

# WINTER 2015 NEWSLETTER

#### MAYOR

Mayor - George Brady

#### **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 – David Greer Parks/Public Works – Charles Nanamkin

#### COUNCIL

Christine Perry
Adam Fritz
Ryan Greene
Carlene Anders
Megan Sherrard

## 2014 IN REVIEW

To say that the City of Pateros had an eventful 2014, would be an understatement. Although the City faced immense challenges in 2014, the City made progress on many fronts. The City Councilmembers, Mayor, and Staff would like to extend our appreciation to you, the citizens, for your support in 2014.

The City would also like to say a big "THANK YOU" to the innumerable amount of people, volunteers, businesses, faithbased-groups, non-governmental organizations, near and far that has come to our aid.

#### PERSONNEL CHANGES

The City had several changes in Council and would like to thank the hard work of those that served and welcome Carlene Anders and Megan Sherrard as new Councilmembers.

The City would also like to thank Mayor Libby Harrison for her service. It is good to see her family is rebuilding after the fire. Mayor Libby will be working with the City as Chamber of Commerce President, and is also on the City Lodging Tax Committee.

The City would like to thank Dale Parks for his 23+ years of service and send him best wishes in his future endeavors.

Mayor Brady and Council restructured Public Works. Jord Wilson's new position as City Administrator will oversee Public Works & Parks. Jord will also continue working on planning and grant research.



WELCOME NEW HIRE — Charles Nanamkin, of Brewster, will working in park maintenance and assisting public works. Charles comes to the City with experience in public construction projects and equipment operation. Charles has hit the ground running and will be an asset to the Parks and Public Works Team.

City Parks had a busy year with its annual, well attended, events, like Run for the Border Charity Motorcycle Ride, Classic Hydros, and Hawk Fest. PLUS the parks were reserved for Reunions, Company Picnics, Grad Parties, Tennis Camp, Bridal Showers, Birthday Parties, & numerous Weddings. *If you need to make a 2015 reservation, contact City Hall.* 

Mayor Libby kicked off the first year of Tree

City USA celebrations with the 2014 Arbor Day Celebration in April.

Arbor Day 2015 April 24<sup>th</sup> 3:30-5:30pm Memorial Park



The Farmers Market had a rough year, due to the fire, but plans to return to the Mall in 2015, every Friday afternoon.

The Winter Boat Launch has numerous improvement projects planned in 2015, and was renamed lves Landing. In-spite of no funding through the RCO, the City continues to work on the development of this park. The RV Dump Station has been installed and ready for use for a \$5 fee. The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) made a \$5,000 donation funding the project to assist those living in RVs

and nomad volunteer groups helping in rebuild efforts.

Did you know the City has arborist on staff?

– Ask Jord your questions. Jord is also
working with the Arbor Day Foundation and
the Okanogan County Conservation District
on shade trees for disaster recovery.

The City completed its tree planting project, funded with a \$5,000 tree planting grant. New trees were planted at the Tennis Courts, Peninsula Park, and Methow Boat Launch.

Visitor Center/City Hall improvements were made, including landscaping, benches, planters, and restoration of the Phyllis Gazette "Welcome Sign".



### WATER

<u>WELCOME NEW HIRE</u> – David Greer, of Bridgeport, will be responsible for waterworks and streets. David comes to the City with extensive experience in Public Works Operations, and will be an asset to the Public Works Team.

The City has been in the process of making upgrades to its water system for several years. Early in 2014, the City received a \$25,000 Planning Only Grant for its water system. The City had also completed a water system study well in advance of the fire. Council for several years has been pursing funding options to make upgrades to the City water system. Rates were raised in 2012 & 2013 to help raise capital for the water system project.

The City has placed new water reservoirs as a top priority. The two reservoirs, built in 1929 and 1945 are inadequate to serve the community. Mayor Brady and Jord Wilson attended the Infrastructure Assistance Coordinating Council (IACC) Conference held in Wenatchee in September. The project was presented to potential funders by the Mayor,

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staff, and City Engineer. The Mayor and staff continue to pursue all avenues for funding alternatives for this project. It is expected that water rates will increase, but keeping rates as low as possible is priority for the Mayor and the Council.

## **SEWER**

WELCOME Mike to his new position as Treatment Plant Operator. Mike has been the City water system operator for 14 years. Mike continues to be a team leader in Public Works and is enjoying the challenges of his new position.

# STREETS & SIDEWALKS

- Way-finding (the jumping fish) signs installed
- City entrance welcome signs and landscapes installed
- Sidewalk along Lakeshore Drive, from US-97 to railroad tracks widened for safety and plowing.
- New Staff = backup snow plow drivers with CDLs. Both David and Charles have CDLs. David will be operating the big ol' State plow on the streets. Charles will be operating the Bobcat, plowing pedestrian walks and the Mall.
- A short sidewalk extension is planned in 2015 along Warren Street, as part of pedestrian and bicycle safety grant funding. This project is part of long-term plans to connect parks, the school, and downtown.

