

A. CALL TO ORDER:

A regular meeting of the Palmer City Council was held on February 8, 2022, in the Council Chambers, Palmer, Alaska. Mayor Carrington called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL:

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

Steve Carrington, Mayor	Brian Daniels
Pamela Melin, Deputy Mayor	Richard Best (on Zoom)
Jill Valerius (on Zoom)	

Council Members Carolina Anzilotti & Sabrena Combs were absent and excused.

Staff in attendance were the following:

John Moosey, City Manager	Shelly M. Acteson, CMC, City Clerk
Sarah Heath, City Attorney	

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a) **Action Memorandum No. 22-011:** To Authorize the City Manager to Sign Amendment No. 4 to the Contract for Services with Green Garden Services in the Amount of \$47,125 to Reflect 2022 Payments
 - b) **Action Memorandum No. 22-012:** accepting the Mat-Su Foundation Health and Wellness of Alaskans Discretionary Grant for \$1,000 Towards the Development of a Courtyard Concept for the Palmer Public Library Entryway and Modifying the Sidewalks for Ease of Use for Patrons, Snow Removal, Relocating the Flag and Modifying and Securing the Retaining Wall.
 - c) Introduction and Setting a Public Hearing Date for February 22, 2022, for **Ordinance 22-001:** An Ordinance of the Palmer City Council Enacting Palmer Municipal Code Chapter 12.30 City of Palmer Parks, Recreational Facilities and Outdoor Facilities Donation/Memorial Policy
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a) January 11, 2022, Regular Meeting
 - b) January 25, 2022, Regular Meeting

Council member Valerius requested to move Action memorandum No. 22-011 under New Business on the agenda. There was no objection.

Main Motion: To approve the Consent Agenda as amended and Minutes.

Moved by:	Melin
Seconded by:	Valerius
Vote:	Unanimous
Action:	Motion Carried

E. COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS

1. Presentation from the Alaska Department of Transportation (DOT) – Glenn Highway Phase III Overview – Clint Adler, Dennis Linnell and Rori Van Nortwick
 - DOT, Mat-Su area Director Clint Adler introduced himself and announced there was a new district office off Seward Meridian Road.
 - Dennis Linnell provided an overview of the upcoming project of the Glenn Hwy phase.

F. REPORTS

City Manager’s Report

City Manager John Moosey reported on the following:

- Hockey event over the weekend
- Trying to build a relationship with the Seattle Kraken
- The cost to redo the census for the City of Palmer
- FAA event March 4th will be happening at the Palmer Airport
- Bidding out services and broadcasting for City Council meetings
- United Way representative had a last-minute conflict and they will be attending the March 22nd meeting

Council Member Daniels asked about the public calling in for meetings.

Mayor’s Report

Mayor Carrington reported on the following:

- Council to review Golden Heart award and submit to Clerk for review at next meeting
- A group of home-schooled students had a tour of City Hall and then attended an event sponsored by Governor Dunleavy

Palmer Fire Chief Chad shared the story of Certificate of Bravery Award recipient Jackson Gerard who saved his family from a home fire. Mayor Carrington presented a Certificate of Bravery to Jackson in his honor.

Council Member Daniels requested to reconsider a vote that was taken during the March 22 Council Meeting that failed. The vote was to put the memorial plaque memorializing “The Hammer” at the MTA Event Center. The Clerk stated that the parliamentary procedure request to reconsider the vote should have taken place during the January 22 meeting. Council Member Daniels requested to resolve this issue during the meeting tonight.

Council Member Best spoke against the reconsideration as the issue of placing the plaque back up was not directly listed on the agenda and reminded Council that the body can direct the Manager not the Staff.

Discussion followed and the City Attorney recommended that this issue be placed on the February 22 meeting agenda.

Mayor Carrington called for a brief recess.

City Attorney Sarah Heath stated the Council can give direction to the City Manager, possibly in the form of directing the Manager to put the memorial plaque back up at the MTA Events Center.

Discussion followed about resolving and addressing the plaque placement issue.

City Clerk's Report

City Clerk Shelly Acteson reported on the following:

- Provided an overview of the upcoming April 19 Special Election.

City Attorney Report

City Attorney Sarah Heath reported on the following:

- Presented an overview on state statute as it pertains to recalls and special elections.

G. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Diane Firmani:

- Addressed the memorial plaque and the unprofessional way the process was handled.
- Noted that a shadow box in the MTA Events Center in memorial of a hockey player was hung up without following code
- Emphasized that was handled poorly by the Community Development Director and she was treated unsympathetically concerning the removal of the plaque.

Jeanne Troshynski:

- Spoke in favor rehangng the plaque at the Event Center, in honor of Dave "The Hammer" Hanson.

Jackie Goforth:

- Commented on N95 masks.
- Played a recording from Justin Castro.
- Apologized for attacking one individual council member.

Council Member Valerius requested that the public not personally attack council members during Audience Participation.

Michelle Kruger:

- Commented on the No Palmer Recall website.

Cindy Hudgins:

- Expressed misunderstanding with the memorial plaque issue.
- Questioned if the council members subject to recall really care about Palmer.

