

VOL. I - ISSUE VI | FEBRUARY 2022

CITY OF HOMER

Monthly Newsletter from the office of the City Manager



Greetings from City Hall

City Welcomes VIP Guests to Homer

City leaders welcomed *Senator Lisa Murkowski* and *US Coast Guard Rear Admiral Nathan Moore* to Homer on Wednesday, January 26th. Senator Murkowski toured the harbor to see the need for the large vessel expansion and met with Mayor Castner and City staff to discuss various City infrastructure projects and possible federal funding opportunities. The discussion covered City water and sewer projects, erosion mitigation projects and of course the Homer Large Vessel Port Expansion project.



Left to right: Harbormaster Bryan Hawkins, Senator Lisa Murkowski, Mayor Ken Castner, Jenny Carroll, City Manager Rob Dumouchel, Admiral Nathan Moore

Senator Murkowski's visit luckily coincided with US Coast Guard Rear Admiral Moore's first visit to Homer from his headquarters in Juneau. Since April 2021, Admiral Moore, the 17th Coast Guard District Commander, is responsible for operations throughout Alaska, the North Pacific Ocean, the Arctic Ocean, and the Bering Sea. He joined the discussion to identify the ways the expansion project could benefit US Coast Guard operations.

Senator Murkowski is very supportive of the project, citing its economic importance to the region. She joins other members of Alaska delegation in promoting project planning funding from the US Army Corps of Engineers to get the project off the ground.



WHAT'S NEW?

- Library News
- Community Corner
- Parks & Community Recreation
- Public Safety Notes
- Public Works
- Fire Department
- Police Department
- Port & Harbor
- Finance
- Meet the Staff
- City of Homer Roster
- Stay Connected with City Council
- Municipal Art Collection

We hope you'll discover something new today as we share information and ways you can tap into what's going on at City Hall and in the Homer community.

Check us out on Facebook 

City Hall - @cityofhomerak

Parks & Recreation - @homerparksandrec

Homer Public Library - @homerpubliclibrary

Homer Police - @homerpolice

Fire Department - @HomerVolFireDept.

Share this link with your friends, so they can get the newsletter too - <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/citymanager/monthly-email-newsletter>

"where the land ends and the sea begins"

Check it Out!

- The library has 10 wireless hotspots available to checkout.
- Learn a new language online. Mango Languages has 71 languages to choose from to learn.

Upcoming Events



February is National Love Your Library Month!

The Friends of the Library will have a weekly drawing in the library. Come drop your name in the box, and every Friday the Friends will choose four patrons at random to receive a \$5 gift card to a local coffee shop.

Second Sunday Shakespeare

2nd Sundays, 10:30 a.m. via Zoom

Radio Storytime on KBBI

3rd Thursdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m. via Zoom



Feb. 15-16: Author Annie Boochever

will visit Homer to talk about her book about Elizabeth Petrovich, *Fighter in Velvet Gloves*. If all goes according to plan, there will be a

writing workshop at the library on Feb. 15, followed by a visit to the high school. On Feb. 16 Ms. Boochever will visit the middle school, followed by an evening community conversation in the library. Boochever will be joined by KPC professor *Dr. Lia Calhoun* and Yup'ik Culture and Arts Consultant *Nita Rearden*. Thank you to the Friends of the Library for coordinating her visit!

Feb. 24-26: Kite Making Workshop



The library and the Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies invite families to participate in a three-day kitemaking workshop. We will spend two days constructing kites and then take them down to Bishop's Beach for testing. This is part of the Leap into Science program, which promotes science literacy for young learners.

Homer Public Library

500 Hazel Street
907-235-3180

circ@ci.homer.ak.us

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/library

Winter Carnival Celebration

**FEBRUARY 11-13
PARADE- NOON,
FEBRUARY 12**



The 51st Winter Carnival is hosted by the Homer Chamber of Commerce for a weekend of family-friendly fun! homer.alaska.org

Lunch with a Councilmember

Bring your questions, ideas, and lunch for an informal conversation with a councilmember via Zoom.



Rachel Lord
Monday,
February 14

12-1pm via Zoom

For the Zoom link, email:

info@friendshomerlibrary.org

Valentine's Day Lunch with Councilmember Rachel Lord - Feb. 14

Zoom in with your lunch and list of questions to have an informal chat with *Rachel Lord* who was first elected to office October 3, 2017. She is also a Homer-based farmer-florist who owns and operates Alaska Stems.

Little Libraries are here!

Assembly is underway on the cabinets that will offer free books for anyone to pick up or drop off for others to read. The weatherproof cabinets will be mounted on stands and located in strategic spots around town.

