1. Call To Order/Roll Call
2. Voluntary Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of Minutes
   
   There are no minutes available for approval.
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. Board, Commission and Committee Reports
10. Consent Agenda
11. Report of Other Officers
   A. Sanitation Rate Study
      
      Attachments: Sanitation Rate Study Rate Increase Scenarios
      
      Public Works Director Cotta will update the Assembly on the results of a recent rate study performed for the Sanitation Department.
12. Mayor's Report
A. August 3, 2020 Mayor's Report

Attachments: August 3, 2020 Mayor's Report

13. Manager's Report

A. August 3, 2020 Manager's Report

Attachments: August 3, 2020 Manager's Report

14. Unfinished Business

15. New Business

A. Resolution #2020-13: A Resolution Approving the Expenditure of $778,000 from the CARES Act Special Revenue Fund for Petersburg School District Personnel Costs, Technology Equipment and PPE/Disinfection Supplies in Response to the Continuing COVID-19 Health Emergency

Attachments: Resolution #2020-13
Resolution #2020-13 Attachment A

The Petersburg School District is requesting $778,000 in CARES Act funds to cover additional personnel, technology equipment and PPE/disinfection supplies costs during the COVID pandemic.


Attachments: Assembly Member Lynn’s Suggestions for Community Meeting
Manager Giesbrecht's Suggestions for Community Meeting

At the July 20, 2020 meeting, the Assembly postponed the third reading of Ordinance #2020-19 (which will update Borough Code and provide for Civil Emergency Provisions) until September 21, 2020 in order to allow time to schedule a community meeting to discuss and answer questions regarding the proposed ordinance.

Both Assembly Member Lynn and Manager Giesbrecht have suggestions (attached) regarding the community meeting. The Assembly is asked to decide 1) the date and time to hold the community meeting, and 2) the format for the meeting. Feel free to mix and match suggestions or add any of your own.

C. Letter to Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Regarding School Average Daily Membership Numbers for the 2020/2021 School Year

Attachments: Letter to DEED Regarding School ADM Numbers

Due to a possible lower-than-usual student count in our schools due to the COVID pandemic, the school district is requesting the Department of Education allow schools to use their 2019/2020 Average Daily Membership numbers to calculate the State’s funding formula for the 2020/2021 school year. Approval of this letter will support the school district’s request.
D. Petersburg COVID Situation Update Letter to Federal Delegation

*Attachments:* Petersburg COVID Situation Update for Federal Delegation

Assembly Member Tremblay drafted this letter to our federal delegation to provide a status update on the COVID situation in Petersburg.

E. Petersburg's Portion of a Joint Response Compiled by the Alaska Municipal League to the State's AMHS Working Group

*Attachments:* Petersburg's Statistics and Minimum Level of AMHS Service Requested

The State's AMHS Working Group sent a request to system users to provide their community statistics, what the ferry system is used for by the community, and a minimum level of service each community needs. The Alaska Municipal League has offered to consolidate community responses into one document to provide to the AMHS Working Group. The Assembly is requested to amend and/or approve Petersburg's response.

16. Communications

A. Public Communications Received July 19, 2020

*Attachments:* K. Woodworth 7.19.2020

B. Public Communications Received July 20, 2020

*Attachments:* C & L Rose 7.20.2020

D. Ingle 7.20.2020

J. Murgas 7.20.2020

M. Stainbrook 7.20.2020

D. Sullivan 7.20.2020

G. Samuelson-Jones 7.20.2020

K. Billi 7.20.2020

S. Burrell 7.20.2020

K. Woodworth 7.20.2020

C. Public Communications Received July 22, 2020

*Attachments:* B. Tremblay 7.22.2020

D. Public Communications Received July 23, 2020

*Attachments:* N. Strand 7.23.2020

R. Stafford 7.23.2020

J. Thynes 7.23.2020
E.  Public Communications Received July 24, 2020

Attachments:  R. Roberts 7.24.2020  
D. Marsh 7.24.2020  
J. Ohmer 7.24.2020  
L. Bertagnoli 7.24.2020  
J. Thynes 7.24.2020  
M & T Parker 7.24.2020  
K. Woodworth 7.24.2020  
J. Cheney 7.24.2020  
M. Curtis 7.24.2020  
R. Wilkinson 7.24.2020  
M. Martinsen 7.24.2020  
M. Hasbrouck 7.24.2020  
K. Billi 7.24.2020  
G. Samuelson-Jones. 7.24.2020  
C. Smith 7.24.2020  
J. Smith 7.24.2020

F.  Public Communications Received July 26, 2020

G. Public Communications Received July 27, 2020

Attachments:
- K. Bracken 7.27.2020
- M. Marvin 7.27.2020
- K. O'Connor Demko 7.27.2020
- E. Kandoll 7.27.2020
- S. Rice 7.27.2020
- B. Knight 7.27.2020
- K. Severson 7.27.2020
- E. Warmack 7.27.2020
- C. Knight 7.27.2020
- L. Kotsoeva 7.27.2020
- A. Burrell 7.27.2020
- L & H Thompson 7.27.2020
- A. See Rosvold 7.27.2020
- B. Loesch 7.27.2020
- M. Pawuk 7.27.2020
- J. Havrilek & E. Perry 7.27.2020
- L. Slaght 7.27.2020
- E. Teodori 7.27.2020
- B. Bracken 7.27.2020

H. Public Communications Received July 28, 2020

Attachments:
- P. Reilly 7.28.2020
- K & B Eddy 7.28.2020
- B. Steltz 7.28.2020
- G. Samuelson-Jones 7.28.2020
- G. Coonrad 7.28.2020
- G. Wolf 7.28.2020
- J. Havrilek 7.28.2020

I. Public Communications Received July 29, 2020

Attachments:
- N. Olsen 7.29.2020
- N. Olsen 2 7.29.2020
- L. Dreisbach 7.29.2020
- W. Ware 7.29.2029
J. DNR Public Review of Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales - Comment Period Open Until September 4, 2020
   *Attachments: AK DNR Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales*

K. Public Notice - Pebble Project Final Environmental Impact Statement - Comment Period Open Until August 24, 2020
   *Attachments: Notice of Final EIS for the Pebble Project*

17. Assembly Discussion Items

A. Assembly Member Comments

B. Recognitions

   Mayor Jensen wishes to recognize Petersburg’s law enforcement and emergency medical personnel who handled the recovery effort of the recent vehicle accident. Your service to our community is very much appreciated.

18. Adjourn
Hi Chris,

It was great to talk with you this morning. I’ve recalibrated the annual sanitation rate revenue adjustments based on your direction including reducing the Motor Pool expenses to $90,000 in FY 2021. The following table details the annual rate adjustments by deferring rate action in FY 2021 and then implementing revenue adjustments for the next five years (FY 2022 to FY 2026). The rate adjustments are listed by the four recycling program scenarios.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate Scenarios for Discussion</th>
<th>FY 2020</th>
<th>FY 2021</th>
<th>FY 2022</th>
<th>FY 2023</th>
<th>FY 2024</th>
<th>FY 2025</th>
<th>FY 2026</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Existing Program</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>5.00%</td>
<td>5.00%</td>
<td>5.00%</td>
<td>5.00%</td>
<td>5.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Frequency</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>3.00%</td>
<td>3.00%</td>
<td>3.00%</td>
<td>3.00%</td>
<td>3.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drop Off Site</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>2.00%</td>
<td>2.00%</td>
<td>2.00%</td>
<td>2.00%</td>
<td>2.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Recycling</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>1.00%</td>
<td>1.00%</td>
<td>1.00%</td>
<td>1.00%</td>
<td>1.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In general, each of these rate schedules maintain the 4 month (~122 day) minimum operating reserve. The one exception is the FY 2022/FY 2023 time period within the Existing Program scenario. The reserve is estimated to decrease to approximately 110 days during this timeframe. To meet the reserve target in the FY 2022/23 time period for this scenario, we would need annual adjustments of 7.50% for the first two years followed by increases in the 2 percent range for the last three years. The following table details the estimated annual operating reserve levels for each scenario. I’ve highlighted the two years where the reserve drops below target in yellow.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operating Reserve (Days of Cash on Hand)</th>
<th>FY 2020</th>
<th>FY 2021</th>
<th>FY 2022</th>
<th>FY 2023</th>
<th>FY 2024</th>
<th>FY 2025</th>
<th>FY 2026</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Existing Program</td>
<td>168 Days</td>
<td>143 Days</td>
<td>110 Days</td>
<td>108 Days</td>
<td>129 Days</td>
<td>168 Days</td>
<td>217 Days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Frequency</td>
<td>168 Days</td>
<td>167 Days</td>
<td>147 Days</td>
<td>147 Days</td>
<td>161 Days</td>
<td>184 Days</td>
<td>208 Days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drop Off Site</td>
<td>168 Days</td>
<td>179 Days</td>
<td>168 Days</td>
<td>173 Days</td>
<td>187 Days</td>
<td>205 Days</td>
<td>219 Days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Recycling</td>
<td>168 Days</td>
<td>202 Days</td>
<td>194 Days</td>
<td>198 Days</td>
<td>206 Days</td>
<td>214 Days</td>
<td>213 Days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Matt Hobson
Project Manager

direct: (425) 615-5056
cell: (210) 439-8702
fax: (425) 867-1937

Redmond Town Center
7525 166th Ave. NE, Ste. D-215
Redmond, WA 98052

FCS GROUP
matthewh@fcsgroup.com
fcsgroup.com
Mayor’s Report
For
August 3, 2020 Assembly Meeting

1. **Condolesces:** On behalf of the Petersburg community, I wish to extend sincere condolences to the families of the 4 young adults involved in the vehicle accident last week. Words cannot express the heartache. We stand in support with Wrangell during this difficult time.

2. **Borough Assembly Meeting Quorum:** In response to numerous inquiries that I received, I wanted to address the issue of Assembly Member’s in-person versus teleconference appearance at Assembly meetings and provide the public with additional information to address these questions.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the restrictions on public gatherings, the Assembly unanimously adopted, on March 16, 2020, Emergency Ordinance #2020-07, which amended Borough Code section 3.08.080 to establish a quorum of the Assembly by teleconference. On March 20, 2020, the Assembly unanimously adopted Emergency Ordinance #2020-08, which established Civil Emergency Provisions under Chapter 3.72 of the Code. These provisions were continued by Emergency Ordinance #2020-17 (adopted May 18, 2020) and again by Emergency Ordinance #2020-22 (adopted July 24, 2020).

On April 3, 2020, under the authority of the civil emergency provisions of Chapter 3.72.060 of the Borough Code, Incident Commander Hagerman issued Public Health Mandate #3, which suspended in-person participation at Assembly meetings. This applies to both Assembly Members and members of the public. Public Health Mandate #3 was extended on June 1, 2020 and amended on June 15, 2020 to continue suspension of in-person participation by the public but to allow for Assembly Member in-person participation at the discretion of the Member. Public Mandate #3 supersedes any conflicting local ordinance, which would include the ordinance calling for in-person attendance at Assembly meetings by at least four members.

Upon the realization that Ordinance #2020-07, which made the technical amendments to section 3.08.080, had expired on April 30, 2020, the Assembly adopted Emergency Ordinances #2020-20 and #2020-21, which once again make technical amendments to that section. These were adopted to clarify the Assembly’s intent in this area; however, Health Mandate #3 already addressed this issue. On July 24, 2020, the Assembly adopted Emergency Ordinance #2020-22, which continued the Civil Emergency Provisions and specifically allows for establishment of a quorum of the

Accordingly, the Borough Assembly did not violate Borough Code by allowing a quorum to be established via teleconference after the expiration of Ordinance #2020-07. During all Assembly meetings, the Assembly fully complied with Health Mandate #3 as well as the Open Meetings Act, and the public was able to participate by email or telephone and certainly did so. This information has been verified with the Borough Attorney.

3. **Southeast Mayors Meet with Governor Dunleavy:** Mayor Jensen attended a telephonic meeting with other Southeast Mayors and Governor Dunleavy recently to discuss the possibility of additional restrictions (masking, travel, social distancing) issued by the State if positive COVID-19 cases continue to rise in Alaska.

4. **Seeking Letters of Interest:** The Petersburg Borough is seeking letters of interest from qualified Borough residents to serve on the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board until the October 6, 2020 Municipal Election.

**Parks & Recreation Advisory Board:** 3 vacant seats

Letters of interest should 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 dthompson@petersburgak.gov.
The Streets crew repaired 2 failing piles under the Rasmus Enge Bridge. Although the bridge deck planking remains sound, it is starting to deteriorate and will need replacement in the next 1-2 years.

The crew also repaired a failing embankment at the North Harbor snow dump. The slope was rebuilt with rock and some concrete placed on top.

Sam working to resolve some HVAC issues at the Municipal Building / PD. We thought these issues were resolved last week after assistance from Ketchikan Mechanical, however the troubles started again after the weekend power outage.

