

## A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Palmer City Council was held on August 10, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Palmer, Alaska. Mayor DeVries called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

## B. ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the Council, the following were present:

Edna DeVries, Mayor	Sabrena Combs, Deputy Mayor
Julie Berberich	Brian Daniels
Richard W. Best	Jill Valerius
Steve Carrington	

Staff in attendance were the following:

John Moosey, City Manager	Michael Gatti, City Attorney (participated telephonically)
Brad Hanson, Community Development Director	Pam Whitehead, Recording Secretary (telephonically)

## C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

## D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Approval of Consent Agenda
  - a. **Resolution No. 21-028:** Appointing Election Officials for the City of Palmer Regular Election on Tuesday, October 5, 2021 and Repealing Resolution 21-022.
  - b. **Action Memorandum No. 21-046:** Recommendation to the City Council to allow the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute a Contract with EMC Engineering LLC, for specified testing and inspections in an amount not to exceed \$41,200.00
  - c. **Action Memorandum No. 21-047:** Recommendation to the City Council supporting the Palmer Rotary and Wasilla Sunrise Club project and directing the City Manager to budget \$25,000.00 in the 2022 budget to support the project.
2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)
  - a. July 13, 2021, Regular Meeting

### Main Motion: To Approve Agenda, Consent Agenda, and Minutes

Moved by:	Combs
Seconded by:	Daniels
Vote:	Unanimous
Action:	Motion Carried by roll call vote.

## E. COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS: None.

## F. REPORTS:

1. City Manager's Report:

City Manager Moosey, as well as Council Member Daniels and Deputy Mayor Combs, each reported on the events of the AML Summer Legislative Conference which they attended in Fairbanks last week August 4-6.

Deputy Mayor Combs requested to be scheduled on a future agenda to speak about The Conference of Young Alaskans (ages 16-25) who spent three days drafting some very amazing and thorough resolutions that they then presented to the Alaska Conference of Mayors; she would like to share same with the Council.

City Manager Moosey spoke to only one bid received on the 2021 pavement repairs project; reported it was too expensive and well over budget so will not be moving forward with it this year.

## 2. City Clerk's Report

City Manager Moosey reported as to status of the background checks and scheduling City Clerk in-person interviews with the out-of-state applicants. City Attorney Gatti recommended to discuss the results of a background check in Executive Session.

## 3. Mayor's Report

Mayor DeVries reported on school starting and asked everyone to be vigilant looking out for the kids, and with the Alaska State Fair starting, encouraged everyone to be welcoming to all the visitors to Palmer.

## 4. City Attorney's Report

City Attorney Gatti spoke to the challenges the City is currently facing with open employee positions. He also commented on his many years in the AML, on the Legislative Committee as well as a member of the Board for about 10 years. He found it a tremendous experience and is pleased to hear of the number of young people interested in public service.

## **G. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Ms. Connie Yoshimira, Developer of Cedar Park Subdivision, testified citing issues with the Subdivision Agreement related to the septic system; also cited issues with the Warranty; further testified she will not be able to build the subdivision this year unless the Subdivision Agreement issues are resolved.

Mr. John Miller, on behalf of many community members, presented Mayor Edna DeVries with a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of many years of exemplary service to our City, Borough, and State over decades in various government positions.

Mr. Dave Fuller, Palmer resident, testified calling for Mayor DeVries' immediate resignation, citing she is actively running for Borough Mayor.

Father Randy Hillman, representing many people from Chugiak, Meadow Lakes, Sutton, and Butte, spoke on the uniqueness of Palmer and in support of Mayor DeVries as Palmer Mayor.

Mr. Mike Coons, Palmer resident, spoke in strong support for Mayor DeVries and conservative values; spoke in opposition to Moms for Social Justice as a socialist group.

Ms. Bee Rupright, testified in support for Mayor DeVries and in opposition to what was said by Mr. Fuller, that if he didn't want the Mayor to be elected, then vote against her.

Ms. Christy Hudgins, Palmer resident, spoke in opposition to Moms for Social Justice and in strong support for Mayor DeVries.

Ms. Jackie Ivey GoForth, Palmer resident, spoke in opposition to Black Lives Matter and in strong support for Mayor DeVries, citing why is running for another office a reason to have to be removed from your current office (example – Kamala Harris running for President while still serving as a US Senator).

Mr. Ken Kincaid, Palmer resident, spoke in full support of Mayor DeVries in what she is doing.

Ms. Robyn Bjork, medical professional, continued testimony on the topic of “medical tyranny” related to the Covid vaccine and Dr. Fauci’s complete obstruction from the public knowing about effective treatments and who continues to push the panic button.