The Homer Library received \$25,000 in federal grant funds in November through the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Funds were divided between buying and installing five little libraries and upgrading the library's Wifi equipment.

Public Works Parks Tech, *John Wolfe*, (right) adds Homer's signature colors, blue and yellow, to make them stand out and create an identity in the community this spring.



Parks & Community Recreation

Celebrating 20th year of Mountainfilm in Homer!

Not everyone can travel to Telluride for the Mountainfilm Festival, but luckily the festival organizers bring some of the crowd favorites together into one reel that can travel around the country. Thanks to Homer Community Recreation for again bringing the Telluride Mountainfilm to Homer. The film combines adventure, mountaineering, unique personalities with important environmental and social messages about the world we live in and one we'd like to live in. Mountainfilm is about ideas. It is about cultures and the landscapes they occupy.

There will be only ONE SHOW on Saturday, February 5 at 7pm with tickets available at the door. [Click here for the film playlist](#) or go to cityofhomer-ak.gov/recreation.

WHEN: Saturday, February 5th - 7p.m. start time

WHERE: Mariner Theatre

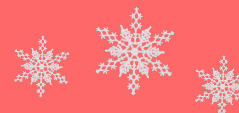
FEE: \$10 per person



SPORTS GEAR LENDING LIBRARY PROGRAM

Take advantage of this growing program - it's FREE! The joint effort between Community Recreation and the Homer Library makes the Sports Gear Library available to the public. If you have a library card, you can use it to check out sports gear too! Quantities are limited, but encouragement to get outside and play and recreate is endless. And it's FREE!

- Sleds & Balls
- Tic-Tac-Toe & Lawn Dice
- Ultimate Frisbees
- Metal Detectors



We gladly accept any donated item that is clean, safe and in working condition that could be utilized by community members. Please contact **Mike Illg** at millg@ci.homer.ak.us or call 907-399-6090. Go to cityofhomer-ak.gov/recreation/sports-gear-lending-program to see the list of available equipment.



Volleyball is back!

Pick up volleyball is back at the Homer High School Gym for all levels of players. Learn elements of the game and basic skills. For 7th grade and up on Sundays, 4-6 p.m.

Ongoing Recreation Programs:

Monday, Wednesday & Fridays, HERC Gym

- Pick up Basketball: 6-7 a.m.
- Pick up Pickleball: 3:45 - 5:45 p.m.

Thursdays, HERC Gym

ReAKtion Club Youth Programming: 1:30-5:45 p.m.

For complete community recreation program information visit:

cityofhomer-ak.gov/recreation

To reserve the HERC for your next event

cityofhomer-ak.gov/recreation/herc-open-activities-masks-required



ADA Compliance Committee Seat Openings

Did you make a resolution to get more involved in your community this year?

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance Committee has two openings for Homer residents or non-residents. Preference is given to applicants who have mobility issues to be able to provide valuable perspective though not required. Committee members serve three year terms. The committee meets on the second Thursday of the month. The first meeting this year is February 10th at 4pm in Council Chambers.

The ADA Compliance Committee has been instrumental in developing the City's ADA Transition Plan to make facilities and services accessible to all.

To learn more about the scope of the committee's work, go to cityofhomer-ak.gov/ada-compliance or contact Staff Liaison, Renee Krause, Deputy City Clerk II/ADA Coordinator at 907-435-3109 or rkrause@ci.homer.ak.us.



PUBLIC SAFETY NOTES



**FREE COVID Test Kits
available at the Homer Library**

Why You Need a COVID-19 Booster Shot



Vaccines are working very well to protect against severe illness, hospitalizations, and death, but effectiveness against infection decreases over time.



Boosters increase your protection from COVID-19, including variants.



The Omicron variant spreads more easily than the original virus.

GET A BOOSTER SHOT 5 MONTHS AFTER YOUR PFIZER-BIONTECH OR MODERNA SERIES, OR 2 MONTHS AFTER YOUR J&J SHOT.



cdc.gov/coronavirus

Mask Up Homer

CDC recommend that you wear the most protective mask you can that fits well and that you will wear consistently.