The Borough has been approached by PIA to sell 705 Ira II to Tlingit Haida Regional Housing Authority directly for $36,500. The property has previously been determined not needed for a public use and was included in a public land sale authorized under Resolution #2016-14 but had no interested buyers. THRHA and PIA have received COVID-19 grant funding to alleviate overcrowding and address housing insecurity and wish to construct a duplex on the property. The property would be purchased by THRHA and ownership would be transferred to PIA upon completion of the duplex construction. They will be asking the Assembly to approve a direct sale at the August 20 Assembly meeting.

Water Dept. Staff has been busy marking underground water lines in preparation for PIA’s Sidewalk project on 12th Street and Howkan.

Reid Brothers Construction achieved substantial completion on the Kiseno Street Sewer project recently, with only two items to finish up by July 31. The project area looks good, the sewer main is operating as designed and the neighborhood is quiet again. The department will be working with Alan Murph to close out the project.

A portion of the Petersburg distribution system experienced an outage on Saturday, July 25th. A porcelain insulator on a cutout broke and caused a fault thereby opening the T62 breaker. This feeder powers homes and businesses from Scow Bay to the core of town. PMPL line crew replaced the broken cutout and restored power to all affected within an hour.

Staff has continued the Substation Refeed project. The recent clear weather allowed for the line crew to rework the feed to Hammer Slough Street, a step needed prior to demolishing the span across Hammer Slough.

Hydro lakes are full and spilling. Crystal Lake has been above and below the spillway but within 2-3’ either way for a couple of weeks, Tyee Lake is spilling at 1400’ elevation and Swan Lake is being operated via a spill control gate to maintain an elevation of 342’.

The borough’s grants to nonprofit arts organizations, Mitkof Dance Troupe and Clausen Museum, will be matched by the Rasmuson Foundation. Each organization will receive an additional $10,000.
Reopening has occurred at the Community Center. Reopening!! A lot of patronage during morning swim (averaging 12-14 people a day). Only 4 patrons using mezzanine equipment. We are attempting to add shower usage to our reopening plan.

Moving fitness equipment into the Activity Room, and treadmills lined up down the hallway, in a safe way (no blockage of emergency exits). Weights will be spread out and extended into cardio room. Hoping to reopen fitness equipment this week, but this will somewhat depend upon our mitigation plan with the School.

Shelyn is working on a facility reopening plan to allow outside visitors to Assisted Living. Both residents and family have requested to be allowed visitation.

PMC staff did voluntary asymptomatic testing on residents and staff at the Manor on 7/17/2020, still awaiting results.

Compressor in AL boiler room died, Brian Hayley to the rescue. Taylor and Sons to come and replace with new compressor we had on hand.

AL/EH Fire “panel power supply card” needs to be replaced. Johnson Controls has it ordered and should be here in a week. In the meantime, we are doing hourly fire checks in both buildings, documenting, and faxing to Fire Marshall daily.

The Library’s Art Education Endowment received a major donation from former Petersburg resident John McCabe, the founder of the fund. The balance of the fund now exceeds $119,000. The fund provides financial assistance to the library that is spent exclusively on art and cultural programs. The annual interest earnings provide a stable, ongoing funding source to enhance arts programming at the Library.

The library has launched a podcast that archives our weekly radio programs, you can subscribe on iTunes or listen at http://psglib.org/podcast.

Our summer reading program ends Aug 11.
PETERSBURG BOROUGH
RESOLUTION #2020-13

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXPENDITURE OF $778,000 FROM THE CARES
ACT SPECIAL REVENUE FUND FOR PETERSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT
PERSONNEL COSTS, TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT AND PPE/DISINFECTION
SUPPLIES IN RESPONSE TO THE CONTINUING COVID-19 HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19
virus a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Borough Assembly ratified a Local Emergency
Declaration for the Petersburg Borough in regard to the ongoing pandemic; and

WHEREAS, through State of Alaska Health Mandates No. 1, No. 8 and No. 13,
Governor Michael Dunleavy canceled all student in-person attendance in public schools through
the end of the 2019-2020 school year; and

WHEREAS, ongoing public health mandates and alerts issued by the State of Alaska
are critical in mitigating the rate of spread of the COVID-19 virus, however they have had and
are continuing to have significant negative impacts on the Petersburg School District; and

WHEREAS, the Petersburg School District will be required to make numerous
modifications and additions to its operations in order to address the provision of education
during the on-going COVID-19 outbreak, including increasing virtual/remote learning
opportunities for students, hiring additional teaching and support staff, and providing additional
PPE/disinfection and safety measures for both staff and students to support as much in-person
education as possible in accordance with CDC, DHSS, and Department of Education
guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the School district is requesting $778,000 in CARES Act funding to provide
assistance for the school district’s reopening plan; and

WHEREAS, further detail on this request is attached hereto as Attachment A.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Petersburg Borough Assembly hereby
approves the expenditure of $778,000 from the CARES Act Special Revenue Fund to
provide economic support to the Petersburg School District for the costs associated with
responding to the COVID-19 health emergency while re-opening schools responsibly.

Passed and approved by the Petersburg Borough Assembly, Petersburg, Alaska this 3rd
day of August 2020.

Attest: ____________________________________  Mark Jensen, Mayor

Debra K. Thompson, Borough Clerk
July 24, 2020

To Stephen Geisbrecht, Borough Manager
Petersburg Assembly Members

Cc: Jody Tow, Finance Director

From: Erica Kludt-Painter, Superintendent

Re: CARES Act Funding Request

Mr. Geisbrecht and Petersburg Assembly Members:

Thank you for all of the work you are doing during this stressful time. It is much appreciated! I am writing to make a formal request for CARES Act Funding through the Borough as we continue with our planning efforts for re-opening school in the Fall of 2020.

The current COVID risk level in Petersburg is in line with the low/medium risk level described by the Department of Education and Department of Health and Social Services for our school district. The guiding principles for our “Smart Start 2020” planning team are:

* Health and safety of students and staff
* Robust learning environment for all students
* Flexibility and consistency in plans to accommodate changes in risk levels and mode of instruction

Our community and staff support as much in-person education as possible in the Petersburg School District, in accordance with CDC, DHSS, and Department of Education guidelines. Our district also has a responsibility to provide a robust virtual/remote learning opportunity for students, should the risk level change. Both of
these scenarios require additional staff to provide instruction, support for special needs students, and implement additional cleaning/disinfecting services. Both of these scenarios also require additional technology equipment, remote learning solutions, cleaning solutions/equipment, and hygiene supplies. In order to accomplish these important goals for our students and families during this unprecedented time, we are making the following financial requests:

$355,000 for additional teaching staff and paraprofessionals in all buildings, as well as additional custodial staff

$35,000 for additional work days for the administrative planning team during the summer

$40,000 for Virtual Academy program

$15,000 for additional single desks

$45,000 for items used in areas of congregation (i.e. cones, plexiglass, etc.)

$55,000 for touchless dispensers and faucets in classrooms, bathrooms, and hallways

$45,000 for hand sanitizing supplies and cleaning supplies

$10,000 for PPE for staff and students, as needed

$26,000 for additional technology equipment/needs for expanded classroom settings

$36,000 for microphone systems and media connectors for remote learning

$10,000 for portable handwashing stations and bottle filling stations

$11,000 for PE for non-contact and outdoor activities

$20,000 for food service equipment

$75,000 for additional bus transportation needs

This CARES Act request for $778,000 is necessary to support the smaller cohort class sizes in accordance with CDC guidance, as well as the equipment and staffing necessary to support the Virtual and Remote learning opportunities for our students.
This funding is critical to providing educational opportunities for ALL Petersburg students in a safe, equitable manner.

Thank you for your consideration and please let me know if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

Erica Kludt-Painter
Community Meeting on Proposed Long Term Ordinance for Emergencies  
(reference 2020-19 draft ordinance)

**Purpose Of Meeting:** To Allow the Public a chance to hear what the draft ordinance is about; to ask questions about the ordinance; and to make comments and suggestions regarding changes to it. It should be an evening meeting.

**How Will it be Conducted:** It should be done telephonically and aired on KFSK.

The meeting should be conducted by a neutral person to allow the Assembly a chance to listen to explanations and comments.

Prior to the meeting, provide an opportunity for the public to submit questions they have regarding the ordinance that would be answered during the meeting. Develop a list of Frequently Asked Questions that could be posted and handed out.

**Who Should Participate:** Borough Manager; Borough Attorney; PMC Administrator; Public Health Nurse; Borough Emergency Manager and the Incident Commander.

**Order of Presentation:**

-Introduce Topic and set the ground rules. Ground rules should be developed and advertised openly ahead of time.

-Give an explanation of the purpose of the ordinance.

-Briefly walk through the parts of the ordinance comparing the existing with the proposed and explaining the reasons for the changes. Perhaps a comparison document that is distributed before the meeting for a clearer understanding.

-Answer any questions that were received either by email, or by phone.

-Open the lines for Questions to be answered by the Panel. Time limits would need to be set as part of the meeting rules.

-Provide an Opportunity for the public to suggest changes to the ordinance. These should be in writing so it is clear what the change is and how it improves the ordinance. The proposed changes should be put into a document for consideration of the Assembly during the third reading.
In response to the Assembly instructing staff to conduct a Community Meeting on the pandemic response (emergency ordinance) for Petersburg

1. Gather Questions from the Community in advance of the meeting

2. Prepare Answers, and have them ready for the community meeting

3. Meeting Structure:
   a. Mayor runs the meeting
   b. Sandy does a general outline of how the Incident Command System is supposed to work
   c. Sara goes through the State Statute, old City Ordinance, and proposed Ordinance; line by line to explain why we need a more expansive emergency ordinance.
   d. Karl does a general outline of what has happened up-to-date regarding the various State and Local alerts and mandates.
   e. Phil/Erin does a general outline of medical issues associated with our COVID response
   f. Assembly takes turns reading the questions from the public, with the prepared responses.
   g. Assembly takes additional questions and comments from the audience
      i. These will be noted by the Clerk and added to the list of other questions with answers and then published on the Borough Website.

4. Meeting Location:
   a. Assembly Chambers so we have the ability to record the meeting
   b. Public can come in person or call in on GCI moderated line.
   c. Assembly to attend in person if they want to.
   d. Karl, Sandy, Erin, Phil, Steve attend on the phone
   e. Sara to attend on the phone
   f. Public allowed to enter the Assembly Chambers for number 3.f, one at a time.
   g. Police Officer help with crowd control; staff help with the public testimony, and health screening for in person public testimony.

5. Meeting Timing:
   a. Needs to be when all Assembly members can be available
   b. Will need to be after Karl returns in early September
   c. Meeting schedule from 4 pm to 7 pm during the week, or 2 pm to 5 pm on a Saturday.
August 3, 2020

Dr. Michael Johnson, Commissioner  
State of Alaska  
Department of Education and Early Development  
PO Box 110500  
Juneau, AK  99822-0500

Sent via email: deed.commissioner@alaska.gov

Dear Commissioner Johnson:

The Petersburg Borough Assembly is writing to request school districts be held harmless from any decrease in Average Daily Membership numbers from the previous school year.

The 2020/2021 school year presents unprecedented challenges – both operational and financial to every school district. The Petersburg School District along with every other district in the state is charged with developing plans for reopening requiring additional staff, classroom space, equipment, supplies, transportation, as well as full contingency plans for remote learning and virtual classes. While the borough is making a significant investment of its CARES act dollars toward school funding, these funds are limited to previously unbudgeted expenses. The school district still needs enough revenue to maintain its basic operations, which cannot be funded through the CARES Act.

There is a great deal of uncertainty surrounding the coming year and significant concern among some families, particularly in multi-generational households and those with household members who have underlying health conditions. As a result, some families are choosing to start the academic year by homeschooling.

As you know, the Average Daily Membership (ADM) is calculated early in the school year, generally October. With some families taking a “wait and see” approach to sending their children to school, using October enrollment numbers will result in significantly less funding to schools at a time when they are most in need. Holding schools harmless by using the previous school year’s ADM provides stability and assurances to teachers, students and families that the school district will be able to provide educational support and services for the entire school year.

Thank you for your consideration as we all work together to provide the best educational opportunities possible to students during these difficult times.

Sincerely,

Mark Jensen  
Mayor

cc: Governor Mike Dunleavy  
Senator Bert Stedman  
Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins  
Nils Andreassen, Alaska Municipal League  
Norm Wooten, AASB
August 3, 2020

Senator Lisa Murkowski  Senator Dan Sullivan  Congressman Don Young
522 Hart Senate Office Building 302 Hart Senate Office Building 2314 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510 Washington, DC 20510 Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Murkowski, Senator Sullivan, and Congressman Young,

As the COVID-19 response continues, the Petersburg Borough Assembly thought it appropriate to share immediate needs, as well as a general status update, of our community in this unprecedented time.

First an update from Phil Hofstetter, Petersburg Medical Center CEO. Of note, current asymptomatic testing results are varying 2-14+ days to be reported.

