

# **Petersburg Borough**

# Meeting Agenda Borough Assembly Regular Meeting

Monday, March 17, 2025 6:00 PM Assembly Chambers

You are invited to a Zoom webinar!

When: March 17, 2025 06:00 PM Alaska

Topic: March 17, 2025 Regular Assembly Meeting

Join from PC, Mac, iPad, or Android:

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gov.zoom.us/j/88983492797?pwd=ZTItMuXSF9UbAJeXEnA56Hks6hhgKZ.1

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- 1. Call To Order/Roll Call
- 2. Voluntary Pledge of Allegiance
- 3. Approval of Minutes
  - A. March 3, 2025 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
  - A. Birchell Properties, LLC Lease #1 Renewal

Birchell Properties wishes to renew their lease with the Borough through March 31, 2030 at an annual rate of \$5,340.

#### 11. Report of Other Officers

#### 12. Mayor's Report

A. March 17, 2025 Mayor's Report

#### 13. Manager's Report

A. March 17, 2025 Manager's Report

#### 14. Unfinished Business

#### 15. New Business

A. Resolution #2025-06: A Resolution to Vacate and Convey a Portion of the Ramona Street Right of Way Between North Nordic Drive and Valkyrie Street and Authorize Acquisition of Lot 10A and a 20' Utility Easement

Electric Utility Director Hagerman requests passage of Resolution #2025-06 that approves vacation of a portion of the Ramona Street right of way and conveys it to John and Miriam Swanson's adjacent lot, to the north of the subject parcel. The Assembly previously approved this vacation and conveyance of this portion of the right of way with the Swanson's adjacent Lot 10 to the south, but property agreements on record for Lot 10 added complications to that action. The Planning Commission has approved the revised final plat which will now establish Lot 10A (future Pump Station 4 site), Lot 10B (parcel containing a utility easement for PS4 force main and other utilities) and Lot 1AA (Swanson's previous Lot 1A that will now include the vacated Ramona Street ROW). This is the final action before deeds may be signed to transfer properties as described.

B. Rezone Government Lot 12 Located at 1016 Sandy Beach Road from Rural Residential (R-R) to Single-Family Residential (S-F)

Assembly Member Lynn requested the Assembly approve to request the Planning Commission begin the process of rezoning Government Lot 12 located at 1016 Sandy Beach Road from Rural Residential (R-R) to Single-Family Residential (S-F) to be more consistent with the zoning of other residential lots in the area.

#### 16. Communications

A. Correspondence Received Since February 27, 2025

#### 17. Assembly Discussion Items

- A. Assembly Member Comments
- **B.** Recognitions

18. Adjourn



# **Petersburg Borough**

12 South Nordic Drive Petersburg, AK 99833

# Meeting Minutes Borough Assembly Regular Meeting

Monday, March 03, 2025 12:00 PM Assembly Chambers

#### 1. Call To Order/Roll Call

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

#### **PRESENT**

Vice Mayor Donna Marsh Assembly Member Bob Lynn Assembly Member Scott Newman Assembly Member Rob Schwartz Assembly Member Jeigh Stanton Gregor Assembly Member James Valentine

EXCUSED Mayor Mark Jensen

#### 2. Voluntary Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited.

#### 3. Approval of Minutes

#### A. February 18, 2025 Assembly Meeting Minutes

The February 18, 2025 Assembly Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved.

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

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

#### 4. Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda

The agenda was approved as submitted.

Motion made by Assembly Member Lynn, Seconded by Assembly Member Newman. Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

#### 5. Public Hearings

There were no public hearings.

#### 6. Bid Awards

There were no 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.

Glo Wollen, representing herself, supported adoption of Resolution #2025-05 and the Visitor Industry Management Plan.

Ellie Broschat, representing herself, urged the Assembly to support the American Cruise Lines partnership to ensure the Borough has ownership of the infrastructure and decision-making authority.

Molly Taiber, representing herself, spoke in support of the letter to our Federal Delegation under agenda item 15D.

Linda Slaght, representing herself, shared her support for the letter to our Federal Delegation.

Anthony Taiber, speaking for himself, supports the letter to our federal delegation, but would like to add comments regarding condemning cuts to NOAA and potential tariffs to the letter.

Liz Cabrera, Community & Economic Development Director, encouraged the Assembly to approve Resolution #2025-05 and adopt the Visitor Industry Management Plan as a starting point. She also spoke in support of the letter to our Federal Delegation and requested the Assembly include the Borough's federal funding list as an enclosure to the letter.

Liz Bacom, representing herself, urged the Assembly to approve the letter to our Federal Delegation.

Sarah Fine-Walsh, representing herself, spoke in support of the letter to our Federal Delegation, with the amendments proposed by Anthony Taiber and Liz Cabrera.

#### 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.

No views were shared.

#### 9. Boards, Commission and Committee Reports

There were no reports.

#### 10. Consent Agenda

#### A. Rocky's Marine Tidelands Lease Renewal

Renewal of the tidelands lease for Rocky's Marine was unanimously approved by the Assembly.

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

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

#### 11. Report of Other Officers

#### A. Petersburg Medical Center

PMC CEO Hofstetter updated the Assembly on Medical Center activities.

#### **B. US Forest Service**

District Ranger Case was unable to attend the meeting.

#### C. BDO Audit Report

BDO Auditor Bikky Shrestha thanked Finance Director Tow and the Finance Department staff for a smooth and organized audit. Mr. Shrestha reviewed the audit documents with the Assembly, stating that the Petersburg Borough was issued an unmodified opinion on the FY 2024 financial statements, which is the highest level of assurance the auditors can professionally render.

