

Manager's Report  
September 13, 2022

From: Chris Hladick, Interim City Manager  
Bil Homka, Acting City Manager

1. **Janet Coit, Assistant Administrator for NMFS:** I believe her visit to Unalaska on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August was a success. The reception that night was well attended. Thanks to the mayor and council members who attended. I saw her off on Saturday and she said she really enjoyed getting to come to Unalaska.
2. **Fireworks:** Council's FY23 budget contains \$35,000 for fireworks, plus \$5,000 for additional expenses. Based on an informal estimate from Lantis, the New Year's Eve show will cost approximately \$35,000 (14% increase over last year). Additional funds are also needed to complete and repair the fireworks trailer and it is believed that \$5,000 will not cover the cost of completing and repairing the trailer. Please see the attached memo from the Acting Fire Chief for further information. Council must decide if they want to pay for two shows in FY23 – New Year's Eve and 4<sup>th</sup> of July. If the decision is made for two shows, a budget amendment will be needed to cover the cost of a 4<sup>th</sup> of July show. Staff requests a directive to the City Manager with Council's wishes.
3. **Alaska Airlines:** I am working on putting together a teleconference with Alaska, Ravn, and representatives of the Seafood processing community to talk about air service. Waiting to hear back from Scott Haberstadt of Alaska Airlines.
4. **FAA:** Apparently the FAA is making a determination in regards to designation for Unalaska and Sand Point so that Saab 2000 can land in both communities. Have been trying to get to the bottom of this for several days now. Apparently the FAA representative is moving to Anchorage and is in transit. The third one in two years. Even if the designation is made, Aleutian Airways only has approval one on Saab which means scheduled air service will not start until the second one comes on line.
5. **Dredging of the Bar:** The Corps of engineers will begin benthic surveys of the bar in September and October. This information is needed to finalize the design of the channel they plan to construct coming across the bar at the entrance of Dutch Harbor. It is so good to have this project moving. Brad Gilman and I started this process in the 2008 timeframe. Thanks to Senator Murkowski for the recent congressionally directed spending to make this project happen. The question is, once we dredge the bar how big will the ships be that come in and can we service them? The local Marine Pilots were instrumental in getting the project started and assisting the Corps with much needed information about the problems ships were having at low tide.
6. **Captain's Bay Road:** Bil Homka is working on a detailed plan for the project which will be presented to the council as there will be some decisions to make about amenities, etc. Additionally, what Trident decides will impact the scope of the project. This is definitely a priority for staff right now.

7. **Terminal Facility:** Later this fall staff in the planning department will present to the city council a draft of a public process for addressing the Terminal Facility. We need to start now.
8. **Federal Guests:** On Sept. 7 Bil Homka participated in meetings organized by the Q-Tribe and Ounalashka Corporation. Guests in attendance included Alicia Sylvester, Senior Advisor and Liaison for Native American Affairs for the Department of Defense and Anisha Downs, National Program Manager at US Army Corps of Engineers.
9. **Vacation:** I will be out of pocket from Sept 7<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>. Bil Homka will be in charge while I am away.



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MEMO

Date: 09/04/2022

To: Chris Hladick, Interim City Manager

From: Ben Knowles, Acting Fire Chief

Re: Fireworks FY23

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This memo is to serve as information by providing background for community fireworks in the 2023 fiscal year. I believe that this budget needs to be revisited and discussed upon to alleviate potential funding issues for future community fireworks displays.

The Unalaska Fire Department (UFD) and Department of Public Works (DPW) has been predominately operating the fireworks for the city since FY22. Last year DPW worked hard to construct a 52 foot trailer that can be dedicated to 1.3g (commercial/professional grade) fireworks display. This was the more fiscally responsible way to handle the amount of damage that we were doing to the road divisions "low-boy" trailer each year. The trailer frame and bed is complete but still needs to have racks and firing boards built and installed to render it useable for a display.

The city council budget is about \$40,000 dollars allocated in a line item for what is believed to cover both NYE and Independence Day fireworks shows within the fiscal year. After a preliminary inquiry with Lantis fireworks, who historically has been our recipient of the funds, approximates that the show for NYE 2023 will cost about \$35,000. This cost is a 14% increase from last year. This leaves us with no contingency for the NYE 2023 display and a zero balance to fund Independence Day 2023.

Independence Day 2022 was covered by a community support grant to the Alaska State Firefighters Association – Unalaska Chapter and was a 1.4g (consumer/non-professional) fireworks show. That grant was awarded for \$20,000.

CC: Michelle Price; Tom Cohenour