Immediate needs
- National and state focus on clearing out the backlog for testing turn-around time (commercial and state labs). Increasing supply chain for reagents, capacity to test and increase FDA approval for batch testing.
- Federal position on facial covering indoors and social distancing.
- Funding for sustainable asymptomatic testing for community and businesses
- Supply chain improvement on localized testing (ie. Cepheid units and cartridges to run more tests inhouse and with adequate supply).
- Forgiveness of advanced payment from Medicare CMS for PMC as a rural facility (required withholding will begin in August). PMC is putting resources toward the safety of the community for COVID toward asymptomatic testing, symptomatic testing, nursing COVID 24/7 hotline and increasing home health services.

Long term needs
- Continued support in telehealth
- Improved federal partnership with FAA and TSA if airport COVID testing will continue
- FAA regulation with TSA, security, screening and passenger assessment protocol to assist local communities prior to arriving in the community.
- Increased support of Home Health services in the following manner:
- Improved reimbursement under a rural add-on amount for the prospective payment schedule.
- Deregulating the requirements under home health services. (Patient census has quadrupled as a result of COVID, due to deferred care and deteriorating of patients disease and reluctance for patients to be seen in the facility.)
- Federal support of a partnership with the USDA and Denali Commission to assist in funding request for phase 2 of new facility (site selection, environment study and full architectural design).
I have reached out to both agencies and they are willing to partially fund project but would like to see federal and state interest. Community economic revitalization is important in post-covid and construction project with new healthcare job growth in a facility will be an important factor.

In addition, in consultation with social service providers in Petersburg it is clear the economic and social impacts of the prolonged COVID-19 response are deep. The need for housing, heating, and grocery assistance are growing. Restricted grant funding prevents these providers from nimble responses. A flexible means of financial support will be crucial as the recession continues and weather shifts.

Mental health care is in high demand, and the emotional impact of prolonged social distance measures cannot be quantified. Direct support to local government, instead of relying on state dispersal, is an efficient, responsive way to support our citizens directly in this moment of need.

We hope that with the assistance of comprehensive federal management we will continue to meet the challenge of this moment.

Thank you for your work on behalf of Alaskans.

Respectfully,

Mark Jensen, Mayor

Cc: Brad Gilman, Robertson, Monagle and Eastaugh
    Sebastian O’Kelly, Robertson, Monagle and Eastaugh
Petersburg Borough

- Population: 3198
- Employees: 99
- Overall Expenses: $9,446,352
- Total Tax Revenue: $6,625,593
- PERS Employer: $5,078,099
- School Bond Debt: $3,582,299
- School Contribution: $1,800,000
- Petersburg Medical Center & Police Availability
- Municipal Facilities & Utilities: Piped Water, Piped Sewer, Refuse Collection, Electric, Harbor/Ports, Volunteer Fire/EMS, Library, Community Recreation Center, Roads, Schools, Elderly Housing, Assisted Living, Aquatic Center

Petersburg Borough AMHS Calendar

2020

January

February

March

April

May

June

July

August

September

October

November

December

Weeks to Retain/Mark Weekly Work

Days of the Week

Weeks of the Year
I hope this helps in understanding the Frederick Point East issue. Thanks for your support.

Kandi Woodworth

Great. Yes, a copy of the original petition is attached. I am not sure if anything in the original petition (Kathy O'Rear added the date of 2010) was changed at all during the process, so below is a link to the approved petition from the LBC website.


Debra K. Thompson, CMC
Borough Clerk/Human Resources Manager

Petersburg Borough
907-772-5405

Hi Debbie,

Under the Council View I found what I believe is the first mention of the Service Area 1 boundaries. In a City Council Special Session on Monday, January 28, 2008, Borough Attorney Jim Brennan informed the Council under Item 2. Discussion and Considerations for Change in Borough Petition, it reads
Only One Service Area (current City of Petersburg) within the Borough: There would be an area-wide borough tax of 4 mills, applied to all areas outside of the current city of Petersburg. Service Area 1, (City of Petersburg) would be taxed from the very beginning at a higher rate because there are more services within that area.

The Borough Formation Committee members are listed under the minutes of their meetings under attendance.

This will fulfill my previous request to you.

However, I would like to review the Petersburg Borough Petition that was approved. Would you have that in a format that can be e-mailed to me?

Thanks,
Kandi
To the Petersburg Borough Assembly

We strongly oppose the passage of the Emergency Ordinance. There is no legitimate reason for this ordinance. It is in our view quite frankly, a naked power grab.

We regret that we are in Wrangell at present and are unable to present our argument to the members in person.

Sincerely

Chuck Rose
Laura Wong-Rose.

--

This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
https://www.avast.com/antivirus
I dawn ingle do not feel like we need to have one person who can rule on what us Petersburg citizens need to do during this pandemic. The thought that we give this much power to one individual is just unbelievable. There have been people working throughout this whole thing #1 the grocery stores and they have done a wonderful job and the other essential businesses and we have done fine keeping are numbers down. We do not need a one man ruler of this community. Karl just needs to concentrate on his job there is plenty do there I'm sure. Just look at are streets that need grading or stop sign that need bushes trimmed so you can see past them and not have to get out in middle of the street to see a car coming. I'm sure there are many other projects that could use some attention. There are so many things I could go on but you get my point. Heck I was told offices were open so I went to go see Karl and he would not let me in and yes I did have a mask. He said he was to busy dealing with other shit and I quote then to see my pictures of the open sewer running into street during the pandemic. Funny for a guy that wants to be in charge not to let me in because he to busy dealing with other shit. So I vote no on letting Karl be the ruler.

sincerely dawn ingle

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.
Thank you to all for trying to keep the community healthy! Regarding Covid 19, sanctity of life trumps all other issues. For those who do not survive, C19 symptoms are not a pleasant way to make the final exit. I hear lots of opinions on the best ways to minimize C19 in Petersburg. All need respect, discussion, and empathy.

John Murgas
From: Mike <mstainbrookak@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 1:20 PM
To: Assembly
Subject: Support for Ordinance 2020-19

I read Ordinance 2020-19 and I support it. I would like to thank Karl and all the Incident Command Team for their present work. Thank You Mike Stainbrook
Debra Thompson

From: Daniel Sullivan <danjsulli@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 2:10 PM
To: Assembly
Subject: Ord. 2020-19

I am writing in support of Ordinance #2020-19: An Ordinance Amending Borough Code Chapter 3.72 to Provide for Civil Emergency Provisions. In a time of emergency, local officials need the ability to act quickly with appropriate measures to provide for the safety of the community as a whole. It seems to me that this ordinance does that and nothing more. With the oversight of the council, I trust the city manager and Incident Commander (and the IC team) to provide reasoned, prudent and science based leadership to allow the city to function in times of uncertainty.

Thank you,

Dan Sullivan
Debra Thompson

From: Gwynne Samuelson <gwynne.samuelson@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 4:35 PM
To: Assembly
Subject: Ordinance #2020-19

I am opposed to Ordinance #2020-19, 'An Ordinance Amending Borough Code Chapter 3.72 to Provide for Civil Emergency Provisions,' as currently drafted.

In March we all went into quarantine because we didn't know how deadly this virus was. We were told that many of us had it without even knowing it and it made sense to stay home to help flatten the curve and keep our hospital from being inundated. We did those things and it worked. We have had very few cases with no huge spikes, our hospital is not full of COVID patients and there have been no deaths. Businesses were allowed to re-open, the mask mandate was lifted and most of us have felt safe to begin leaving our homes again.

Giving one person absolute authority to re-shut businesses down, etc. is not okay. Given the very few number of cases we've had here, I am also concerned at the seemingly desperate need to rush this new ordinance through. Our community is doing well and we would quite literally be going backwards if our businesses were to be shut down again with another another mask mandate implemented. We have already been so impacted economically, in our jobs, and just the entire fabric of our community.

Mandating this sweeping blanket policy is a gross overreach of power, and, in my opinion, has potential for very detrimental consequences including the total destruction of our local economy. Please consider carefully and acknowledge my voice and the voice of others before moving forward with a yes vote.

Sincerely,

Gwynne Samuelson-Jones
Debra Thompson

From: Keith Billi <keithbilli@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 5:03 PM
To: Assembly
Subject: Emergency ordinance

I'd really like to see this emergency ordinance tabled. There should be no big rush to get this thing pushed through. People's emotions are running high with the COVID-19 situation. Citizens should be allowed to come in to the chambers and testify on this in person. Please table it! This can all be taken care of after things settle down and people are calmer.

Thanks, Keith

Sent from my iPhone
I am terribly disappointed with this call in and listen on the radio situation with our Assembly. Of course the radio cut out about 3 times and we had to have someone post on facebook to tell us how the vote went on Ordinance 2020-19. No, it wasn't just me, everyone on facebook except maybe 2 were having the same issue. If you all continue to insist on these silly telephonic meetings then you NEED TO PLEASE MAKE SURE EVERYTHING WORKS.

In regards to this meeting:

Jeff had no idea what he was voting on but he said it was going to be a NO vote regardless

Chelsea flatly insinuated that the Mayor had an ulterior motive for picking Sept. 21. She totally is an embarrassment

Jeigh Stanton Gregor then proceeded to interrupt Taylor when Taylor suggested that a date could be chosen when they aren't out fishing.

Worse - Jeigh had the audacity to say to the COMMUNITY that this NEW ORDINANCE 2020-19 allowed no more authority than the old one, he was adamant about it and his statement was untrue.

IN the original and in New-

The city manager, as incident commander, shall exercise the authority and discharge the responsibilities vested in him/her by applicable local, state and federal law.

BUT
Only in the New-and allows for way more authority to the Incident Commander than the old - Pursuant to the authority granted hereunder and in Alaska Statute 26.23.140, whenever the Borough Manager determines that a civil emergency exists, he or she may declare by proclamation the existence of the emergency. Any proclamation issued pursuant to this Chapter SHALL HAVE THE FORCE OF LAW AND SHALL SUPERSEDE ANY CONFLICTING PROVISION OF LAW DURING AN EMERGENCY DECLARED PURSUANT TO THIS CHAPTER.

There is more in the New that gives more authority but this was enough to shows the disinformation.

Please tell me when there was ever a forum or open meeting when we could sit down and discuss this ordinance? The first time that most of us learned of it was on the radio when you did the first reading of it on July 6. Someone told me about it. Since that time, the only opportunity that any of us have had to give input was July 15, and July 20, and then all we can do is give a statement. No asking questions or anything. We felt you were bulldozing this thing through.

Thank you to those of you who voted to postpone this last reading until Sept. 21.

I look forward to a notice of some kind of round table or something where we can get some ANSWERS to questions we have all asked to no avail.

Sincerely

Susie Burrell
907-518-4425
July 20, 2020

Good Evening, Mr. Mayor and Assembly Members,

My name is Kandi Woodworth and I live at 848 Mitkof Hwy. I speak for myself. I would like to speak on the July 20, 2020 agenda Item 15. C. regarding Frederick Point East Properties.

I wanted to understand the department policies regarding providing services to Frederick Point East Subdivision (FPE) so I contacted them.

From the Fire Dept & EMS, I spoke to Sandy Dixson, Director 772-3355

She was familiar with the location of FPE and that it is located in Service Area 1. Service Area 1 is the primary response area for Fire Dept and EMS.
Their desire is to respond to all emergencies. However, because the FPE location is remote the time of response is more comparable to responses that would be for properties that are remote Areawide locations.

She explained the assessment of risk vs benefit that would determine response and the importance of keeping the responders safe. These would have to be implemented in the FPE situation. In winter the only road, Forest Service Road 6204, that comes the closest to FPE is not plowed, but is snowed in for 4-5 months on average. Therefore no vehicles would be able to respond. A boat response would need to be assessed in regard to the Frederick Sound conditions along with the weather conditions. Overall, response times would not be comparable to in-town response times.

She did express concern that FPE was placed in Service Area 1 at borough formation.

At the Police Dept, I spoke to Dispatch 772-3838

Dispatch was not quite sure of the location of FPE. I was told that the police response policy is to a turn around or cut off line which is located 11 miles from Sandy Beach Road. The location of Frederick Point East is further than the police cut off line, therefore, any calls for FPE would be referred to the State Trooper.
So at least for the police department, there is an invisible line for response, but that line does not coincide with the boundary of Service Area 1.

At the Sanitation Dept, I spoke to Erin, Supervisor 772-3228

According to borough policy, it is mandatory that all properties in Service Area 1 have trash receptacles, recycling and trash pick up. However, I was informed that trash receptacles, recycling and trash pick up are not provided for FPE because the only road, Forest Service Road 6204, is not borough maintained and is not snow plowed in the winter.