#### 12. Mayor's Report

#### A. March 3, 2025 Mayor's Report

Vice Mayor Marsh read the Mayor's Report into the record.

#### 13. Manager's Report

#### A. March 3, 2025 Manager's Report

Manager Giesbrecht read his report into the record, a copy of which is attached and made a permanent part of these minutes.

#### 14. Unfinished Business

A. Ordinance #2025-01: An Ordinance Amending the Official Zoning Map for Service Area 1 of the Petersburg Borough to Rezone Lot 13B, Plat #2008-15, (Parcel #01-014-700 Located at 1020 Sandy Beach Road) from Rural Residential (R-R) to Single-Family Residential (S-F) - Third and Final Reading

Ordinance #2025-01 was unanimously approved in its third and final reading.

Motion made by Assembly Member Newman, Seconded by Assembly Member Schwartz.

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

# B. Ordinance #2025-02 - An Ordinance Adjusting the FY 2025 Budget for Known Changes - Third and Final Reading

If approved in three readings, Ordinance #2025-02 will 1) add a Homeland Security Cyber Grant of \$26,736 to the budget; 2) correct the Motor Pool payroll budget with an increase of \$82,595; 3) increase Power & Light's inventory budget by \$45,000 to replenish exhausted power poles and line extension supplies; 4) increase Power & Light's heat pump rebate program budget by \$15,000 to support customer's rebate applications to the end of this fiscal year; and 5) increase Motor Pool's travel and training budget by \$8,697 for CDL licensing.

The Assembly unanimously approved Ordinance #2025-02 in its third and final reading.

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

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

#### 15. New Business

### A. Resolution #2025-03: A Resolution Authorizing Temporary Lease of Borough Owned Tidelands at the Scow Bay Turnaround to Andrew Rutherford

Andrew Rutherford filed an application to temporarily lease 5,000 square feet of Borough-owned tidelands located at the Scow Bay Turnaround for demolition and rebuild of a floating airplane hangar. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on the application on February 22, 2025, and recommends the Assembly approve a temporary tideland use permit, with conditions, as outlined in their report and in the resolution.

By unanimous roll call vote, the Assembly approved Resolution #2025-03.

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

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

B. Resolution #2025-04: A Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Borough-Owned Property Described as: Lot 16, Block 2, State Land Survey 81-7, Wrangell Narrows, According to Plat 82-11 (PID #02-283-130), and Lot 13B, Plat 2008-15 (PID #01-014-700 Located at 1020 Sandy Beach Road) by Public Outcry Auction

In previous meetings, the Assembly approved the sale of two Borough-owned lots by public outcry auction. Clerk Thompson has suggested the auction be held on Monday, April 21, 2025, at 5:00 p.m., just prior to the 6:00 Assembly meeting.

Resolution #2025-04 was amended to update the assessed value and minimum bid amount to reflect the current assessed value of the property (from \$20,100 to \$23,700 for the assessed value and from \$20,700 to \$24,300 for the minimum bid).

Motion made by Assembly Member Newman, Seconded by Assembly Member Lynn. Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

The Assembly unanimously approved Resolution #2025-04, as amended.

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

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

# C. Resolution #2025-05: A Resolution Adopting a Visitor Industry Management Plan for Petersburg Drafted by the Visitor Industry Working Group

In 2019 and 2020, the Visitor Industry Working Group, which was comprised of 17 local residents, researched and made recommendations on how to best respond to potential visitor industry growth to address the goal of maintaining the balance between Petersburg's quality of life and the visitor economy. The Working Group published a Visitor Industry Management Plan in early 2021 which, if adopted by the Assembly, can serve as a guide in navigating the future of Petersburg's visitor industry.

Buy unanimous roll call vote, the Assembly approved Resolution #2025-05, adopting the Visitor Industry Management Plan for Petersburg.

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

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

# D. Letter to Senator Murkowski, Senator Sullivan, and Representative Begich Regarding the Trump Administration's Federal Spending Reduction Plans

At the request of Assembly Members Stanton-Gregor and Lynn, a letter to our Federal Delegation regarding the recent and proposed cuts to federal departments, employment, and funding has been drafted.

An amendment was approved to add Petersburg's federal funding list as an attachment to the letter to our Federal Delegation.

Motion made by Assembly Member Newman, Seconded by Assembly Member Schwartz.

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

An additional amendment to add information about funding cuts to NOAA was unanimously approved.

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

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

The letter to our Federal Delegation was unanimously approved, as amended.

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

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

#### 16. Communications

#### A. Correspondence Received Since February 13, 2025

#### 17. Assembly Discussion Items

#### A. Fish Box Tax

The Assembly discussed the idea of instituting a Fish Box Tax or Fee to help raise revenue for the Borough.

#### B. Marine Passenger Fee

Increasing the Marine Passenger Fee to \$10 was discussed.

#### C. Sales Tax Cap

The Assembly discussed submitting the question of increasing the sales tax cap to the voters again at this year's municipal election.

#### **D.** Assembly Member Comments

There were no comments.

#### E. Recognitions

Assembly Member Stanton Gregor recognized Hannah Flor, our KFSK reporter, who was attending her last Borough Assembly meeting, for her stellar reporting. Ms. Flor is moving out of Petersburg.

