

Newsletter *Spring 2023*



The City of Rockaway Beach
P.O. Box 5 276 S. Hwy 101
Rockaway Beach, OR 97136
503.374.1752
cityhall@corb.us

City Hall Closures:

City Hall will be closed Thursday, May 29th in observance of Memorial Day and the 4th of July.

How Does the City Communicate to Residents?

PUBLIC MEETINGS: Find the next public meeting information at www.corb.us

Visit our webpage to sign up to receive Council Meeting, Planning Commission Meeting and other City information via email.

CONTACT US - GENERAL:
Contact us through our website at www.corb.us/contact

IN PERSON: Find staff at City Hall 276 S. Hwy 101 Rockaway Beach, OR. Our offices are open M-Th

PUBLIC HEARINGS: The City publishes public hearing notices to the Tillamook Headlight Harold in addition to our website and Facebook page.

FACEBOOK:
www.facebook.com/RockawayBeachCityHall

Fire Department:



Training continues to be one of the fire departments priorities. The current EMT class that is through TBCC and has 21 students. Those classes are held in the training room at the fire department on Wednesday nights from 6-9pm and Saturdays from 9-4pm. Classes are 16 weeks long. On March 18th & 19th the department will be holding a skills weekend, classes include flashover training and fire attacks. Upcoming training includes vehicle extrication, fire-size ups, ocean rescue, lake rescue, and wildland fire techniques. Remember to check your smoke detectors as we are approaching daylight savings time.

Emergency Preparedness:

We are looking for new members to join our Emergency Preparedness group, anyone interested please contact Chief Hesse or attend a meeting. Our trainings are held the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6pm at the Rockaway Beach City Hall. April 5th we will be holding a First Aid class and on May 3rd we will have a Pet First Aid/CPR class. There will be a Preparedness Fair held on April 15th at the Neah-Kah-Nie High School from 11-2pm. There will be classes and information on what to do in the event of a man-made or natural disaster. The preparedness and radio group are still looking for new members, if interested contact Chief Hesse. With recent weather events and power outages

the preparedness group would like to remind citizens that we will open a warming shelter after the first 24 hours of a power outage or a severe weather event as a general rule. Hours may vary depending on the severity of the event. The warming shelter is located downstairs at City Hall. Please watch the preparedness Facebook page and City website for updates. What if you do not have a landline phone and cell towers are down? The fire department will have someone available at the station to assist with an emergency. The fire department has the ability of contacting 911 dispatch for police, fire, and medical help.

Public Works



Department:

New wayfinding signage was placed on the boardwalk. This signage will give some information on the surrounding areas, animals, and plants. Public Works will be installing a pressure maintaining valve on S. Second Ave. This valve will allow more water pressure and volume to our residents. This project will also give the distribution system a backup route should we suffer a water main break in our distribution system. The Scenic View Drive distribution system is getting a new water booster. This water booster system is required to meet minimum state requirements for our distribution system. Public Works must keep up on training to maintain compliance with the State's water and wastewater regulation certifications.

City Manager:

New Short Term Rental

Rules– In order to balance the interests of neighbors, vacationers, and vacation rental owners, the City of Rockaway Beach recently adopted new rules on short term rental operations. These new rules are focused on mitigating many of the nuisance issues that can affect neighborhoods where short-term rentals operate. Additionally, these new rules provide residents a toolset to quickly resolve and/or report issues resulting from nearby rentals. Rental owners are now required to post contact information outside their units and must respond to any complaints received within 30 minutes. Residents can submit an STR Complaint form to the city if further enforcement action becomes necessary. The complete set of new regulations are contained in city Ordinance No. 22-442. This Ordinance and the STR Complaint form can be found online on the city's website. Please feel free to call or email the Rockaway Beach City Hall for additional information.