Now, if we look to the Borough Charter under Section 14.04 Criteria for Establishing Service Areas, it states,
“Service areas shall be established according to criteria of need and economic operating efficiency.”
The facts are clear. The 55 lots in the undeveloped subdivision of FPE are remote. The lots are used for seasonal recreational use, except for one full time couple, Don & Jenny Cummins. There is no need for on-site services. It would be economically unfeasible for the borough to spend millions of dollars to provide the infrastructure necessary to provide FPE with the same services provided to other Service Area 1 properties. And FPE should not be taxed unfairly at the Service Area 1 full operational mill rate when it is not provided all the services afforded the Service Area 1 status. Frederick Point East Subdivision has more in common with remote Areawide properties and needs to be taxed fairly on an Areawide basis only.

Therefore, I am requesting that the assembly direct borough staff to complete the ordinance that would remove FPE from Service Area 1 - that ordinance that has already been drafted by the borough attorney and was given to Clerk Thompson in December. This would allow the assembly to proceed with the requirements necessary to move the ordinance forward to give the Service Area 1 voters the opportunity to decide the issue on an October 6th ballot proposition.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kandi Woodworth
Dear Assembly Members;

I appreciate the efforts the Borough has taken to date to address the protections to the public regarding the Covid-19 pandemic. We've been lucky so far as we watch covid cases rise across the State and across the nation. The day after the Borough failed to take action regarding a permanent update to the Borough codes; the President conceded that; "...it will probably get worse before it gets better."

Seeing people in stores without masks, and watching tourists going directly from the airports to our stores reinforces my continued concerns for the spread of this virus. As there is no vaccine, the only real protection we have is to follow preventive measures as prescribed by our medical professionals.

I listened to some of the comments at the Borough meeting Monday night. A lot of people spoke about rights afforded to them by the Constitution. To me, it's sad that people are more concerned with asserting "their" individual rights before acknowledging the preamble to the Constitution that states its purpose, aims, and justification. Beginning with "We the People", it spells out a compelling framework that includes everyone it provides (in part) for our common defense and our general Welfare. I think the Borough is missing an understanding that as a body they have the responsibility to protect the welfare of all before considering what is provided in the Amendments to this document.

Amendments address our freedom of speech but we've learned we can't call "fire" in a crowded theater. There is a right to assemble but we've seen many examples across the nation where the government has lawfully used its authority to limit meetings during this public health crisis. (Public as well as religious gatherings) Protecting the public isn't "overreaching" it's your responsibility.

The postponement of considering this ordinance change doesn't change the fact that Covid-19 still has a potential to cause real harm to our community. Passing a temporary extension to the current emergency orders gives us some time to see what might develop over the next couple of months. I will continue to avoid businesses in town and keep a distance from friends.

Before scheduling a "Community Zoom" call about this issue, please check with the Borough attorney's regarding your responsibilities to provide equal access to anyone who might want to contribute to this discussion. Not everyone has a computer or the internet and what's being discussed should include anyone who wants to participate. After hearing how aggressive people have been on the Borough meetings regarding this topic, I can understand that there may be some who would shy from participating in a zoom call as they'd prefer not to be badgered or bullied.

Bill Tremblay
P.O. Box 662
Petersburg, AK 99833
(907) 772-4461
Debra Thompson

From: none none <feraltmcloud@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2020 5:14 PM
To: Assembly; Jeigh Stanton-Gregor; Jeff Meucci; Debra Thompson; Nancy; Karl Hagerman; Joe Bertagnoli; Jody Tow; Stephen Giesbrecht
Subject: Temporary Civil Ordinance 2020-22

Assembly,

In light of over 50 posts on the Petersburg Covid19 epidemic in favor of passage of Ordinance 2020-19 I strongly urge passage of this temporary emergency ordinance for positive and quick protection locally in any emergency. Ordinance 2020-19 covers quick response to any civil emergency by the Borough Manager or EOC director until the entire Assembly can convene to amend or accept decisions made in the interim.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

I remain,

Nancy Strand
907 772 4872
I urge you to vote YES on the temporary emergency ordinance 2020-22 in the special meeting on September 24th. Let's not make the job harder than it already is and be thankful we have had Karl to step up and take it on. I feel at this time it would be very appropriate to show both Karl and Sandy how much they are appreciated for the time and effort they have put in on dealing with this. It is not a position many of us would want to be in and we should be thankful that they are working as hard as they are. I think they both deserve bonus pay for the extra hours and effort they have given our community and deserve full support from our assembly.

Sent from my iPad
Take this ordinance matter to the people by way of a vote.
JoAnn Thynes

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.
Assembly members -

First let me say a very big THANK YOU for all your hard work on this and other Borough matters. You’re all trying to do the right thing to care for our community, grappling with difficult issues and finding the right balance - it’s not easy, but you’ve been doing a good job.

I’m so sorry that people’s emotions have run so high over the Covid issues, causing people to behave in less-than-civilized ways, and directing so much of their anger and frustration at you. You deserve much better.

I just want to say that I fully support expanding and extending the emergency powers ordinance. The actions that you and our Emergency Operations Center have taken are helping to keep our community safe. You, the Assembly, reacted quickly when this virus first got started and that set us up the right way from the very beginning.

We need the permanent emergency ordinance. The borough, particularly Karl Hagerman, has done an excellent job - an amazing job - at keeping us safe and doing smart things. Keep up the good work and try to tune out the noise of paranoia and fear. Science and behavior that recognizes we are an interdependent society, not selfish individuals, will get us through this pandemic, as well as any other future emergencies that threaten our community.

Thank you all.
Robin Roberts
PO Box 1836
Petersburg, AK 99833
Regarding emergency meeting July 24, 2020

Dear Assembly members and Mayor Jensen,

I would be appalled if you, the assembly, voted to pass an emergency order to go into effect immediately to last 60 days, that in its entirety, represents the very proposal you also voted on to delay until the September 21, 2020 regular meeting.

Such a move would remove all doubt that the mandates and rules regarding covid-19 enacted by borough administrators and the assembly are political maneuvers and designed to “keep in line” the population, both resident and nonresident, to instill fear and control.

Last time I checked, a majority vote made by a governing body was what the governing body was held to. Not a “let’s have an emergency meeting anyway to try to put in place the very thing that was voted down”. I understood that very same public was told during the July 20th meeting that other meetings would be held to gather input on revising 2020-19. To enact this same proposal as an emergency order during this interim period is unconscionable.

Wasn’t the whole idea with all the restrictions to “flatten the curve,” to not overrun our hospitals (of which ours, if one gets ‘too’ sick here in Petersburg, cannot handle)?? Who, when, and by what authority, decided that it became an absolute that no one should even contract the virus, sick or not??

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Marsh
Dear Assembly Members and Emergency Teams,

While the country, the states, and our town are sorting the every-changing information related to mandates and the powers that go with that...please take time to listen to the concerns of the people you serve.

This has grown to be so much more than the initial “flatten the curve” of keeping hospitals for being overwhelmed all at once...and it’s turned into something very different that’s dividing us in deep ways.

It’s time we get kind again...remember how to work together for good...listen to one another...honor differing perspectives...be the caring town we can be.

I believe we can do this...and we don’t need a heavy-handed approach. We’re Petersburg.

Thank you,

Judy Ohmer
From: Lorene Bertagnoli <lorenejb@gci.net>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 10:09 AM
To: Assembly
Subject: Temporary emergency ordinance

I am writing to encourage passage of temporary emergency ordinance 2020-22.

Thank you,

Lorene Bertagnoli
From: Jennifer Thynes <auntynennie@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 11:17 AM
To: Assembly
Subject: Fear the ugliest political tool!

https://youtu.be/MhnzV1rBK2k

Sent from my iPhone
We support the Borough passing a "permanent" ordinance to deal with the pandemic to help keep our community safe. We think Karl Hagerman has done an excellent job and will continue to do so.

Best,
Michele & Thomas Parker
mtparks@fastmail.net
Debra Thompson

From: Debra Thompson  
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 12:31 PM  
To: K. Woodworth; Assembly  
Subject: RE: Correspondence regarding the FPE issue that was sent to assembly for July 20 meeting is missing on agenda

Hi Kandi,

If you are referring to the 7/19 email to the Assembly, it was sent to the Assembly after the July 20th meeting agenda was published (which was on July 16 per Borough Code) and therefore is not attached to the agenda. Your correspondence will be posted in the August 3 agenda.

Thank you,
Debbie

Debra K. Thompson, CMC  
Borough Clerk/Human Resources Manager  
Petersburg Borough  
907-772-5405

From: K. Woodworth <k.m.1400@live.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 11:55 AM  
To: Debra Thompson <dthompson@petersburgak.gov>; Assembly <assembly@petersburgak.gov>  
Subject: Correspondence regarding the FPE issue that was sent to assembly for July 20 meeting is missing on agenda

Debbie,

I am not finding the Correspondence sent to the assembly regarding FPE issue posted on the agenda for the July 20 meeting.

Was this correspondence sent to all assembly members prior to the meeting?

Please post all correspondence that was sent to the assembly for the July 20th meeting on the agenda for the July 20th meeting under the New Business Item 15. C.

Thank you.  
Kandi Woodworth
I do not agree with the proposed emergency ordinance. This has already been voted to wait until September 21st. I also think that this is sneaky behavior of trying to get your way since you didn’t last week. Why rush? Now is not the time to be putting more strain on our community. This is not creating peace or safety within us. It is dividing us. What you need to be asking Yourselves is what is in the best interest of our town. What can we do better to keep our community connected and safe? If your answer is to put this ordinance into affect, I, and many others will strongly disagree. Please open your ears to the public and take into consideration our needs. We do not NEED to feel threatened by an unjust law.

Sincerely,
Jessica Cheney

Sent from my iPhone
Dear assembly members; I am writing to you in regards to the scow bay parking for homeowners in scow bay. As you may know, this area has provided residence access to Petersburg for over 30 years now. Recently the Harbor informed by notice in the parking area that cars had to be removed. As this area is vital to me in allowing access for a disabled family member and also access to emergency services I think the assembly should take this issue into serious consideration as no other suitable alternatives exist that are publicly available that would provide reasonable accessibility and due to the low volume of users this didn't appear to be an issue with the new lease holder.

Please let me know if you can correct this.

Thank you, Miles Curtis (907) 518-4405
Dear Assembly Members,

This temporary Emergency Ordinance is just like the one you tried to pass earlier this week.

We particularly object to the $2,000 fine and 90-day jail sentence for disobeying the rules. Those penalties are out-of-bounds and unreasonable.

Sincerely,

Rae and Tim Wilkinson
when the march 16th emergency ordinance expired the end of April the assembly as of May 1st was under the rules of the permanent law that an assembly member may not be counted as part of a quorum if that member was participating telephonically. Since then all meetings have not had 4 members physically together for a meeting. So even though Borough staff thought it was ok because there were no objections. In my opinion every meeting since May 1st to this meeting today, July 24th has been invalid. I asked Borough staff for our Lawyers written opinion on this subject and was told there was not one. The meeting where supposedly the assembly corrected this, that meeting too did not the borough's definition of a legal quorum so that too was not valid. I would like the borough to get our lawyers opinion and have her written opinion publicly available on this quorum question

Thanks Marc Martinsen
Dear Assembly,

After voting to postpone the final reading of the new emergency ordinance, I am disappointed to find out that the Assembly is holding a special meeting today to implement it anyway. Even if it's "temporary," this action makes me view the Assembly with mistrust.

-Mika Hasbrouck
Hello. I am strongly opposed to this ordinance, even as a temporary measure. It places too much power in the hands of one person. I'm not satisfied with the checks and balances provided. This is far more than is needed at this time.

If the assembly and/or the incident commander and his team feel like there are specific measures that need to be taken regarding the present spike in national cases, then it would be proper to propose specific actions. This has the feel of taking advantage of public fear to get a far reaching ordinance passed.

The included penalties of $2000.00 fine and 90 days in jail are excessive in the extreme. The fine in Juneau for not wearing a mask is $25.00. At the very least I'd like to see an amendment making the penalties reasonable.

Please vote against this ordinance.

Thank you, Keith Billi

Sent from my iPhone
The language in this temporary emergency order is similar if not the same as the one you voted to postpone until September 21st. I am still against it and am extremely uncomfortable with your urgency to get this passed. Today's "special" meeting seems sneaky and suspicious, especially because it was not made public until the last minute.

Please listen to the members in our community before moving ahead with this. Our voices deserve to be heard and represented fairly.

Sincerely,

Gwynne Samuelson-Jones

Sent from my iPhone
Assembly members,
To understand your place of representing and making descions for such a diverse community is beyond me. We are thankful for your efforts, it must be taxing to have such a place. And yet I encourage you to think hard that you do have the trust of many and I would suggest being very careful about overstepping authority. It is my opinion that taking any action tonight that takes away peoples choice is a sad use of your position. With gratitude– Chelsea smith
As I read the paper this morning I was encouraged about the council's decision to postpone till September. I thought wow they do seem to have a consideration for the views of the WHOLE community. Yet now I feel as if it was a superficial way to appease yet still achieve your own will. more government has never proven to be better for the people. Why does the borough need such power and why do you insist to grab it while so many families are in their busiest times trying to provide and cannot keep up with new laws that seem to come every week from a few.