# 18. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:23 p.m.

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

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

| Debra K. Thompson, Borough Clerk |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Date Approved                    | _ |

#### Borough Manager's Report Assembly Meeting 03 March 2025

- ❖ We continue to have a problem with the lap pool with CO2 use. We are trying to figure out why we are going through so much. We have checked our system thoroughly and still can't understand what is causing the problem.
- Certified Harbor Staff for First Aid/CPR/AED they all did great!
- The last Dive-In movie is scheduled for next Wednesday. Later in the year it becomes too light outside for good viewing on the pool deck.
- Getting geared up for Walk Southeast, Petersburg won the competition last year! Trophy is in our lobby for viewing <a>\omega\$</a>
- ❖ After 5 years, we finally have Convergint coming down to do an HVAC system health check, software update, and staff training! Looking at the dates between March 21st 27th.
- ❖ Mild weather has allowed us to get an early start on spring sand pickup.
- ❖ The Streets crew and Water Dept assisted the Sing Lee Alley condos with emergency repairs to their deteriorated 4" water service line, which ruptured last week causing a brief spike in water demand. The repairs are temporary, and we are working with the condo ownership on a plan for a permanent fix.
- \* Motor Pool budgets are done and have been provided to user departments for their review.
- ❖ Waste oil inventory is where we want to see it this time of year, with enough supply to finish out the season but tanks empty to the point where we're able to accept the large influx we get from the harbors in the spring and summer. Thanks to the Sanitation crew and Building Maintenance crew for keeping the burners running this season!
- ❖ Director Cotta assisted Southeast Conference with selection of RESPEC as the consultant who will undertake the upcoming Regional Solid Waste Management Planning study. This project is being funded by a \$500,000 grant from Denali Commission that was jointly awarded to SEASWA and Southeast Conference.
- The return of rainy conditions has reduced pressure on the water delivery crew and truck.
- Additional underwater inspection of our wastewater outfall line on Sandy Beach has revealed some problems, including a broken section. This damage appears old and was probably caused by a boat anchor. It is likely that we will need to repair the line soon, and we are working on a budget for this project.
- ❖ We are still waiting to see when the Section 243 grant funding may be released by DOE. As this grant has an impact on funding for the Scow Bay Generation project, that project is also on hold until the

Section 243 funds are received.

- ❖ Work on the GIS project is focused on evaluating different software offerings to make sure that the Borough selects the best option for the future. Our project manager is tracking down information to get a sense of what all existing software used by the Borough.
- The line crew set up temporary electrical service for the USFS contractor working on the federal building remodel.
- ❖ OSHA walked Assisted Living and decided that we need an eye wash installed into the kitchen because we use bleach to sanitize.
- ❖ The state audit of Assisted Living is complete.
- Timeclocks in Assisted Living began on the 27<sup>th</sup>, which is the new pay period. All paper timecards are going to be gone, and we will be doing everything through Paylocity. This should save staff some time.
- Spring maintenance list in the Harbors are getting organized as the weather starts to cooperate.
- Harbor Staff looks forward to working with Reid Brothers to complete the Shed roof project, all requirements have been reviewed and Letter to Proceed has been delivered.
- ❖ Tour ship schedule is almost firmed up, 87 stops scheduled this year considerably less than the 100-115 of the last 5 years. This includes the 31 stops of American Cruise Lines, which has doubled their scheduled stops.
- ❖ Harbor staff met with Petro Marine and American Cruise Lines at an annual discussion on operations at the Port Dock last week.
- ❖ The waiting list continues to grow, and staff is receiving inquiries about the timing of the Scow Bay development.
- \* Harbor staff remind customers to submit their lease agreements sent out at the first of the year.
- Several of the staff and I are continuing to work with our federal lobbyist and delegation staff on the impacts of the Trump Administration actions.
- ❖ We continue to have issues with the Municipal Building HVAC system. It appears we will need a new compressor unit. We are working on getting a quote now.

# Renewal/Amendment No. 9 of the Tidelands Lease Agreement between the Petersburg Borough, Alaska – Lessor and Birchell Properties, LLC – Lessees

Leasing 4,183 sq. ft as shown on the Plat entitled Tidelands Lease,
Portions
T-37 and T-38, ATS #9, Addition to Petersburg
Filed on July 29, 1985 as Survey No. 85-21.

Date of Original Lease – April 18, 1985 Recorded in Book 0023, pages 877-892 on May 23, 1985 Assignment of Lease, effective December 18, 1997 (Not recorded) Addendum No. 1, dated February 13, 1986 Recorded as document #1986-000148-0 on February 18, 1986 Amendment #1, effective April 1, 1990, Recorded in Book 0041, Pages 611-613 on June 30, 1993 Amendment #2, effective April 1, 1995, Recorded in Book 00049, Pages 288-290 on August 28, 1995 Amendment #3, effective April 1, 2000, Recorded in Book 0066, Pages 746-748 on June 21, 2000 Amendment #4, effective April 1, 2005, Recorded as document #2005-000396-0 on May 12, 2005 Amendment #5, effective April 20, 2006, Recorded as document #2006-000325-0 on May 5, 2006 Amendment #6, effective April 1, 2010, Recorded as document #2010-000968-0 on December 27, 2010 Amendment #7, effective April 1, 2015 (Not recorded) Amendment #8, effective April 1, 2020 Recorded as document #2020-000183-0 on April 9, 2020

# Effective Date of This Rate Amendment – April 1, 2025

WHEREAS, the Original Lease dated April 1, 1985, as amended, provides for renewal of the term of the lease; and