**We have the tools to fight
Omicron!**

Vaccines ~ Masks ~ Testing

**Why do children ages 5 years
and older need to be
vaccinated against COVID-19?**



cdc.gov/coronavirus

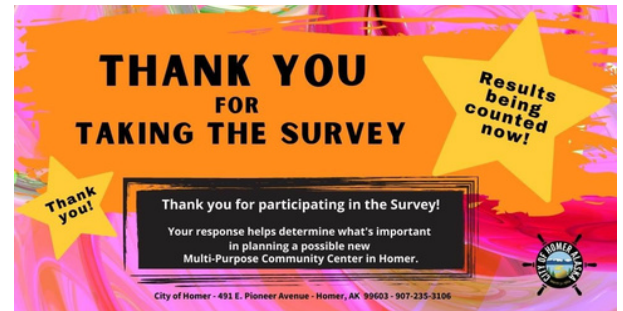
School-aged children can also spread the infection at home and in school. Vaccination helps prevent infection and serious illness among children and slows the spread of COVID-19. More: <https://bit.ly/3GLtqKX>.

**Call your healthcare provider or register at the
COVID Clinic - 4201 Bartlett Street - Homer
Call 907-235-8586 or Online at www.sphosp.org**

Survey Results Are In For Planning A New Multi-Purpose Community Center

Thank you to the 478 people who participated in the survey. 68% view a redesigned HERC as an important facility and would be willing to contribute on average, several hundred dollars a year per household through both user fees and increased taxes. Preferred funding sources are: Reallocate Existing Funds (29%), Sales Tax (24%), and Property Tax (14%). Businesses responded that they would be interested in renting facilities. The most popular facilities included: Multi-Activity Room, Commercial Kitchen, Convention Center and Fitness Center.

One of the most interesting results of this project was the ability to compare the results with the 2015 Parks, Art, Recreation, and Culture Needs Assessment. This comparison allows insight into how the community responses have changed over time. Support among survey respondents to build a new HERC has significantly increased (from 30% to 70%). While non-significant, support opposition has decreased from 40% of respondents to less than 10%; and moderates have decreased from 30% to 10%. The demand for programs and facilities has increased. The concern about the lack of programming/facilities is significantly higher (70% vs 25%) and is cited as the primary item preventing more recreation from occurring.



Next Steps in the Process:

- Staff continues conversations with businesses that expressed interest;
- Stantec working on site/building concept design based on your feedback; and
- Full survey results and conceptual drawings to be available in early March.
- Community engagement

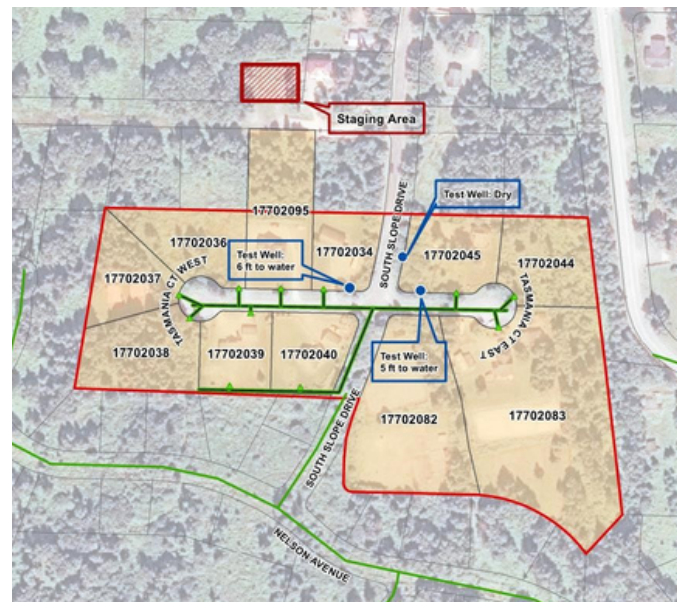
Public Works

Water/Sewer Line Extension To Begin This Spring On Tasmania Court

Water and Sewer mains are being extended in the Tasmania Court-South Slope Drive neighborhood and on Alder Lane to expand service to these areas. Bids received for the construction of the lines were awarded to East Road Services, Inc. for Tasmania Court and Scott's Heating and Plumbing for Alder Lane.

Public Works anticipates moving forward with construction of the water and sewer mains to extend services in both neighborhoods this Spring as weather conditions permit.

These projects were initiated by the residents of these neighborhoods taking advantage of the City's HAWSP fund, which was designed to support water and sewer extensions into unserved areas. Under HAWSP, residents pay 75% and the City pays 25% of the cost. The residents' portion is subject to long term financing through a loan by the ADEC. Further, the City received a Principal Forgiveness Subsidy from the ADEC, which made the projects more affordable.