Jim smith
Dear Assembly,

I would support a temporary mask mandate for the Petersburg Borough.

I suffer from an autoimmune disease that requires me to take immunosuppressive medication, which leaves me vulnerable to infections. Due to the lack of vaccinations available for Covid-19, I have been hypervigilant about staying home and minimizing interactions with the public. Up until now, I haven’t felt like I have been unable to do much. I have been working from home since March, I wear a mask to stores during hours when I don’t think there will be a crowd. I try to shop in town when I can, especially in stores like Lee’s Clothing and Sing Lee Alley Books where they keep their numbers low and require masks while in their store - because I truly feel that that is the safer option for me and my family. My children have had Zoom birthday parties, we avoid large gatherings of more than five people at a time, and we keep our children’s friend circles small. We feel that all these things help keep ourselves and our community safe.

I say that I have felt like not much has slowed me down until now, because the new schedule at the post office has truly created an issue for us. And it isn’t just my family - I have seen many others there that I know have medical issues but feel they don’t have a choice and that they have to risk their health to get their medication or other packages by standing in long lines at the post office. The new post office hours are only between the hours of 2pm and 4pm everyday (to absolute no fault of our postal employees). When I have managed to make it there, the line is always out the door. About a 1/3 of the public in the building are wearing masks, nobody is social distancing, and the doors are shut on both sides reducing air flow. This is a recipe for disaster.

I have been hearing a great deal about a mask mandate interfering with our constitutional rights. The First Amendment protects freedom of speech, press, petition, assembly and religion. How does a mask mandate interfere with these rights? I have also heard that a mask mandate violates our rights to liberty. A mask mandate does not violate a constitutional right to privacy or health or bodily integrity. If someone feels that a cloth covering over their face reduces their ability to breath, there are many face shield options available now to the public.

What the constitution does protect, however, is that our rights MUST NOT ENDANGER OTHERS and in doing so, violates their rights. I feel as though not issuing a mask mandate in town violates the rights of our most vulnerable populations, myself included. There are literally hundreds of peer reviewed publications on how masking reduces the transmission rate of Covid-19, but it is only effective if everyone is wearing them. Our post office situation is a real threat to keeping our vulnerable safe right now. From what I understand, nothing can be done until we have a mask mandate in town and then the post office can require masks.

I know the argument against a mask mandate is that our positive numbers have been low. We may not have any active reported cases in town, but I have heard from a variety of people that they have shown symptoms, but it hasn’t been enough for them to take a test. I have no idea if these people are isolating and avoiding crowds. The virus could very well be silently spreading through our borough. The positive cases in Alaska are averaging 95 cases per day, based on a 7-week average. Yesterday alone, there were a reported 186 positive resident cases in Alaska. We had the highest transmission rate than anywhere in the country on Friday. The increases in cases should alarm our small town with limited medical resources. Hospital beds are filling up in Anchorage and cases are spiking in Juneau. There are multiple peer reviewed publications showing that patients with relatively mild symptoms of Covid-19 may still have long term issues (neurological, vascular, etc.) and although rare, can cause severe sickness in children.
In addition to protecting our citizens, we should also protect our fragile economy. Positive cases are surging in processing plants, thus resulting in them being shut down. They thought they were doing all they could to protect their workers, but did not account for residents coming into contact with their staff in towns where there is no mask mandate implemented. Petersburg and our residents would suffer immensely if one of our plants had to shut down due to an outbreak.

I have a couple of questions for you. How many lives are you willing to risk because we don’t want to tell residents that they have to wear a mask in the post office? Are we willing to risk our economy because we didn’t want people to suffer a minor inconvenience?

I sincerely thank you for your time and consideration,

Kellii Wood
July 27, 2020

Members of the Borough Assembly, Manager Giesbrecht, Karl Hagerman, Incident Command Team,

I want to thank you for leading us during this unprecedented pandemic. You have done an exemplary job of organizing and protecting our community over the past four, plus, months, and you have my heartfelt gratitude.

I have been wearing a mask in public for over four months to protect others, just in case I am an asymptomatic carrier of the Coronavirus. I am disappointed in others who ignore the science of masking and do not care to protect others. I have lived with this reality and tried to avoid those people. But, recently, what I’ve heard about and seen of local risky behaviors concerns me and has prompted me to write and request that you consider a mask mandate.

It was impressive that Petersburg’s people rallied and hunkered down and really acted like a community that truly cares for one another when the country began feeling the effects of the pandemic in March. How fortunate that there were only three random cases in the first two months, another random case earlier this month, and then a few visitors that followed the rules or skipped town!
At first glance, one would even be tempted to think that if the virus has landed in Petersburg, it’s so minimal that it’s not rearing its ugly head, especially because many people have gone back to attending in-home parties, church services—including singing—and going about daily and nightly routines and entertainment.

Meanwhile, over 4,400,000 fellow citizens in our Nation have contracted a potentially deadly virus and are spreading it exponentially, while over 150,000 have died. These numbers are astounding and heartbreaking, especially because each one represents a human life. Meanwhile, some want us to believe this is a conspiracy and the numbers lie. The reality is, the US never got over the first wave, the first wave just relocated.

While this pandemic has (for real, even though some don’t believe it) been infecting thousands of people elsewhere, Petersburg has been very fortunate with our few cases and not overwhelming our hospital and our medical community. By May, because the virus wasn’t an immediate threat, lots of people in our community were “done” with restrictions and became lax and risky.

Then the governor reopened the state. It was almost as if nothing, especially a major pandemic, was happening. Except that people from other places knew, and most weren’t traveling, and our town was pretty quiet.

I listed the progression of the number of cases from the end of May through the present at the end of my letter. The numbers are from the State of Alaska Division of Health and Social Services. You can see the points at which our State had some significant increases in cases, as the virus began its insidious spread into our state.
On May 31, we had 460 resident cases, 21 Non-resident cases, and 10 deaths.
By the end of June, we had doubled our cases at 978 Resident cases and had an increased to198 Non-Resident cases, 67 hospitalizations and 14 deaths.
Now, entering the last week of July, the cases have almost tripled to 2524 Residents, 578 Nonresidents, with 115 hospitalizations and 20 deaths. These numbers don’t sound high compared to the rest of the country, but the rate per capita puts Alaska as #1, not a good thing!
The most recent count day (results of July 25, posted July 26) saw our first triple-digit case increase of 186—up from 88 the previous day—residents, and 45 non residents.
It's easy to say, "These are cases in Anchorage." But I would like to know how many people have been to or through Anchorage, or other parts of Alaska in the past two weeks. I would also like to know how many asymptomatic people our recent travelers have been in contact with that have not yet been diagnosed as positive. People travel from the hot spots in Alaska. It's a fact of life here. It's now a risk. How can the people who have traveled INTRASTATE protect the residents of Petersburg? Mainly by keeping a safe distance and by wearing a mask.

On the subject of travelers, I happened to be driving past the airport on Friday afternoon just as the jet had unloaded passengers. Parking had overflowed down the sides of Haugen Drive. It was a joyous reunion of many people, hugs all over the place. I'm guessing that many of the passengers were our fishers who had just returned from The Bay. I'm so happy that family members were reunited! It's a relief to have them home, and a special time! I wonder how many of these people self-quarantined because they'd traveled and lived in potentially infectious situations? I don't know how many times this scene has been repeated, but my concern is that there is a good chance that these travelers are asymptomatic with Covid 19, and that they will not be self-quarantining. So, my question is, how should these folks protect us and stop the spread, just in case? Mainly by keeping a safe distance and by wearing a mask.

It's also probable that many went out and celebrated the end of the season, after a good night's sleep. Maybe out to dinner, maybe out to have a few drinks. I want restaurants and other entertainment establishments to stay in business. I want the economy to be healthy. I also want all of our residents to be healthy. Residents can be kept healthy, and we can keep our economy healthy if everyone watches their distance and wears a mask.

Another situation that came to my attention on Friday, and which I luckily avoided, was the long line out the door and down the sidewalk at the post office. Of course, we have packages to pick up or to mail. All of us do. And the two wonderful women who are the glue that holds our post office together work their rear ends off!! The line is no one's fault. But the line could be safer, and we could potentially keep our postal staff healthier if we all wore masks.

Many people don't have the luxury to stay home and sit this pandemic out. There are many, many people who are immunocompromised or otherwise at risk. I was astounded at the long list of diseases that increase vulnerability to Covid 19. And don't forget the elderly. We can be a caring community and protect each other.

For those who would say we need to build our immunity, here are some thoughts, I am 71 years young. My behaviors are safe. Nevertheless, as we age our immune systems are not as efficient. I calculate every moment I will be in a public setting, and evaluate whether it is safe or not, and how long my activity will take. My partner and I are strengthening our immune systems continually—we exercise daily, get fresh air, eat healthy home-cooked meals, including lots of antioxidants and super-healthy foods. We take supplements, including Vitamin D and Zinc. We have traveled globally, so have been exposed to a multitude of microbes, and have been exposed to many wonderful ideas! But if someone happens to be an asymptomatic carrier and doesn't wear a mask, and I have one moment of vulnerability, I've likely been exposed to Covid 19. I could be protected if the carrier kept a distance or wore a mask.

*Alaska's Covid 19 cases have spiked dramatically in the past three weeks.
*Many people in Petersburg travel around the state, and have been in or through areas where there have been many positive cases.
*We have many vulnerable people in our Petersburg population.
*Wearing a mask has been shown to prevent the spread of Covid 19.
*If we keep our people healthy, our economy will be healthy.

Wearing a mask shows that you're paying attention to what's going on in the world around you, that you respect science, and that you are a critical thinker. It also shows that you care about your community—the people, the schools, and the economy. Wearing a mask is a minor inconvenience compared to the devastation caused by Covid 19. The medical experts have presented you with scientific evidence, from real scientists, proving masks are not harmful and will help greatly to prevent the spread of Covid 19. If you feel you need more information, I will be happy to procure it for you.

Finally, Petersburg has been very fortunate!! With all the information we have about how wearing masks prevents spread, and so many people in the country testing positive, why wouldn't you, as elected officials, do everything...
possible to keep your citizens safe?! I hope you will consider this as soon as possible, and hope were not already too far behind in stopping the spread.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Kathy Bracken, Citizen, Petersburg, Alaska

Coronavirus Case Information from Alaska Department of Health and Social Services

At the end of May, 460 Resident, 21 NonResident, 10 deaths

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End of June Residents 978, Nonresidents 198, 14 Deaths

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When the Power of Love overcomes the Love of Power, there will be PEACE.
Debra Thompson

From: Malena Marvin <schoolhousefish@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 11:22 AM
To: Assembly
Subject: We ask that you pass a mask mandate for Petersburg

Dear Assembly members,

A mask mandate will help in reducing potential community spread of COVID-19, which will allow the community to safely process our season’s catch and ensure businesses like Schoolhouse Fish Co, and all our related processors and web of small and large businesses are able to finish the season successfully.

Serious outbreaks in Petersburg will tank a lot of jobs this summer - we can't afford this. We have to act smartly and quickly.

Our direct market seafood business takes pre-orders from customers around the country in May and then we ship out those orders June through October as we fish and the awesome, hardworking folks at Coastal and Tonka process our catch through the season.

Right now we're just hoping and praying that COVID outbreaks don't interrupt Petersburg's ability to process our catch and get it out to the world. At this point, we can't afford to refund our customers if we can't ship. If either of us were to get seriously ill we also wouldn't be able to meet our orders. As a family business, we don't have back up. In a roll of the dice, we've been lucky to be able to continue our business, and as such we are a source of revenue for the community, supporting local businesses and nonprofits and doing our part to keep our economy afloat.

Science, common sense, and evidence from around the country and the world now unanimously confirm that the simple wearing of masks when indoors in public places dramatically reduces the spread of COVID-19. We understand that this wasn't super clear at the outset of the pandemic, but as of July, the data is indisputable: masks are a simple, cheap, and effective preventative that pose no health risks. (If they were a drug, we all know the pharma companies would be making trillions selling it to us and it would be immediately mandated across the country!)

+ A recent Wall Street Journal article summarizes just some of the data on masks and is included in this email and available here: Face Masks Really Do Matter. The Scientific Evidence Is Growing.
+ Earlier this month, Anchorage did the right thing and passed a mask mandate. A professional survey double checked by UAA found that 77% of residents supported a mask mandate.
+ Later this month, Juneau passed a mask mandate. Their diverse Assembly passed the mandate 6-0 unanimously.
+ National polls are also clear. The latest shows that 75% of US voters support mandating masks to stop the disease.

There is no reason to believe that Petersburg would be different than Anchorage or the nation: a majority of us support a mask mandate.

