

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Date: June 3, 2020

MEDIA CONTACT: 530-872-6291 ext. 112

## PRESS RELEASE

**Town of Paradise Weekly Recovery Update** 

### Meetings:

June 9, 2020, 6 pm Town Council Meeting

Virtual: <a href="https://livestream.com/townofparadise">https://livestream.com/townofparadise</a>

June 30, 2020, 9 am

Town Council Meeting – Budget Presentation

Virtual: <a href="https://livestream.com/townofparadise">https://livestream.com/townofparadise</a>

#### **Updates and Statistics:**

#### **Building Updates:**

1,013 Building Permit Applications Received

846 Building Permits issued

175 Homes Rebuilt (certificate of occupancy issued)

#### **Some GREAT News**

Paradise reached a major milestone in the rebuilding process. May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020, marked the 1000<sup>th</sup> building permit application submitted since the Camp Fire. The honor went to the Minsart family. Michelle Minsart was asked why they chose to rebuild. "I grew up in Paradise. We raised our children and our granddaughter here. We lived on the property I grew up on. Paradise is home and we just want to go back. To those considering rebuilding I say go for it. If your heart is in Paradise, I think you'll be happy to be back there. Paradise is lovely and is a place where the friends you make become your friends forever. There's a strong sense of community spirit and I'm always

impressed by how Paradisians support each other. It's a family friendly community and I appreciate that."

#### What's new:

Part 1 of the State of the Town was broadcast live on Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>.
 Highlights include:

The meeting included presentations from the Town Disaster Recovery Director, Adventist Health, PID, Paradise Unified School District. Paradise Parks & Recreation, and the Paradise Chamber of Commerce. You can view the entire presentation on the Town's <u>Facebook page</u> and <u>YouTube Channel</u>

- Exciting news about the Missing Middle Grant! The Rebuild Paradise Foundation has extended the income limits to accommodate larger household sizes. The Missing Middle Grant offers up to \$5,000 to help qualified households tackle some of the financial barriers to building their home in the Camp Fire footprint. Visit <a href="https://www.rebuildparadise.org/grants/">https://www.rebuildparadise.org/grants/</a> for more information.
- Paradise Recreation & Parks District officially took over operations at
   Paradise Lake on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Passes will be sold after June 15<sup>th</sup>. PRPD will
   maintain the current rules and hours historically in place at the Lake, so visitors
   will see few changes for this season. Visit <a href="www.paradiseprpd.com">www.paradiseprpd.com</a> to purchase
   parking passes, season passes, and to read about news, events, and reservation
   opportunities. There are lots of exciting things happening at Paradise Lake!
- Paradise Unified School District is launching its COVID-19 Meal Service
  Plan on June 5<sup>th</sup>. It will run until August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 (all sites CLOSED Friday, July
  3<sup>rd</sup>) and is open to ALL kids 18 and under. Meals are distributed on Monday Friday and each child will receive 2 days worth of breakfast, lunch and dinner.
  For times and locations visit <a href="http://www.pusdk12.org/">http://www.pusdk12.org/</a> and click on Summer Food
  Service for details. Or, call Tanya Harter at 530.720.5552.
- The Butte County ROE Center is still accepting ROEs and Inspection
   Access Forms. Inspections are scheduled to begin in mid-June, and tree felling
   is scheduled to begin in July. Download your ROE or inspection Access form
   here. You can mail the form to 205 Mira Loma Dr., Ste 50, Oroville CA 95965 or
   email to <a href="mailto:TreeROE@buttecounty.net">TreeROE@buttecounty.net</a>. For questions, call the Tree ROE
   Information line at (530) 552-3030.

- **Help keep Paradise fire safe!** If you own a lot in Paradise, it is your responsibility to maintain it. If you need help clearing your lot of weeds and brush, you can contact a local company who can do the work for you. Find a list of companies with Paradise Business Licenses <a href="here">here</a>.
- ICYMI: Paradise High School Class of 2020 LIVE Graduation.
   Congratulations Bobcats! These students have exhibited resilience as they have had to overcome setbacks these last two years. June 1 and 2 was symbolic as students graduated via a drive-thru style graduation over the course of two days. Graduates arrived in groups, exited their vehicle, stood appropriate social distancing, wore masks, received a commencement speech, did an air High-Five and were awarded diplomas. While non-traditional, this celebration is one they will certainly never forget. The future is yours Class of 2020. Shoot for the stars!
- We're Hiring! The Town is looking for an Accounting Technician. The Town of Paradise invites applicants for the position of Accounting Technician. Applications will be accepted until 5 pm on Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020. For more information and to complete an application, visit the Town's website.
- Have questions regarding your rebuild? Rebuild Advocates are here to help! If you need help navigating the rebuild process, the Town of Paradise has Rebuild Advocates available to assist. They can help with the following: Navigating insurance, FEMA or SBA, understanding additional financing options, selecting a contractor, submitting plants, or any part of the rebuild process. They are available at the Building Resiliency Center by appointment only. Please call 530.872.6291 x411 to make an in-person or phone appointment today!
- Housing Urgency Ordinance: After the fire, Paradise Town Council passed an
  urgency ordinance which allowed displaced residents to temporarily live on their
  property in an RV. This urgency ordinance expires on December 31, 2020. That
  means starting January 1, 2021, you must have an active building permit to live
  on your property in an RV.

FAQ

Q: I'm thinking about rebuilding, but I'm not sure I have enough money and I don't know where to start.

A: Call the Rebuild Advocates! They are available Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5 pm at the Building Resiliency Center to walk through the rebuilding process for you. Not only can they help with the rebuilding process, they can also help navigate insurance and can connect you with financial assistance available for Camp Fire

Survivors. You can call them at (530) 872-6291 x429 and x430 or email at <u>eclements@townofparadise.com</u> and <u>psavage@townofparadise.com</u>.

# Q: I just got a letter from the Fire Department about my property, what do I need to do?

A: The letter describes what needs to be done on the property. There are 3 different categories: General, Developed, and Undeveloped. Each of these has a subcategory that will have a check mark next to the violation that is to be corrected. Most of the notices require the grasses and/or brush to be cut. 30 Calendar days are given to complete the work. An inspection will be conducted after the 30 days and if the corrections are not made to ensure compliance. If the actions described in the letter have not been completed, administrative citations will be issued, and ultimately the Town can abate the property at the owner's expense. Find a list of weed abatement companies with Paradise Business Licenses here.