Stan George:

- Request the Council approve rehangng the memorial plaque for Dave Hanson.
- Acknowledged the need for a formal memorial plaque placement process.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. **Resolution No. 22-007:** Accepting and Appropriating Healthy & Equitable Communities Grant Funds from the State of Alaska, Department of Health and Social Services, and Division of Public Health in the Amount of \$42,080.80 to Provide Support to the Community for COVID-19 Response and Mitigation Activities.

Mayor Carrington opened the public hearing on Resolution No. 22-007.

The Council requested a staff report from the Manager. City Manager Moosey gave an explanation of proposed expenditures for the grant funds.

Mike Chmielewski:

- Expressed support for Resolution No. 22-007.
- Provided a historical overview of Radio Free Palmer.

Dickey Hudgins:

- Expressed displeasure with Resolution 22-007, and stated he had Covid and has better immunity than anyone who got the "jab".
- Requested Council use the grants funds for a different project.

Cindy Hudgins:

- Stated that she does not understand Covid mitigation, and the City using those funds to control and mandate people.

Erik Anderson:

- Believes that there are a lot of people that cannot afford internet and investing in communication for the City of Palmer is a good step, while modernizing us towards the future.

Main Motion: To Adopt Resolution No. 22-007

Moved by:	Daniels
Seconded by:	Valerius
Vote:	Unanimous
Action:	Motion Carried

I. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **Action Memorandum 22-009:** Approving a Council Community Grant to United Way of Mat-Su

Main Motion: To Post Pone until February 22nd Action Memorandum No. 22-009

Moved by:	Melin
Seconded by:	Valerius
Vote:	Unanimous
Action:	Motion Carried

J. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Action Memorandum No. 22-011:** To Authorize the City Manager to Sign Amendment No. 4 to the Contract for Services with Green Garden Services in the Amount of \$47,125 to Reflect 2022 Payments

Main Motion: To Approve Action Memorandum No. 22-009, as amended

Moved by:	Valerius
Seconded by:	Melin
Vote:	Unanimous
Action:	Motion Carried

Discussion followed concerning the fact that the Green Garden Services did not have a current State of Alaska business license.

Amended Motion: To Amend Action Memorandum No. 22-009, by requiring that the vendor obtain or update their State of Alaska business license

Moved by:	Best
Seconded by:	Melin
Vote:	Unanimous
Action:	Motion Carried

K. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE

1. Letter and documents from Jackie Goforth

L. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Mayor Carrington reminded the Council that they would be held to a higher standard but expects decency and order from the public.

Jacki Goforth:

- Read from comments on the NoPalmerRecall website.

Michelle Kruger:

- Continued reading dialogue from NoPalmerRecall website.

Cindy Hudgins:

- Noted the Frontiersman had titled her "Activist".
- Mentioned a Frontiersman journalist had been dishonest.
- Questioned the loyalty to Palmer of the council members subject to recall.

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

N. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Best:

- Provided historical information on memorial plaques.
- Suggested that the Council find a way to establish a memorial park for the future.

Council Member Valerius:

- Requested support to direct the City Manager rehang the David Hanson memorial plaque on the referee door at the MTA Events Center. Council Member Daniels offered support.

Council Member Best objected to the request, and discussion ensued regarding the Council's ability to direct the Manager, and appropriateness of the requested direction. City Attorney Heath explained that the Council as a collective body, can direct the Manager to rehang the plaque.

Main Motion: To Direct the City Manager to permanently rehang the Dave Hanson memorial plaque in the MTA Events Center

Moved by:	Valerius
Seconded by:	Melin
Vote:	4/1, with Best voting NO
Action:	Motion Carried

Council Member Valerius:

- Congratulated Jackson Gerard on his Bravery Award.
- Welcomed the new restaurant "The Fern" to the community.

Council Member Daniels:

- Reiterated Council Member Valerius' congratulatory comments
- Apologized to Mrs. Firmani for the lengthy process to get the plaque rehung.

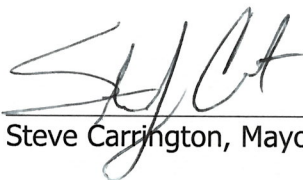
Deputy Mayor Melin:

- Thank you to everyone who attended tonight
- Would like to see strategic planning projects, ethics training, and the RFP for broadcasting services on an upcoming agenda soon.
- Conveyed praise for Jackson Gerard and hoped to see him in a future role as a firefighter
- Apologized to Diane Firmani for the delay in action regarding the memorial plaque.

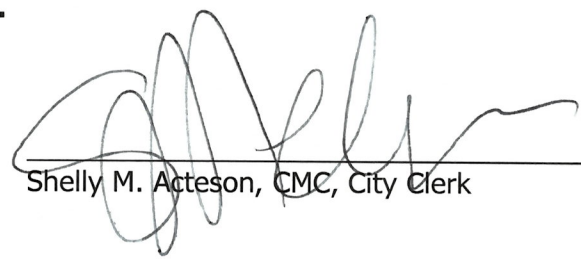
O. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

APPROVED this 22nd day of February, 2022.



Steve Carrington, Mayor



Shelly M. Acteson, CMC, City Clerk