WHEREAS, Municipal Code and the amended original lease require the annual rent to be adjusted on each fifth anniversary date of the lease and the new annual rent shall be based upon the current full and true value of the property and any borough owned improvements, as established by the borough's assessor.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the original lease dated April 1, 1985, as amended, is further amended as follows:

Pursuant to Section 3 of the Original Lease, as amended, the annual rental rate for the five-year period from April 1, 2025 through March 31, 2030 is:

Based on the borough assessor's statement of valuations for the leased premises of \$53,400 as reflected in the 2025 assessment records,

Four Thousand One Hundred Eighty Dollars and 00/100 (2025 assessed value of \$53,400.00 x 10% = \$5,340.00)

Lessor does hereby certify the terms of this lease amendment. All other terms and conditions of the Original Lease remain in full force and effect.

| Dated the  | day of, 2025.   |
|--|---|
|  | Petersburg Borough<br>PO Box 329<br>Petersburg, AK 99833  |
| By:<br>Debra <sup>-</sup><br>Boroug                                  | Thompson, CMC<br>h Clerk  |
| STATE OF AL  | ASKA ) ) ss AL DISTRICT )   |
| undersigned, a<br>personally app<br>which executed<br>be the free ar | CERTIFY that on this day of, 2025, before me the Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska, duly commissioned and sworn leared Debra Thompson to me known to be the Borough Clerk described in and the above and foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me said instrument to do not the voluntary act and deed of said Borough for the uses and purposes therein do not that she is authorized to execute this instrument. |
| WITNESS My   | Hand and Official Seal the day and year in this certificate first above written.  |
| •  | n and for the State of Alaska residing at Petersburg, Alaska. n expires   |
| After Recording Retur  | n To: Borough Clerk<br>Petersburg Alaska<br>PO Box 329  |

Petersburg, AK 99833

## Mayor's Report for March 17, 2025 Assembly Meeting

 Seeking Letters of Interest: The Petersburg Borough is accepting letters of interest from citizens who wish to serve the community by filling a vacant seat on the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board until the October 2025 Municipal Election.

Letters of interest may be submitted to Clerk Thompson at the Borough offices located at 12 S. Nordic Drive; by sending to PO Box 329, Petersburg, AK 99833; or by emailing to <a href="mailto:dthompson@petersburgak.gov">dthompson@petersburgak.gov</a>.



#### Borough Manager's Report Assembly Meeting 17 March 2025

- There are still a couple seats available in the Crisis Response Team training which is being held March 18-20 from 8am-5pm in the Borough Assembly chambers. Contact Chief Kerr for availability.
- Annual/Pre-REAC/NSPIRE apartment inspections at Elderly Housing were completed and Kenny has been working on the normal touch-up and maintenance issues that come from those.
- ❖ Fire Marshal Welde and the Fire Officers have been conducting our annual Intro to Firefighting course. This course prepares new recruits to be able to respond to fire calls and takes place Saturdays 8-5 at the fire hall. Please speak with a fire officer or call the station if you are interested, it is never too late to join.
- ❖ The Division of Forestry and Fire protection has issued a Burn Permit requirement for the whole of Southeast due to low snowpack and the forecast for "Drought Conditions". Fire permits for service area one can be applied for on the borough website. For areas outside SA1, you will need to file a permit with the AK Dept of Forestry and Fire. For more information about the state permit, please go to forestry.alaska.gov or call 907-761-6230. This takes effect 3/17/2025.
- There were some recent problems with batteries in one of the ambulances that left it dead at the manor. Thank you to Sam Hoschar for a quick turn around and bringing it back into service.
- ❖ There will be a port security meeting with the USCG, the Borough and its partners April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9am in the assembly chambers.
- Airport Badging for the EMS crew members has begun with the Airport DOT crew. While we are transitioning to this new system, there may be some delays when executing Medivacs.
- ❖ PVFD is aiming to have its Family Fun Day event in late April. If you would like to walk through the station and see all the equipment, please keep an eye out for future advertisements.
- Getting greenhouse ready for seed planting
- Scott is working to get swimming lessons scheduled for spring
- ❖ Conducting First Aid/CPR/AED for Library staff on March 24<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ PMPL got word the submitted reports for the Section 243 grant were accepted and that we were approved to issue project specific invoicing for Blind Slough Hydro. Invoicing for \$2.815M was submitted through the federal invoicing system on March 7<sup>th</sup>. Now we wait to see how long it will take to receive the funds.
- \* Karl met with EPS to restart progress on the Scow Bay Generation project following the good news about the Section 243 grant. The project engineer is working on specs for switchgear and the generator transformer so

PMPL can advertise for bids on equipment. An RFP for construction services will also be issued later this spring – pending receipt of the Section 243 funds.

