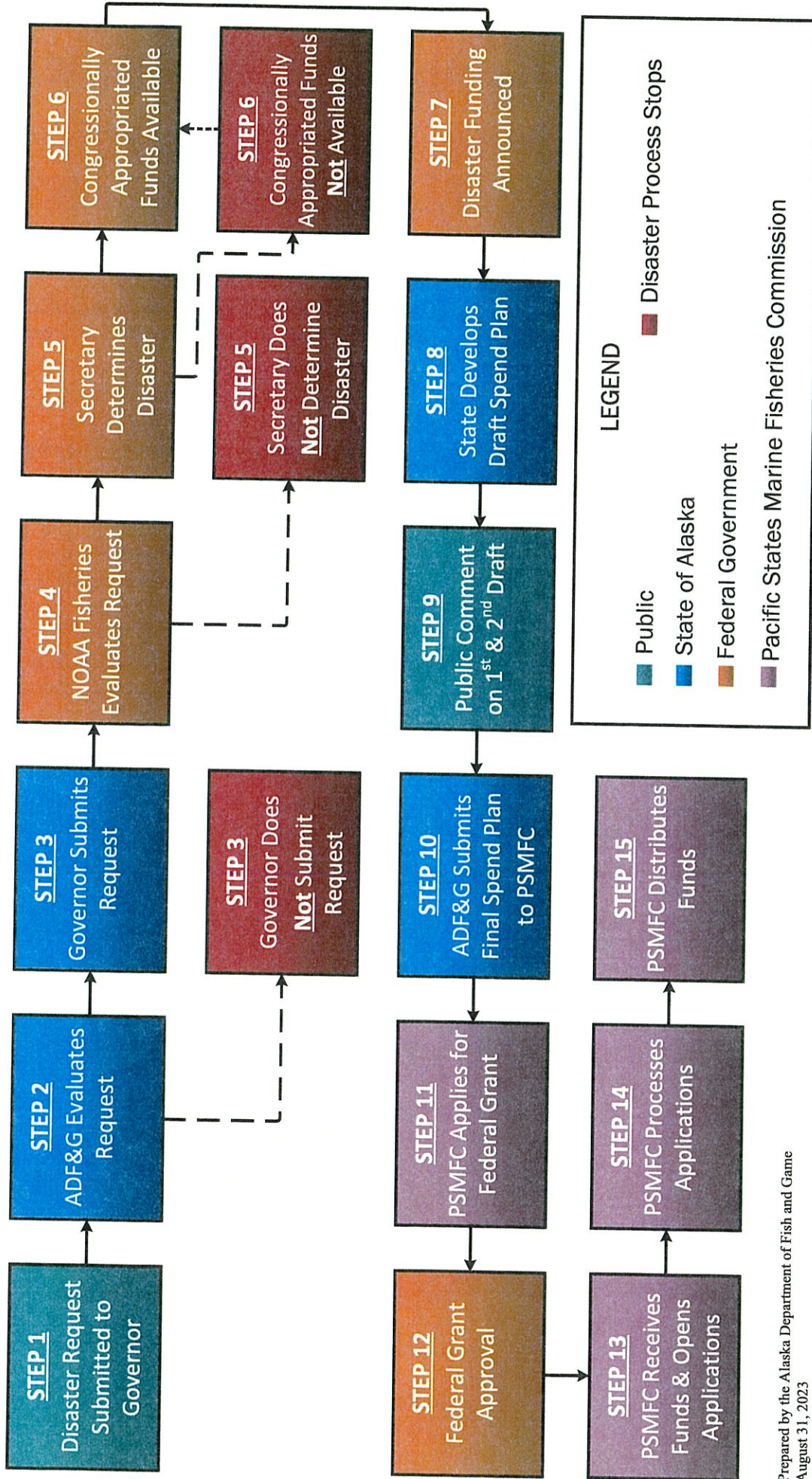
Respectfully,

Mark Jensen
Mayor

Borough Administration
PO Box 329, Petersburg, AK 99833 – Phone (907) 772-4425 Fax (907)772-3759
www.ci.petersburg.ak.us

FEDERAL FISHERY DISASTER PROCESS

FLOW CHART



Prepared by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game
August 31, 2023

FEDERAL FISHERY DISASTER PROCESS

OUTLINE

A federal fishery resource disaster refers to an unexpected large decrease in fish stock biomass or other change that results in significant loss of access to the fishery resource, which may include loss of fishing vessels and gear for a substantial period of time and results in significant revenue loss or negative subsistence impact due to an allowable cause. It does not include reasonably predictable, foreseeable, and recurrent fishery cyclical variations in species distribution or stock abundance or reductions in fishing opportunities resulting from conservation and management measures.

Step 1: Disaster Request Submitted to Governor

- a. Federal fishery resource disaster determinations are not automatic. An eligible entity must request a fishery resource disaster determination from the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary).
- b. Under federal law, if the Secretary has not independently determined that a fishery resource disaster has occurred, a request may be submitted to the Secretary by the Governor of an affected State, an official resolution of an Indian Tribe, or any other comparable elected or politically appointed representative as determined by the Secretary.
- c. In Alaska, requests to the Governor for consideration typically come from local governments or industry/user/community groups from the affected fishery.