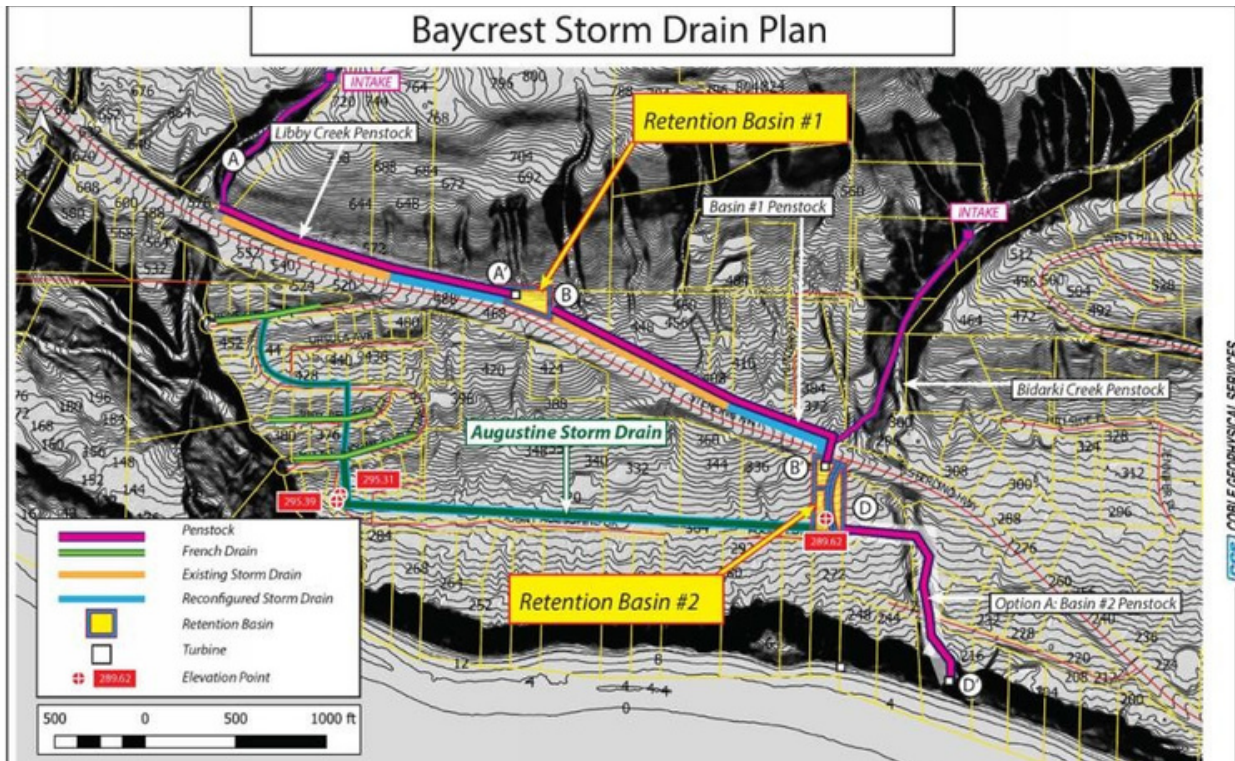
Baycrest Storm Water Management

Field work in the wintertime can be challenging for GIS Technician, *Aaron Yeaton* who recently assisted *Geoff Coble* of Coble Geophysical Services (CGS) to evaluate the efficacy of integrating micro-hydro components into projects associated with a broader storm water management plan in Homer. Geared up for snowy conditions, armed with shovels, snow cleats and professional engineering equipment, the pair set out to record water levels in the upper reaches of Bidarki Creek to assess whether or not our winter conditions will be conducive to producing electricity.

Bidarki Creek is an important component of the CGS conceptual design to mitigate storm water and erosion issues in the Baycrest Subdivision. The Baycrest Storm Drain Plan uses the lower reaches of Bidarki as an outfall for storm water that will be conveyed away from Baycrest subdivision. Potentially, storm water volumes can be used to produce electricity through a series of micro-hydro works. In times of low runoff, the upper reaches of Bidarki can be tapped into to ensure a constant flow supply. The electricity generated will then be tied back into the grid.

A large part of the solution CGS proposed is two retention basins. Part of the flow from Libby and Bidarki Creeks would be redirected using plastic pipes called penstocks and stored in the retention basins rather than running down the bluff and prevent erosion. The retention basins would ultimately lead all the way to Kackemak Bay.

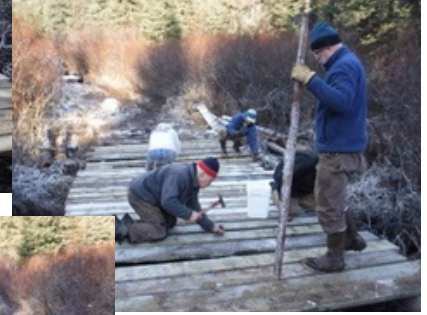
Details of the data collected are still being formulated by CGS to provide an estimate of how much electricity could be produced, how the energy would be utilized, and a design model for infrastructure.