- After some due diligence in evaluating other GIS products, the project team has decided to stick with using ESRI ArcGIS for the utility mapping and information system. A purchase order for additional licensing was sent to ESRI and the team will be focusing on receiving some training on the software and developing an RFP for infrastructure field inventories for electric, water and wastewater utilities.
- ❖ PMPL's two lineman apprentices recently flew to Fairbanks for their last intensive line school session. They will return to PMPL in May and will need to complete the remainder of their apprenticeship hours to achieve journeyman status in the trade −which will occur for both within the next 6-12 months.
- ❖ PMPL has received word that the annual maintenance shutdown at Tyee Lake will start on, or very near, June 10<sup>th</sup> this year. Contractor schedules have pushed the agency to start the initial shutdown at Swan Lake this year, with Tyee following that work. PMPL will issue public service announcements when the schedule is confirmed, and the shutdown gets closer.
- \* Karl is back in the office full time this week. Thanks to everyone for your support during my recovery!
- The Friends of Petersburg's Libraries will be holding a book sale on Saturday April 5 11am-1pm. Funds raised support the public library and school libraries.
- The library is hosting a silent auction featuring three paintings by Beth Flor to benefit the Library's Art Education Endowment. The artwork is currently on display in the library foyer and will be available for bidding through April 5.
- Sent all poa's the care plan for the residents at Assisted Living for them to review and sign.
- Spring clean-up of the winter's traction sand is underway. The sweeper and wash truck are out daily.
- ❖ We started sorting rock in the quarry for seasonal construction projects
- ❖ Used oil heaters are running great at the Baler, and we expect all the supply tanks to be empty on time and to be ready to accept the seasonal increase of used oil.
- \* Reservoirs are at capacity with recent rainfall totals. Some snowpack has been observed at higher elevations.
- The Draft Biosolids Permit has been received from the EPA. Justin is making a few edits this week. The permit will go into effect in July.
- We will be conducting some interviews this week for the Water/Wastewater Operator vacancy.
- Surplus vehicle/equipment sealed bid auction is live. Bids will be opened on March 28<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. Visit the Borough's website or Facebook page for more information.
- ❖ The Borough Manager was notified by THRHA of their interest in expanding the planned development at the Airport Subdivision to include additional lots. I am working on an amendment to our agreement to bring before the Assembly the first meeting in April. The amendment will include the development of an additional eleven lots.

#### PETERSBURG BOROUGH, ALASKA RESOLUTION #2025-06

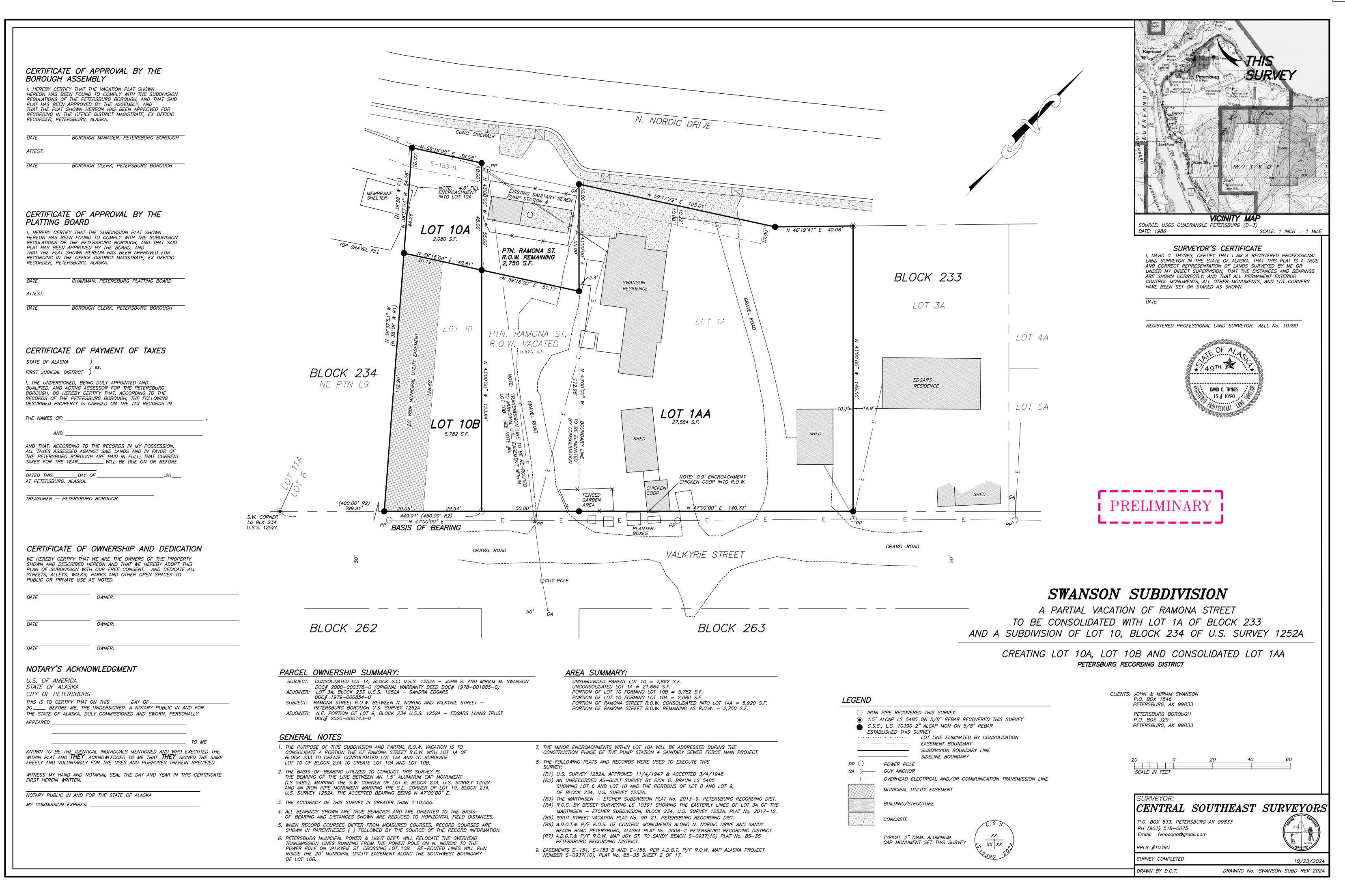
#### A RESOLUTION TO VACATE AND CONVEY A PORTION OF THE RAMONA STREET RIGHT OF WAY BETWEEN NORTH NORDIC DRIVE AND VALKYRIE STREET AND AUTHORIZE ACQUISITION OF LOT 10A AND A 20' UTILITY EASEMENT