Step 2: ADF&G Evaluates Request

- a. Once submitted and upon request by the Governor's Office, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) compiles information about the affected fisheries and evaluates each request relative to the criteria for a federal fishery resource disaster.
- b. This evaluation requires ADF&G to have final revenue data for the fishery in the disaster year as the Secretary will not make a determination on a disaster until final data are available.
- c. For Alaska fisheries, final revenue data are gross revenue data produced by the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission. These data are available in the Fall of the following year after the fishery occurred. If there were no commercial harvests in the affected fishery, the revenue value in the disaster year is zero, and a determination can be made with less delay.
- d. ADF&G evaluations and fishery data are then forwarded to the Governor's Office.

Step 3: Governor Submits Request to Federal Government

- a. If the State of Alaska (State) supports the public request, the Governor submits a letter to the Secretary requesting a federal fishery resource disaster determination.
- b. The request letter includes a clear description of the affected fishery(s), including identification of all fish stocks, whether the fishery is federal, non-federal, or both, and the geographical boundaries of the fishery. The letter also includes information on causes and impacts needed to support a finding of a fishery resource disaster, including
 - i. information demonstrating the occurrence of an unexpected large decrease in fish stock biomass or other change that results in significant loss of access to the fishery resource;
 - ii. significant 12-month revenue loss for the affected fishery or significant negative

FEDERAL FISHERY DISASTER PROCESS

- subsistence impact for the affected fishery;
 - iii. information on lost resource tax revenues assessed by local communities, such as a raw fish tax and local sourcing requirements if applicable;
 - iv. information on affected fishery 12-month revenue loss for charter, headboat, or processors if applicable and available.
 - c. ADF&G forwards the compiled fishery data to NOAA Fisheries, which may request additional information to aid in the review.

Step 4: NOAA Fisheries Evaluates Request

- a. NOAA Fisheries evaluates the information provided by the requester to determine if the request meets the criteria for a fishery resource disaster.
- b. NOAA Fisheries provides the evaluation to the Secretary.

Step 5: Secretary of Commerce Determines Disaster

- a. The Secretary makes a determination based on NOAA Fisheries' evaluation and notifies the requester of the determination.
- b. To make a positive determination, the Secretary must find the fishery resource disaster occurred:
 - i. based on the revenue loss thresholds as defined by the Fishery Disasters Improvement Act, beginning on page 803 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023¹, amending the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) and
 - ii. due to a natural cause, an anthropogenic cause, a combination of a natural cause and an anthropogenic cause, or an undetermined cause not more than 5 years prior to the date of a request for a fishery resource disaster determination.
- b. For charter fishing, the Secretary must also consider the economic impacts to the charter fishing industry to ensure financial coverage for charter fishing businesses.
- c. For subsistence fishing, the Secretary must evaluate the severity of negative impacts to the fishing community instead of applying the revenue loss thresholds.

Step 6: Congressionally Appropriated Funds Available

- a. Congress *may* appropriate funds for fishery resource disaster relief.
- b. There is no standing fund for disasters. To provide assistance, congressionally appropriated funding must be available to help those affected by the disaster.

Step 7: Disaster Funding Announced

- a. If funds are appropriated, the Secretary/NOAA Fisheries will announce the allocations for each fishery disaster.

Step 8: State Develops Draft Spend Plan

- a. Once allocations are announced, ADF&G on behalf of the State and in partnership with NOAA Fisheries, begins developing a draft spend plan based on high priority needs for the fishery with input from fishery participants and other affected groups.
- b. Disaster spend plan guiding principles: funds are intended to assist fishery participants harmed by the fishery resource disaster, to improve fishery information used to assess and forecast future fishery performance, and to develop

¹ [PL 117-328, December 29, 2022, 136 Stat 4459.](#)

FEDERAL FISHERY DISASTER PROCESS

management approaches that mitigate the impacts of future fishery resource disasters that cannot be prevented

- c. Affected fishery participants/community groups may also develop a draft spend plan to help expedite the process. However, this should be done in coordination with ADF&G. The State must approve the final spend plan.

Step 9: Public Comment

- a. The State supports an open and transparent process for distributing disaster relief funds, and ADF&G works with affected stakeholders and NOAA Fisheries to identify funding priorities and develop spend plans for each positive fishery disaster determination.
- b. ADF&G has developed a process that includes releasing both an initial and second draft spend plan for public comment.

Step 10: ADF&G Submits Final Spend Plan to PSMFC

- a. ADF&G finalizes the spend plan after considering public comment on the second draft spend plan and submits a final draft spend plan to the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC).
- b. Questions about the spend plan should be directed to ADF&G.

Step 11: PSMFC Applies for Federal Grant

- a. PSMFC has been selected to administer federal grants for Alaska's fishery resource disaster programs because of its significant expertise with the process and low administrative costs, which makes more funds available for those affected by the disaster.
- b. PSMFC uses the spend plan developed by ADF&G as a basis for the federal grant application.

Step 12: Federal Grant Approval

- a. The federal grant must be approved by NOAA Fisheries and the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB).
- b. NOAA Fisheries and OMB may request edits to the spend plan and grant application prior to approval.

Step 13: PSMFC Receives Funds & Opens Application Period

- a. Once approved, the disaster relief funds are released from the Treasury to PSMFC which can then begin the application and distribution process.
- b. PSMFC will announce the open application period.
- c. All applications must be postmarked or otherwise received by PSMFC before the deadline set by PSMFC.
- d. Questions on completing an application should be directed to PSMFC.

Step 14: PSMFC Processes Applications

- a. Once the application period closes, PSMFC must process and verify all applications before funds can be distributed.
- b. PSMFC typically attempts to contact applicants if there are errors or omissions on applications. Errors and incomplete applications can cause significant delays in PSMFC's ability to process applications and distribute funds.
- c. Currently, ADF&G does not have access to any applications submitted to PSMFC. Questions about the status of applications should be directed to PSMFC. Applicants submitting an electronic application have the option to receive notification by email

FEDERAL FISHERY DISASTER PROCESS

upon successful submission of the application.