Sometimes, it's your job as an Assembly to listen to a vocal minority. Sometimes there are a minority of residents who care deeply about an issue that the majority is indifferent to or doesn't comment on. THIS IS NOT ONE OF THOSE TIMES. In the case of COVID-19, there is a community majority, a national majority, and an international majority who understands that we must get our act together in this country and beat this disease back as many other nations already
have. Those who support masks are the majority and in this case it is your civic and moral responsibility to act decisively in support of public health and the continued economic stability of Petersburg.

Please vote on and pass a mask ordinance. We ask that you do what's best before we needlessly lose someone in this town to COVID or before we have outbreaks that damage our economy further.

We know some of you may think masks are a good idea but shouldn't be mandated. Not only is that a minority opinion nationally, it's worth reconsidering locally.

While it's true a small crowd may defy a mandate in Petersburg, it's also true that a mandate will impact the behavior of lodge visitors and other tourists who bring COVID into town. It will also impact behavior at the Post Office which is over full with partially masked community members congregating indoors during staff shortages. Every time we can get someone to wear a mask who may not have prioritized it before, we have the opportunity to save a life or a business.

It's my belief that we all want the same things for the town: health, prosperity, thriving families, open schools. And while we value our rights to disagree, we must also understand that on this issue the facts regarding COVID are true regardless of various opinions about them. Let's mask up and beat this thing and get back to treating one another's ideas respectfully and thoughtfully.

Sincerely,
Malena Marvin & Eric Grundberg
Schoolhouse Fish Co.
City Leaders of Petersburg,
Thank you for your conscientious hard work in keeping Petersburg citizens safe and helping our community be a functioning, vibrant place for all of us during this time of the pandemic. Your calm and civil manner in dealing with new information and changes that need to be implemented to keep us up to date and ready for future problems is commendable. Thank you.
By way of listening to and reading recommendations made by our science and medical communities, I believe we need to be social distancing, washing hands and WEARING MASKS when we enter establishments in our community and when speaking with others within our area.
I support a masking mandate as outlined by our city leaders.
Thank you again for your continued effort.
Kelly O'Connor Demko
Good morning,

I am writing because I am concerned of the safety of our community, especially while waiting in line at the USPS. As they have reduced hours because of things beyond their control, the lines have wrapped around the building, indoors all the way to the last bay of boxes by the back door and started wrapping back towards the front of the office again. My PO box is in that bay and I was unable to get to it without being within 6 ft of 5 different people not wearing any face coverings. I have opted to not get my mail due to safety concerns. I checked multiple days last week, but before entering look inside at the amount of people and usually roughly 50% without face coverings, then account for the amount of time I would have to spend indoors with people outside of my household and that puts me and ‘at risk’ members of our household at risk for contracting Covid. Thus, I am not able to check or receive my USPS mail which is a problem.

If everyone in the Post office wore some sort of facial covering, and stricter indoor limits on number of patrons we would be less at risk while waiting in line. Towards the back of the line there was maybe 2 feet of distance between those waiting. Contract tracing is defined as person who has spent more than 10 min. in close proximity to someone who has the virus, especially indoors. The way I see it, one positive case in the PO, could lead to a rather large community outbreak. The signs on the door ask patrons to wear a mask, and limit number in lobby to 10 ppl. These guidelines are not being followed, and since there will be no federal mandates, I see this as another reason to have a local face covering mandate in place. We have left it up to peoples good will and used words like highly suggested, though we’ve seen dwindling number of face coverings over the past months including at our essential town services. There have also been an increase in large gatherings of people indoors with no facial coverings at local bars and restaurant’s providing more ‘at risk’ opportunities for the potential spread of the virus. The countries major Covid spikes over recent weeks have been attributed to people resuming life as normal to soon, not following social distance guidelines, and facial covering suggestions. I hope we can act here again, before it’s too late.

I appreciate the assembly member’s who have been in support the face covering mandate’s and all of you for working so hard to keep this community safe thus far. I appreciate the assembly and EOC getting our business open and running to support our local economy and livelihoods. In order to keep these open and running, we must see more participation in safety and preventive measures in our community. I appreciate seeing our community leaders setting good examples and adhering to recommendations of health officials, scientists, CDC, the Administrations requests for US citizens as well as our own great state of Alaska and the governor’s requests for Alaskans to wear facial coverings and adhere to preventive safety measures. Thank you to those of you who are choosing to wear them if you can, and adhere to guidelines suggested to keep our community safe.

We ask so much of our local hospital, and health care facilities, also the canneries and their employees. That they follow the strictest of safety guidelines and they are all wearing facial coverings for entire shifts. They do that for our community, the least we can do as a community is show them that we are also doing everything we can to keep our community safe in return. We have locals who work in the canneries, so community spread could potentially shut down our canneries and put a huge dent in our local fishing economy. The more we do as a community to keep Covid out or stop spread when it gets here, the more likely we are going to be able to get our kids back in schools and keep the
schools and local business open. Wearing face coverings and adhering to preventive measures, actually is beneficial to our economy in the long run and most importantly, the health and safety of our beloved community members.

Last note, perhaps we could figure out a way to move that line outdoors, rain or shine, while they are on limited hours or anytime there are more than 10 people in line? I realize this burden should not be placed on the Postal service workers as they are already working so hard for our community to get us our mail, I appreciate them greatly! Thought the idea was worth suggesting in case there was a way to get this type of plan going at the USPS.

Sincerely,
Erin M. Kandoll
Dear Mayor and Assembly-

Until now, I have held my tongue regarding community-wide protections to prevent the spread of Covid-19. I trusted that the Assembly and emergency committee would follow the prevailing science and act in the best interest for the safety of the community, particularly the most vulnerable. I also did not want to "add fuel to the fire" that appears to be smoldering in town - the last thing we need is open hostility or even violence on top of a pandemic.

I now realize that my silence may have contributed to a perception that the majority of community members are opposed to protections such as mandatory indoor masking for customers, limiting the number of people allowed in a given space at one time, etc. Please know that I am in support of these kinds of protections, in particular those that will help our elders and chronically ill lead as normal and connected lives as possible, and that are recommended by the experts at the Petersburg Medical Center.

Sincerely,
Sunny Rice
Box 1736
208 N. Third St.
Hello Mayor and Assembly Members,

Malena Marvin sent me a copy of her & Eric Grundberg’s letter to you regarding your consideration of a Petersburg mask mandate. Rather than rehash the content of her letter, quite simply, I fully endorse her remarks and have no debate with the science cited therein.

Moreover, I do not believe that a mandate to wear a mask violates my civil liberties, any more than laws to protect the health and safety of our citizens do. This includes laws regarding the use of seatbelts, speed limits, smoke free workplaces, clean water, pesticide regulations and much more. This is not a hard decision, but rather a necessary one.

Because I am in a high risk group, I have avoided any congregation of people in recent months by grocery shopping mostly at 7:00 am and after hour visits to the post office. I did have a package at the post office last week that had been sitting there for 10 days or more and finally had to pick it up. Unfortunately, there was no way to avoid the petri dish concentration of people there, many without masks. It made me legitimately anxious.

I request that you issue a Petersburg mask mandate until the effects of the pandemic have subsided.

Thank you,

Becky Knight
Dear Council Members,

I was asked by someone in the community to send the Assembly a copy of my letter that was on KFSK last week.

I do not know if that is really appropriate but I will forward it as an attachment.

I have said my peace and I will not be offended if I do not get a response.

I do think that we are ALL have the same hope and goal which is to keep our community safe and our economy strong.

I truly believe the three W's, wearing a mask, washing our hands and watching our distance will help in that fight.

Thank you all for doing your best and encouraging kindness.

Sincerely,

Karen Severson
Dear Neighbors, this is Karen Severson, I have some thoughts that I feel compelled to share.

Covid-19 has been difficult for all of us in so many ways. Notably the most bizarre experience of our life time. The adjustments have been hard and understandably we all feel frustration. It has turned political and divisive to our entire country.

We are blessed to live in an America that has Freedoms. I still love and respect my neighbors even if I don't always agree with them. We can agree to disagree. But the more we are divided the more this virus will defeat us. Believe it or not, we are living in a Global Pandemic. The numbers do not lie; it is not a hoax.

One cannot be on the internet long without seeing misinformation, conspiracies, and propaganda. We need to do our own research and fact checking.

I choose to get my knowledge from many scientists, doctors, nurses and Governors' all working the front lines of this pandemic.

This is a time we should be standing in solidarity for the good of others, and for the sake of our communities and getting back on track to a strong economy again.

Doctors and Scientists repeatedly tell us that masks do not make us sick, and that they will give us and others protection from the spread of droplets that occur even from talking. Masks are the key to getting the virus under control so that we may get back to a "new normal" sooner, rather than later.

This is not the common cold or flu. It is more deadly and transmissible. How long someone can spread the virus is still under investigation. What Scientists know about Covid-19 is changing rapidly.

Scientists are discovering that silent transmission from asymptomatic persons could be responsible for half of the COVID-19 cases, especially among young people.

This spread will continue without preventative measures until we can get immunity through a vaccination, and that is not going to happen quickly.

With cases numbers low in Petersburg it is easy to think "we are okay" and that Covid-19 is not a threat "here". But, that is exactly why Florida, Texas, Arizona, California and others, are seeing record setting case numbers and hospitals at full capacity with death tolls rising. Too many did not take it seriously until it was too late. This dire situation is growing rapidly and is out of control.

I don’t want to see that happen here. We are lucky to live on an island in a small community, but my point is we are still vulnerable.

Other countries have flattened their curve by simply masking, social distancing, testing and tracing! We should want to be like them. Herd Immunity tactics from other countries has come at a high cost and not given them the results that they had hoped for and are now changing that course.

The three W's. Wear a mask, Wash your hands and Watch your distance is not unreasonable. It is crucial we get better Testing and Contract Tracing to keep the spread controlled.
Our own Covid Response Leaders and front line workers are doing a great job. It has got to be exhausting and thankless. We are lucky here in Petersburg that we can count on our leaders to be egalitarian and make decisions with thought and guidance.

Leadership that is honest, not full of hate and bigotry and lies, is what we should all hope for to get us out of this mess we are in, safer and faster.

BE STRONG TOGETHER! That was our motto a few months ago. With a long road ahead of us, I would hope with reflection we can seek that again.

The election in November is the most important one in my life time. Our future, and maybe our lives, may depend on it. Exercise your freedom of speech and VOTE!

I love the words of Senator John Lewis who passed on Friday, "Choose Love not Hate, Courage not Fear." Elect those that represent that!

With love and kindness, patience and understanding, the world can be a better place.

Governor Polis from Colorado said it well on Sunday, "That more people wearing masks would allow for other aspects of normal life to resume during the coronavirus pandemic."

He said, "this is not ideological, it is not partisan, it is science-based. Masks are a ticket to more freedom. It makes it less likely that businesses will be shuttered. It makes it less likely that people will die. It makes it more likely school will return. If we care about those things, you’re going to take that as a matter of personal responsibility to protect yourself, protect others, protect our economy,"

I hope that we can be mindful to protect EVERYONE. Thank you.
Debra Thompson

From: scout Warmack <elizawarmack@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 1:53 PM
To: Assembly
Subject: mask mandate

Hello Assembly Members,

Thank you for your hard work in this climate of grey rain and dissent. I would like to express my opinion about the facts associated with a mask mandate. I am writing today, in support of a mask mandate for those times when a 6 foot distance cannot be maintained, such as inside or even on the streets of downtown. It is unfair that someone else can make choices about my health by not putting a mask on their face. If I am going to continue to frequent the shops in town I would like to see a mandate due to the increase in cases around the state. Thank you.
A. Eliza Warmack
Dear Assembly,

I am in support of a mask mandate. I won't bore you with details. Just know that I won't take it as an affront to my civil liberties if you decide to pass an ordinance mandating mask-wearing in most social settings.

My wife, Beth Loesch, would also strongly support such a mandate.

Best,

Casey Knight
606 Queen Street
P.O. Box 942
907-650-7345

Sent from my iPhone
Hi,

I was informed by other members of the community that the city counsel is considering a mask mandate. I think masks should be mandatory and enforced in all indoor environments for adults—there is a mountain of research that supports that mask wearing slows the spread of COVID. Alaska cases are increasing and the infrastructure of our health care in Petersburg is not equipped to handle an outbreak. Mask wearing indoors is the best prevention.

Thanks for your time and consideration,
Lina Kotsoeva

Sent from my iPhone
Dear Assembly,

It has come to my attention that the School District is in need of funding for the upcoming school year. I believe that our children have suffered the most during this pandemic and I am strongly urging you to use CARES Act funds or Borough reserves for operational expenses for the upcoming school year.

I also want to thank you all for the energy you have spent dealing with life as we know it in 2020. Covid has caused much chaos in everyone's lives and through it all Petersburg has remained a safe, healthy place to live, work and visit.

Best,

Ambre Burrell
Rock-N-Road Construction, Inc
P. 907.772.3308
F. 907.772.2268
Dear Assembly,

Harold and I support a temporary mask mandate for the Petersburg Borough. We are both in the vulnerable class of people, Harold is 70 and has Type II Diabetes. I have cancer and will be starting chemotherapy soon. With Harold out on the boat for part of the week, it is sometimes necessary for me to run errands. It would be nice to feel safe.

