

Sheriffs meeting

Aug 8, 2022

LOCATION: Burger Claim Restaurant TIME: 7:30a.m. DATE: 08/11/22

ATTENDEES: Special Guests Commissioner Mr. Netherlin, Belfair and Chamber Representative Pam Volz

Sheriff Spurling opened the meeting with the announcement of a special Belfair individuals swearing in which will occur 08/12/22. He will enhance the departments need for a bilingual individual. A Skykomish individual will also be enhancing the departments need for diversity.

Mr. Netherlin reviewed the process of the future By-Pass process. The project currently is fully funded with \$108 million dollars in place. He said that the By-Pass project conversations actually started in 1958. There will be a need to court to gain access to private properties. Lake Flora is a gain access point with an exit point on Hwy 302 past the High School with 2 traffic circles. There are plans for 3 more traffic circles within Mason County. Statistics say traffic moves 20% faster using circles over stop lights or signs. An audience guest stated that traffic circles impede commercial trucks and RV's and are dangerous. Answer, the state is in control and must keep traffic moving! Question: Will there be a light to accommodate traffic generated from the new apartment complex on Hwy 3? Answer: NO. All traffic must turn R going towards Bremerton, to the round-a-bout circle and back down to Belfair. That will include McDonalds and the Belfair Post Office.....The commissioners aim for future development is to keep as much progress within the Belfair, Mason County area as Belfair is considered a bread basket to Mason County. If a new shopping center is developed north, Bremerton will receive the revenue needed for the Shelton area. A new Public Safety Building is slated to move to the abandoned Fire Station on Belfair Hwy. Half of the building will support a new Sheriff's Department location. Another impending project is traffic control on Old Belfair Hwy as future traffic will be diverted to that roadway.

Chief Spurling talked about acquiring the new North River boat. It totally outfitted for policing all waterways within Mason County. No details but he mentioned that key arrests have been made recently. Approximately 400 auto thefts are occurring monthly. Port Orchard seems to be a hub for the major problem. One individual in particular was stealing at least 8 vehicles daily. The best informants have turned out to be scorned lovers!!! He requested getting away from lower end cameras as the resolution is very poor. Best defense is a LARGE DOG!! One that likes to bark. Other great critters are peacocks and turkey hens. (Too bad not allowed within Lakeland). Leaving a radio or TV on in a garage or house while gone or at night is also a good idea.

The new Amelia's Restaurant is set to open in October per the attending owners. They also own 3 other restaurants including the Burger Claim.

Any more questions or conversation from guests? YES. As a representative from Lakeland Village and also Paradise Shore Community Mason Lake, I asked about how Mason County Sheriff and County Representative can address the ever occurring high speed traffic within both communities. The speeding traffic has become a serious safety issue. Chief Spurling said he will try to periodically post an officer within the community and Commissioner Netherlin said he will try to get the counties "traffic ticker" located within the community.....

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Maureen Allen