Bridges At Baycrest Trails

Thanks to the efforts by the Kachemak Nordic Ski Club and the City of Homer, two new bridges for trail users were installed in the Diamond Creek Recreation Area to make things much more accessible. The project provided a solution in the problematic trail sections to have easier access for equipment the ski club uses to groom the trails for skiers. The bridges also benefit summer trail users for better passage through these sections.

So, if you're out on the trail and notice the new bridges, you can see for yourself this great example of what our community accomplishes through strategic partnerships.



Lend-A-Leash Program Getting Started

Bishops Beach and the Harbor are first to see signs of the new Lend-A-Leash Program. The program was created to help improve safety for people, children and dogs on beaches, parks and harbor docks by making leashes readily available to borrow if you don't have one to use. Look out for the signs at these locations, shown at the right, along with leashes provided by the team work of the City of Homer, Homer Animal Friends and Alaska Mindful Paws of the Homer Animal Shelter. To read more about the program, go to cityofhomer-ak.gov/recreation.



Public Works Hosts UAA Semester-By-The-Bay Interns

Early last month, Public Works hosted two interns through the Semester by the Bay program offered by the University of Alaska - Kachemak Bay Campus to explore climate change mitigation methods, examine solutions for storm water and ground water issues, and to assess the quality of our drinking water. Aside from their independent work, the 'Climate Action Champion' *Cate Barrie*, worked with City GIS Technician *Aaron Yeaton* on the Climate Mitigation Plan, while the 'Water Wizard' *Isabella Fusco* worked with *Geoff Coble* of Coble Geophysical on ground and storm water issues, and at the water treatment plant to assess water quality.

Cate Barrie is a junior at Loyola Marymount University in environmental studies. She has conducted research with environmental justice groups including Friends of the Ballona Wetlands and Compassionate Arts in Action through community outreach and education. She views Alaska's nature as a place relatively untouched by human interaction as an amazing opportunity for the pioneering of climate policy.

Isabella Fusco, earned a Bachelor's Degree in Marine Biology from California State University. Her interest in the internship stems from the critical role water quality plays in marine ecosystems. Geoff Coble's work is perfect for allowing her to explore this because he is studying the turbidity (pollution) within Homer's waters as a result of Homer's soil composition. Isabella is from Monterey County, California and has experience with many sampling techniques used to test water quality. This internship was a chance for her to hone lab techniques and engage in community education about water pollution issues.



Cate Barrie



Isabella Fusco



What's IN OUR WATER

Ever wonder what exactly you're ingesting when drinking tap water?

In addition to two parts hydrogen and one part oxygen there are also naturally occurring substances in water. Water is known as the universal solvent, which means it dissolves more substances than any other liquid. The City Water department is required to perform regular testing of Homer's source water and treated water to ensure we are providing the community with safe, drinking water. The EPA requires annual reports of test results. The annual Water Quality report is sent directly to city water customers and you can also read the report on the City's website, <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/publicworks/water-quality-report-2020>. The EPA dictates how often water should be tested. If samples regularly produce low or no results, the EPA will grant a "reduced monitoring" status for less frequent testing requirements.

No radioactive contaminants have been detected in Bridge Creek Reservoir. Inorganic contaminants Barium, Chromium, total Thallium, Nitrate and Arsenic show some detection in the raw water, but are well below the MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level) set by EPA. Lead and Copper are non-detects in the reservoir. However, they are sometimes found in residences in household plumbing fixtures.

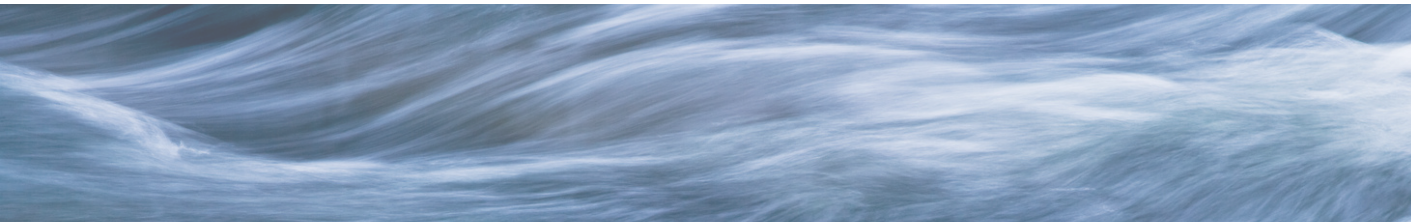
Once the raw water reaches the treatment plant, Aluminum Sulfate (Alum) is added to coagulate particulate into larger pieces called floc to aid their removal by filter systems, is also captured and removed by the filter. After filtration, Chlorine is added for disinfection. Orthophosphate is used as a corrosion inhibitor and Sodium Hydroxide is used to adjust the pH of the water. Both of these chemicals are added to protect household plumbing by helping prevent the leaching of lead and copper into the drinking water.

