

## CITY MANAGER REPORT

**Reporting Period:** March 15 – April 4, 2025

**Prepared By:** Phillip A. Zavadil, City Manager

**Date:** April 04, 2025

### ADMINISTRATION

#### AIR TRANSPORTATION CHALLENGES

Glide Slope – Replacement of cabling on the glide slope went well and is complete. The FAA techs were challenged by the winter weather conditions during the installation. The flight check to certify the glide slope was scheduled for Wednesday, April 2, 2025, but the FAA plane that is used for the flight check broke. The flight check has been rescheduled for the week of April 7<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting with Aleutian Airways – On April 1, 2025, we had a meeting with representatives with Aleutian Airways (AA). In attendance were the following people:

- Brian Whilden, General Manager, Aleutian Airways
- Amos Vizer, Chief Development Officer, Aleutian Airways
- Jacob, Aubrey, Mark Hickey, Ray, Sean, Beverly, John Wayne

Attached was a list of questions we asked. Below is a summary of the discussion:

- AA is adding new aircraft to their fleet. The ATR 42 and 72.
- AA is interested in serving Saint Paul Island with the ATR under EAS and intend to submit bid once the EAS RFP is out.
- AA is a stable company, and they are making smart investments and growing slowly to avoid mistakes of past airlines.
- The ATR 42-600 is a 45-seat configuration that can be configured to 39 seats, and the intended seating configuration for SNP is 30 seats.
- This configuration would leave plenty of room for baggage and cargo.
- The ATR 42 and 72 have the same cargo hold.
- The ATR 42 and 72 fall under the Part 121 regs.
- The ATRs have large overhead bins similar in size to a 737.
- The ATR would require a fuel stop in DLG or other location.
- AA looking at obtaining the newest ATR versions and have the latest avionics including RNAV GPS.
- AA would bid based on the same flight frequency as Ravn currently, which is 3 flights a week, except from May – September there is 4 flights a week. AA is willing to be adaptable and provide a schedule that meets the community’s needs.
- AA is partnered with Alaska Airlines. At this time, you can earn AK miles on AA but cannot redeem them on AA. This may change in the future.
- AA would intend to carry mail and cargo on the ATR.



- We discussed fares. They could commit to lower fares but a round-trip fare would not be under \$1000. AA has Q and Y fares:
  - Q fares are not refundable and vary based on how in advance they are booked.
  - Y fares are refundable.
- AA uses an 8% profit margin to remain efficient.
- AA would be able to provide make up flights with some limitations.
- Baggage fees are as follows:
  - Aleutian Club for residents. First bag is free for Q fares for club members/residents
  - The first bag is free with Y fares.
  - Second bag is \$40
- If passenger numbers grow to a point that a large aircraft is needed, then AA would work with the community to seek Part 139 certification of our airport. The Saab 2000 is not extended overwater certified so cannot services our community.
- No Ravn cookie, but passengers get a rice crispy treat made at a local bakery in ANC.
- AA likes to pride itself on working with communities and sees it as a partnership.
- AA will come out to the community to meet with the community do present, discuss, and gather feedback on their EAS proposal.

Community Meeting – On April 11, 2025 from 3:15 to 5:00 pm at the Rec Hall we will host a community meeting to discuss air transportation. We will review and discuss the following: Status of Essential Air Service (EAS) and Bypass Mail Programs, Aviation Navigation Aid Issues, and EAS Renewal and Air Carrier Selection

### MEETING WITH NOAA

On March 24, 2025, myself, Mateo, Heather McCarty, Ray, Jeff Kauffman, Joe Kashervarof, and Jim Balsiger met with Sam Rauch, Jon Kurland, Kelly Denit, and Maureen Trnka with NOAA and discussed the following topics:

Status of 23/24 Crab Disaster Funding - We inquired about the status of the 23/24 disaster funds given the congressional appropriation of another \$300 million in December 2024, as well as the timing directives of the new FISHERS Act. Kelly Denit for NMFS informed us they are trying to get approvals from Administration on next steps with regard to the \$300 million. Once this happens they need to go back to Congress for approval of the final amount NMFS decides to allocate for the various disasters. As for FISHERS Act requirements, they apply but not at this stage of the process.

