

FALL 2025

# THE LONGBOAT

NEWSLETTER OF THE PORT OF POULSBO



## THE PORT OF POULSBO

Whether you're cruising for the weekend or exploring the Salish Sea, the Port of Poulsbo welcomes you with easy access to dining, shopping, and family-friendly fun. The **Port of Poulsbo** operates a first-class destination marina, the **Poulsbo Marina**, for both recreational and commercial vessels. The Port of Poulsbo includes an active waterfront area located in the center of Poulsbo's commercial zone with fine restaurants, unique shopping areas, antique stores, the SEA Discovery Center and listen to the sound of seagulls, breathe in the fresh marine air, catch a glimpse of the Olympic Mountains, and watch the abundance of wildlife in and around beautiful Liberty Bay. The boardwalk leads to an undisturbed park conservation area with native flora and fauna, a bird sanctuary, walking paths and picnic areas with room for all to enjoy.

**Plan Your Winter or Spring Visit — Reserve Guest Moorage at [portofpoulsbo.com](http://portofpoulsbo.com)**

# A WORD FROM THE PORT MANAGER

## WELCOME TO THE 1<sup>ST</sup> EDITION OF THE PORT OF POULSBO NEWSLETTER

My name is James Weaver, and I'm honored to serve as your new Port Manager. For as long as I can remember, I've been drawn to the rhythm of our waterfront—the sounds of seagulls and sail rigging in the breeze, the shimmer of Liberty Bay at sunrise, and the sense of community that forms wherever boats and people come together. Poulsbo has all of that—and more.



The Port of Poulsbo is a truly special place. Few marinas in the Pacific Northwest can offer such a seamless blend of maritime tradition and small-town charm that we have here. Steps from your boat, you'll find the heart of downtown Poulsbo—our “Viking City”—alive with cozy cafés, galleries, family-run shops, amazing restaurants, and the laughter of visitors exploring the historic boardwalk and waterfront park. It's a destination where time slows just enough for you to feel connected—to the sea, to each other, and to something enduring. If you haven't visited by boat recently, I invite you to rediscover Poulsbo this season.”

As we look ahead to the Port's seventy-fifth anniversary in 2026, we have much to celebrate. Since its founding in 1951, the Port of Poulsbo has been a gathering place for generations of boaters and visitors throughout the Salish Sea. Today, our marina remains a favorite destination for yacht clubs, cruisers, and local adventurers who find a warm welcome at our docks.

We're also looking forward—with exciting improvements planned for the marina and waterfront. Working alongside the City of Poulsbo, our dedicated tenants, and community partners like the Poulsbo Boaters Association, the Olympic Outdoor Center, Kitsap Rowing Club, Longship Marine, Freedom Boat Club, the Valkyrie Viking longship, and so many others, we can continue to build a waterfront that serves both our boating community and our historic town with pride.

Poulsbo has been my home for nearly twenty-five years, and serving this community is one of the great privileges of my career. Together, we'll honor our maritime history while steering toward a bright and sustainable future. I welcome your ideas, your stories, and your dreams for what the Port of Poulsbo can become. After all, you are the reason we are here.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James Weaver".

**James Weaver**  
Port Manager  
Port of Poulsbo

# MARINERS UPDATE

## WINTER WEATHER IS ON THE WAY

AS WINTER WEATHER APPROACHES, THE PORT OF POULSBO ENCOURAGES ALL BOATERS TO TAKE A FEW SIMPLE PRECAUTIONS TO KEEP YOUR VESSELS SAFE AND SECURE THROUGHOUT THE SEASON. PLEASE DOUBLE-CHECK YOUR MOORAGE LINES FOR WEAR, ADD CHAFE PROTECTION WHERE NEEDED, AND ENSURE FENDERS ARE PROPERLY PLACED FOR SHIFTING TIDES AND WIND. WINTER STORMS CAN ARRIVE QUICKLY, SO TAKING A MOMENT NOW TO PREPARE YOUR BOAT HELPS PROTECT BOTH YOUR VESSEL AND YOUR NEIGHBORS ON THE DOCKS. IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS OR NEED ASSISTANCE, OUR MARINA STAFF IS HERE TO HELP. OUR STAFF CONDUCT STORM WALK-THROUGHS AND ARE ALWAYS HERE TO HELP—JUST LET US KNOW IF YOU’RE A VISITING GUEST NEEDING AN EXTRA SET OF EYES.