When chlorine reacts with organic material it produces by-products, mainly Trihalomethanes (TTHM) and Haloacetic acids (HAA5's). These are known as disinfection by-products (DBP's) and a possible human carcinogen. There is a slight risk of cancer from long term exposure to elevated levels, so we monitor these. City of Homer's drinking water is consistently under EPA mandated MCL's for both TTHM and HAA5's. To further optimize the prevention of disinfection by-products in the treated water, the City of Homer hired Dowl Engineering to perform a study of the DBP precursors in our water and the best way to remove them. Plant operators made adjustments to the treatment process to improve the removal of the DBP's precursors and will be operated in this mode for a full year to track improvements through all four seasons.

Another thing we examine is the elements that affect the taste of our water. Because our raw water is a surface water source, it is considered "soft water." In a study, a panel of taste testers rated the palatability of drinking water and found the City of Homer's water in very low ranges of total dissolved solids (TDS). These inorganic compounds found in water (TDS) can affect the taste of water. It is considered excellent if the TDS is less than 300 mg/l. Homer's water TDS ranges from 40-90 mg/l, which is one of the reasons we have won taste testing contests in the past. No wonder our water tastes so good!

The Water Quality Report for 2021 will be posted by 30 June 2022.

- Todd Cook, Water Treatment Supervisor



Fire Department



Meet Jaclyn Arndt

In 2015, *Jaclyn Arndt* began her affiliation with the HFVD by enrolling in the Firefighter-1 class. After completion of the course, she joined the City as the HVFD's Department Services Coordinator. Though the position is mainly administrative, emergency response is her passion and you'll see her out on many calls.

As Department Services Coordinator, she provides public information services and education to the community and she worked directly with volunteers through their orientation period to prepare them for becoming a member of the HVFD team. Jaclyn is instrumental in organizing public education events for community schools and youth group organizations, provides information to the public about safe burning practices and permitting processes and organizes many fire department community events including the Fourth of July annual activities at the fire station and the annual bicycle rodeo for local youth.

While in the administrative role Jaclyn became more involved in the emergency response functions of the department and soon gained her Firefighter-2 certification and EMT-2 certification and was promoted to EMT II. She is also a Certified Training Instructor and teaches EMT-1 classes and Firefighter-1 classes to many local and regional first responders. This fall Jaclyn will further enhance her leadership role in the department and enroll in the Fire Officer-1 course to prepare her for future opportunities to fill an officer position. Way to go Jaclyn! You are a wonderful example of how hard work pays off in following your career path dreams. You're an inspiration to us all.

HVFD Hits The Ground Running With Education

When not on call, the department conducts regular trainings at the Fire Hall. First, staff conducted training for intravenous 'Rolling Vein IV Sticks' where they practiced their skills literally on the road, which provided practice in a more realistic situation. Kudos to the EMT-I's who volunteered their arms for a good cause here.

Staff also worked with KESA, WESA, and HVFD's Rope Rescue team at Public Works to train on rope rescue out of one of their tanks. Members of the rope rescue team are *Jose Diaz, Aaron Glidden, Carter Forney, and Chelsea Marsh*.

Volunteer recruitment is building up. A full EMT-I class started with 12 people completing their applications for volunteering at the Station. The course started January 29 and runs through the month of March for candidates to complete the 160 hour curriculum. It is a privilege to welcome new people into the Fire and EMS service and we look forward to helping them grow our department.



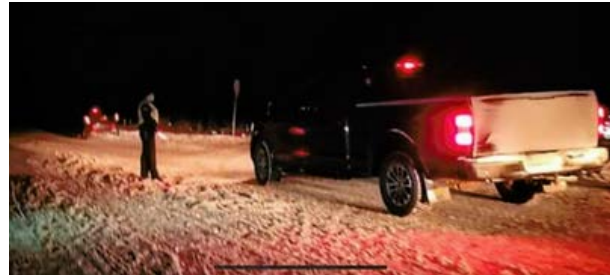
Chelsea Marsh, Rope Rescue Team

If you would like to volunteer on the HVFD, contact us at fire@cityofhomer-ak.gov or call 907-235-3155.