I just got home from a trip to the PO. It's been open 45 minutes, yet the line still goes all the way from the counter, out the backdoor, and back down the sidewalk to the front of the building! Inside is just choked.

The jet just arrived and we all know that, often, the first stop when back in town is the PO.... We have a lot of back and forth between our communities and had the highest transmission rate of anywhere in the country last Friday. The increases in cases should alarm our small town with limited medical resources. Hospital beds are filling up in Anchorage and cases are spiking in Juneau. It just takes one “super spreader” in that PO line riddled with maskless people and we could have an outbreak.

I have been hearing a great deal about a mask mandate interfering with our constitutional rights. That argument has been repeatedly debunked by legal experts. Further, there are literally hundreds of peer reviewed studies published on how masking reduces the transmission rate of Covid-19, but it is only effective if everyone is wearing them.

As I'm sure you know, positive cases are surging in processing plants, thus resulting in them being shut down. The processors (with so much money at stake) thought they were doing all they could to protect their workers, but did not account for residents coming into contact with their staff in towns where there is no mask mandate implemented.

Petersburg and our residents would suffer a big economic hit if one of our plants had to shut down due to an outbreak; from an economic standpoint, all arguments are for suppressing the spread of this virus. A mask mandate is the best way science currently knows to do this.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lizzie and Harold Thompson

--
PO Box 1631
Petersburg, AK 99833
907-772-2775
Council members,

I am writing to support the mandatory mask policy for the Borough.

Each of us have a different story. Mine includes an incurable cancer, Multiple Myeloma. I have lived with this for the past 10 years. I have been through 2 stem cell transplants, several bouts with pneumonia and 10 days on a ventilator. I am receiving a chemo therapy 3 times a month. My immune system is comprised.

At this time I am enjoying good health. That could change quickly if I came into contact with an asymptotic Covid carrier that didn’t feel they needed to wear a mask.

We have tourists coming through town and several have tested positive. I feel it is only a matter of time before the inevitable happens. If we require mandatory masking it could save one of our lives.

Sincerely,

Adele See Rosvold

Sent from my iPad
I support a mask mandate.

Thank you,
Beth Loesch
From: Matt Pawuk <mwpawuk@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 5:08 PM
To: Assembly
Subject: My support for a temporary mask mandate

Dear Mayor and Assembly,

I am writing this representing myself only. I would support a temporary mask mandate for the Petersburg Borough.

Masks have been shown to be one of the best (and one of the few) weapons we have to combat the spread of coronavirus. They are a minor inconvenience. They do not infringe on an individual’s rights any more than being asked to wear shoes while in a store. As a hospital employee I have spent upwards of 40 hours a week in a mask since May. I personally unicycled the Loop race on the 4th of July wearing a mask the entire time just to see if I could do it and to be honest I forgot I was wearing it about five minutes into my 45 minute ride. If a man in his 40s that is well beyond his days of being able to be described as “athletic” can ride for 45 minutes in a mask then I’m confident that my fellow Petersburg residents can wear one for 10 minutes while they pick up their bread and eggs at the grocery store.

I have been listening to the Assembly meetings as much as I can and have elected to not speak up. However, I believe many of the individuals that have spoken during the public testimony portion of the meetings represent a vocal minority here in Petersburg. I have heard the argument that we don’t need a mask mandate. Why mandate a mask? When case numbers increase, those that feel the need to wear a mask can wear a mask for protection. This misses the point of wearing a mask entirely. When I wear a mask in public, I do not wear it to protect myself. I wear a mask in public to protect others I may come into contact with. Wearing a mask is an act of kindness and such an easy one at that.

I have also noticed several speakers resorting to reminding the Assembly board members that you are elected officials, implying you may not be re-elected should you choose to vote in favor of a mask mandate or in favor of Ordinance #2020-19. Frankly, I do not know why any of you would want to be re-elected at this point. You are doing a thankless job during one of the most difficult times this Borough and this country has ever seen. The vitriol and high emotions leveled at you cannot be easy to deal with. I do not envy your position. I do, however, thank you for your dedication to our community. The only suggestion I can give is to try and think ten years into the future. At that point, given the gift of hindsight, you will be able to look back at this time and know whether you made the right choice. Did you vote out of fear of not being re-elected? Did you vote to appease the vocal minority? Or did you vote in the best interest of your community as a whole knowing you will draw the ire of some?

Ten years from now we will not know if we overreacted to the COVID-19 pandemic here in Petersburg, but we will surely know if we underreacted. I hope for everyone’s sake we do not underreact.

Thank you for time and your service to our community,
Matt Pawuk
Debra Thompson

From: john <perhav@ghi.net>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 5:31 PM
To: Debra Thompson
Subject: Fwd: masking

-------- Forwarded Message --------
Subject: masking
   Date: Mon, 27 Jul 2020 20:04:12 -0400 (EDT)
   From: perhav@ghi.net
   To: Assembly@petersburgak.gov

John and I support mandatory masking for Petersburg
John Havrilek and Elizabeth Perry
Hello, I am writing to request that the Assembly seriously consider implementing a mask mandate as soon as possible. All public health authorities agree that a face covering is one of the most important tools that we have to help protect the public health during this pandemic. However, experience tells us that a significant percentage of the population will not comply with a guideline. I know that some people are probably feeling pretty safe in Petersburg right now, given that we have had few active cases in town. The recent congestion at the post office, with many people not wearing masks or social distancing, shows how complacent some people have become. Other essential businesses in town do not require their customers to follow the state’s masking guidelines, so many customers simply won’t do it. In every public space in town, there is a mix of those who will and those who won’t follow the guidelines, and this is creating tension within the community. The implementation of a mandate founded in sound public health policy could help alleviate some of this tension. Until such time as we can all look back and say we got through this together.

I know that this is a very controversial decision to make, and that it is not an easy one. I ask the Assembly to put the public health at the forefront of your decision making. Thank you for all you do!

Linda Slaght
Dear assembly,

I fully support a temporary mask mandate in our borough. We are witnessing a scary and rapid increase in positive cases in our State, and I think we have been very lucky to have had few and mild cases so far here in Petersburg. I am very grateful for this. Unfortunately I see more people not wearing masks anymore, or not respecting safe distance between each other. That’s why I think that we need a mandate to protect our community and the most vulnerable people. Personally, I don’t understand the reasons brought up by the people so against the use of masks. I cannot see how masks would interfere with their freedom or constitutional rights. Since when we had the right to put others in danger? But I know this is a difficult situation and I want to thank you for your amazing commitment, effort and work you have done and do to keep our community safe. I know Petersburg is very divided by this topic and a mandate could make the division even stronger. But I am scared about the risk we are running by not taking enough precautions. The last thing I would like to see for our community is that we didn’t prevent the worse to happen, when we had the possibility (like it happened already in so many places in the world). I really hope we, as community, can find a way to discuss this in a calm and rational way, and I hope that everyone can understand that it’s just a small act of love for yourself and others!

Thank you for your time and consideration!

Elisa Teodori
Debra Thompson

From: Barry Bracken <bbracken_99@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:22 PM
To: Assembly
Subject: Letter on mask mandate

Thank you for serving as members and Mayor of the Petersburg Borough Assembly. Having served on the City Council and numerous boards and commissions, I’m well aware of the time and effort you put into that office.

In listening to the Special Assembly Meeting on July 24, it seemed to me that many members of our community are not taking the threat of a once-in-100-years global pandemic nearly seriously enough. There have been outbreaks in seafood plants in Dillingham, Seward, Anchorage and Juneau, not to mention the massive outbreak on the factory trawler in Dutch Harbor. There has been community spread throughout Alaska. Petersburg has been lucky so far, but who is willing to gamble that we aren’t next? This disease is a serious threat to all of us and, I believe that to downplay the potential for extensive harm to our community is naive and foolish. After all, even a tsunami is not much of a threat until it makes landfall. However, much like a tsunami, if you wait until it reaches your shore, it’s too late to react.

Next, again speaking as a past member of the City Council, the decisions you are required to make are not a popularity contest and, while you should take public comments into consideration, you are elected to represent the best interests of the community as a whole and are in no way bound to take those recommendations. I recall numerous times that a group of people objected to or supported a specific action which was not ultimately adopted in the way they requested, because the body, after deliberation, did not feel that it was the best decision for the community. I also think it is very important for each of you to inform the public regarding exactly why you vote the way you do on every issue.

Finally, a comment on masking, social distancing, and large public gatherings; the suggestions that Alaska is better off now than we were in March is outrageous. The infection numbers, hospitalizations, and deaths are all at record highs for the nation and the nation leads the world in all of those categories. The geographic distribution has changed, but Alaska now has one of the highest rates of new cases per-capita in the nation. These are not statistics that I’m proud that my country or my state are leading in, but those are the facts. So much of this tragic toll could have been prevented by exercising a few very simple procedures. If directives had been taken seriously and followed, or continued instead of relaxed too early, perhaps we could be free to be less restrictive now. If anyone feels that these few simple steps are an infringement on their freedoms, they are only thinking about themselves and have absolutely no concern for others. During this debate I’ve heard people talking about how a mask mandate is an infringement on their rights. To put this in perspective, I’d counter, “How is one person’s right not to wear a mask more important than another person’s right to breath virus-free air?”.

If we all work together we can get through this. Personally, I’m very concerned by how cavalier many in this community are or have become. Based on my observations, masking in public here is 50% at best and often much lower. I will gladly go on record in support of mask, social distance, and crowd size, and yes, even curfew mandates, if deemed necessary, to protect our community from further spread. The Assembly, Manager, and IC should be able to make that call if/when needed to protect our community. Resistance will only lead to a prolonged pandemic and more needless suffering. So, please do your job as an Assembly and pass and enforce whatever ordinances necessary to help keep the community you were elected to serve safe. We are in a very dangerous and unique situation and it should be treated accordingly.

Thanks again for all you do,
Barry Bracken, resident

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad
From: Pia Reilly <reillypia@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 9:47 AM
To: Assembly
Subject: Fw: Mask Mandate for Petersburg

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From: Pia Reilly
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 9:28 AM
To: Assembly@petersburg.gov <Assembly@petersburg.gov>
Subject: Mask Mandate for Petersburg

Dear Assembly Members,

I am asking you to please pass a mask mandate for Petersburg. It will help reducing the spread of COVID-19, and keep businesses open and people working.

With a mandate it makes it easier for us who work in the small businesses around town not to have to constantly ask costumers to wear a mask.

Masks are a simple way to protect ourselves and others, evidence from all over the world confirm that it reduces the spread of COVID-19.

I have personally received the advice from my family and friends all around Europe, Wear A Mask!

Please do what’s the best for Petersburg, vote on and pass a mask ordinance!

Thank you!

sincerely,

Pia Reilly
Assembly Members,

I would like to voice my support for the Petersburg School District to receive financial support from the CARES Act funds received by the Borough. Our children need to return to school and the additional funding would allow the school district to obtain the needed resources to re-open our schools.

In addition to the importance of education and a safe place for children, our businesses also need students back in school so that the workforce can work.

In order for Petersburg businesses to not just survive, but thrive, we need employees that are able to work. Parents need the stability of school in order to hold their jobs and employers need their employees to be present at work.

The loss of school instruction this spring had a high price tag that was paid for by our children, please support our school district and get our kids back to school.

Sincerely,

Katie & Bucky Eddy
Dear Assembly members,
I am in support of a public masking mandate for Petersburg. As we look at the success other communities, and other countries, where the transmission had either flattened or is in decline, this is one of the easiest and simple effective ways of reducing transmission. While I realize we have been very fortunate up to this point, it is not the reason to lessen our vigilance and caution in our protecting the citizens of our community. Why take the chance when there is this one easy thing we can all do for the good of the whole?
Thank you for your consideration of this important decision.
Respectfully,
Barbara Steltz

Sent from my iPhone
Good Morning,
It has recently come to my attention that the school district is asking the borough to use CARES ACT money to help the school add additional staff and classroom space so that they can open school full days, full time this fall. This is very EXCITING NEWS and I do hope you will do everything in your power to help make this a reality.

Sincerely,

Gwynne Samuelson - Jones

Sent from my iPhone
Karl Hagerman stated during the last assembly meeting, "Today if we based all of our decisions on where we're at today there would be no need for this, I could go back to my normal job, we could shut down the EOC (Emergency Operations Center) and we could all be happy but I hope everyone on the assembly and the community can see that the pandemic is not over and the case counts in our state do reflect that. We just need to be prepared to take action if needed. And it's all about protecting life and property.”

The community of Petersburg, the Borough assembly, and the EOC ARE PREPARED TO TAKE ACTION IF NEEDED! However, The only action needed currently is for Petersburg to return to normal life. Please support the schools reopening fully as they have requested (using funds from the Cares Act) for the good of our children, families, and community.