## SHARING THE WATER: SAFE BOATING ON MULTI-USE WATERWAYS

THE AMERICAN WATERWAYS OPERATORS – THE TRADE ASSOCIATION OF THE U.S. TUGBOAT, TOWBOAT AND BARGE INDUSTRY – AND THE NATIONAL SAFE BOATING COUNCIL HAVE PARTNERED TO CREATE A VIDEO EDUCATING RECREATIONAL BOATERS ON HOW TO SAFELY INTERACT WITH COMMERCIAL VESSELS ON THE WATER.

THE VIDEO IS AVAILABLE HERE:

[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=OGV96IUWVFA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OGV96IUWVFA)

## 2025 KING TIDES

DECEMBER 5-7, 2025 (UP TO 13.7')

JANUARY 4-6, 2026 (UP TO 13.4')

FEBRUARY 2-4, 2026 (UP TO 13.0')

## PUPS AT THE PORT

THE PORT OF POULSBO PRESENTS- PUPS OF THE PORT! MEET **PONGO!** A BIG-HEARTED BOATING COMPANION, PONGO ENJOYS LIFE BOTH ON LAND AND ON THE WATER. HE AND HIS HUMAN, LAUREN, ARE OFTEN SEEN AROUND HISTORIC DOWNTOWN POULSBO AND THE MURIEL IVERSON WILLIAMS WATERFRONT PARK, TAKING IN THE SIGHTS AND FRESH WATERFRONT AIR.

KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR PONGO LIVING HIS BEST “DOG LIFE VIBES” — SOAKING UP THE SEA BREEZE AND THOSE GOLDEN SUNSETS. FROM THE DECK TO THE DOCKS, PONGO ADDS A DOSE OF JOY AND TAIL-WAGGING CHARM WHEREVER HE GOES!



WE LOVE SEEING OUR VISITING PUPS. SEND US YOUR PUP PHOTOS AT THE QR CODE:



# WINTER EVENTS

**A FESTIVE SEASON ON LIBERTY BAY — PERFECT FOR LOCALS, TRAVELERS, AND VISITING BOATERS!**

★ **NOV 28 – POULSBO TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY**

POULSBO KICKS OFF THE SEASON WITH A WATERFRONT TREE LIGHTING, SANTA'S ARRIVAL, AND FAMILY FESTIVITIES.

👶 **NOV 29 & 30 – VISIT SANTA IN DOWNTOWN POULSBO**

ENJOY SANTA PHOTOS AND HOLIDAY SHOPPING IN HISTORIC DOWNTOWN POULSBO.

❄️ **DEC 6 – JULEFEST AT SONS OF NORWAY (10 AM–6 PM)**

A FULL DAY OF NORDIC HERITAGE WITH LUCIA'S ARRIVAL BY BOAT, THE POULSBO VIKINGS LIGHTING A BONFIRE, SCANDINAVIAN FOODS, CHRISTMAS MARKETS, CRAFTS, AND MUSIC.

🚢 **DEC 13 – POULSBO YACHT CLUB-LIGHTED SHIPS PARADE (5 PM)**

HOSTED BY THE POULSBO YACHT CLUB, A DAZZLING LIBERTY BAY TRADITION WITH BOATS GLOWING IN HOLIDAY LIGHTS AS THEY PARADE ALONG THE WATERFRONT.

🎨 **DEC 13 – POULSBO SECOND SATURDAY ARTWALK (5–8 PM)**

STROLL THROUGH GALLERIES, BOUTIQUES, AND FESTIVE DOWNTOWN STREETS DURING THIS ART-FOCUSED EVENING.

🎄 **DEC 25 – CHRISTMAS SANTA! SANTA! SANTA!**

🎉 **DEC 31 – POULSBO NEW YEARS EVE CELEBRATION**

ENJOY THE FESTIVITIES ON THE POULSBO WATERFRONT, MAYBE EVEN DIVE IN FOR A POLAR BEAR PLUNGE ON NEW YEARS DAY.