- d. In addition to serving as the administrator for Alaska's fishery relief programs, PSMFC administers federal fishery relief programs for Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho, Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Step 15: PSMFC Distributes Funds

- a. Once all applications are processed and verified, payment distribution can begin.
- b. PSMFC may distribute funds by fishing sector as each sector's applications are processed, or it may distribute funds to all sectors once applications are processed, depending on the volume of applications and the details of a particular spend plan.

OTHER RESOURCES

Federal Fishery Disasters, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

- ADF&G's webpage provides information on Alaska fishery disasters determinations and includes information for the public on how to participate in the spend plan drafting process.

Fishery Disaster Determinations | NOAA Fisheries

- NOAA Fisheries webpage shows a list and summary of pending and approved fishery disasters determinations.

Fishery Disaster Assistance | NOAA Fisheries

- NOAA Fisheries webpage provides an overview of fishery disaster assistance with links to the Fishery Disaster Improvement Act, NOAA's policy on Disaster Assistance, and frequently asked questions.

Fishery Disaster Administration – Fisheries Relief (psmfc.org)

- PSMFC's webpage provides the status of approved fishery disasters in Alaska and links to applications once available.

CONTACTS

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

- dfg.com.fisheriesdisasters@alaska.gov

Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission

- fishdisaster@psmfc.org



1/8/2024

Memorandum

To: Steve Giesbrecht, Borough Manager
 Cc: Mayor Jensen and Members of the Borough Assembly
 Karl Hagerman, Utilities Director
 From: Chris Cotta, Public Works Director
 Re: PMPL #20 Replacement

The FY24 approved Borough budget includes \$230,000 for replacement of Power & Light #20 aerial service truck (copy of FY24 Motor Pool Replacement Memo attached for reference). Motor Pool has been working with Power & Light to identify a replacement vehicle. After investigating a couple of brands, PMPL found a suitable unit that comes in under budget. Utilities Director Hagerman has provided a memo of support (attached) that explains the process behind selection of the subject vehicle.

Global Rental Co., Inc. has supplied a quote of \$187,509 for a new Altec AT41M aerial service truck (quote attached). The supplied chassis may be Ford or Chevy but the body will be Altec and the price is the same either way. This pricing was supplied through Sourcewell (Contract #062320-ALT), which is a purchasing cooperative that serves many government entities and utilizes pre-bid equipment contracts. Borough code allows this type of purchasing process, as follows:

Code Section 4.04.040 (Exceptions to Bidding), Section G States: When it is advantageous to the borough to enter into a contract with a bidder for the same supplies or services such bidder is providing another Alaskan local government, the state of Alaska, a cooperative purchasing association composed of government agencies, or the United States, where such supplies, equipment or services are being provided to the other governmental unit or association on the basis of competitive bids submitted; and where the borough contract is on substantially the same terms as those bid; or to contract with or through such other governmental unit or association so that the benefit of the responsible bid accrues to the borough;

This proposed vehicle replacement adheres to Borough purchasing code and the cost is significantly under the amount budgeted. Payment for the vehicle will be taken from Power & Light's Motor Pool reserves, which are currently in excess of \$800K dollars. The aerial truck being retired will be surplus after the new truck is placed in service and any amount received from the sale will be used to offset the cost of the new unit.

For the preceding reasons, Public Works recommends award of this vehicle purchase to Global Rental Co., Inc. in the amount of \$187,509. If you agree with this recommendation, please forward it to the Borough Assembly for consideration at their next regular meeting on January 16th, 2024. Thank you.

Attachments: PMPL Memo of Support (1 page)
 Global Rental Co., Inc. Quote (1 page)
 FY24 Motor Pool Replacement Memo (2 pages)

Public Works Department

PO Box 329, Petersburg, AK 99833 – Phone (907) 772-4430 Fax (907) 772-4102

www.petersburgak.gov

MEMO

TO: CHRIS COTTA, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
FROM: KARL HAGERMAN, UTILITY DIRECTOR *KH*
SUBJECT: PMPL SERVICE TRUCK #20 – AWARD RECOMMENDATION
DATE: 1/9/2024
CC: STEVE GIESBRECHT, BOROUGH MANAGER
FILE

PMPL is in full support of awarding the purchase of #20, the aerial service truck, to Global (Altec Industries). See below for additional information.

PMPL has been researching and working with vendors for the purchase of this truck since it was approved in the FY24 motor pool replacement budget. Initially, the utility was focused on replacing the current Altec truck with a Terex Hi-ranger truck. This was mostly due to issues that we've had with the upper controls not being reliable during the truck's life cycle with us that we attribute to the Altec method of controlling the bucket with a fiberoptic link to the main body of the aerial unit. We sought pricing for a Terex truck due to its complete reliance on hydraulic controls at the bucket and received good communication from the Terex dealer in Washington state. However, the price offered for a custom truck was not only above our budget (\$256,517.81), but it would take between 17 and 24 months to build.

We circled back to Altec after having excellent luck with a new Alaska-based Altec mechanic that had just moved to Wasilla from the lower 48. He let us know that Altec also provides fully hydraulic trucks in opposition to what we had been told by a salesman in the past. The mechanic also provided information on stock service trucks that could be supplied in much shorter time frames. Consequently, we received a Sourcewell* quote from Global (Altec distributor) for an AT41M service truck that is their stock offering. The cost was substantially less than the Terex quote and will be delivered at the end of calendar year 2024 (less than 12 months).