NMFS was unable to confirm whether notifications would be made at the end of May 2025, as occurred last time around under a similar timeline with approval of disaster assistance in December 2022 and notifications by NMFS of the disaster allocations made per fishery in May 2023.

NMFS Support for halibut ABM/A-123 Action - NMFS appreciated the support provided by CBSFA and HDA as Intervenors in the case. Saint Paul representatives noted their support for the Council process and their assessment that the outcome of the case strengthens the process.

Updates by Saint Paul on Various Items - Stakeholder plans for requesting 24/25 disaster determination. It was pointed out that stakeholders would wait until after the BSS is over to begin “crunching numbers” and formulating a request that meets the disaster threshold.

Saint Paul provided an update on current BSS season and community contributions to make Crab Program work including negotiation of an MOA with Unalaska on the northern region seafood taxes.

City and CBSFA representatives expressed gratitude for 21/22 and 22/23 disaster disbursements that were received from PSMFC on the same day the funding freeze went into effect.

An update was provided on the Bristol Bay red king crab enhancement project to be developed on Saint Paul this summer.

### HAPPENING AT STATE LEVEL

See the attached legislative report 24-04 from Hickey & Associates for details happening at the State capital.

### STATE OF ALASKA TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN

When in Juneau in March, we discussed with ADOT/PF staff how to include the Harbor Road and Landfill Road on the State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP). On March 21, 2025, I emailed ADOT/PF the plans for these roads, and they informed me that the projects would be included in the STIP.

### INSURANCE RENEWAL

Nadia, Stepahine, and I are working on our insurance renewal applications for 2025/2026, that will be under the new public insurance pool Alaska Public Risk Alliance (APRA) will not be will not be assisting with the placement of marine liability coverage, which means the City will need to go to the commercial market for this coverage. Nadia, Stepahine, and I met with our insurance broker Alliant on April 2, 2025, to discuss the renewal and to inform them that we would not be continuing with their broker services since APRA does not require its membership to use a broker like APEI does. Alliant offered to continue to provide the City with continued broker services if it is a net zero cost to the City. APRA will provide a 5% premium credit for the members that continue to use a broker. Alliant informed me that they could still provide brokerage services to the City for the cost that is equal to the premium credit and that this will be revisited in a year.

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

### POLICE SERGEANT STATUS

The Police Sergeant position was advertised on Alaska Municipal League and Indeed, and iHireLawEnforcement sites. The position has been posted on the iHireLawEnforcement site for 85 days as of April 3, 2025. The position has received 330 views on this site and 7 interested applications. 5 of the applicants were disqualified for not having any law enforcement experience. One qualified applicant was disqualified for not completing the Alaska Police Standards Council (APSC) F-22 form that is required to determine if an applicant is eligible for reciprocity from APSC. One qualified applicant is completing an Application for Employment and F-22 form.

### VPSO STATUS

Manmeet Teja – He is doing well at the Alaska Law Enforcement Academy (ALET). He to graduate May 23, 2025. The current plan is to have him come to the island after graduation with VPSO Campuzano, who will perform field training with him. Manmeet will still need to complete fire and ETT training.

Marcee Lettinga – Marcee as offered a VPSO position and accepted the position. Marcee will attend the fire and ETT training in late April in Bethel then come to the island after this training. The current plan will be to have Marcee come out to the island with Manmeet and VPSO Campuzano in late May. Marcee will also need to attend the VPSO academy in July.

### SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDEALARMS

Virginia McMichael and an assistant with the State Fire Marshals office came out to the island to install smoke/carbon monoxide alarms. They were able to visit 19 homes and install 79 Smoke/CO alarms. They also enjoyed talking with the residents and participating in the health fair. There are still many homes that need to have alarms installed. They hope to send out more alarms when the new VPSO arrives.

### DEPARTMENT OF LAW ISSUE

I met with Mike Nemeth with APIA to inform him of the results of our meeting with the State Attorney General. I suggested to Mike that during the VPSO Inservice in the fall that they invite someone for Department of Law to provide a session on what makes a good case report that is usable by the DOL to prosecute cases. Mike is on the training committee and is going to mention this idea to the committee.

### EMS

Our community needs volunteers for ETT and to drive the ambulance. SCF is sponsoring an ETT training from April 30 to May 6, 2025 (*see attached schedule*).