#### WATER RESERVOIR ART

Loved or not-so-loved, The Pateros water reservoir art has been an iconic piece of community life for over 20 years. In 1992, sculptor, resident, Richard Byers; fellow art enthusiast; and Pateros Chamber of Commerce sponsored the reflector art project. The art design was by the prolific artist, Richard Elliot, the same artist who created "Circle of Light" on Yakima Sundome



"Reflections on the Columbia" was made up of two murals composed of thousands of reflectors directly glued to the two water reservoirs. The design on one tank was stylized waveform representing the Columbia River and the other tank was diamond forms representing the surrounding hills and mountains. One of the goals was for the water tanks to be more integrated into the sagebrush-covered hillside.

The art was completely lost in the fire. However, the City insurance, Association of Washington Cities RMSA has covered the cost of the replacement of the art. RMSA was able to locate Richard Elliot's widow; found the original installation plans, and pictures of the installation. The art on the water reservoirs will be replaced thanks to AWC RMSA.

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The City has been working on the development of the old landfill property south of town for several years. The site will be officially closed as a landfill in a few years, and the Department of Ecology has approved of the on-going activities. On the day of the fire, Mayor Brady and then grant-writer Jord Wilson were in Olympia to present a grant proposal. CERB awarded the City \$50,000 for Economic Development, which included an infrastructure development and water feasibility study. The City continues to pursue grant funding for economic development.

### CARLTON COMPLEX FIRE 2014

The wildfire of July 17<sup>-</sup> would change the shape of all City events following. The first time in its almost 70 years, The Apple Pie Jamboree was cancelled and rescheduled, and the Hydro and Hawk Festivals would be promoted to help recovery efforts.

Team Rubicon (TR) arrived within days of the incident, and began managing daily relief briefings for the City. The TR Incident Management Assistance Team started assisting the community on July 27°. The Team assisted the City disaster relief by helping to manage the debris removal, assisting in donated material management, and helping to prep the City for the FEMA process.

#### **Team Rubicon:**

- helped capture over \$350,000 in donated resources
- Helped remove 331,431 cubic yards of debris
- Deployed 70 volunteers
- Managed 793 volunteers
- Logged 14,553 volunteer man-hours

FEMA rolled into town on September 9, 2014, 54 days after the disaster. The FEMA declaration covers Public Assistance. FEMA expedited its first check to the City for \$30,000, arriving the end of October. The first FEMA project was to evaluate immediate hazards to the water reservoirs. Mayor Libby named Jord FEMA Coordinator, and he has continued to work with the State Military Department in writing the FEMA grants. To date, the projects are valued at over \$550,000. The projects include:

- Assistance in Emergency Response
- Engineer Assessment to Water Reservoirs
- Erosion Control for Water Reservoirs
- Debris Removal
- Fire Department Equipment & Repairs

## **RECOVERY**

Mayor Brady and Council continue to support and take an active role in the recovery efforts of the Community and the County. The City facilitates recovery activities and is working with the Recovery Groups on individual and public assistance, including infrastructure, economic, legislative, & public safety issues.

# Pateros-Brewster Long Term Recovery Organization (PBLTRO) – Board Members

Meeting bi-weekly

Carlene Anders - Executive Director

Terri England (Chair) – Distribution Resource Center

> Rebecca Meadows (Vice Chair) – Communications

Jord Wilson (Secretary) – Local Government Keith Stennes – (Treasurer) Land, Ag &

Wildlife Lois Davies – Mental & Behavior Health

Eric Dreissen – Public Schools

Kris Erlandsen – Infrastructure

leanette Palmer - Economic and Business

Marty Robinson - Pat/Brew Relief Fund

Tonya Vallance - Public Safety

Jon Wyss - Housing

Advisors to the Board – Mike Zoretic, Commissioner Ray Campbell, Cindy Cook

# Carlton Complex Long Term Recovery Group (CCLTRG)

Councilmember Anders is leading the Countywide recovery as Executive Director. The board meets bi-weekly. The CCLTRG currently has seven board members from across the county. Jord Wilson is a Board Member and Treasurer.

Okanogan County Community Action Council, as a community building non-profit organization, has also played an important role in recovery efforts. Jord Wilson represents Pateros as a Board Member.

#### THE RE-BUILD

Within the City limits, 32 residences were lost in the firestorm of 2014. Pateros-ites are a resilient group, and began rebuilding almost immediately after the disaster. At least 11 homes are 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.