For these reasons, PMPL supports a motor pool recommendation to award the supply of an Altec AT41M service truck to Global at a price not to exceed \$187,509.00. Although not precisely a direct replacement for the current truck, the low frills, stock nature of this truck has saved quite a bit of money over a custom-built truck. The department will seek to transfer many bolt-on accessories that are in good condition from the existing truck to the new truck after it arrives on site to get the crew what they need to be efficient in their work. Since the budget for this truck was set at \$230,000, we feel good that we have reduced costs to the benefit of our customers with this purchase.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

*Sourcewell is a government purchasing agency that solicits competitive pricing for municipal and state governments so that municipalities such as the Petersburg Borough can take advantage of competitive pricing which meets the intent of our local procurement ordinances to purchase the best products at the best pricing possible, and saves considerable time and expense if we were to develop and advertise a bid specification in-house.



Quote Number: 1214202307
Opportunity Number:
Sourcewell Contract #: 062320-ALT
Date: 12/14/2023

Quoted for: City of Petersburg
Quoted by: Bryce Saddoris
Phone: / Email: (360) 218-6930 / bryce.saddoris@altec.com

REFERENCE MODEL	Sourcewell Price
AT37-G 4x4, 2022	\$129,049

(A.) Sourcewell Options On Contract

1		
2		
3		

SOURCEWELL OPTIONS TOTAL: \$129,049

(A.) OPEN MARKET ITEMS (Customer Requested)

1	UNIT	Unit to be Altec AT41M in lieu of AT37-G	\$32,027
2	UNIT & HYDRAULIC ACC		
3	BODY		
4	BODY & CHASSIS ACC		
5	ELECTRICAL		
6	FINISHING		
7	CHASSIS	Chassis and unit body to be 2024 model year in lieu of 2022	\$16,093
		Chassis to be Ford F600 in lieu of Ford F550	\$2,000
8	OTHER		
9			
OPEN MARKET OPTIONS TOTAL:			\$50,120

SUB-TOTAL FOR UNIT/BODY/CHASSIS: \$179,169

Delivery to Customer: \$8,340

TOTAL FOR UNIT/BODY/CHASSIS: \$187,509

(C.) ADDITIONAL ITEMS (items are not included in total above)

1			
2			
3			
4			

Pricing valid for 45 days and may be subject to availability at time of order

NOTES

** Denotes FET fees were paid when unit was new. Global is not FET exempt.

All items listed subject to availability, quote provided at time of request detailing options

Delivery is \$3.00 / mile

Alternate year models may be available in addition to the ones shown here, they will be discounted / priced appropriately to reflect this

Chassis model can be any standard chassis (Ford, Dodge, International, Freightliner, Peterbilt, etc.)

PAINT COLOR: White to match chassis, unless otherwise specified

TO ORDER: To order, please contact the Account Manager listed above.

CHASSIS: Per Altec Commercial Standard

DELIVERY: No later than _____ days ARO, FOB Customer Location

TERMS: Net 10 days

BEST VALUE: Altec boasts the following "Best Value" features: Altec ISO Grip Controls for Extra Protection, Only Lifetime Warranty on Structural Components in Industry, Largest Service Network in Industry, Altec SENTRY Web/CD Based Training, Dedicated/Direct Gov't Sales Manager, In-Service Training with Every Order.

MOTOR POOL RECOMMENDATION

TO: STEVE GIESBRECHT, BOROUGH MANAGER
FROM: CHRIS COTTA, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: FY 24 VEHICLE/EQUIPMENT FLEET RECOMMENDATIONS
DATE: 4/12/2023
CC: MOTOR POOL FILE

FY24 Replacement Recommendation Summary

The following is a summary of the Motor Pool's recommendations for vehicle replacements, additions and service extensions for the next budget year.

Table with 3 columns: Item, Quantity, Amount. Rows include Units replaced (4, \$555,000), Fleet addition (1, \$60,000), Units extended (7), and Total recommended replacement budget (\$615,000).

Table with 3 columns: Unit, Recommendation, Budget. Lists various vehicles and equipment with their recommended actions and costs, including a total replacement budget of \$615,000 for FY2023.

* Added as a reserve vehicle, not in the replacement program

Fleet Replacement Recommendations

Motor Pool Fuel System (2003) This system is used by all Borough Departments to dispense fuel and to track and record fuel transactions for all fleet users. Although still functional, it has frequent operational problems and parts are increasingly difficult to source as this system is technically obsolete (it is still running on MS DOS).

Power & Light #20 (2016 Dodge 550 Aerial Truck) This unit is used for general service line work. It is a smaller truck with a 42' reach with the manbucket. Most of the light maintenance and troubleshooting of connections is performed with this truck. This truck has been plagued with electrical problems and has spent a lot of time out of service in the last year. Although functioning at present, there is low confidence in this unit, which is a critical part of the Power & Light fleet. Preliminary research indicates a very long lead time for replacement (2-5 years) so we are recommending beginning the replacement process now.

Public Works #25 (1995 Chevy Suburban Hearse) This unit is used for transport of human remains. Although mechanically sound, the frame, suspension and body are beginning to rust out. We recommend replacement of this older unit before a major failure occurs and causes an extended service outage. Due to relatively low usage of this vehicle, we would plan on replacing it with a used vehicle in excellent shape rather than buying a new unit.

