



FEBRUARY CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS:

02/06/23: Business Meeting
02/20/23: CITY OFFICES CLOSED
02/21/23: Business Meeting

Meetings are subject to change.
Please view our website calendar for an up-to-date meeting schedule:

www.cityofpt.us/calendar

Consider applying to be on a City Advisory Board or Commission. Visit our website for descriptions, applications, and meeting schedules:

www.cityofpt.us

For more information contact the City Clerk's Office at (360) 379-5083.

The following Commission has a vacancy:

- **Lodging Tax Advisory Committee**

- We Are Hiring -

Please visit our website for a list of current job openings:

www.cityofpt.us/hr



A NOTE FROM MAYOR DAVID FABER



Thank you to all the members of our community who attended the first “Envision Port Townsend Golf Course & Mountain View Commons” open house on Wednesday, January 11th. It was a roaring success, with (an estimated) crowd exceeding 300 people, plus an additional 80 who joined virtually on Thursday, January 12th. The presentation and Q&A session went really well, and community members were able to present ideas & “voice” (via sticky dots) their preference across a wide range of opinions for the future of the 58-acre golf course property, which included ideas ranging from keeping the golf course “as is”, to allowing mixed uses with an “adaptive” golf course combined with other recreational options (such as basketball, pickleball, walking trails, and other outdoor activities), to converting it into a dedicated community open space park and nature preserve, to more intensive uses.

That said, some people have voiced a belief that the City has already decided to end golf on the golf course property and that we—the political leadership on City Council—do not care about what you—the community members—have to say about the matter. That’s an unfortunate bit of misinformation that undermines trust in what should be a collaborative public process. I understand that even considering other, non-golf uses may be perceived as a threat to those who love golf, but all we can do is continue to demonstrate an eagerness to hear what the residents of Port Townsend want to do with the golf course property. After all, the opportunity to reflect upon our shared values and the community’s hopes for the future of such a massive community asset at the center of our city do not arise very often. I can only speak for myself when I say that I do not want to try to make a decision about the future of the golf course property without hearing and understanding the desires of the people who live here in Port Townsend. I hope that everyone who cares about the future of the golf course property can find it in themselves to continue to participate in good faith and without animosity. I’m happy to note that most of the people at the open house—golfers and non-golfers alike—were fantastic and really showed great civic spirit.

So, thank you again for showing up. Not all open houses or townhall meetings draw such a large crowd, but I love it when they do! If you couldn’t participate on January 11th, we’ll be having two more open houses, the first in April and the second in June, to continue working through ideas, desires, and concerns to arrive at the options that seem to have the greatest community buy-in before bringing them forward to the City Council for a vote by the end of the year. We don’t have the dates for April and June just yet, so stay tuned! You can also stay engaged by going to <https://cityofpt.us/envision>

WATER SYSTEM FLUSHING

The City of Port Townsend Water Department will continue water system flushing through March 31, 2023.

Water distribution lines need to be flushed periodically to prevent water quality problems. As part of the flushing program, fire hydrants are tested and operated to support fire protection in the community. Flushing traces of minerals and sediment from the pipelines may cause short term but harmless changes to the appearance of the water. If the water has a brownish color, it can usually be eliminated by running taps for a few minutes. If discolored water persists for more than a few hours, please call 360-385-3000.

A NOTE FROM CITY MANAGER JOHN MAURO

Happy February! This month, a snapshot of what's happening at four levels of government, focusing on what affects all of us here in PT:



Federal Funding

It was long-anticipated and landed quietly, but it's now official: President Biden signed the 2023 Appropriations Act into law and that officially secures \$2.5 million in federal funding for the Evans Vista project. We now have local, county, state and federal resources in hand to get Evans Vista development-ready for urgently-needed workforce and affordable housing at scale. Learn more at our project website and stay tuned for ways to get involved in shaping the master plan: <https://cityofpt.us/engagept/evansvista>.

State Legislative Session

The 2023 Washington State Legislative session recently kicked off in Olympia. The City's top priorities remain similar as previous years: delivering on housing, transportation and climate action. The City's 2023 legislative agenda and supporting materials can be found here:

https://cityofpt.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=4&clip_id=2515&meta_id=209213

Regional Collaboration

The City continues to work with our local and regional partners to advance our work. The North Olympic Legislative Alliance (NOLA) is our collective voice in Olympia; housing policy is one of our top three priorities, syncing perfectly with our legislative agenda. The award-winning Intergovernmental Collaborative Group (ICG) continues into its fourth year, strengthening collaboration between the City, County, Port, and PUD. The City is also active in the North Olympic Development Council (NODC), the region's coordinated economic development district.