Message from the Mayor:

Dear Community,
Our City and City Council has been busy this year. Here are the highlights:
Let me begin by congratulating Councilor Penny Cheek on being elected Council President for 2022. Council President Cheek's

years of service to Rockaway Beach positions her well for this role. Our Cedar Tree Boardwalk was closed due to substantial damage sustained during a December windstorm. I am happy to report the Boardwalk is back open and the repair costs were covered by insurance. Our city is partnering with the Oregon Coast Scenic Railroad to improve the S. First Street Railroad Crossing. Work is expected to be completed before the summer season begins. This will create improved accessibility and a better experience for all residents and visitors when turning onto 1st Street to visit the Wayside. During my visits with residents many of you shared your concern for the lack of housing in Rockaway Beach. The Planning Commission recommended, and the City Council approved a Housing Needs Analysis. The Analysis will give our city the data and information it needs to move toward meeting the housing needs now and in the future. Our City received a substantial grant to design our section of the Salmonberry Trail aka Community Paths Refinement Project. City Council hired Destination Management Advisors to advance the project design through management of the relationships with the agency partners, leading business, and resident discussions, and delivering a conceptual design memorandum. I believe the Salmonberry Trail will have a substantial positive impact on commerce, tourism, livability, and quality of life in Rockaway Beach. I met with Superintendent Dan Emerson, Chief Todd Hesse and Undersheriff Matt Kelly to learn

about their teams and services they provide to our city. I came away from all three meetings knowing the residents of Rockaway Beach are in good hands. Finally, City Manager Luke Shepard and I will be available in the City Hall Conference Room (2nd Floor) from 9:00 am to 10:00 am on the fourth Thursday of each month beginning May 25, 2023. We look forward to listening and answering questions.

Reminders from the Tillamook County



Sheriff's Office. We at the Sheriff's Department love working in

Rockaway Beach and with the citizens. We are proud to say we have designated Deputies patrolling the streets 7 days a week. We encourage the community to ask our Deputies questions about what they can do to make Rockaway Beach a safer place to live. We encourage residents to install security devices at their residence, such as cameras, flood lights, etc. With the weather warming up we are going to start seeing an increase in our population due to visitors. Along with the visitors, we would like to remind all drivers we have a school zone located on Highway 101, and to be aware of the speed when it is active. Also, please be aware of the posted speeds coming into town and while driving through. And, as always, wear your seatbelt and pull over if you need to use your cell phone.

Friends of the Rockaway Library!

2022 has been an interesting year for the Rockaway Beach Library. The Friends, a nonprofit organization, own the building and cover utility bills, landscaping costs, maintenance and repairs, insurance—all costs associated with the building itself. The books and the librarian's salary are covered by the county library system. But the rest is on us, and you can help! This year our furnace failed. Replacing the system would have cost us over \$17,000 but we discovered ductless heating! And were able to purchase this for just under \$5500! The bad news is that we have discovered some cracks in the building's foundation. We are monitoring this and if we must stabilize the building the costs will be \$16,500- \$32,000. Our building is over 70 years old, and maintenance is becoming more of an issue!

What's in it for you? We have over 100 full- and part-time residents of Rockaway Beach who are Friends of the Library. That leaves approximately 800 full time residents and 2100 second homeowners or rental agents who may not be aware of our need of support. Our library provides free 24/7 internet access, computers, printer, and fax service as well as notary service. We are starting to have art shows by local artists and will soon have displays of interest to the public.

How can you help? Become a member! You can also help by purchasing our used books, either at our yearly book sale—July 3rd this year—or when you are in town. Hardbacks are \$2 and paperbacks are \$1. And at the sale, you get 6 books for the price of 5. Please fill out the form below and send it along with cash or checks. We will acknowledge your tax-deductible contributions! Hope to see you soon!

Friends of the Rockaway Library Annual Support for 2023
The Friends of the Rockaway Beach Library is a 501c3 charitable organization.

Membership (\$10 Annually) \$ _____ Donations (appreciated) \$ _____

Please check one ____ New member 2023 ____ Returning member

Name _____

Email _____

This is used only for "Friends" e-mailings, and you can opt out at any time.

Permanent Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mail to: Friends of the Rockaway Library, P.O. Box 185 Rockaway Beach, OR 97136 OR Drop off at the library, 120 N. Coral St, Rockaway Beach.

For more info, email friendsrockawaybeachlibrary@gmail.com