Mayor’s Message

Mayor Leanne Guier

Greetings!
Thank you for taking the time to read Pacific’s second city-wide newsletter. We hope you are finding the information useful. I would like to thank everyone for their comments and suggestions as we continue to improve on your newsletter. I hope you will join me in thanking Council Member Jones for his years of dedication and commitment to our city. He has made our community a better place! We will miss him!

Pacific has a lot to be thankful for this last legislative session. We asked for capital appropriations to work on our city hall building. We did not get all the funding requested, but we did get awarded money to pay for a feasibility study for community and civil property and assess our needs as a city moving forward. We also were awarded $1.8 million in the Transportation Package to complete the Interurban Trail through the City of Pacific. This is exciting news for our community!

City staff is working hard in technology upgrades. We will be accepting Requests For Proposals (RFP) on a new web-site and on a better sound system in council chambers. We have submitted for grants to complete sidewalks along Milwaukee from 3rd Avenue to 5th Avenue to ensure safer walking paths for our youngsters attending school and the gym. Another grant submission, if received, would finish resurfacing 3rd Avenue, making the corridor from Frontage to the City Park entrance complete. These are just a few things to be looking forward to in the upcoming year. We are continuously looking for funding opportunities to enhance our city and our community. As always, I look forward to your comments and suggestions. You can email me at lguier@ci.pacific.wa.us

Leanne Guier, Mayor

Council Corner

Council Member John C. Jones

I want to thank everyone that I have had the opportunity to work with and for since getting involved in the City Civil Service Commission, Planning Commission, Park Board and finally the City Council. I truly believe that serving on those groups helped me when I was elected to the Council. The time working for you and the City for these nine years has been full of trials and tribulations. There were times when one looked at it all and wondered if it was worth all the trouble, but you know once you have made a commitment and you believe that what you are doing, it reinforces you to see it through to the end and hopefully that end would be what is right for the future of the city and its citizens. Taking that approach, the Council helped save the Valentine Road project that we are involved in with the City of Sumner. The Stewart Road Project is another great achievement that this City can be proud of. Between those two corridors, the City will see progress that will set the stage for the future in the Pierce County portion of the City. I believe that as the City’s Pierce County area is developed, businesses will also begin to look to our Ellingson Road corridor for future development.

I leave with one warning: citizen complacency and not getting involved in your City’s government can bring disastrous results, as we have seen from past problems. Getting involved can be as easy as reading the weekly paper to see what the City Council has passed in the last week, coming to an occasional Council meeting, or checking upcoming Council agendas. Think about providing the place where you have chosen to live some of your time to make it a better place for you, your family and your neighbors. We all see that, at the County, State and National Government levels, sometimes it is hard to believe that our single voice/vote counts (it does!) but at the City level your active involvement really does matter and really does make a difference. I wish the City of Pacific and its citizens the best of luck in the coming years.

John C. Jones, Council-Member
PACIFIC ALGONA
SENIOR CENTER NEWS

Hours Monday through Friday 8:30am – 4:30pm

Come and do your Christmas shopping at our 25th Annual Holiday Bazaar!! And of course buy something wonderful for your self. I always find something that I can’t live without. The Bazaar is scheduled for Saturday November 14th, 9:00am to 4:00pm in the gym. Soup and sandwiches will be sold for lunch. Support our Senior and Youth Programs with this fun filled event. If you are interested in a booth space, please e-mail jofutch@ci.pacific.wa.us.

Join us for Stone Soup lunch at the Senior Center Mondays from 11:00am to 1:00pm. This is a free lunch for all ages in our community. We would like to meet you. For more information call 253-929-1153.

-Darcie Thach, Pacific Algona Senior Center

FINANCE

It’s Budget Season!

Key steps to projecting the City of Pacific’s revenue for the 2016 Budget

You may wonder how the City staff predicts the revenue for the City of Pacific’s annual budget. The pie chart above shows the projected revenues for the City of Pacific in 2015. Revenues are difficult to predict as so many factors can impact them. Such as economic indicators (inflation, economic growth or recession) can cause revenues to dip or grow. State initiatives such as tax cuts can also impact the City’s revenues. The budget methodology that is widely used has revenues projected conservatively. Most years I will use less than 1% as the growth, though during the Great Recession the projected multiplier was a negative number. The City Council can also increase revenues by passing legislature such as a Tax Benefits District (TBD).

-Richard Gould, City Administrator

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monthly Meetings

City Council Workshop, 1st and 3rd Mondays 6:30pm
Governance Committee, 1st Tuesday 6:30pm
Public Works Committee, 1st Wednesday 7:00pm
City Council Meeting, 2nd and 4th Mondays 6:30pm
Public Safety Committee, 2nd Wednesday 6:30pm
Park Board, 3rd Tuesday 6:30pm
Finance Committee, 3rd Tuesday 6:30pm
Technology Committee, 3rd Thursday 6:30pm
Planning Commission, 4th Tuesday 6:00pm
Human Services Committee, 4th Tuesday 6:30pm
Pacific Partnerships, 2nd Tuesday, Senior Center 6:30pm

*All meetings held at City Hall unless otherwise noted.

