



JUNE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS:

06/12/23: Special Session
Business Meeting
06/19/23: City Offices Closed
06/20/23: 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 Boards and Commissions have current and upcoming vacancies:

- Arts Commission
- Historic Preservation Committee
- Library Advisory Board
- Lodging Tax Advisory Committee
- Parks, Recreation Trees & Trails

CITY OF PORT TOWNSEND
250 MADISON STREET
(360)385-3000
WWW.CITYOFPT.US

A NOTE FROM COUNCIL MEMBER MONICA MICKHAGER

So much has changed for all of us since the Covid pandemic started over three years ago. We now live in a very changed community and we are beginning to have our festivals and PT celebrations to gather and enjoy life together again. We are learning new ways of gathering and enjoying the community that we are.



Our city organization has also changed in these last years with many new faces. We have a dynamic city manager who weathered the pandemic with us while forging interagency connections with the Port, PUD, county and hospital. Many new city personnel redefine the positions left vacant when former staff chose to leave or retire during the pandemic years. We are in transition to new ways of doing city business and are moving forward to make our city services strong again.

Our new staff, working with remaining senior staff, are figuring out how to repair and maintain our roads that are in such dire shape; investigate what our sewer and water systems needs are after years of neglect; how to take care of our many parks and trails that have never had proper funding. Staff are looking at all this work that needs to be done under the financial limitations from the non-voted debt our city currently carries from decades of councilmanic authorizations.

We have large infrastructure problems and we must find solutions to have our roads repaired and in good shape again; to make the much needed repairs to our aging wastewater and water systems; to find a way to fund our much loved parks and trails after 20+ years of underfunding and understaffing. It is a herculean task, but I have seen up close how it is picked up by our smart staff who dig in to resolve these problems. Our city government only gets 16% of our property tax and only 11% of our sales tax so it is a very hard lift to accomplish what we need.

Here in 2023, we will see city plans and efforts for our streets, housing, parks, wastewater and water needs coming forward. The work of gathering data and ideas is being presented to us for our community's input in open houses, surveys, the City Council, and City Council subcommittee meetings on these issues for this past year.

One of these efforts is the Envision PT Golf Course and Mountain View Campus. To this open process we have added a task force of community members who meet monthly to do the heavy lifting. I want to thank task force members Tim Caldwell, Matt Tyler, Lynn Pierle, Dena Odell, Wendy Bart, Forest Shomer, Elisa Welch, Becci Kimball, Cindy Brooks, Jennifer James Wilson, John Nowak, Addie Hoffman, Ezra Cook, Panya Cao, Andy Stockton, Monica Macquire, Sonja Mathews, Gabe Van Lelyveld, Devon Buckham, Eric Jones and Richard Tucker.

The final public open house for community input is Thursday, June 22, 5:00 p.m. at Fort Worden, with an online open house on Monday, June 26, 4 - 5:30 p.m. These two upcoming meetings are our final opportunities to have the discussion on what each of us envisions for these properties in the next decades. I welcome your engagement as we are going into these final public input meetings. Please share your ideas with us about growing without losing what's special about living here. Please join us in the dialog!

A NOTE FROM CITY MANAGER JOHN MAURO

We live in a special place. Each of us has our reasons why we live here and what we love. Every year, I reflect on mine and make a list of at least 100 things I love about PT. It's never hard.

But I don't want to count on that. The future marches towards us whether we plan for it or not. What do the coming years and decades hold?

The allure of our incredible natural surroundings, cultural heritage, and local community spirit might trick us into inaction. But the reality is, if we don't think ahead and work together, we stand the chance of losing those things we love and that make this place special.

So how do we choose the future we want instead of reacting passively to what we get?

Here's an uncomfortable reality: the current level of city services we enjoy is not sustainable given our budget, financial structure, and a number of external forces. This makes it nearly impossible to maintain our roads, tackle failing infrastructure, preserve our parks and trails, and address our housing crisis.

To get the future we want, we need to take this head-on. We need to work together. And we need your help.