Public Works #64 (2004 International Dump Truck) This unit serves as a maintenance and construction support vehicle in the warmer months, and as the Borough's dedicated street sanding unit in the winter. It was programmed to be replaced after 15 years but was extended due to being in good condition. However, in recent years it has experienced many maintenance issues which have prevented it from serving its intended role. Recurring transmission problems have resulted in a lot of downtime and being sent off island for repairs, and the rear suspension needs a major overhaul due to corrosion issues. The dump body is at the end of its service life, with cracks in the frame and numerous patches and repairs throughout the body and tailgate. Low reliability combined with high maintenance costs indicate that it is time to replace this vehicle.

Fleet Addition

Public Works #94 (Personnel Lift) The Building Maintenance and Streets Depts have frequent need for an articulating personnel lift for maintenance and cleaning of building infrastructure. With more building maintenance staff time available now and less contractor availability on island, we would like to bring some tasks inhouse such as pressure washing, roof cleaning/maintenance, siding repair, and other building maintenance tasks we have contracted out in the past. The plan is to purchase a lightly-used personnel lift rather than new. Funds for purchase of this unit would come from the Streets portion of the Motor Pool fund, and the unit would be a reserve unit which would not be part of the Motor Pool replacement program.

Fleet Extensions

A total of 7 units are recommended for extension. The various vehicles and equipment were evaluated by the motor pool mechanics. All units recommended for extension have been found to be reliable and in good mechanical condition. The units listed in the first page summary are being recommended for 1-3 year extensions with details provided upon request.

End of Recommendation

From: Tracy Welch <director@ufa-fish.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 4, 2024 11:35 AM
To: Stephen Giesbrecht <sgiesbrecht@petersburgak.gov>
Cc: Mark Jensen <mayorjensen@petersburgak.gov>
Subject: Re: UFA Membership

Hi Steve-

Thanks for reaching out and the inquiry about membership with United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA).

A little about UFA: We are the statewide commercial fishing trade association, representing 37 member groups that participate in fisheries throughout the state and in federal fisheries off Alaska's coast. Currently, we also have somewhere in the neighborhood of 500 individual/lifetime/supporter members. Business/community supporter members are listed on the website.

UFA works to promote and protect the industry, lobbying in Juneau at the legislative level throughout the session as well as having a close working relationship with the Alaska congressional delegation. During the session, we provide a legislative update once a week via email, with information on bills that we are tracking and if there are upcoming hearings and how folks can participate in those. We also send out member updates, usually every two weeks or so, depending on the amount of information that is coming in. We have also been expanding our educational opportunities for members by offering webinars at various times throughout the year. The most notable webinars so far this year included a panel of processors who gave pre and post season market updates. We also have two meetings a year that have been hybrid in nature, which are open to members to sit in on. During these meetings we not only conduct organizational business, but we bring in guest speakers, folks from the state administration (Ex: DEC, Div. of Investments, Fishermen's Fund), researchers, and legislators. The meetings are always a good opportunity to hear straight from "folks in the know."

Community supporter level membership is \$350 per year. The membership gets you listed on the website, listed and linked in every membership email that goes out, and access to UFA meetings/webinars/legislative and membership updates. The \$350 is for one year of membership, and on the anniversary month you will receive a renewal notice the following year.

Current fishery group members that have ties to the Petersburg area/fishing fleet that are represented on the board include: Petersburg Vessel Owners Association (PVOA), United Southeast Alaska Gillnet (USAG), Alaska Trollers Association (ATA), Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance (SEAFSA), Southeast Seiners Association (SEAS), Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fishermen's Association (SARDFA), Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association (ALFA), Southeast Herring Conservation Alliance (SHCA), Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA), Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (NSRAA), Douglas Island Pink and Chum (DIPAC).

At the October meeting, we put together a federal priority list for 2024 (attached), which will give an idea of what we are working on/hope to work on this coming year.

Our website is being worked on this week and next, switching ownership and back office items to our new tech firm, and may or may not be live if you were to go look at it right now, so I've gone ahead and attached the membership form for communities/business for you to take a look at. If you have any further questions, please feel free to reach out!

Best,
Tracy

907-518-1071



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 20229, Juneau AK 99802-0229

Phone: (907) 586-2820

E-mail: ufa@ufa-fish.org **Website:** www.ufa-fish.org

Introduction to United Fishermen of Alaska

United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) is the statewide commercial fishing trade association representing 37 commercial fishing organizations participating in fisheries throughout the state, and the federal fisheries off Alaska's coast. Our mission is to promote and protect the common interest of Alaska's commercial fishing industry, as a vital component of Alaska's social and economic well-being.

UFA was formed in 1974 to provide a voice for commercial fishing participants throughout the state. Today, UFA is headquartered in Juneau and continues to advocate on behalf of our industry, provide feedback to legislators and policy makers, and take specific issues that impact our members. UFA provides a forum for communication within the fishing industry and acts as a conduit for information. We also provide public relations for the commercial fishing industry, and educational and informational programs for our members, legislators, and the general public.

UFA's policy positions are developed by the UFA board, which meets twice a year in-person. Each of our member groups holds a seat on our Board of Directors and has an equal vote. In addition to our member groups, there are four at-large board seats on the Board that are filled by individual members of UFA and are elected by their peers.