**NOTE: MARINA OFFICE/FUEL DOCK WILL BE CLOSED NOV 28, DEC 25, AND JAN 1 HOLIDAYS. GUEST MOORAGE WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THOSE HOLIDAYS. [WWW.PORTOFPOULSBO.COM](http://WWW.PORTOFPOULSBO.COM)**



# PORT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## SERVING THE POULSBO BOATING COMMUNITY

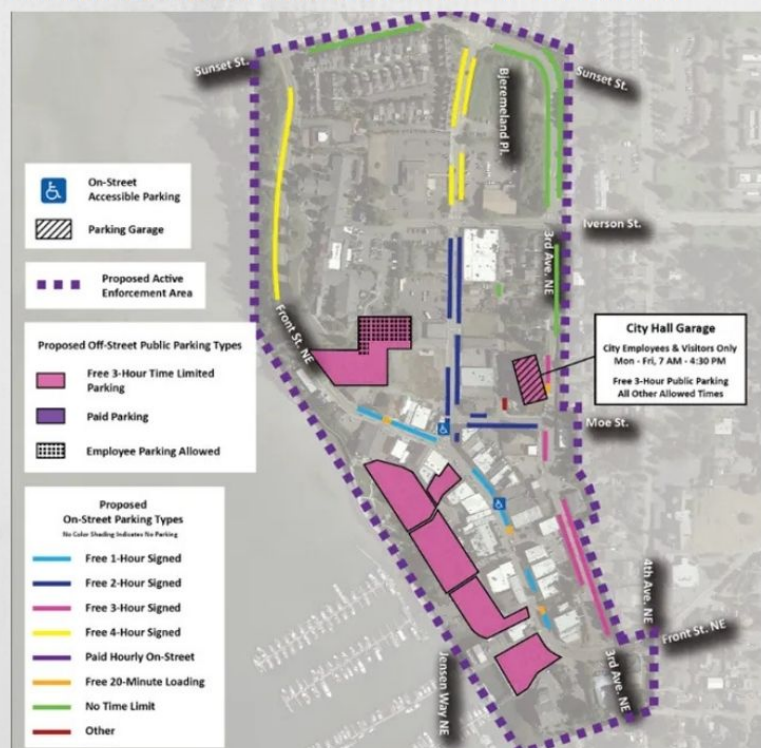
THE PORT COMMISSIONERS AND THE POULSBO CITY COUNCIL CONDUCTED A FALL PORT COMMISSIONER-CITY COUNCIL JOINT MEETING AT CITY HALL ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2025. ISSUES AND ITEMS OF MUTUAL INTEREST WERE DISCUSSED SUCH AS DERELICT VESSELS, WATERFRONT PARKING, PUBLIC PARK PROJECTS, AND EFFORTS TO WORK COLLABORATIVELY ON FUTURE EFFORTS THAT BENEFIT THE COMMUNITY. THE MEETING WAS VERY PRODUCTIVE AND ANOTHER JOINT CITY / PORT MEETING WAS PLANNED FOR NEXT MARCH OF 2026.

### CITY COUNCIL IMPLEMENTS PARKING TIME LIMITS FOR FREE WATERFRONT PARKING ON NOVEMBER 1, 2025

STARTING NOVEMBER 1, VISITORS TO FRONT STREET AND SURROUNDING AREAS OF DOWNTOWN WILL NOW BE SUBJECT TO WARNINGS AND EVENTUALLY FINES FOR EXCEEDING THE POSTED TIME LIMITS IN PARKING AREAS. THE PORT CONTINUES ADVOCATING FOR BALANCED PARKING SOLUTIONS THAT PRESERVE ACCESS FOR VISITING BOATERS AND WATERFRONT BUSINESSES.

MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AT:

[HTTPS://CITYOFPOULSBO.COM/POLICE-DEPARTMENT/DOWNTOWN-PARKING-ENFORCEMENT/](https://cityofpoulsbo.com/police-department/downtown-parking-enforcement/)



### AMERICAN CRUISE LINES VISITS PORT OF POULSBO

THE PORT OF POULSBO WELCOMED THE 278' CRUISE SHIP, THE AMERICAN CONSTELLATION ON TUESDAY, OCT. 28 AS PART OF AN EXPLORATORY VISIT BY AMERICAN CRUISE LINES.

