



# Avalon City Council Weekly Update 02-19-16

2/19/2016 6:16:57 PM

## **City Clerk - Municipal Election**

A Candidate Forum will be held March 30, 2016 at 6:00 PM hosted by the Chamber. In addition to attending the forum, it can be viewed on Catalina Broadband Solutions Channel 3 and will be live streamed online.

The last day to register to vote is for this upcoming Avalon election is Monday March 28, 2016. Voter registration forms are available at City Hall. You can also register to vote and check your registration address at [www.lavote.net](http://www.lavote.net)

The last day to request a Vote-By-Mail ballot is Tuesday April 5, 2016.

Polls will be open on election day from 7AM - 7PM, and voters should check the back of their sample ballot for the correct polling place.

## **Vehicle Clerk - Annual Vehicle Registration**

It is that time again when residential autoettes and Blue stickers (vehicles) register at City Hall. Since registration began for the 2017 sticker on February 10 we've had 211 autoettes and 86 vehicles register, which is on track with previous years numbers. Last year we had 1550 autoettes and 428 vehicles register. Registration goes until April 1, 2016. Remember to bring your current vehicle registration, a check or cash for \$30, the vehicle, and what address/dwelling unit it is going to be registered to. After 4/1 the price goes to \$55. We encourage everyone to come register early to avoid the rush which always happens towards the deadline.

## **Harbor Dept. - Quarterly Falcon Contract Meeting**

As per the conditions in his contract, the quarterly meeting to review On The Wing Falconry's bird abatement contract was held this past week. Falconer Rocky Post met with Assistant Harbormaster JJ Poindexter, Interim City Manager Denise Radde, and Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Jim Luttjohan to discuss the past three months of bird abatement in Avalon. Among the topics discussed were the trapping of pigeons, the amount of bird comp meals given out by local restaurants, water quality in Avalon Bay, and issues seen by the contractor such as dogs roaming the beaches and Crescent Avenue off leash. After a period of non-work over the winter, Rocky resumes a five day per week schedule that began February 8 and will increase to six days per week in May.

## **Harbor/Public Works - Cabrillo Mole Ramp 2 Repairs**

City crews spent the last two weeks making repairs to Ramp 2. A new wheel assembly and welding repairs were completed before it was placed back in service this morning. Many thanks go out to the Public Works and Harbor Maintenance crews for a job well done!

## **Harbor Dept. - 35th Annual Underwater Cleanup**

The 35th annual Avalon Harbor Underwater Clean up will take place Saturday February 20, 2016 starting at 9:00am. There will be four dive locations which include Lovers Cove, Middle Beach, Step Beach and Casino Point. Historically about 400 divers assist in the effort and all funds raised benefit the Catalina Hyperbaric Chamber and the Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies—Catalina Conservation Divers.

## **Harbor Dept - Summer in February**

With record breaking temperatures and favorable weather conditions last weekend, Avalon Harbor welcomed 254 new arriving boats over the 3 day holiday weekend.

## **Avalon Fire Dept. - Regional Training Group**

This past week saw some of the final components of the newly created Regional Training Group put into place. This training curriculum's cornerstone is centered on web based learning along with in the field drills. It also includes a smart classroom system which allows interactive training with the other 30 departments in Los Angeles County.

This Regional Fire Service Training Strategic Plan is the result of a collaborative effort by the thirty-one fire departments that comprise the Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association (LAAFCA) which constitute the fire departments operating in the Los Angeles/Long Beach Urban Area Security Initiative (LALBUA) with the majority in the Los Angeles County Operational Area (LACOA). This plan was developed in tandem with the Los Angeles/Long Beach Urban Area and the Los Angeles County Operational Area Homeland Security Strategic Plan. This plan's focus is on the training needs of the fire service in the region.

This plan addresses the common interest of all the fire departments to ensure that a trained and capable force is always available to respond in times of local and national emergency due to a terrorist threat or other disaster as well as to the day-to-day activities of the region's fire services. Coordination and standardized training is essential in making the communities in the LALBUA safer.

The group of fire chiefs who led this plan is a sub-group of the LAAFCA known as the Regional Training Group or RTG. As a consequence, this plan has become known as the Regional Training Group plan and the term RTG will be used to describe both this sub-group and its role within the LAAFCA.