- **WHEREAS**, a majority of the property owners along the subject right-of-way applied to vacate a portion of Ramona Street between North Nordic Drive and Valkyrie Street; and
- **WHEREAS,** proper notice was sent to adjacent property owners and a public hearing was held on December 10, 2024, by the Planning Commission; and
- **WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission considered comments from borough staff and the public; and
- **WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission determined the right-of-way has no value to the municipality and approved vacation of a portion of the Ramona Street right-of-way as part of the approval of the Swanson Subdivision (attached); and
- **WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission recommends, as allowed by code, and requested by the surrounding property owner, the portion of the public right-of-way vacated be attached in its entirety to Lot 1A, USS 1252A to create Lot 1AA; and
- **WHEREAS**, the borough assessor has determined the full and true assessed value of the vacated portion of the Ramona Street right-of-way to be \$59,200; and
- **WHEREAS**, PMC 18.30.040(E) authorizes the Assembly to approve terms and conditions for purchase of a street right-of-way other than payment of the full and true assessed value; and
- **WHEREAS**, the borough requires Lot 10A and a 20' utility easement across Lot 10B to proceed with rebuilding of Pump Station #4; and
- **WHEREAS**, the assessor has determined the full and true value of Lot 10A to be \$25,000.00 and of the 20' utility easement to be \$5,300.00 for a total of \$30,300.00; and
- **WHEREAS**, the cost of not acquiring Lot 10A and the 20' utility easement would be in excess of \$100,000 and place an additional burden on rate payers; and
- **WHEREAS**, borough code requires that within 18-months of approval, the applicants present the final plat, signed by all property owners of record, depicting the vacation, as approved for signature and recording.
- **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Petersburg Borough Assembly authorizes the Borough Manager to:

- Execute documents necessary to vacate and convey a portion of the Ramona Street right-of-way per the Swanson Subdivision plat as approved by the Planning Commission.
- b. Execute documents necessary for the borough to acquire Lot 10A and a 20' utility easement along the southern property line of Lot 10B per the Swanson Subdivision plat approved by the Planning Commission.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Petersburg Borough Assembly on March 17, 2025.

| ATTEST:                          | Mark Jensen, Mayor |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Debra K. Thompson, Borough Clark |                    |



All burning that requires a permit is prohibited during hot, dry or windy conditions or if a burn closure is in effect.

This permit is issued by the Alaska Division of Forestry as authorized by **AS 41.15.010** (protection from wildland fire), **41.15.050** (fire season) and **41.15.060** (permits).

This burn permit may be denied, suspended or revoked by an authorized employee of the Alaska Division of Forestry. **11 AAC 95.430** (Denial, suspension, or revocation of permit).

The permittee shall sign this permit and possess it while burning and shall display it upon request. **11AAC 95.422** (Permit requirements).

Non-compliance with this permit may lead to a fine or criminal prosecution. This permit does not relieve the permittee from civil or criminal liability for damages resulting from an unpermitted burn or escaped fire.

This permit is valid thru December 31st of the year issued

I have read and understand the conditions and requirements of this permit.

| Print Name)         |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
|                     | 3/11/2025 |
| Signature-Required) | (Date)    |
|                     |           |

(Physical Burn Location)

CAMPING, COOKING AND WARMING FIRES

A campfire not more than three feet in diameter and two feet in height, or a commercially manufactured outdoor burning device does NOT require a burn permit.

#### LARGE SCALE BURN PERMITS

To burn a brush pile larger than ten feet in diameter and four feet in height, more than one pile at a time, or undertaking burning more complex than allowed under this permit, you must contact the nearest Alaska Division of Forestry Fire Prevention Office listed on the front of this permit, either by phone or in person, to request information about obtaining a Large Scale Burn Permit 11 AAC 95.416 (Large Scale burn permits).

#### **COMMON BURNING VIOLATIONS**

- Burning during adverse weather conditions (hot, dry, windy) or during a burn permit suspension or burn closure.
- Failure to possess a valid burn permit.
- Burning that exceeds the scope of the permit.
- Burning materials that emit black smoke, obnoxious odors or toxic fumes. Examples include plastic, rubber, vinyl, animal waste/carcasses, household garbage, waste oil, etc.
- Failure to clear the ground around a campfire, brush pile or burn barrel.
- Leaving a fire unattended or not fully extinguishing a fire until it is cold to the touch.

State of Alaska Division of For

Item 16A.

# SMALL SCALE BURN PERMIT

Required from April 1st - August 31st

All burning that requires a permit is prohibited during hot, dry or windy conditions, or if a burn closure is in effect.



This permit is only valid on State, municipal or private lands where burning may not be subject to other Federal, State or local laws and regulations that are more restrictive.