Police Department

The New Year's fireworks were a huge success! Aaron Weisser and company did a great job with the community sponsored event and wrangled volunteers to help with logistics. HPD estimates that they helped direct over 800 cars on the Spit to get situated to watch the show. It took 40 minutes to get everyone cleared out of Mariner Park and off the Spit after the show.

Event volunteers along with Port & Harbor and Public Works crews worked together to provide traffic flow solutions to help things run smoothly for all. Officer *Tyler Jeffres*, pictured at the right, directed traffic and perfectly executed the task to help clear the crowd afterward too. Thank you for your patience!



Finance

Finance Department Recognized for Excellence - Earns GFOA Award for Biennial Budget

The Finance Department received official notice on January 20, 2022 that the City of Homer received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for our FY22/23 Budget. We also received the award for the FY20/21 budget.

GFOA has high standards for what should be included in a budget document. When a City submits a budget for the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award, it is sent to three independent reviewers who evaluate the budget in relation to GFOA standards. At least two of the three reviewers must rate the document “proficient” or “outstanding” on all four overall categories (overall as a policy document, financial plan, operations, guide, and communications device) and all mandatory criteria in order for the document to receive the award.

With the award, we received some comments to help us to continue moving forward with our next budget cycle. GFOA standards are currently in transition to an updated set of criteria which we will be required to meet for our next budget cycle. We also received some praise from reviewers to include: “the staff should be commended for a strong document,” “staff did an exceptional job outlining each revenue stream for the municipality and how those funds were utilized,” and “the applicant did a great job in the performance measure area of the application which is one of the more difficult areas to be successful.”



Finance Director *Elizabeth Walton* and City Manager *Rob Dumouchel* hold the 2022 GFOA Award

Clerks Conduct Chair Person Training

The Clerk's office conducted a Chair Person Training on Wednesday, January 13th. City Clerk Melissa Jacobson and Deputy Clerks Renee Krause and Rachel Tussey led the session in Council Chambers for all Advisory Chairs, Vice Chairs and members interested in serving as Chairs in the future. Melissa led the group step-by-step through etiquette of a parliamentary meeting style the committees follow. Board and Commission member training is held annually in the month that coincides with their appointments, kicking off the year with the Port & Harbor Advisory Commission at their February meeting.



Staff Anniversaries

Thank you for your dedication, commitment and service you have provided the City and the taxpayers of Homer over the years.

JANUARY

Teresa Sundmark, Library - 15 Years

Tomasz Sulczynski, IT - 14 Years

Andrea Browning, Administration - 10 Years

Brody Jones, Public Works - 8 Years

Burton Gregory, Harbor - 8 Years

Jona Focht, Dispatch - 7 Years

Lynda Gilliland, Finance - 4 Years

Kaela Jiron, Finance - 1 Year

Amy Woodruff, Port - 1 Year

FEBRUARY

Dan Miotke, Fire - 20 Years

Tim Yarbrough, Fire - 20 Years

Daren Hill, Public Works - 7 Years

Jenny Carroll, Administration - 6 Years

Morgan Tracy, Police - 5 Years

Kevin Co, Library - 3 Years

Tyler Jeffres, Police - 3 Years



Meet the Staff

This section is to highlight staff achievements, promotions, retirements, departures and new hires to the City's workforce.

The Port & Harbor welcomed *Del Masterhan* as the new Ice Plant/Fish Dock Supervisor in December. Del has a wealth of experience working at sea as Chief Engineer onboard catcher processors as well as onshore based industrial refrigeration systems in the fish processing industry. Most recently Del was employed with Ocean Marine Services as their Port Engineer. In that position Del was responsible for the maintenance of the OMSI fleet both at sea and served as project manager when the company had their vessels in a shipyard for repairs. Del steps into his new position after the long service of Burt Gregory who retired at the end of last month after 8 years with the City of Homer.

As one door opens another one closes. We bid farewell to *Burton Gregory* who has been the Ice Plant/Fish Dock Supervisor since 2014. Burt's family homesteaded in Homer and he was born and raised here. His attention to detail, willingness to dig into a problem and his step-by-step approach to finding a workable and cost effective solution have been appreciated. He was a big help in developing the new crane use policies for the Fish Dock.

Here's a fun story about Burt from Harbormaster *Bryan Hawkins*, "A few years ago, the Port hosted a PCC (Pacific Coast Conference of Harbormasters and Port Administrators). If you wanted to know more about something, Burt was your man. He once led a group of 80 on a tour of our industrial Ice Plant and started out the tour with a short lecture on the life of an ammonia molecule at the ice plant. He had a talking board all drawn out to help explain the step by step process of how cold is made and they loved it! I called it the Mr. Rodgers ice plant tour and it was a conference highlight."