One thing you can do right now is watch and share our four-part video series. Short, one to two-minute videos explain what's at stake, why, and how we might move forward. The videos line up with current community initiatives. These initiatives include ways to get involved and have your say, and will lead to imminent decisions by City Council.

Watch the videos and share them with friends and family. You can find them at: www.cityofpt.us/videos or on our YouTube Channel, which can be located at: www.youtube.com/@CityofPortTownsend/videos

It's a great jumping off point to learn more, to get involved, and to shape our future. We can't afford not to – and I can give you at least 100 reasons why.



Coffee with the City Manager
First Friday of each month
June 2, 9 - 10:30 a.m.
Velocity, 431 Water Street

Help us envision Evans Vista Neighborhood!

Evans Vista is just south of the Rainier Street roundabout on Sims Way. The City purchased the site with funds awarded by the state, will improve infrastructure with funds awarded by the federal government, and will work with partners and the community with funds awarded by Jefferson County. Developing the site as a neighborhood aims to deliver an urgently-needed supply of housing with a mix of 100 - 150 affordable workforce housing units as part of the area's emerging commercial and business environment.

What kind of housing should we include? What should the site look like? We want to hear from you. Take the survey at: <https://tinyurl.com/y8h8axp9>

Learn more about the project at: www.cityofpt.us/evansvista

PT MAIN STREET

Calling All Creatives!

The Port Townsend Creative District goals include connecting audiences with artists to strengthen the opportunities for their financial success and help support a year-round economy for artists. We are looking for artists' input. Please take this brief survey to help us learn how the Creative District can best serve our local artists.

To take the survey, click the QR code or visit: www.surveymonkey.com/r/BJGP836



PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The City of Port Townsend recently hired a new City Building Official, Matt Logue. Matt was previously the City's building inspector and was promoted into his new role. As a current employee of the City, Matt has a unique perspective on managing a building program in Port Townsend. In order to get to know Matt, if you don't already, here's a brief Q and A on his experience and what's on the horizon.



Q: Welcome to the new position! Can you tell us more about your career in the building industry and what drew you to Port Townsend?

A: I started working for a contractor in 1988 right out of high school. In 1994, I struck out on my own as a General Contractor. In 2019, I decided to become a building inspector. I enrolled in Chemeketa Community College and by 2021 I had graduated with AAS degree in Building Inspection Technology. I had been coming to Port Townsend for years to have our family sailboat worked on and just fell in love with the city and its diverse people. I feel lucky and blessed to work with such a great team at the City and in one of the most beautiful places on earth.

Q: What are the primary responsibilities as the City Building Official and how do they contribute to the growth and development of our City?

A: My primary responsibilities include overseeing and regulating construction activities within the City, ensuring compliance with building codes, issuing permits, and conducting inspections. I work closely with architects, engineers, and developers to ensure that proposed projects align with our City's vision for growth and development. By enforcing regulations and promoting high-quality construction practices, we can enhance the safety, aesthetics and functionality of our built environment.

Q: What are some of the current challenges or opportunities you see in our City's built environment?

A: Port Townsend has a very challenging built environment ranging from its historic unreinforced masonry buildings to modern single-family homes. I am very excited about the new Tactical Infill code changes that have been made. It's great to see the city react to the housing crisis in such a positive and thoughtful way.

Q: What's the best way to communicate with the community and other stakeholders on their building projects?

A: I like to meet at the job site and try and solve problems in person. Unfortunately, that is not always possible, so I try and be very accessible through email and phone communications.

Q: What is your favorite building inspection and why?

A: I would have to say that the framing inspection is my favorite. It's the last time you get to look at the plumbing, mechanical duct work, and structural components before they are all covered up.

PUBLIC WORKS

The Streets Division of the Public Works Department appreciates the work of many whom have mowed their frontage and controlled the vegetation. With the wet spring and the warm weather, the vegetation is growing inches per day. You will see the City mower this year only mowing along streets where the City owns property. City crews will be working on street rehabilitation this summer rather than mowing the frontage of private property. Please remember to keep your street frontage vegetation under control.

LOOKS GREAT!



ADDITIONAL CLEAN UP IS NEEDED