### 911 CALLS

Since January 9, 2025, the Alaska State Trooper dispatch in Fairbanks has received approximately six 911 calls from Saint Paul Island.

## **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

### MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION DIVISION

Roads – Grading of the roads has occurred when the conditions and staff time have allowed.

Building Maintenance – Facilities maintenance staff have been performing repairs and maintenance checks on City buildings and housing as needed and assisting other division with repairs and projects as needed.

### MOTOR POOL DIVISION

Personnel – Damon is off island for an unknown time to be with his girlfriend when she has their baby.

Ordering Parts – Parts, tires, batteries for maintaining the City equipment and vehicles have been ordered.

### BULK FUEL UTILITY

Fuel Supply – As of March 27, 2025, the City has approximately 44,809 gallons of gasoline and 244,486 gallons of diesel.

Fuel Order for 2025 – We have placed an order for 550,000 gallons of diesel and 90,000 gallons of gasoline with Vitus. The first delivery of the new supply may be scheduled for next month. The price will be the same.

Shield Record Keeping Service – The Bulk Fuel Operators, Public Works Administrative Assistant, and I met with Integrity Environmental staff to review the required inspection documents that need to be performed week, monthly, quarterly, and annually. The February Spill Shield Summary Report is attached. Integrity will be working with the operators to address the gaps in the reports and make corrections for the subsequent reporting.

### ELECTRIC UTILITY

Unit #6 – Below is a breakdown of the work that NC Power Systems mechanic performed on Unit #6:

- Replaced front crankshaft seal to repair an engine oil leak.
- Performed atop end valve adjustment. The engine had 4518 Hours since the last valve adjustment in September.
- Parts were ordered to repair oil leaks at the oil dipstick and oil sample fitting. A new oil dipstick, dipstick tube, and oil sample valve was installed.
- Replaced fuel transfer pump because the pump was leaking engine oil out of the pump’s weep hole. The fuel transfer pump was warranty work.
- Replaced jacket water pump because the pump was leaking engine oil out of the pump’s weep hole. The water pump was replaced under warranty.

Unit#5 – NC Power Systems mechanic is performing a top end overhaul on Unit #5. The overhaul should be completed by April 5<sup>th</sup>. See photos below of the work being performed:





Power Outage – On March 21, 2025, we experienced an unplanned power outage. The outage was due to incorrect MFR settings on Unit #5. In order to perform maintenance on Unit # 6 the NC Power Systems mechanic and our operator switched to Unit #5. The town loads were high at this time. The issue was the new larger rated gen end on Unit # 5 was not set to in the MFR to match the rating of the unit. After the crew figured this out and changed the settings they tested Unit #5 again and we experience another town wide outage. This time it was due to an underfrequency issues on Unit #5. The NC Power Systems mechanic adjusted the fuel settings on the unit and the crew tested the again. After changing the MFR and fuel settings Unit # 5 was able to handle the higher town loads that we were experience due to the cold weather.

Wind Power – On March 26, 2025, TDX Power commissioned the new load bank and performed some tests. The tests went well. Testing the wind generator and transmitting wind power over the City grid is expected the week of April 7<sup>th</sup>.

WATER UTILITY

Water Samples – Coliform were collected in February and March 2025 and sent to Alaska Water Laboratories for analysis (*see attached report*).

Updated Sanitary Survey – ADEC modified the sanitary survey from the previous version distributed on February 10, 2025. ADEC changed the deficiencies in the survey to findings. See the attached updated sanitary survey.

Consumer Confidence Report – In the coming months, Aubery and Monty will be working on the water utility consumer confidence report.

SEWER UTILITY

QAPP – New North Consulting completed the Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) on. The QAPP was submitted to ADEC via the online portal. See attached completed and submitted QAPP.

Sewer Sampling Supplies – We have started to order the sampling supplies needed to collect sewer samples. The sampling kit from SGS lab in Anchorage for the sewer sampling has arrived.

REFUSE UTILITY

Old Drop Boxes – Several of the utility's drop boxes are rusted and beyond repair and were crushed and disposed at the landfill.

Cardboard Bailer – The Aleut Community Store will be using the cardboard baler that the City is in possession of that was donated by ACSPI to start baling cardboard for disposal.