THE VISIT TO THE RECENTLY UPGRADED POULSBO MARINA BREAKWATER WAS THE FIRST STEP TO INVESTIGATE ESTABLISHING POULSBO AS THE POSSIBLE NEWEST PORT OF CALL IN ITS PUGET SOUND CRUISING ITINERARY. THIS EXPLORATION UNDERSCORES POULSBO'S GROWING REPUTATION AS A WELCOMING, WORLD-CLASS BOATER DESTINATION.

# COMMISSIONER CORNER

## PORT COMMISSIONER JEFF PFEIL: A STEADY HAND AT THE WHEEL

PORT OF POULSBO COMMISSIONER JEFF PFEIL BRINGS A SEASONED BLEND OF BUSINESS LEADERSHIP, COMMUNITY SERVICE, AND GENUINE BOATING PASSION TO THE WATERFRONT HE HELPS GUIDE. AFTER RELOCATING FROM NEW YORK TO THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST, PFEIL AND HIS WIFE, DEANE, QUICKLY IMMERSSED THEMSELVES IN REGIONAL BOATING CULTURE. WHAT BEGAN WITH THEIR FIRST CRUISER EVOLVED INTO THEIR CURRENT PRIDE—A DOWN EAST-STYLE POWERBOAT THAT REFLECTS JEFF'S APPRECIATION FOR CRAFTSMANSHIP, DEPENDABLE PERFORMANCE, AND LONG-RANGE ADVENTURE. CRUISING PUGET SOUND ON THE BLACK COVE 41 KEEPS HIM CLOSELY CONNECTED TO THE EVERYDAY EXPERIENCES OF BOATERS WHO RELY ON THE PORT.

THAT ON-THE-WATER PERSPECTIVE HAS SHAPED HIS WORK AS A PORT COMMISSIONER. KNOWN FOR A PRAGMATIC, RESULTS-ORIENTED MINDSET—ECHOED IN HIS LONGTIME MOTTO, "DAMN THE OBSTACLES, LET'S GET IT DONE"—PFEIL HAS BEEN A DRIVING FORCE BEHIND IMPROVED CITY-PORT COLLABORATION, MARINA MODERNIZATION EFFORTS, AND ENHANCED FOCUS ON CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE AND MARITIME HERITAGE. THE PORT HAS ONLY STRENGTHENED IT'S IDENTITY AS A PREMIER BOATING DESTINATION.

WHETHER REVIEWING INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS OR CHATTING WITH VISITORS ON THE DOCK, COMMISSIONER PFEIL BRINGS STEADY, INFORMED LEADERSHIP AND STRONG BUSINESS ACCUMEN TO THE PORT OF POULSBO.



## PORT OF POULSBO MISSION STATEMENT

**THE MISSION OF THE PORT OF POULSBO IS TO RESPONSIBLY PURSUE ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, PROMOTE PUBLIC ACCESS, AND IMPROVE THE DISTRICT FOR ITS CITIZENS AND THE GREATER COMMUNITY.**

# BOATER SPOTLIGHT

## VALKYRIE: THE VIKING BOAT & THE FAMILY THAT BROUGHT HER TO LIFE



### VALKYRIE, POULSBO'S REMARKABLE 56-FOOT VIKING LONGSHIP, HAS QUICKLY BECOME ONE OF LIBERTY BAY'S MOST CAPTIVATING SIGHTS