Most fire department missions are carried out in a team setting. Because department borders are contiguous, the force at an emergency scene often is made up of firefighters from more than one agency and the need to work together seamlessly is paramount. Consequently, regionalized training where the departments train and act as one will create synergies and opportunities for greater safety, operational effectiveness, and cost efficiencies.

The RTG is comprised of an Executive Director and 5 Regional Training Officers (RTO) which make up the Regional Training Group. Each member is assigned to the RTG through their home agency and brings a unique background to the group working as a collaborative and participative team providing quality training and exercises to the region.

## **Recreation/Public Works-Skate Park**

Due to the high use and heavy rains some screws are coming loose on a few ramps at the Skate park. This weekend Public Works crews will be fixing the areas where the Skatelite product is separating from the plywood base. We expect this work to be completed in very little time and the park will remain open for general use.

## **Administration - GWMA IRWM**

Last week City staff attended the monthly Gateway Water Management Authority IRWM meeting. While the meeting didn't cover anything directly related to Avalon and Catalina's water situation, it provided the opportunity to connect with GWMA staff and representatives of LA CO DPW to discuss Catalina's lack of representation on the IRWM map. As we just joined the IRWM in 2015 there are still steps we need to take to fully be a part of this process. GWMA and DPW staff are very receptive to helping figure out how our island fits into this picture and we are very grateful for their time and efforts. To help the rest of the GWMA 28 member board understand Catalina's circumstances we have discussed hosting a field trip on the island.

## **Information Technology – Maintenance Management Software**

This week, the City launched its maintenance management software system, developed by Beyond Software Solutions. The software will be used to track all Public Works related items performed throughout the City. Utilizing a work order system, City staff will be able to better plan and allocate resources, as well as track true expenses for performing each task. By capturing the labor, equipment, inventory and materials components for each job, reports can be generated to determine the true costs of a particular project or asset and the ongoing efforts for maintenance. A fleet management component is also built into the software for tracking routine maintenance and repairs of City vehicles as well as the Harbor department patrol boats. This will provide true visibility of the costs associated with each vehicle and boat.

## **Information Technology - Council Chambers A/V Upgrades**

If you've been watching the council meetings lately, either on line or Catalina Broadband Solutions channel 3, you may have noticed that the viewing quality has improved quite a bit. We are continuing to fine tune the upgrade and taking note of what other areas might need fixing. The goal of this effort is to help make the City and City Council more accessible for the general public. With that in mind we will be launching Granicus, a new streaming service which will make viewing archived meetings more user friendly sometime over the next month or so. A big thanks goes to the Advanced Wiring team and Beyond Software Solutions for making this happen. We'd also like to thank the CIMC for letting us know they were getting rid of some old file cabinets which helped us start to get the a/v room in order.

## **City Manager - Storm Preparedness Meeting**

On Wednesday the City hosted an Island stakeholders preparedness meeting to discuss the potential impacts of El Nino. The goal of the meeting was to identify issues or areas of concern, identify the mitigation required, and identify resources - both on hand and needed. The meeting consisted of representatives from the City of Avalon - including Avalon Fire Department, Santa Catalina Island Company, Southern California Edison, LA County Fire Department, Catalina Island Conservancy, Jordahl Construction, Environ Strategy, Avalon Environmental, Avalon Schools, and the LA County Sheriffs Department. While this is not the first time our many organizations have connected on this issue, and much preparation such as storm channel cleaning has already been completed, it was good to touch base with everyone and keep us on the same page. We look forward to continuing this kind of round table discussion for El Nino and other island wide issues. This includes working with LA County Public Works whom have offered some assistance in our preparation efforts.

## **City Manager - Desal #2**

Staff was in contact with Southern California Edison regarding the permitting of the new desalination unit. As was reported at the 2/16 council meeting SCE is working with three permitting agencies to operate desal #2: the Division of Drinking Water, the Los Angeles County Regional Water Quality Control Board (LACRWQCB)– National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and the California Coastal Commission. SCE currently expects desal #2 to be operational mid March based on the DDW requirements. SCE feels the process is on track, and the City has offered to provide any assistance we can to ensure the timely processing of the necessary permits.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Avalon City Staff