Our members include harvesters and aquaculture associations located throughout coastal Alaskan communities: Alaska Bering Sea Crabbers, Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association, Alaska Scallop Association, Alaska Trollers Association Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association, Area M Seiners Association, At-sea Processors Association, Bristol Bay Fishermen's Association Bristol Bay Regional Seafood Development Association, Bristol Bay Reserve, Cape Barnabas, Inc., Concerned Area "M" Fishermen Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association, Cordova District Fishermen United, Douglas Island Pink and Chum, Freezer Longline Coalition, Fishing Vessel Owners Association, Groundfish Forum, Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association, Kodiak Crab Alliance Cooperative, Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association, Kodiak Seiners Association, North Pacific Fisheries Association, Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association, Northwest Setnetters Association, Petersburg Vessel Owners Association, Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation, Purse Seine Vessel Owner Association, Seafood Producers Cooperative, Southeast Alaska Herring Conservation Alliance, Southeast Alaska Fisherman's Alliance, Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fisheries Association, Southeast Alaska Seiners, Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association, United Catcher Boats, United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters, and Valdez Fisheries Development Association.



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

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2024 UFA National Policy Platform

United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) represents 37 commercial fishing organizations participating in fisheries throughout the state and the federal fisheries off Alaska's coast. UFA's mission is to promote and protect the common interest of Alaska's commercial fishing industry as a vital component of Alaska's social and economic well-being. Alaska seafood represents more than 60% of all seafood harvested in the U.S. and is a critical part of domestic food production, as well as export markets in about 100 countries worldwide. Alaska seafood is subject to global market factors that directly affect its value, whether it is sold in the U.S. or exported.

Alaska seafood currently faces exceptional national and global challenges including (1) trade policy and non-reciprocal tariffs that favor other nations, (2) high levels of supply and current inventory, (3) high operational costs and inflation, (4) reduced consumer demand, (5) and global competitors that are subject to less regulations with lower operating costs, but are also less sustainable than domestic seafood harvesters and processors. These challenges affect the economic viability of harvesting and processing businesses, and our local communities that are dependent on seafood commerce and fish landing taxes across the state of Alaska.

United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) supports efforts to improve global competitiveness and resilience of the Alaska commercial seafood industry (including harvesters, processors, support businesses, communities and the state of Alaska). Achieving global competitiveness and resilience for U.S. seafood requires a multi-pronged approach across multiple government offices. For example, NOAA is currently creating an implementation plan for the National Seafood Strategy which necessitates collaboration across multiple national agencies that affect the viability of Alaska seafood. The Federal government's Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee issued the 2023 National Export Strategy that includes a chapter on Seafood Industries and highlights forthcoming efforts to improve interagency coordination and global market competitiveness for domestic seafood producers. To further coordinate and move that effort forward we strongly advocate for the creation of an ***Office of Seafood Policy and Program Integration*** within USDA.

In addition, we identify the following as UFA's National Policy statements.

1. Alaska seafood is a valuable component of national food security, health, and commerce.

Wild seafood from Alaska is responsibly harvested, and one of the best sources of essential nutrients. In Alaska we are incredibly proud of our sustainably managed commercial fisheries, and believe our sustainability distinguishes us from many foreign competitors. This message should continue to be pushed out to the American public to encourage more domestic consumption of U.S. seafood.

Seafood is nutritious, but Americans don't eat enough of it. UFA supports integrating seafood into national strategies for improving public health and nutrition. Updated guidance from the FDA recommends increased fish consumption for a healthy diet, especially for pregnant women and children. Current Dietary Guidelines for Americans recommend two to three servings of healthy seafood a week per person, yet domestic consumption rates remain less than half that level. The Government Accountability Office issued a 2022 report finding that nutritional guidelines recommend school-aged children receive between four and ten ounces of seafood per week, but the National School Lunch Program only delivers about three ounces of seafood per year to these students.

2. Integrate seafood into USDA policy strategies/programs and increase USDA Section 32 purchases of Alaska seafood.

UFA advocates for integrating seafood into U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) policies and programs to help ensure domestic food security, supply chain integrity, and provide support for harvesting and processing businesses - similar to that already available to other domestic protein sources. The lack of recognition for domestic seafood in U.S. trade policy objectives and priorities results in market conditions that reduce the value of Alaska seafood and accessibility to global markets. This creates an unlevel playing field that harms domestically harvested Alaska seafood.

As a way to help level the playing field UFA appreciates and encourages increasing government purchases of Alaska seafood, e.g., Section 32 purchases. UFA also suggests increased re-investment in US seafood via USDA low-interest loans and loan guarantees for fishermen and processors, and expansion of USDA Foreign Agricultural Service trade missions and other export market development assistance to include seafood.

3. Ensure U.S. seafood trade policies and strategies best support the seafood industry.

UFA seeks improved trade policy work through the United States Trade Representative (USTR) in order to create a more level playing field for Alaska seafood. We see the positive pattern in day-to-day trade policy formulation and implementation where USTR works hand-in-glove with USDA on agricultural trade. However, there is no comparable process on seafood within the Department of Commerce. We encourage expanding USTR's focus on seafood, including adding additional seafood expertise, in order to develop effective policy positions to help Alaska seafood trade. Our members also strongly support resolving the unbalanced and unfair seafood trade relationship that allows Russian-harvested seafood to continue to enter the U.S. duty free due to its "substantial transformation" in third-party countries, usually China.

4. Increase investment to improve and update domestic infrastructure for U.S. seafood.

Alaska is a commercial fishing powerhouse, but even it has aging fishing fleets and processing facilities. Our seafood industry would greatly benefit from investments to modernize our seafood infrastructure. Modernizing and replacing commercial fishing vessels would increase efficiency and safety on the water, while modernizing processing facilities would increase efficiency while creating opportunities for more value-add processing in the U.S. Concerted effort to bring more seafood processing back to the U.S., rather than continuing to ship product overseas, will create a tremendous opportunity for U.S. seafood. Updating seafood industry infrastructure will benefit our coastal fishing communities, and increase local and national food security by eliminating the need to ship product overseas. UFA also supports government policies that reduce our domestic operating costs, including policies on recapitalization, vessel construction, tax structures, workforce accessibility, and energy.