New City Workplan

With a balanced budget passed and 2023 well underway, we size up delivery of the 2023 strategic workplan. This year there are seven main categories and a range of activities and initiatives under each. Much of the larger planning and engagement efforts – like those around the golf course, aquatics, streets, and housing – come together this year as part of the Financial Sustainability Initiative. Get involved and help shape our future!

INVEST IN OUR PEOPLE - Build and nurture the capacity of our staff, teams, volunteers, advisory board members, Councilmembers and partnerships and provide them the toolsets, skillsets, and mindsets to achieve more together

ENGAGE OUR COMMUNITY - Build beyond notification and response to more deeply and inclusively engage our community in decisions that affect their lives and livelihoods as well as ground civic dialogue in civility and kindness

STRENGTHEN OUR FINANCIAL POSITION - Set the City and community up for sustained success by deliberately choosing to build financial sustainability to address the challenges of today and prepare for tomorrow

ENVISION OUR SUSTAINABLE FUTURE - Determine the future of parks, streets, facilities, community assets, as well as our strategic direction as an organization and community

EMBRACE AND RESOLVE OUR COMMUNITY'S CHALLENGES - Work through additional challenging decisions previously deferred that help shape our community's well-being, including many that have been put off for years or decades

DELIVER THE BASICS - Advance additional capital & operational departmental priorities with needed City Council policy or budget action(s)

SERVE OUR COMMUNITY - Deliver on critical operations, ongoing statutory responsibilities, and core City functions

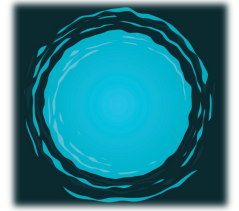


2022 Annual Report

Finally, Mayor Faber and I delivered the "State of the City" report to the Chamber of Commerce late last month. That presentation is being drawn together into our 2022 Annual Report, scheduled for publication in March. Stay tuned – it'll be at: <https://cityofpt.us/annualreport>.

THE PLANNING PERMIT PORTAL IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

What is the portal? The portal is the Internet's doorway into the City of Port Townsend's permitting system for work on private property and in the right-of-way. You can apply for a permit, schedule an inspection and check the status of your project. 37 different permits can be applied for from the comfort of your home or office. NOTE: At this time, you are NOT able to submit for land use, HPC or Sign permits (Subdivisions, lot line adjustments, SEPA, etc.) This capability is coming soon!



Do I need an account to use the portal? If you are looking up property or permit information using a city address, or checking the inspection schedule, you do not need an account. However, if you wish to apply for a building, plumbing, mechanical, demolition, grading, site development (SDP) or minor improvement permits (MIP), you should establish a portal account. Once a permit is issued, you can use your account to schedule inspections through the portal.

Do I need a new portal account for each permit? No. Your portal account is assigned to you personally, along with your associated information (mailing address, email address, and phone number).

What is an access code and why is it important? At the time of issuance of building permit, applicants will receive an access code. It is critical to have an access code for full usage of the portal. If you need help, email us at: rhill@cityofpt.us or portalhelp@cityofpt.us or call 360-379-5095.

I think I have multiple accounts, some associated with another person or old business. What should I do? Let's straighten everything out. Regardless of whether you are a homeowner, a contractor or subcontractor, you should only have one account. Call us at 360-379-5095.

I don't believe I will ever need to apply for a permit again, so why should I establish an account. Can I just come down to City Hall and apply? The City's permit technicians will guide you through the process of submission and payment without you leaving the comfort of your office or home. They will review your submissions and payments to ensure you are on track, and will coach you via phone, email or virtual meetings.

I have a portal account and I am ready to submit for a permit! What do I do now? Ensure you have all of the necessary application materials. Go to our forms and documents page for assistance, and follow the prompts as you move through the portal:

In the portal: Click on the "Apply" button. Select a category to view your options: Select "Planning & Community Development" for Building, Mechanical, Plumbing, Grading, Pre-App and CAM or Demolition permits. Select "Public Works" for SDP or MIP permits. Follow the instructions as you move through the process. If you get stuck, save your work, and email us at: rhill@cityofpt.us or portalhelp@cityofpt.us

Is there any other help I can access? Yes, check out our Youtube channel. Port Townsend PCD - YouTube which contains videos on how to use the portal.

COMPREHENSIVE STREETS

One of the key functions of the City on behalf of the community is to manage the City's vast street system.

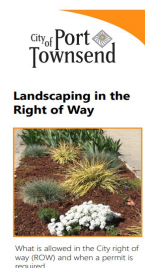
Over the last 20 years, funding for streets has diminished significantly. As a result, street maintenance has fallen significantly behind as is clearly evident by the tough conditions of our streets. In addition, the City's maintenance crews and engineering department are pulled many directions to work on projects unrelated to street maintenance.

The number one concern the City hears through the citizen concern portal and various other public comments is around the condition of streets and associated lack of maintenance. In an effort to prioritize investments with existing funds and seek new funds for street maintenance, the City is in the process of developing a Comprehensive Streets Program.

This program will identify all of the competing and complimentary needs for city streets as well as outline options for investments and re-prioritization. As an example, the City spends about one-third of maintenance hours managing vegetation. This responsibility actually falls to the adjoining property owner from the edge of the travel way to the right-of-way line. The City will be issuing a public information campaign early this spring regarding a reduction in vegetation control efforts in order to spend more time on pavement repairs budgeted by the City Council.

Please see the landscaping in the right of way and urban forestry brochures located on the following web pages for more information:

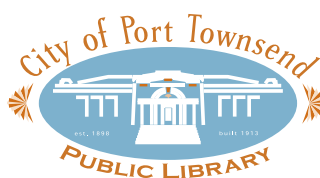
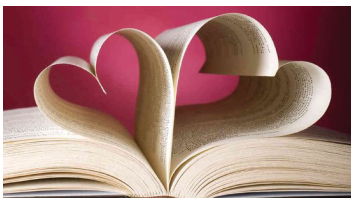
<https://cityofpt.us/publicworks/page/landscaping-right-way>
<https://cityofpt.us/publicworks/page/urban-forestry-trees-row>



In addition, all of the documents associated with the Comprehensive Street Program are available on the City's website at: <https://cityofpt.us/engagept/page/comprehensive-streets-program>. Specifically, please refer to the January 4th Infrastructure and Development Council Committee meeting, as well as subsequent City Council meetings. The City is asking for public comments on the topic to help with informed decision making. Thank you!

PT PUBLIC LIBRARY

Our Fall in Love with Your Library open house is Monday, February 13 from 3 - 5:00 p.m. Enjoy live music, Valentine's Day crafts and light refreshments. Generously sponsored by The Friends of the Port Townsend Library.



MOUNTAIN VIEW POOL EXPANDED HOURS

Monday & Wednesday: Open 7:00 a.m.- 12:00 noon / 3:30- 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday & Thursdays: Open 3:30- 6:30 p.m.

Fridays: Open 7:00 a.m.- 12:00 noon

Saturdays: Open 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

Sundays: Closed

If you have questions, please email:

jcfontdesk@olympicpeninsulapymca.org

INTRODUCING CITY VOLUNTEER

We are continuing to feature city staff and volunteers so you can meet the team and learn about their work from their perspective. Check back here each month to see a new profile. This month is Sally Robbins from the PT Library.

"When I arrived in 1980 to be with WSU Cooperative Extension, the first thing I did was get a library card. Being a child of the depression (born 1930), I learned early on to get books from the library. I started volunteering soon after.

Volunteering brings me new friends and new experiences. I am there tending to the magazine exchange at least three times a week, so people recognize me and stay for a conversation. Getting acquainted with the library staff is another perk. I am amazed at all of the wonderful events they plan for the children as well as adults. And I love being in a room where I know I will never run out of things to read!

Over the years I volunteered in different areas. I have done fundraising each time there has been a capitol campaign. Early on, I collaborated with the library and taught some nutrition classes in the basement. That was the only space available then, kind of grim compared to the open great space on the second floor. A few times I have moderated meetings between the board and employees. And now, taking care of the magazine exchange that Jody Glaubman and I started twenty years ago. I love magazines so this is fun for me. And thanks to Diane Willhan for subbing for me for a few years.

And I love the library!"

