



BeringS

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE CITY OF SAINT PAUL, ALASKA



What's New

CHRISTMAS PLANS

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TIPS FROM FINANCE

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DOCK IMPROVEMENTS

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EMPLOYEE PROFILES

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PAPRS

.....

INSERT: STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATES

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Xristuusaġ Agakuġ

CHRISTMAS PLANS FOR 2020



Due to COVID-19, the Annual Community Christmas Program will be canceled. However, we got some information from a little Elf that Santa will still be coming to Saint Paul Island to greet the children. The St. Paul Volunteer Fire Department has graciously volunteered to drive Santa

around town to hand out gifts and candy bags on Christmas Eve. There will be Christmas fireworks for the whole town to enjoy! The date/time/location to be determined. Although we cannot all be together sharing Christmas joy, you can help spread holiday cheer by sending your greetings via KUHB. Xristuusaġ Agakuġ! Amchuuġtxichin!

Helpful Tips from the Finance Department



To hold a check you received for awhile before cashing it, look for any dates on the check that say the check is not valid after. The City will

not cash a check after that date. If somehow the check does get cashed, it will be returned by the bank and whomever the check was issued to becomes liable to pay back the money. Not all checks have this date, but State of Alaska Permanent funds checks do.

The person that a check is issued to must be the one to present it for cashing. If you bring another person's check to cash and they are not here to endorse the check, it will not be cashed.

If you want to cash a check issued to a person who is deceased, you will have to provide documentation authorizing you to cash the check.



Significantly large checks cannot be cashed, but they can be exchanged for smaller checks for a fee per check. Please let us know if you have any questions and have a wonderful day. Contact the City Cashier's Office at 546-3125.

Improvements at the City South Dock



The City of Saint Paul worked jointly with Alaska Marine Lines (AML) on some improvements at the City's South Dock. In October the City and AML added two 50-ton manual winches on the south and north sides of South Dock.



The winch on the north side was installed on the existing 100-ton concrete pad. The winch on the south side was installed on a metal flat that was encased in concrete. At both locations the one-inch winch line will run through a sheave mounted on buried chain to a three inch mooring line that will be connected to the barge or vessel.

These winches will be used by AML to stabilize their 286-foot long barge when offloading and loading on the 200-foot-long caisson dock known as South Dock. The winches can also be used for larger vessels like the Coastal Transportation freighters.

The City would like to thank AML and the crew that performed the installation of the winches. We look forward to AML continuing to provide essential barge service to Saint Paul Island. These winches will ensure that AML can safely continue to do so.



EMPLOYEE PROFILE: *Kaitlan Silva*



My EMS career began my senior year of high school in 2008. The local community college offered an EMT course as part of a health care career preparation program. Shortly after graduating, I took the test and became a Nationally Registered Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). The water park that I was lifeguarding at moved me to the first aid department as my first EMT job. In April of 2009, I began working with the Galveston County Health District as a full time EMT-B. This is where I met my husband Jamin, who started working there the same year. In January 2011 we moved to Colorado. We got married in a tiny church up in the mountains in March 2011. A few months later, we were expecting our first child.

We moved back to Texas in April 2012 when I was 8 months pregnant. Asher was born in May and I stayed home with him while Jamin went back to work with our previous employer. Next, I worked at a funeral home helping families pre-plan for their funerals and cemetery needs. Itzhak joined our family shortly after that. I took some time off work to take care of our two small children. In 2015, when I was 5 months pregnant with our 3rd child, Samara, I began working as an EMT-B at a level 1 trauma center (that means that the hospital can handle all types of patients). I gained so much experience there and at the new little hospital that they opened about 30 minutes away! I stayed there for about 3 years working night shift.

I began working back at Galveston County Health District as a part-time EMT-B in January 2017 while homeschooling our oldest child. After a year, I went full time as a dispatcher. While dispatching at night, I went back to school to finish a degree in Public Safety and Emergency Management. I dispatched for 2 years and then went back part time in the field for another year and a half. During this time, we welcomed our fourth baby named Malachi in January 2020.

In February, I applied for a job in Saint Paul. In March, I received an email saying that they were not hiring because of COVID-19. I went back to working part-time on the ambulance until July when a logistics coordinator position became available. I took that position so that I could work office hours. When I got home from my first day doing that job, there was an offer letter for the job in Saint Paul. Obviously, I accepted the offer and we moved our family from Texas to Alaska. We chose to move to Saint Paul Island because it is a very different lifestyle from the Houston area. You can expect to see either Jamin or myself responding to EMS calls. We look forward to meeting and getting to know everyone in the community!

EMPLOYEE PROFILE:

Ryan McMicken

I was born in California. After graduating high school, I joined the Marines in 2013. I was stationed in San Diego, CA, for four years. I was honorably discharged from the Marines in 2017. After that, I moved to North Dakota, where I worked for Delta as a ramp agent and a security officer for various companies around the state. While I was working security, I got the opportunity to work for a couple different contracting companies for the Department of Defense in Afghanistan doing security as well. While I was in Afghanistan, I applied for the position here in St. Paul. I look forward to seeing what St. Paul has to offer and learning more about the island.



Powered Air-Purifying Respirators (PAPRs)

Is that a Storm Trooper? Monsters, Inc. called in a 23-19? No, it's just EMS crews wearing a new device while responding to calls. Called a PAPR (Powered Air-Purifying Respirator), it is an alternative to the N95 masks.



According to the CDC, A PAPR is an air-purifying respirator that uses a blower to force air through filter cartridges or canisters and into the breathing zone of the wearer. This process creates an air flow inside either a tight-fitting facepiece or loose-fitting hood or helmet, providing a higher assigned protection factor (APF) than the reusable elastomeric non-powered air-purifying half facepiece (half mask) or N95 FFRs. A PAPR can be used for protection during healthcare procedures in which personnel are exposed to greater risks of aerosolized pathogens causing acute respiratory infections.

The City of Saint Paul has invested in 8 PAPRs out of concern of the shortage of PPE during the pandemic. It will be used for COVID-19 related calls but may also be used in other situations that require a higher level of protection to the responders.

Want to learn new skills and earn a certification that can be used all over the state? Classes for EMS, Fire, and Search and Rescue will be starting in the Spring and Summer. Contact the Emergency Management and Services Coordinator for more information at 546-3124 or stop by the office at City Hall across from the radio station.



CITY OF SAINT PAUL STRATEGIC PLAN: 2020 – 2023

Draft, updated 11-18-20

Core Functions of the City of Saint Paul



Utilities: water, sewer, power, refuse



Ports and Harbors



Planning and Zoning



Public Safety



Elections and Voting



Fuel Services

Dashboard: How are we doing?

Indicator		2020 Current	2023 Target
People			
▼	Annual employee turnover rate	30.5%	10.0%
▲	Resident satisfaction based on % satisfied/very satisfied via community survey	N/A	85%
▲	Number of projects community/Island entities are collaborating on annually	3	6
Infrastructure			
▲	Amount of funding received for CIP project implementation	\$1,046,425	\$3,500,000
▲	Number of community facilities with a maintenance plan in place	0	3
✓	Number of CIP projects successfully funded and implemented	2	6
Revenue			
▲	Annual municipal revenue	\$8,640,730	\$9,072,766
▼	Annual utility maintenance costs, adjusted for inflation	N/A	N/A

Mission

What is the City's purpose and who do we serve?

We provide consistent quality utilities and services while also ensuring the safety of Saint Paul Island citizens.

Vision

What is the City's ultimate goal?

Saint Paul Island is a thriving, safe community with a high quality of life for current and future generations.

Values & Guiding Principles

What are the City's beliefs and principles guiding leadership and staff?

- **Accountability:** we earn the trust of the community through transparent and responsive communications.
- **Quality:** we take pride in our work and commit to being dependable and professional.
- **Resourcefulness:** we seek out creative and cost effective solutions to address the challenges of remote Island living.
- **Respect:** we are committed to positive and inclusive interactions.

Goal A – PEOPLE

Improve staff capacity and expertise; improve citizen understanding of city finances and functions; make Saint Paul Island a safer place to live.

Employees	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Develop employee transition plans.2. Promote employment opportunities with the City.
Partners	<ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Initiate and conduct quarterly community/Island entity leadership meetings.
Community	<ol style="list-style-type: none">4. Implement a community survey to inform City priorities and improve service.5. Create and distribute a quarterly BeringS newsletter.6. Update communications plan.
Public Safety	<ol style="list-style-type: none">7. Develop a Strategic Community Policing and Problem Solving Plan.8. Secure additional Fire & EMS volunteers.9. Expand outreach and education on citizen emergency preparedness.
City Council	<ol style="list-style-type: none">10. Develop and implement a City Council training schedule.

Goal B – INFRASTRUCTURE

Improve city processes and replace/update related equipment and software; construct new, improve and adequately maintain vital community facilities.

Technology and Process Improvements	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Realize the full potential of finance software, to include new modules as appropriate.2. Standardize external (contractor, customer, developer) processes.3. Develop and implement a fundraising process and action plans for CIP list priorities.4. Establish a process for tracking, communicating progress on the strategic plan.
Community Infrastructure Improvements	<ol style="list-style-type: none">5. Develop and implement a Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for City facilities.

Goal C – REVENUE

Diversify the City's economic portfolio.

Fisheries	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Expand the current fish tax structure to transition currently exempt businesses to a 2% tax.2. Implement projects identified in the Saint Paul Harbor Feasibility Study and Business Plan.
City Services	<ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Conduct an overall rate assessment to reevaluate rates and propose fee adjustments and subsidy policies for utilities that are not currently self-sustaining.4. Identify and implement cost saving upgrades to utility systems (e.g., power plant upgrades).5. Recruit former residents to relocate to Saint Paul Island and encourage Saint Paul Island sister organizations (CBSFA, Tribe, TDX) to incentivize employees to live on Island.
New Business	<ol style="list-style-type: none">6. Support and encourage exploration of long-term economic development opportunities with community partners through implementation of the communitywide Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.