Ms. Janet Kincaid testified in appreciation and in support of Mayor DeVries, has known her for very long time and believes her to be a very good Mayor.

Ms. Kelly Anderson Riggs spoke in support of Mayor DeVries and hopes we can all get along and keep Palmer nice.

Mr. L. B. Howard, Greater Palmer area, testified in support of Mayor DeVries, stating she has done nothing but serve; he is honored to call her Mayor and friend and if she wants to serve again in the Mat-Su Borough, he wholeheartedly endorses and supports her.

Ms. Leighann Pope testified that although she doesn’t agree politically with a number on the Council, she values their service and thanked them; spoke in appreciation of Mayor DeVries reaching out to our community, valuing education, and believes she truly cares.

There being no others coming forward, Mayor DeVries closed Audience Participation at 8:00 p.m.

**H. PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None.

**I. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**J. NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**K. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE:**

Director Hanson reported: 1) Packet submitted by Cedar Park LLC for Cedar Park Subdivision; 2) Certificate of Appreciation for Edna DeVries; 3) Letter from Mike Coons.

**L. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Mayor DeVries reopened Audience Participation at 8:01 p.m.

Mr. Mike Coons, Retired U.S. Air Force, testified about the impacts of the “China” virus and how it is being used to divide the nation and attack each other; likened it to a cold civil war; encouraged everyone to lower the tempo and stand together or we will be falling like never before.

Ms. Robyn Bjork, medical professional, testified regarding medical tyranny being used to usher in communism (remember Nazi Germany and the Jews); commented on Dr. Fauci saying this is a pandemic of the unvaccinated is totally false; spoke to the number of covid vaccine deaths and itemized some of the

side affects not being reported; advised to be prepared for and stand up against more lock-downs, masks, forced vaccines, in the coming months.

Mr. Dickie Hudgins, testified regarding the mainstream media pushing fear and lies; encouraged to take the mask off and trust in God.

Ms. Jackie GoForth, testified regarding the Covid vaccine ingredients not being disclosed and intentionally left out on the vaccine inserts; encouraged listening to Dr. Richard Fleming on Event 2021, took place June 5<sup>th</sup> in Dallas, Texas.

Ms. Roselyn Griffin, testified in support of Mayor DeVries, a gracious and kind woman, thoughtful of everyone around her, people of Palmer are lucky to have her, a class-A act.

Mr. Steve Pannone, Pannone Engineering Services, Engineer of Record for Cedar Park Subdivision, testified regarding the Subdivision Agreement, in particular, disagreement regarding the septic system requirement, that it needs to be reviewed in deeper detail.

Mr. Erik Anderson, testified that he agrees with some, but not all, of what everyone has said here tonight, but wants to reinstate instilling unity and community and thinks it is important we all work together; spoke regarding the variances for Cedar Park stating the process is flawed, referring to city code, the City Manager does not have the authorization to approve the variances and it should have gone to public comment.

Ms. Carolina Anzilotti, Palmer resident, testified in support of Mayor DeVries, that she is kind and caring and cares about Palmer.

Ms. Pamela Melin, testified how proud she is that we the people show up, have passion, and get stuff done; that it's a great thing that people get involved, their voices are being heard, sounding the alarm, and saying what's in their hearts; spoke in support of Mayor DeVries and her incredible contribution.

Ms. Leighann Pope, testified that she is concerned about what is happening nationally where there appears to be more mandates and lockdowns; noted regardless of where council members stand on Palmer's economy and local business, it should be remembered that Palmer is the way it is because we are free; we need to stay free and have choices; none of the decisions regarding businesses and the economy are going to matter if those decisions don't keep Palmer free.

Ms. Donna Anthony, retired City of Palmer Police Department, spoke in support of Mayor DeVries, emphasizing she has made a big impact in our community; noted listening to our youth talk how they learned about Constitution, Bill of Rights, Freedom – this is what America is all about; thinks what Mayor DeVries is doing as a leader is fantastic and supports her to stay on for Palmer and supports her run for Mat-Su Mayor.

There being no other coming forward, Mayor DeVries closed Audience Participation at 8:30 p.m.

**M. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** There was no Executive Session.

**N. COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Council member Daniels thanked everyone who came out and testified; appreciates that Palmer, despite our differences sometimes, we can come together as a community.

Council member Best also spoke in appreciation of everyone testifying, speaking of peace and letting their voices be heard; and thank you to the Mayor for staying on.

**O. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before the City Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

**APPROVED this 14th day of September, 2021.**

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Nichole Degner, Interim City Clerk

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Edna B. DeVries, Mayor