September

7th—Labor Day — City Hall Closed
18th - Police Open House, Centennial Park 4pm—8pm
25th—Flu Shot Clinic, Senior Center 10am-12pm

October

12th—Columbus Day — City Hall Closed

November

11th—Veteran’s Day — City Hall Closed
14th - 25th Annual Holiday Bazaar 8:30am-4:30pm
27th & 28th Thanksgiving Holiday — City Hall Closed
28th - City of Pacific Tree Lighting 6pm—8pm

December

15th—Free Family Bingo Night 5pm—8pm
24th & 25 Christmas Holiday — City Hall Closed

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES

INFORMATION

Summer program was amazing thanks to all who participated and helped out. A special thanks goes to the Auburn School District staff for providing a free healthy lunch for our children all summer.

Fall programs begin Tuesday, September 8th. Please join us for your favorite activity or program. NEW THIS FALL: beginning in December, Free Family Community BINGO the 3rd Tuesday of the month from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM in the gymnasium. The Taco Bar will open for business from 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM in the East Room. Bring the whole family. It will be lots of fun!

Hope to see you back this fall!

-Joanne Futch, Youth Coordinator
PUBLIC WORKS
Clean Streets Equal a Healthy Community

Sweeping city streets is a very old and unsung essential service that is provided by public works departments around the world.

Early street sweepers were simply a person with a broom and a hand or horse-drawn trash cart. These people had the unenviable task of removing the menagerie of debris that people deposited on city streets including household trash, commercial waste, food scraps, dirt, vegetation, and animal and human waste. Street cleaning in these earlier eras was very dirty and labor intensive and not very effective in removing harmful microorganisms or small particulate matter.

The ability to improve the cleanliness of city streets was greatly advanced with the development of mechanical and motorized street sweepers in the early 20th century. The first street sweeper of this type was sold in April 1914 to the City of Boise, Idaho.

Today, modern street sweepers not only continue to remove street debris like dirt, leaves, paper and plastics, but they also remove minute particulate matter harmful to the environment. Much of this harmful particulate matter is associated with automobile and truck traffic. The harmful material includes anti-freeze, petroleum products, metals and other compounds. Removing these materials is important because they could end up in our storm drains and eventually into our creeks and streams and cause harm to the natural environment. Keeping the storm drains clear of debris also helps reduce the likelihood of localized street flooding during heavy rain events.

To help us keep our city streets clean, healthy and prevent localized flooding please:

- Do not rake, sweep, blow leaves, or other debris in the street or gutter.
- Pick up litter in front of your home or business.
- Prune trees and shrubs so that they do not block the street sweepers from reaching the curb line.
- During rains, prevent flooding by raking leaves and other debris off storm drain grates.

For more information about the City’s street sweeping program, please call (253) 929-1112.

-Lance Newkirk, Public Works Manager

PACIFIC POLICE
DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE

The Pacific Police Department will be hosting its annual Open House on September 18, 2015 from 4pm-8pm. Emergency Preparation Buckets will be distributed to the first 100 families. There will be a live band, multiple displays, a night vision demo, a bouncy house, and more activities for the kids, including rides in a police car. Refreshments will be provided. There is no cost to attend.

As summer draws to a close, back-to-school season is in full effect. Remember to safely share the roads with school buses, pedestrians and bicyclists, and provide children with the necessary knowledge to stay safe on their way to school and while at school.

Samantha Zinsli, Police Department

What’s My Name Challenge?

How many Pacific residents are aware there is a small creek that drains from the West Hill through Pacific Gulch (Ravine) at the west end of 3rd Ave. SW (See map)? The creek drains into Milwaukee Creek and eventually the White River. The creek, prior to its relocation on the valley floor, likely provided habitat for Coho salmon. The challenge now for Pacific residents is: what do we name this creek? The City is asking residents to propose names for this small creek. These names will be vetted by the Pacific Park Board for a final recommendation to City Council. Once a name is decided upon, City maps will be revised to reflect the new name for the creek. Any suggested names may be mailed or emailed to Jack Dodge, Community Development Manager, at 100 3rd Ave. SE, Pacific, WA 98047 or jdodge@ci.pacific.wa.us. A small prize, yet to be determined, will be awarded to the person supplying the chosen name.

-Jack Dodge, Community Development Manager
NEW SOLID WASTE SERVICES CONTRACT

Beginning October 5, 2015, the City will be served by a single solid waste contractor, Waste Management, Inc. On August 10, 2015, the City Council approved a ten-year contract with Waste Management for solid waste services, including residential city-wide recycling and yard waste which begins December 4.

Waste Management will provide carts to customers in order to facilitate automated service.

Waste Management will provide further information in the near future.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

What are your Thoughts?

In the coming year, the City will be conducting major updates to its Comprehensive Plan to meet the Growth Management Act (GMA) planning requirements. You can help facilitate this effort by answering the few questions listed below. All answers need to be one word answers. The results of your answers will be provided in the next quarterly edition of the newsletter.

1. What is your perception of Pacific?
2. In your opinion, what is the perception of Pacific by non-residents?
3. How do you perceive the City’s Parks?
4. How do perceive the City’s residential neighborhoods?
5. In your opinion, what does Pacific lack the most?
6. What does Pacific have too much of?
7. What type of land use does Pacific need the most?

All answers can be emailed to Jack Dodge, Community Development Manager at jdodge@ci.pacific.wa.us or mailed to 100 3rd Ave. SE, Pacific, WA 98047. Please insure that all answers are one word answers.