5. Fully funded fisheries science/management and industry promotion & marketing grants.

Core fishery surveys provide necessary information that underpins our entire science-based management system. Existing core surveys must continue, and NOAA should consider expanding what is considered core to account for rapidly changing ocean conditions and shifting fish stocks (for example, adding regular surveys in the Northern Bering Sea or increasing surveys in the Gulf of Alaska to occur annually). In addition, UFA advocates for increased funding to the Saltonstall-Kennedy (SK) Fund, which currently derives funding from 30% of duties collected on imported marine products. The SK act provides that 60% [of the 30%] go to the SK grant program to promote and develop US-produced seafood, however, less than 5% is currently used to fund the SK grant program. UFA supports increasing federal funding for new product development, testing, promotion, and marketing of US produced seafood through Saltonstall Kennedy Funds, provided federal funding for fisheries science and management is not compromised.



September 18, 2023

To: Chandler Long
Senior Project Manager
Alaska Trust Land Office
1900 First Avenue, Suite 313
Ketchikan, AK 99901

The Petersburg Borough Assembly voted down accepting the dedication on the newest proposed development of the South Mitkof Subdivision. While the Assembly appreciates the further development of Trust land within the Borough, we see major future problems for both the Borough and the potential landowners that could be resolved before the lots are sold. Selling lots without a completed central access, or at least a legal requirement for a homeowner's association, or some other binding requirement to help pay for roads, will create an unreasonable burden and ill will toward the Borough in the future.

The Borough would like to work with you to avoid major future problems, including platted and developed road right-of-ways, utility easements, and appropriately sized lots to meet ADEC leach field requirements. Each lot should have road access, and the subdivision roads should be built to Borough standards and designed in a manner that is conducive for snow removal, general maintenance, and emergency service needs. The Subdivision should have at least one road outlet to Mitkof Highway, and this should be permitted and agreed upon with ADOT and built to their general road and location specifications. Main road arteries should be appropriately named.

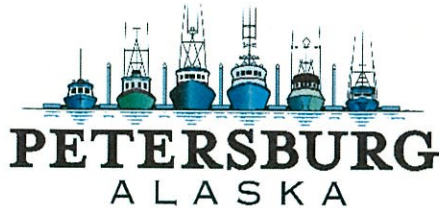
These steps will make it possible for development to proceed in this subdivision and handle the possibility of future utility services.

Thank you again for your support in developing this land within the Petersburg Borough. We continue to have great interest in available land for building homes, and we are certain proper development will increase the sales value of this subdivision.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Jensen", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Mark Jensen, Mayor
Petersburg Borough



October 10, 2023

Sent via email: amy.orange-posma@alaska.gov

Amy S. Orange-Posma, PLS, CFedS
Survey Section, Division of Mining, Land and Water
Department of Natural Resources
State of Alaska
550 W 7th Ave, Suite 650
Anchorage, AK 99501

RE: Certificate of Acceptance of Dedication, South Mitkof Subdivision

Dear Ms. Orange-Posma,

Thank you for your email of September 13, 2023, and the opportunity to respond to your questions.

As you know, the Borough Assembly, on September 5, 2023, declined to approve a certificate of acceptance of dedication for the South Mitkof Subdivision, property owned by the Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Office (TLO). This was based on a number of concerns, many of which have already been expressed to TLO (see attached September 18, 2023 letter from the Borough to Chandler Long, Senior Project Manager). These concerns constitute reasonable public cause consistent with applicable municipal ordinances, as contemplated under 11 AAC 53.700(c). In brief, and as expressed in further detail below, the overarching basis for not agreeing to sign the dedication is the Borough's desire to act in the public interest and ensure orderly and safe development of land located within the Borough, consistent with municipal charter, ordinances, and state platting standards. The plat dedication, which states that the Borough "accepts for public uses" the easements and rights of way, would incorrectly advise buyers that Borough services can be immediately provided to the lots, and that the plat is consistent with Borough ordinances and standards. This, however, is not the case.

SUBDIVISION IMPROVEMENTS

The Borough has had significant previous experience with other TLO (Mallard and Goldeneye) and State of Alaska (Frederick Pt. North and East) subdivisions where road and utility improvements were not installed by the developer prior to final plat. These have almost uniformly resulted in substantial development issues, including substandard roads, development of roads outside of established easements/ROWs, or no

development at all for lack of access. These subdivisions have not served the public interest, and the correction of defects, and providing services to these subdivisions, is costly and difficult, and beyond the Borough's financial capacity to correct.

The proposed South Mitkof Subdivision encompasses over 500 acres and creates over 100 lots and is significantly larger in scale than any previous subdivision in the area around Papke's Landing.¹ As a result, the Borough anticipates even further negative impacts from sales of property in this proposed plat than experienced in the past. Property buyers expect the Borough to install the missing roads and utility improvements, which in most cases would require development of, and an election for, a service area (which may, or may not, receive voter approval). See, Borough Charter 14.02A(4)-(5). As a result, significant resources, in staff time and general funds, are spent addressing the lack of installation of subdivision services by the developer.