Rose Riordan joined the Homer Port & Harbor staff as the Administrative Assistant in January. She had previously worked for the City in the Parks division as a seasonal Parks Maintenance Technician, where she partnered with *Aaron Yeaton* to create the Parks Forest inventory. She is also a 2021 State of Alaska Women's Disc Golf Champion.



Jenna Luchaco

Jenna Luchaco has joined the Public Works roads crew as an Equipment Operator Apprentice. Jenna worked in the Parks division for a number of years and is excited to shift to a full-time role behind the wheel.

Tom Kirko has joined the HPD team as a Police Officer Recruit. He will attend the Department of Public Safety Academy in Sitka beginning in February. Tom was previously a dispatcher for the Seattle Police Department for the last five years. Welcome aboard!

City of Homer Roster

Rob Dumouchel, City Manager
Melissa Jacobsen, MMC, City Clerk
Andrea Browning, Personnel Director
Rick Abboud, City Planner
Mark Robl, Chief of Police
Mark Kirko, Fire Chief

Bryan Hawkins, Port Director/Harbormaster
Elizabeth Walton, Finance Director
Jan Keiser, Public Works Director
Dave Berry, Library Director
Nick Poolos, Info. Technology Manager
Mike Illg, Community Recreation Manager

Mayor - Ken Castner (2022)

City Council

Donna Aderhold (2024)
Jason Davis (2022)
Shelley Erickson (2024)
Storm P. Hansen-Cavasos (2022)
Rachel Lord (2023)
Caroline Venuti (2023)

Commissions & Boards

Planning Commission
Economic Development Advisory Commission
Library Advisory Board
Parks, Art, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission
Port and Harbor Advisory Commission

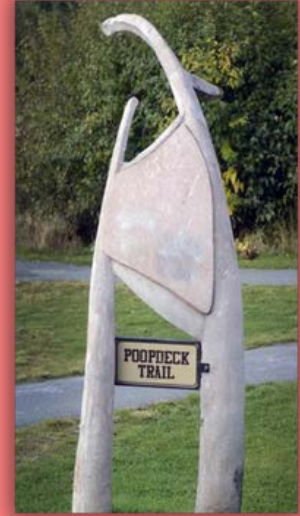
Standing Committees

ADA Compliance Committee



Public Works Parks Tech, *John Wolfe*, keeping Homer walkable by doing snow removal on the Spruceview Avenue pedestrian pathway while the Snowcat is in the shop.

HOMER MUNICIPAL ART COLLECTION



Poopdeck Trail's Whale Bone Sculpture by *Leo Vait* is located at the southern gateway to the trail. The sculpture stands ten feet high and is made of concrete.

Poopdeck Trail is a popular connector between Pioneer Avenue to the Homer Bypass that winds through the woods in town. A spur trail leads to the Homer Library. Portions of the trail are ADA accessible on the upper portion of the trail.

In 2020, the City partnered with the Kachemak Heritage Land Trust (KHLT) with volunteers from Homer Independent Living Center, Homer Animal Friends and numerous others to complete the trail using HART Trails funds via Ordinance 20-54.

STAY CONNECTED WITH CITY COUNCIL

Go to: cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/stay-connected-city-council

Here you will find instructions on how to listen, provide testimony and participate in the meetings via Zoom.

Upcoming Meetings



February

2nd - 5:30 pm	Planning Commission Worksession - CANCELED
6:30 pm	Planning Commission Regular Meeting
8th - 6:00 pm	Economic Development Advisory Commission Regular Meeting
10th - 4:00 pm	ADA Compliance Committee
14th - 5:00 pm	City Council Meeting of the Whole
6:00 pm	City Council Regular Meeting
15th - 5:30 pm	Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting
16th - 5:30 pm	Planning Commission Worksession
6:30 pm	Planning Commission Regular Meeting
17th - 5:30 pm	Parks, Art, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission Regular Meeting
23rd - 4:00 pm	Port & Harbor Advisory Commission Worksession
5:00 pm	Port & Harbor Advisory Commission Regular Meeting
28th - 5:00 pm	City Council Committee of the Whole
6:00 pm	City Council Regular Meeting

JOIN OUR TEAM

The City of Homer has current Job Openings.

Sign up for Job Alerts or Apply Online at

cityofhomerak.applicantpro.com/jobs

CURRENT JOB LISTINGS

- Administrative Assistant to Fire Chief
- Deputy Fire Chief
- Community Jail Officer, Part-time

City of Homer

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