AN AUTHENTIC, HAND-CRAFTED VESSEL BUILT BY ERIK KNUDSEN AND HIS FAMILY TO HONOR THEIR NORWEGIAN HERITAGE WHILE SHARING THE DEEPER, HUMAN SIDE OF VIKING CULTURE. INSPIRED BY AN ANCIENT DANISH LONGSHIP DESIGN, THE KNUDSEN FAMILY SPENT YEARS CONSTRUCTING VALKYRIE USING TRADITIONAL METHODS, RARE WOODS, AND THE COLLECTIVE SKILLS OF A COMMUNITY DETERMINED TO BRING A TRUE VIKING-ERA SHIP BACK TO LIFE. DRAWING FROM MULTIGENERATIONAL MARITIME ROOTS, ERIK HAS DESCRIBED THE PROJECT AS BOTH A TRIBUTE TO HIS ANCESTORS AND A BRIDGE CONNECTING MODERN NORTHWEST RESIDENTS WITH THE CRAFTSMANSHIP, SEAMANSHIP, AND COLLABORATIVE SPIRIT THAT DEFINED THE NORSE WORLD. THEIR GUIDING PHILOSOPHY FOR THE VESSEL—JOY, EXPLORATION, CELEBRATION OF CULTURE AND COMMUNITY SHAPES EVERY ASPECT OF THE VESSEL'S MISSION.

SEASONALLY BERTHED EACH SUMMER AT THE PORT OF POULSBO, VALKYRIE IS POISED TO BECOME A CULTURAL AND TOURISM CENTERPIECE FOR THE COMMUNITY. THE ORGANIZATION IS LAUNCHING AN EXPANDING MENU OF PUBLIC OFFERINGS, INCLUDING CHARTER SAILINGS ON LIBERTY BAY, EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR SCHOOLS, AND DOCKSIDE TOURS WHERE VISITORS CAN STEP ONTO THE CURVED DECK, EXAMINE THE HANDCRAFTED RIGGING, AND LEARN THE STORIES BEHIND THE SHIP'S CREATION.

PLANS ALSO INCLUDE GUEST-SPEAKER EVENTS AND PARTICIPATION IN MAJOR WATERFRONT FESTIVALS LIKE THE LIBERTY BAY FESTIVAL IN MAY 2026. WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE PORT OF POULSBO, ERIK ENVISIONS VALKYRIE AS A LIVING MUSEUM—A PLACE WHERE LOCALS, TOURISTS, AND MARITIME ENTHUSIASTS ALIKE CAN EXPERIENCE AUTHENTIC VIKING HISTORY WHILE SUPPORTING A UNIQUE, FAMILY-BUILT VENTURE THAT EMBODIES POULSBO'S PROUD IDENTITY AS "LITTLE NORWAY."



# BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



## JEFF PFEIL - POSITION 1

TERM: JAN. 2026-DEC. 2031

[COMMISSIONER.PFEIL@PORTOFPOULSBO.COM](mailto:COMMISSIONER.PFEIL@PORTOFPOULSBO.COM)



## JAMIE GREEN - POSITION 2

TERM: JAN. 2022-DEC. 2027

[COMMISSIONER.GREEN@PORTOFPOULSBO.COM](mailto:COMMISSIONER.GREEN@PORTOFPOULSBO.COM)



## JAY LAWRENCE - POSITION 3

TERM: JAN. 2024-DEC. 2029

PRESIDENT (ROTATING POSITION)

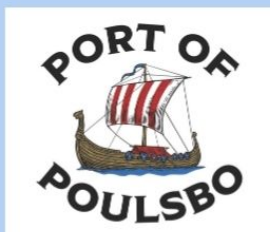
[COMMISSIONER.LAWRENCE@PORTOFPOULSBO.COM](mailto:COMMISSIONER.LAWRENCE@PORTOFPOULSBO.COM)

## PORT COMMISSION MEETINGS

THE BOARD OF PORT COMMISSIONERS MEET AT 7 PM ON THE 1<sup>ST</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH. MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE FLOATING MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM LOCATED ON E DOCK. MEETINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE BY ZOOM.

### 2025 PORT COMMISSION MEETINGS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2025 AT 7 P.M.
- THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2025 AT 7 P.M.
- THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2025 AT 7 P.M.



## PORT OF POULSBO

18809 FRONT STREET NE

POULSBO, WA 98370

[RESERVATIONS@PORTOFPOULSBO.COM](mailto:RESERVATIONS@PORTOFPOULSBO.COM)

PHONE: 360-779-9905

HOURS: 8 AM TO 4 PM (EXCEPT WINTER HOLIDAYS)



GUEST MOORAGE RESERVATIONS: [WWW.PORTOFPOULSBO.COM](http://WWW.PORTOFPOULSBO.COM)  
360-779-9905 – WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU!