



P.O. Box 8, 113 Lakeshore Drive; Pateros, WA 98846
 City Hall (509) 923-2571

WINTER 2016 NEWSLETTER

MAYOR

Mayor – Carlene Anders

STAFF

Clerk/Treasurer – Kerri Wilson

Deputy Clerk/Museum Coordinator –
 Cecilia Arellano

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement –
 Darren Moore

City Administrator – Jord Wilson

Sewer Plant Operator – Mike Lambert

Water Manager – Seth Lopez

Parks/Public Works – Shane Kelly

COUNCIL

Christine Perry

Adam Fritz

Ryan Greene

George Brady

Megan Sherrard

PERSONNEL CHANGES

The City had several changes in elected positions in 2015. Council member Ryan Green and Megan Sherrard were re-elected to Council positions.

“Thank you Mayor Brady for your tireless work in the months following the 2014 fires.” Mr. Brady lobbied hard to local, state and federal officials for the recovery of the City. He put in countless hours pursuing economic development, increased housing, better emergency measures, and improvement to our water system. Mr. Brady was re-elected to the council position that he had vacated to fill in as Mayor.

Congratulations – Carlene Anders elected Mayor as of November 2015. Carlene’s number one project has been securing funding for Phase II of the water system. She persistently pursues every agency and legislator with our water system case statement.

Mayor Anders hired two new employees to fill the open park and water positions. Shane Kelly will lead the Parks Department and Seth Lopez will lead the Water Department.



Public Works welcomes Shane Kelly to the Parks Department. He will be working in park maintenance and assisting public works. Shane comes to the City with construction and park maintenance experience. He has hit the ground running completing several winter facility maintenance projects. The City parks had a busy year:

April – Arbor Day

May – Run for the Border Charity Ride

June – Pateros River Run

July – Apple Pie Jamboree (APJ)

August – Hydro Races

September – Salmon Bake

Continued on the Back

is a slow road. Careful planning and community involvement is essential as we move forward through the recovery process. The Pateros Brewster Long Term Recovery Organization meets every other month at City Hall to discuss recovery efforts and needs. Anyone interested in participating can contact Jord at City Hall for more information.

The 2014 fire crisis highlighted problems within the City water system. Low pressures and high manganese create a significant barrier to economic and housing development. *How can a community with 275 water connections pay for a water improvement project of five million dollars?* Securing funding is critical in maintaining reasonable water rates and the City continues to work hard in keeping rates affordable. The State Legislature appropriated \$1,788,000 for Phase I of the water project which will replace our 50+ year old wells with new wells. Phase II, still unfunded, will replace our water reservoirs. Mayor Anders continues to press hard at the federal and state level for Phase II funding.

“THANK YOU”

**Washington State
 Legislators, the Governor’s
 Office, their staff, and
 Department staff for their
 continued help and
 assistance in our recovery
 from the 2014 fires.**

A lack of housing continues to be an issue since the 2014 fires. Increased housing, especially rentals, is a high priority issue when meeting with state and local officials.

The 2014 fire crisis has opened doors at the state and federal level that have not existed in prior years. City and community involvement in the Long Term Recovery Groups has proved to be highly beneficial to the community, and 2016 will be another year of further recovery.

2015 A YEAR OF RECOVERY

“You never let a serious crisis go to waste. And what I mean by that it’s an opportunity to do things you think you could not do before.” -R. Emanuel

Recovery, as Pateros has seen, is only possible by a community coming together strong. Hard work and long hours by mayors, council members, City staff, and community volunteers continue to move the City forward.

The City has met numerous times with the Governor’s Office, the Director of Commerce and his staff regarding economic and housing issues. The City has been active in the Okanogan Economic Alliance and the NCW Economic Development District (EDD). The City is working with the EDD on an economic recovery plan, specific to Pateros. Recovery

Several charity concerts were also held in Memorial Park, as was the largest APJ event in recent memory. Due to the summer fires of 2015, Pateros Parks became a temporary shelter area for displaced residents. The Classic Hydro Event was rescheduled and the Hawk Festival was cancelled. The City parks also hosted reunions, company picnics, graduation parties, bridal showers, birthday parties, and weddings.