Under Borough platting requirements, effective within Service Area 1, a final plat cannot be approved until the necessary improvements are installed or improvement security is posted. See, PMC Chapter 18.26. While the Borough recognizes that the TLO may not be required to strictly comply with these ordinances, they are in place to prevent the very issues that have consistently arisen from these earlier plats. Installing improvements would be consistent with municipal code, prevent the persistent conflicts and issues that have arisen in the past in regard to such plats, and provide the Borough a mechanism to ensure orderly development of these properties, all goals consistent with the public interest.

The Borough would hope the TLO recognizes its obligations as a property developer and realizes the substantial public interest issues that arise when subdivisions are created and property sold without required improvements. Creating subdivisions and planning for orderly development will make TLO a welcome partner to communities and increase the value of TLO subdivisions. Otherwise, TLO sells the lots, and the negative impacts of the lack of improvements falls wholly to the Borough to address.

Section Line Easements

General Note #9 on the plat states that the subdivision is subject to "33' section line easements, if the easements are determined to have attached when the lands were surveyed". Despite the requirements of 11 AAC 53.690(q)², the proposed plat fails to label and identify any of the purported 33' section line easements. The proposed plat is unclear

¹ The difference in scale from the plats you cite in your letter is significant. Plat #2019-10 consists of 6 lots over 107.76 acres, Plat #2017-2 consists of 11 lots over 15.87 acres, and Plat #2016-12 consists of 26 lots over 174.23 acres. In other words, the subdivision at issue has anywhere from 4 to almost 20 times more lots than the plats you cite, and the acreage is, at a minimum, almost 3x greater.

² "The plat must clearly show the location, width, and use of each easement. Each easement must be clearly labeled and identified. The source document creating easements of record must be cited."

as to whether portions of the section line easements are being vacated, and whether the public access easements being dedicated are merely the existing section line easements of record, or newly created easements. The proposed plat should be a tool to inform property owners, not leave them wondering as to what may or may not be attached to their property.

Moreover, all lots within the subdivision will be required to install on-site wastewater systems and these systems must be setback from property lines and easements. See attached ADEC Minimum Separation Distances. Some of the parcels have easements on three sides limiting the area available for on-site systems. It is important for property owners to be fully aware when purchasing property how much area is available to site these systems and where the systems may be placed.

This is not the first time the TLO has failed to inform a property owner of existing easements. In 2022, the TLO sold two lots along Mitkof Highway and failed to disclose a section line easement and a public access easement on the properties. The new owner discovered the easements only during a later survey of the property following purchase and is now having to apply to vacate the easements rather than constructing a home as planned. Selling property in a subdivision plat that doesn't contain sufficient information for buyers is not in the public interest.³

Legal Access

The subdivision is platted without specific dedicated road right-of-ways, rather containing "public access and utility easements". The Borough has received no information as to why the subdivision is platted in this fashion, rather than having orthodox main road access points and road rights-of-way within the subdivision, and whether this decision was that of TLO or ADOT. This platting design results in inadequate access points, and some lots being thousands of feet from Mitkof Highway access, despite being located directly on the highway.⁴ This means that thousands of feet of road (past many other lots) would have to be constructed in order for some lots to be accessed and developed.

To address this impediment to functional development, the subdivision should have dedicated internal collector road rights-of-way, which merge into a number of main access points of the subdivision to Mitkof Highway, and TLO should work with ADOT to establish those access points.⁵

Road Names

³ Lots that may be affected: Lots 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, and 30, Block 1; Lots 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, Block 2; and Lots 1 and 2, Block 4.

⁴ See, for example, Lot 1, Block 4, Sheet 5 of 5, and Lot 21, Block 2, Sheet 4 of 5.

⁵ TLO should also consider shorter maximum road lengths to ensure that all lots can be developed in a reasonable and timely manner, which may require additional highway access points..

Amy S. Orange-Posma
 October 10, 2023
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Under 11 AAC 53.690(t)⁶, unique street names should have been shown on the proposed plat. Establishing unique street names and an orderly numbering system are vital for emergency response, and a lack of that is contrary to the public interest. See also, PMC 18.24.070E.

Anadromous Waters

In Service Area 1, the municipal code requires a 10' easement along either side of any creek or stream. This easement may be wider if the stream is anadromous. See, PMC 18.24.080C(2). The proposed plat includes several streams found in the Anadromous Waters Catalog ("AWC")⁷, yet the plat provides no notice to the future property owner of the AWC stream, nor any easement or buffer for these important streams. Development of a lot with an AWC stream may require additional permitting and expense, which is important information to a potential property owner. Again, the lack of adequate information is not in the public interest.

Lastly, the Petersburg Borough, like nearly every other community in Alaska, wants and needs land for residential development. If subdividing and selling off lots in the manner proposed by the TLO was a viable solution, every community in the State would implement this low-cost strategy immediately. But no municipalities utilize this methodology because developing land in this fashion is inefficient, ineffective, and ultimately counterproductive.

The Borough is hopeful that the TLO will engage with the Borough to address these important issues. In the meantime, if you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact Stephen Giesbrecht, Borough Manager at 907-772-4425.

Sincerely,



Mayor Mark Jensen

⁶ 11 AAC 53.690 (t) A street name shown on a plat filed for record must be unique within the locality except if the street is an extension of an existing street. An extension of an existing street must be named identically to the existing street.

⁷ See AWC Code: 106-44-10065; AWC Code: 106-44-10070; AWC Code: 106-44-10070-2002; AWC Code: 106-44-10080; AWC Code: 106-44-10090 in <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/SARR/AWC/>