For information regarding burn permit requirements or burning conditions contact your nearest Division of Forestry Office:

**Copper River:** 907-822-5534 Delta: 907-895-2108 907-451-2629 Fairbanks: Kenai-Kodiak: 907-260-4260 Mat-Su: 907-761-6305 907-524-3010 McGrath: **Statewide Office:** 907-761-6230 Tok: 907-883-1400

> For more information, visit: http://forestry.alaska.gov/ https://fire.ak.blm.gov

# **BURN BARREL REQUIREMENTS**

#### 55 Gallon Barrel

- Circular, outdoor metal drum, in good condition, with no more than a 55 gallon capacity
- Metal mesh cover on top in good condition, with mesh openings no larger than 5/8"
- At least three evenly spaced 3" square holes covered with metal mesh along the bottom
- Situated on top of non-burnable materials



- At least 6 feet of ground cleared to mineral soil extending to all sides of the barrel
- Stay with the barrel until completely out and cold to the touch



Sufficient water to immediately extinguish fire and a tool close by when burning  Burn only untreated wood, leaves, grass clippings, cardboard and paper

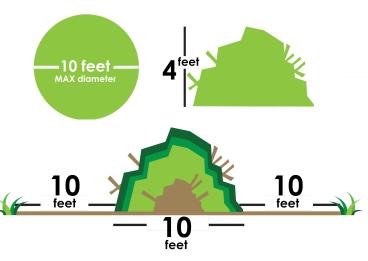


Adult with the barrel at all times

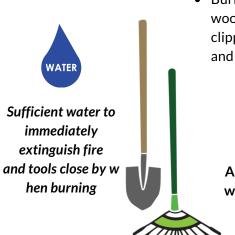
## **SMALL PILE BURNING REQUIREMENTS**

#### **Pile Specifications**

- Only ONE pile burning at a time
- Max ten foot diameter and four foot height



- At least 10 feet of ground cleared to mineral soil extending to all sides of the pile
- Stay with the pile until completely out and cold to the touch



 Burn only untreated wood, leaves, grass clippings, cardboard and paper



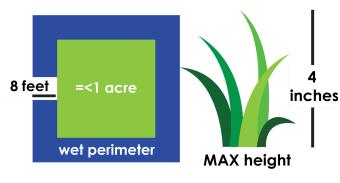
At least one adult with the pile at all times

# LAWN BURNING REQUIREMEN

Item 16A.

#### **Lawn Specifications**

- Maintained lawn
- Max one acre and four inches in height



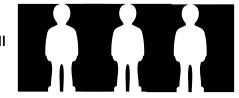
- Maintain an 8 foot wet perimeter on the ground around the burn at all times
- Stay with the lawn until completely out and cold to the touch



Sufficient water to immediately extinguish fire and tools close by when burning



Adults at all times



#### **Debra Thompson**

From: SharonBrad <sharonbradak@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, March 1, 2025 3:57 PM

To: Assembly

**Subject:** Looming cuts to federal services in Petersburg

#### External Email! Use Caution

Dear Assembly Members,

The forecast of coming economic changes for our community looks to be bleak and getting worse. We have young families summarily losing their federal employment without cause which will likely lead to an increase in our out-migration and further decrease in our school population.

We are looking at cuts to Medicaid which will place more hardship on our already beleaguered medical system and we are at great risk of losing our essential air service subsidy.

Please speak up and present a united front for Petersburg by contacting our state and federal legislators to explain the need to reverse the undermining of our federal employees and prevent further ill considered blunt cuts to the federal budget.

Thank you for your service,

**Sharon Hunter** 

#### **Debra Thompson**

From:

Liz Bacom < liz.bacom@gmail.com>

Sent:

Sunday, March 2, 2025 9:06 PM

To:

Assembly

Subject:

Letter to Assembly

#### External Email! Use Caution

To Assembly:

I urge you to all vote to approve sending the proposed letter to our DC delegation. A unanimous message from our local elected officials will carry a lot of weight.

Additionally, every decision being made from here out regarding local budgets must include a caveat for catastrophic loss of federal revenue, programs and jobs. If planning does not coincide with the rather routine discussion of budgets, staffing, programs and capitol expenses then we might all be caught with our pants down. How's that for a visual?

But seriously, it's time to push back against extreme political polarization, roll up the sleeves, sharpen those pencils and prepare for the proverbial fork in the road this community might be facing if the Washington administration continues their arbitrary and poorly researched cuts.

Thank you for your service to our magnificent little community.

Date: 03.02.2025

RE: Letter to Delegation

Dear Assembly Members,

I wanted to take this time to thank Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Manager Giestbrecht, and Clerk Thompson, for their well crafted letter to our delegation.

Many of us in town have been calling and emailing our representatives on a regular basis. Some of us are doing so daily. Having the support of our Assembly sends an important message that we are gravely concerned about how the ongoing cuts to jobs and funding are impacting Petersburg.

My hope is that the assembly will send letters like this on a regular basis. It seems important at this time to be strategic as to how communication is structured so it highlights current (and future) repercussions.

I also urge every assembly member to put party politics aside, and carefully consider how each decision being made by this administration will impact Petersburg in the short and the long term. Job losses and frozen funding is already negatively impacting our town.

Now is the time to send the current letter that is crafted, and to do so with a unanimous vote. Thank you in advance for making sure our representatives know where Petersburg stands on the current issues.

Sincerely

Lea Stanton Gregor

#### **Debra Thompson**

From:

Chelsea Tremblay <chelsealtremblay@gmail.com>

Sent:

Sunday, March 2, 2025 5:02 PM

To:

Assembly

Subject:

Thank you for advocating for jobs

#### External Email! Use Caution

Assembly,

I wanted to thank you for the letter proposed in this week's packet, advocating for local and statewide jobs that have been terminated by reckless federal actions. Even between now and its drafting, people have been fired from NOAA in Alaska including a fisheries management specialist responsible for managing the Southcentral Cook Inlet.

https://www.ktoo.org/2025/02/28/noaa-workers-fired-in-juneau-as-part-of-national-purge/

I am additionally extremely concerned about reports about firings within Social Security Administration, even though they are currently at a 50 year staffing low. This could dramatically impact the vulnerable in our community who need help accessing benefits they have earned.