If you need to make a 2016 reservation, contact City Hall.

Douglas PUD Park Projects

Pateros has a beautiful park system considering the size of the community. Careful maintenance, improvement investments, and curb appeal contribute to the local economy.

The City is very appreciative of the Douglas PUD (PUD) for its continued improvements to our park system. The PUD completed dredging Steelhead Cove at the Methow Boat Launch. This improvement is greatly appreciated by boaters accessing the launch ramp. The Memorial Park trail was repaved this summer, and the Peninsula Park path to the main gazebo was reconstructed, improving accessibility. Several PUD projects are planned for 2016.



WATER

WELCOME NEW HIRE – Seth Lopez will be responsible for waterworks and streets. Seth comes to the City with experience in construction and excavation. Seth, eager to start plowing streets, is starting to inventory street signs and prep for spring water projects.

The City is moving forward with improvements to the water system. Environmental and cultural reviews, preliminary testing and engineering will be the next steps in construction of wells and well house. Drilling new wells is planned for spring, and it is hoped that a new supply of water will have less manganese.

Manganese continues to be a plague to residents. Much of the work of the Public Works crew was in response to repairs and maintenance due to manganese buildup in the lines.

SEWER

Congratulations to Mike Lambert, operator of the treatment plant, for getting his Group II Wastewater Treatment Certification. Pateros now has two Group II certified operators, Mike and Jord. Pateros Public Works encourages employees to get cross training to provide operation backup and continuity in trained staff.

STREETS & SIDEWALKS

An unusually heavy snow year has kept the crew busy. **"Thanks for your patience!"** With the large snow loads, the City has experienced significant breakdowns to the plowing equipment. Plowing and crew safety is a City priority.

What initially was to be a short sidewalk extension planned for 2015 along Warren Street, has turned into a complete sidewalk extension from along Warren Street and up Chris Street to the school. The \$244,440 project is awarded from the Transportation Improvement Board and will be constructed summer of 2016.

The FEMA Report

It is hard, 18 months after the Fire of 2014, not to be completely exhausted of the FEMA process. This has consumed valuable resources and taken a toll on City officials and staff. However, it has been greatly beneficial to the community in securing recovery funding. Navigating the FEMA process would be impossible, if the State Military Department had not assisted us.

Status of the Projects



Water tank erosion control and bank stabilization on the reservoirs. Project complete. Estimated amount \$321,477. Final documentation has been filed.

Cleaning the water tanks in preparation for the installation of the art work. Project has still not cleared the FEMA environmental and cultural desk. Project is estimated at \$40,000. Engineers are working on suitable cleaning process to satisfy FEMA.

Debris Removal projects have been completed. The concrete crushing project was completed late fall. Closeout documentation being collected from State Agencies, so that final documentation can be filed. Project is estimated at \$307,707.

City Fire Engine repairs completed for \$18,064

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The City held several public meetings on economic development and recovery. The business community met with the WSU, Rural Communities Design Initiative in May and began working on a downtown vision. In October, the City planner, Kurt Danison with Highlands and associates, facilitated a meeting of City business leaders to help fine tune the vision document that WSU began. There was great turnout and support by the business community for this project.

THE THE HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM (HMGP)

The City has applied for two grants with the FEMA HMP program. Both grants are competitive grants, and both continue to clear FEMA hurdles, which there are several. The first grant, for backup electrical generation at City wells, is for \$153,000. That grant is in review with FEMA and an award should be announced this spring.

The second grant is for a re-evaluation of our existing FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan with the County. The grant is for \$46,200, if awarded, the Pateros Brewster Long Term Recovery Organization would take a lead role in the project.

THE RE-BUILD

Within the City limits, 32 residences were lost in the firestorm of 2014. Rebuilding continues in the City. Eleven homes were completed in the City over the past year. Nineteen building permits were issued in 2015 including two for new fruit facilities in the industrial part of town. Several homes are still in the re-build process, anywhere from planning to final construction.

If you have questions regarding building and permits in City limits call Darren Moore (509) 449-6296. If you have questions regarding infrastructure, water and sewer hookups call City Hall at (509) 923-2571.



One of several beautiful new homes in the City.