The POPD Remodel
-Port Orchard Police Department

The Port Orchard Police Department has undergone some major construction over the past few months. Police Chief Al Townsend departed north to Poulsbo PD at the end of April, which left a rather large dent to be filled.

Mayor Matthes appointed (then Commander) Geoffrey Marti as Chief of Police. Chief Marti has over 32 years in law enforcement. Chief Marti spent 27 years in Lincoln Police Department in Nebraska. Some of Marti’s accomplishments include being a member of the City’s SWAT team, Internal Investigations, and position of Sergeant. Chief Marti spent the last 5 years at POPD as the Department’s Commander.

In “Foreman” fashion, Chief Marti assigned Sergeant Dale Schuster as his 2nd in command for the remodel project. Commander Schuster began his career with POPD back in 1983 as a reserve officer. After 2 years, at age 26, Schuster became an “official” police officer for the department. During this time Schuster was involved with the Marine Unit, Motorcycle/Traffic Unit, Detective Section, and WESTNET. In 2005 Schuster was promoted to Sergeant and held that position until his recent appointment.

The foundation is in, but the project continues. Welcome Matt Bell, newest addition to the cadre of officers. Bell started his law enforcement career with the Denver Sheriff’s Office from 2003-2006. Bell moved to Washington State and continued his career with the Pierce County Sherriff’s Office as a Corrections Deputy. Bell was one of the Department’s reserve officers from 2011 until his present position as Officer. He lives in the Port Orchard area with his family.

The Department will continue to grow and be “under construction” with a new addition here and there. As with any remodel, a new look is created and the face of the “project” (aka department) is changed as well. Change can be good!

Congratulations!

Officer Main will be honored at the American Legion convention this year as the Law Enforcement Officer of the year! Her outstanding service while serving as an Officer in support of the City of Port Orchard and the State of Washington has earned her this recognition.

The City appreciates her hard work, dedication, and contribution to our community and its citizens.

-Matthes

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The dog days of summer
-City Treasurer Allan Martin

It may seem early, but the City turns its attention to the 2014 Budget in July and August, the dog days of summer. The City budget process is part of an overall policy framework that guides the services and functions of the City. Even though we are only half way through the current budget cycle, it is time to begin estimating revenue and expense for next year.

Our City budgets for a single calendar year. Our annual budget process will culminate with the adoption of a balanced budget prior to the beginning of the next fiscal year. Adoption is scheduled for December 10, 2013.

In July finance staff will begin reviewing current trends among all sources of revenue, including sales tax, property tax, and utility taxes. Miscellaneous revenue sources will get a thorough review as well. Expenses will be scrutinized. At the July Council work study session, staff will present a draft budget calendar which includes dates and deadlines for writing the new budget. Council members will be polled and asked their budget priorities.

Department heads are busy in August and September writing budgets that meet the priorities set by the Mayor and Council. Budget documents are returned to finance and reviewed prior to presentation to the Mayor, who meets with directors to structure a balanced budget before presenting the Preliminary Budget, sometimes referred to as the Mayor’s Budget, to Council in October.

An important step in setting the budget is the Public Hearing on Revenue Sources to be held on October 8, 2013. The hearing is an overview of the City’s current expense and street budgets, which is primarily funded by taxes, and charges and reflects the need of ongoing services. The Council Finance Committee meets with department heads in October, where suggested budget changes are considered for presentment to the full Council. They will meet in a Council work study session on October 15, 2013, and hear recommendations, discuss, and direct final provisions and changes.

Public input is welcomed throughout the process. Preliminary budget documents and budget PowerPoint presentations will be posted on the City website.

The budget serves a key role in the City policy framework by allocating financial resources to City services. Staff and elected officials benefit by an active dialogue with citizens when setting budget priorities and writing next year’s budget. Adding your voice during the process helps meet the needs of our growing community.

Public Works Projects
-Mark R. Dorsey, P.E., Public Works Director

Current Projects:
- Ribbon cutting for the new playground equipment for the Active Club and ribbon cutting for the new PW Shop Carport was held on May 14, 2013.
- DeKalb Pier Phase 1 construction in final stage completion date July 30, 2013.
- Joint Project with Port of Bremerton and the City—Bay Street Pedestrian Pathway Segment 2 is complete (ribbon cutting was May 26).
- WSDOT required guardrail & fence improvements at SR 166 (Bay Street) currently under Bay Street Pedestrian Pathway Segment 5 is currently under construction completion date July 30, 2013.
- The Public Work’s Developer’s Guidelines is anticipated to be adopted in Aug/Sept of 2013.
- Well #9 water treatment improvements construction is continuing, estimated completion date July 2013.
- McCormick Woods STEP System conversion of 60 homes for 2013 will be completed by September 30, 2013.
- Annual McCormick Woods septic pumping of 60 homes will be completed by August 31, 2013.
- 2013 Sewer Main cleaning will be completed by November 2013.
- Leak detection inspections will start July 11 and go to July 26, 2013.

Upcoming Projects:
- Cedar Heights Sidewalk drainage and sewer project slated for construction start June 2013.
- Sidney Ave Street End Improvements design contract issued, completion slated 2013.
- Traffic Impact fees slated for Fall 2013.
- McCormick Woods Park Phase I design contract issued, construction to commence following design completion (2013/2014 logging & construction anticipated).