(Trump's Social Security Administration to cut thousands of jobs <a href="https://www.npr.org/2025/02/28/nx-s1-5296986/trump-worker-cuts-social-security-administration">https://www.npr.org/2025/02/28/nx-s1-5296986/trump-worker-cuts-social-security-administration</a>)

Using your position as public servants to advocate to our federal delegation is crucial at a time like this. Thank you for your service!

Chelsea Tremblay

3/3/2025

Dear Mr. Mayor, Mr. Manager and Members of the Assembly,

Thank you for all that you do for our community. This place we love and call home.

We are very concerned with the proposed federal funding cuts and what will happen to it.

We urge you send the proposed Borough letter being voted upon today. Senator Murkowski, Senator Sullivan and Representative Begich need to hear our concerns.

The impacts of these funding cuts will be catastrophic to our community.

Cuts to the FAA and NOAA that have already happened will make us less safe on the water and in the air. There will be long term consequences to our fisheries.

We rely on Essential Air Service in every aspect of our lives. It will affect business and tourism, the ability to fly out fish products and medicines, and so much more.

Cuts to Medicaid will devastate our elder care at Long Term Care and the Mountain View Manor. The disabled and vulnerable population will suffer. Our hospital and clinic may not be able to keep their doors open and the 150 employees could also be looking for new jobs?

Our schools that are educating our youth will struggle to keep the lights on; wonderful teachers may be forced to leave. Harm will be done to our children.

The trickle down of all of the proposed cuts will be felt by everyone in this community. The seriousness of what is happening in this country is dire.

As our Assembly Members we hope you will stand up for all us and urge our DC Delegates to stand up for all of Alaskans.

Sincerely,

Karen and Mark Severson

## **Debra Thompson**

From:

Mike <mstainbrookak@hotmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, March 6, 2025 9:09 AM

To:

Assembly

Subject:

Thank you for sending a letter to our Congressional Delegation

### External Email! Use Caution

Thanks to the Assembly for deciding to send a letter to our Congressional Delegation regarding proposed cuts to federal departments, employment and funding. Thank you.

Mike Stainbrook

## **Debra Thompson**

From:

Liz Bacom < liz.bacom@gmail.com>

Sent:

Sunday, March 9, 2025 8:26 AM

To: Subject: Assembly Fire season

# External Email! Use Caution

Burn permits will be required for all of SE Alaska.

https://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/Notices/Attachment.aspx?id=153547

As residents "out the road" our biggest concern is fireworks during dry spells. Now is a good time to increase public awareness about forest fire danger and potential impact of a small fire that could easily get out of hand.

Sid and Liz Bacom



# **Department of Natural Resources**

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1400 Anchorage, AK 99501-3561 Main: 907.269-8431 Fax: 907-269-8918

# PUBLIC ORDER EMERGENCY DECLARATION OF FIRE SEASON

Whereas, the period from April 1 to August 31, inclusive, of each year has been designated the fire season pursuant to AS 41.15.050;

Whereas, AS 41.15.050 provides the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources to proclaim an additional fire season period for any portion of the state when weather or other conditions require action for the protection of forested land;

Whereas, the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources has delegated certain statutory authorities to the State Forester of the Division of Forestry and Fire Protection (the "Division"), and such delegated authority includes those encompassed by AS 41.15.050;

Whereas, the State Forester has determined that weather conditions including warm temperatures and low snowpack across specific areas of Alaska raise the risk of wildland fire ahead of the statutorily designated fire season;

Whereas, those areas of heightened fire danger include:

- · Copper River-Valdez DOF protection area,
- Mat-SU DOF protection area,
- Kenai-Kodiak DOF protection area,
- McGrath-Southwest DOF protection area, and
- · All of Southeast;

Whereas, under AS 41.15.010, areas to be protected from wildland fires include private, state, and municipality-owned lands. and

Whereas, the State Forester has determined that the increased risk of wildland fire in these areas warrants an early declaration of the fire season beginning on March 17, 2025 and the requirement for burn permits in those areas under the authority provided by AS 41.15.060 and 11 AAC 95.400 through 11 AAC 95.430.

IT IS HEREBY THE ORDER OF THE STATE FORESTER, pursuant to AS 41.15.050, that the designated fire season will begin on March 17, 2025, at 12:01 a.m. Alaska Daylight Savings Time, for the following areas:

- · Copper River-Valdez DOF protection area;
- · Mat-SU DOF protection area;
- · Kenai-Kodiak DOF protection area;
- · McGrath-Southwest Alaska DOF protection area; and
- · All of SE Alaska.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT burn permits under AS 41.15.060, 11 AAC 95.400 through 11 AAC 95.430, and other authorities will be required for these areas at all times during the fire season. Under AS 41.15.010, this order applies to all state, private, and municipal lands within the above-described areas. Areas not specified in this order are not subject to this early fire season designation. Violations of this order may be prosecuted.

| Jeremy | Douse | Digitally signed by Jeremy Douse<br>Date: 2025.03.05 15:49:53 -09'00' |
|--------|-------|---|
|        |       |   |

Jeremy Douse State Forester and Division Director

Date