Thank you,
Garnett Coonrad
Hi Assembly Members!

I was just informed about a possibility to have a full day/week in person schooling option, with funding help from the cares act. I'm writing this to appeal to you in hopes of funding this.

I do what I can to help out, comply to mandates, and not complain. I still wear a mask in public places when 6 ft isn't possible (or fresh air isn't possible). Heck, I didn't want people to have to buy masks, so my mom and I made 1300.

I really truly believe kids are getting damaged almost to a point of disrepair. They aren't socializing, they aren't learning online, and are slipping backwards- some are full out slipping through the cracks. I've seen it in my own children. My kids are fighting more than ever and are forgetting about kindness and how to treat others. This is not a recipe for successful adults. This is a recipe for creating uneducated monsters instead of the bright, successful, compassionate adults they were meant to be.

Do not get me wrong, I am still concerned with the infection rates, and spread of Covid 19- I'm pretty sure I've got underlying conditions, and I know my mom does. Weighing them out, our kids need to be in school, physically more than the fear of this virus causes. They are our future- they will be deciding policy when we are in our twilight years and could use well educated, kind, compassionate people in those vital roles.

Please help fund full time, in person school.

Thank you much!
Grace Wolf
I would like to thank Karl, Phil, Liz, Jennifer, Erin, and all the Borough and Medical staff who are helping us through the worst pandemic since 1918. Karl, I know from my time on the council and assembly is the most capable employee in our borough. He is honest, hard working, and always reliable. Phil is the best medical center administrator in the 27 years I have lived here. These people are using scientists, epidemiologists, medical researchers, all the top people with the best factual knowledge to keep us keep safe and healthy. I really appreciate all you're doing for our town. I know you have experienced a lot of harassment and vandalism from people who don't want the community protected, and I apologize for you having to endure this. Some people are afraid of facts and prefer conspiracies.

My youngest daughter, a social worker for 20 years, has stage 4 cancer. When she was younger she listened to the cigarette companies and her friends and how smoking is cool and won't hurt you, the medical people and scientist are lying. Smoking won't cause cancer. My grandfathers came to this country as coal miners. The owners of the mines told them they didn't need any masks or protective gear. Coal dust is harmless, don't listen to "those" people. They both died before their 50th birthday. Please be patient and continue passing on the facts and helping us fight this horrible pandemic. In my 71 years I have never experienced anything like this. And people please remember to wash your hands, social distance, and wear a mask when around others. Remember your commandments, "thou shalt not kill", and "thou shalt not Covid they neighbor", be kind. John Havrilek
Dear Assembly Members,

I want to voice my support for the school’s request for additional funding from CARES Act money from the Borough. It is absolutely vital that our students be able to attend school in as normal a schedule as possible. It’s important for not only their education, but also their emotional and physical well being. A full time school schedule is also a crucial piece for our local businesses to thrive, allowing working parents to continue their positions without their roles and schedules being disrupted. I applaud the School District for making such an effort to modify our typical classroom atmosphere and school setting in order to keep our children as safe as possible during this time. It’s our job as a Borough to support the school in whatever way we can.

Thank you,

Niccole Olsen

Sent from my iPhone
Hi Jeff,

I really hope the assembly doesn't find our children, their education, and their safety as an unwise use of those funds.

Thank you,
Niccole

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 29, 2020, at 6:01 AM, Jeff Meucci <jrmmeucciscuba@gmail.com> wrote:

Thanks for your email Nicole, while the assembly is always supportive of the schools, I expect that there will a thorough review by borough staff and the assembly of additional funding that the school might be looking for.
While the CARE funds are welcome it is important to me that they are used wisely.
Thanks again for your thoughts. Jeff

On Wed, Jul 29, 2020 at 6:33 AM niccole olsen <niccoleolsen@gmail.com> wrote:
 Dear Assembly Members,

I want to voice my support for the school’s request for additional funding from CARES Act money from the Borough.
It is absolutely vital that our students be able to attend school in as normal a schedule as possible. It’s important for not only their education, but also their emotional and physical well being. A full time school schedule is also a crucial piece for our local businesses to thrive, allowing working parents to continue their positions without their roles and schedules being disrupted.
I applaud the School District for making such an effort to modify our typical classroom atmosphere and school setting in order to keep our children as safe as possible during this time.
It’s our job as a Borough to support the school in whatever way we can.

Thank you,
Niccole Olsen

Sent from my iPhone
Good morning assembly members,

I am writing to express my support of giving the school money from the CARES ACT funding the borough received to help the school add additional staff and classroom space so they can open school full days, full time this fall.

Thank you,

Lindsi Dreisbach
Good afternoon,
I want to say that I had an incredible call with Liz Cabrera today regarding the status of our local storefronts downtown today. She also took some time to explain where we are with Petersburg’s Cares Act Funding in regards to our schools and hospital obligations.
I want to start by saying that I am full support of giving our schools the full funding they need to operate during this time. While we are experiencing low counts of the virus here locally at this time, the full protection of our children’s physical and mental, and of course educational needs should be reflected in our Care’s Act Budget. I have the same concern for our medical center.
However, I would also echo these same sentiments for our local small businesses. Small, brick and mortar storefronts are the backbone of every community, including Petersburg. I have spoken with a few of my fellow business owners here on mainstreet and find that, while they may not be vocal regarding their (our) dire situations, many businesses are uncertain if they will still have their doors open after this pandemic is over. While many of us have taken advantage of the PPP and/or the EIDL, it simply is not enough to ensure that we are going to be able to survive the long fall/winter and spring, especially in light of low revenue generation this summer. Bottom line, there is no security in knowing whether or not we have enough to make it. In the next week you will see some food vendor(s) closing as it no longer makes sense to stay open this summer.
In closing, I would be remiss if I didn’t say how appreciative we are of the $1000 grant given by the Borough earlier this Spring. It was immediately used to cover a portion of our rent for that month. I understand that came from the Borough coffers, and not the Care’s Act funding. Can our local businesses expect the Assembly to continue to see local businesses as a priority and provide additional support from the Care’s Act funding?
Gunalcheesh!
--
Will Ware
The Cedar Box
PO Box 1041
101 B Nordic Dr
Petersburg, AK 99833
907-772-2666
www.akcedarbox.com
STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF FORESTRY  
SOUTHEAST AREA OFFICE  

PUBLIC REVIEW  
FIVE-YEAR SCHEDULE OF TIMBER SALES  
STATE FISCAL YEARS 2021-2025  

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry Preliminary Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales for the Southern Southeast Area is available for public review. Per AS 38.05.113 this is a scoping document that outlines the proposed timber sale activity to be undertaken on State land over the next five years. The Five-Year Schedule is not a decision document.

The public is invited to comment on any aspect of the Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales. Comments should be mailed to the Alaska Division of Forestry and must be received by the close of business at the Division of Forestry’s office no later than September 4, 2020 to be included as comment in the adopted schedule. This document can be viewed at the Area Office in Ketchikan, the public libraries in Craig, Ketchikan, Petersburg and Wrangell, the State of Alaska’s on-line public notice website http://notice.alaska.gov/198870 as well as the DOF’s website http://forestry.alaska.gov/timber/ketchikan.htm#fiveyear.

After public comment has been received and reviewed, the Division of Forestry may proceed with planning the proposed timber sales and associated developments. When each sale is prepared and ready for review, notice of the proposed decision and the opportunity for public comment will be given for that specific timber sale, as is required under state statutes and regulations.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO SUBMIT COMMENTS CONTACT:

Alaska Division of Forestry  
2417 Tongass Avenue, Suite 213  
Ketchikan, AK 99901

Contact: Greg Staunton  
Phone: 225-3070  
Email: greg.staunton@alaska.gov

The State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry Complies with Title II of the American with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who may need auxiliary aids, services, or special modifications to participate in this review may contact the number above.
Special Public Notice

US Army Corps of Engineers
Alaska District

CEPOA-RD (1145)
Post Office Box 6898
JBER, Alaska
99506-0898

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: July 24, 2020
EXPIRATION DATE: August 24, 2020
REFERENCE NUMBER: POA-2017-00271
WATERWAY: MULTIPLE

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FOR THE PEBBLE PROJECT FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District, Regulatory Division (USACE), in cooperation with U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), Department of the Interior's Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE), the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Department of Interior National Park Service (NPS), the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, the State of Alaska, the Lake and Peninsula Borough, the Curyung Tribal Council, and the Nondalton Tribal Council, has completed and is making available to the public, a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the proposed Pebble Project.

The proposed Pebble Project includes the construction of an open-pit mine and associated ore processing facilities; an 82-mile road from the mine site to a port facility; a port facility near Diamond Point; a lightering location in Iniskin Bay; a 164-mile natural gas pipeline originating on the Kenai Peninsula and extending across Cook Inlet to the port facility, following the transportation corridor and terminating at the mine site; a 164-mile fiber optic cable paralleling the natural gas pipeline; concentrate and return water pipelines which parallel the transportation corridor between the mine site and the port facility; and power generation facilities located at the mine and the port site.

The Notice of Availability (NOA) of the FEIS was published in the Federal Register on July 24, 2020. In accordance with NEPA regulations, the USACE will not issue a Joint Record of Decision (JROD) on the proposed action until at least 30 days after the NOA publication date. The JROD will state the decision of USACE and of USCG on whether to authorize the portions of the Pebble Project which require USACE or USCG authorization, and if authorizations are issued, the conditions under which the activities would be allowed to occur, and the factors considered in the decisions.
The FEIS, as well as the Department of the Army permit application and its revisions, and other supporting information can be viewed on the Pebble Project EIS website: www.pebbleprojecteis.com. In addition, copies of the FEIS may be viewed at the following locations: Bristol Bay Borough Libraries (serving King Salmon, Naknek, and South Naknek); Dillingham Public Library, Dillingham, Alaska; Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.; Homer Public Library, Homer, Alaska; Kenai Community Library, Kenai, Alaska; Soldotna Public Library, Soldotna, Alaska; Z.J. Loussac Public Library, Anchorage, Alaska; Alaska Resource Library and Information Services, Anchorage, Alaska; and the University of Alaska/Pacific University, Anchorage Consortium Library, Anchorage, Alaska.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: Department of the Army authorization of discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States cannot be issued until a certification or waiver of certification, as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (Public Law 95-217), has been received from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

HISTORIC PROPERTIES: In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the USACE expects to make an Adverse Effect determination for the proposed project. A description of the efforts to identify historic properties and known potential historic properties that may be affected by the project is provided in the FEIS. USACE, in consultation with ACHP, the State Historic Preservation Officer, and other consulting parties, is drafting a Programmatic Agreement (PA). The PA would direct the identification, evaluation, and assessment of effects to historic properties, as well as resolution of adverse effects to historic properties which would occur as a result of the work under the requested permit. A copy of the draft PA is located in Appendix L of the FEIS.

By copy of this notice, USACE seeks comments on the draft PA. In addition, USACE continues to seek any comments concerning potential historic properties that may affected by work under the requested permit. Comments regarding the draft PA or potential historic properties should be sent to USACE at the address above and should include the Public Notice reference number above. All comments should be post marked no later than the expiration date of this Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered.

Any questions pertaining to this notice may be directed to Shane McCoy, Program Manager, USACE, at (907) 753-2712, toll free from within Alaska at (800) 478-2712, via email at paspecialprojects@usace.army.mil, by fax at (907) 753-5567, or at the address above.

District Commander
U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

Enclosure: Notice of Application for State Water Quality Certification

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STaTE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
DIVISION OF WATER
Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program (WDAP) / 401 Certification

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
WDAP/401 CERTIFICATION
555 CORDOVA STREET
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-2617
PHONE: (907) 269-6285 | EMAIL: dec-401cert@alaska.gov

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR
STATE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

Any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct an activity that might result in a discharge into navigable waters, in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL95-217), also must apply for and obtain certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation that the discharge will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. By agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Environmental Conservation, application for a Department of the Army permit to discharge dredged or fill material into navigable waters under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act also may serve as application for State Water Quality Certification.

Notice is hereby given that the application for a Department of the Army Permit described in this Corps of Engineers’ Public Notice (PN) Reference Number POA-2017-00271, Multiple Waterbodies, serves as application for State Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Conservation.

After reviewing the application, the Department may certify there is reasonable assurance the activity, and any discharge that might result, will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. The Department also may deny or waive certification.

Any person desiring to comment on the project with respect to Water Quality Certification, may submit written comments to the address above or via email to dec-401cert@alaska.gov by the expiration date of the Corps of Engineer’s Public Notice. All comments should include the PN reference number listed above. Mailed comments must be postmarked on or before the expiration date of the public notice.

Disability Reasonable Accommodation Notice

The State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you are a person with a disability who may need special accommodation in order to participate in this public process, please contact Kate Orozco at 907-465-6171 or TDD Relay Service 1-800-770-8973/TTY or dial 711 within 5 days of the expiration date of this public notice to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided.