

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Palmer City Council was held on April 9, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Palmer, Alaska. Mayor DeVries called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Edna DeVries, Mayor
Julie Berberich
Steve Carrington
Linda Combs

Sabrena Combs
David Fuller
Pete LaFrance, Deputy Mayor

Staff in attendance were the following:

Nathan Wallace, City Manager
Norma I. Alley, MMC, City Clerk
Michael Gatti, City Attorney (Participated Telephonically)

Angie Anderson, Deputy City Clerk
Brad Hanson, Community Development Director

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a. Introduction of **Ordinance No. 19-004**: Amending Palmer Municipal Code Chapter 5.28 Pertaining to Roving Vendors and Retitling it to Itinerant Vendors
 - b. **Action Memorandum No. 19-041**: Confirming the Mayor's Nomination of Casey Peterson to the Planning and Zoning Commission with a Term Ending October 31, 2021
2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings
 - a. March 12, 2019, Regular Meeting
 - b. March 26, 2019, Regular Meeting

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

Moved by:	Fuller
Seconded by:	L. Combs
In favor:	Berberich, Carrington, L. Combs, S. Combs, DeVries, Fuller, LaFrance
Opposed:	None
Action:	Motion Carried

E. COMMUNICATIONS AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS

1. Presentation of a Proclamation to the Palmer High School eSports Team for their Achievement in Competing in the 2018 Fall Overwatch National Championships Invitational

Mayor Devries read and presented the proclamation to the Palmer High School eSports Team.

2. Presentation of a Proclamation Recognizing Education and Sharing Day

Mayor DeVries read and presented the proclamation to Rabbi Mendi Greensburg recognizing Education and Sharing Day. Rabbi Greenberg spoke on the importance of education, character building and communities supporting the young people.

F. REPORTS

1. City Manager's Report

City Manager Wallace highlighted his written report and stated:

- Street sweepers would begin soon;
- Police foot patrol had resumed;
- Construction season had started;
- Palmer Golf Course is open; and
- His recent radio interview was available on the Radio Free Palmer website.

2. City Clerk's Report

City Clerk Alley highlighted her written report.

3. Mayor's Report

Mayor DeVries highlighted her written report and announced she would be attending the Palmer High School graduation, so she would be absent from the May 14 meeting.

4. City Attorney's Report

None.

G. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Dr. Jill Valerius spoke to the Palmer Spring Classic bike event and encouraged the Council to approve the Council Community Grant.

Mr. Mike Chmielewski thanked the Council for considering changing some of the short-term rental language.

Mrs. Lee Henrikson asked for Colony High School graduation be included in list of events for the Council.

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Advisory Board Member Stephanie Allen announced funding had been secured through THRIVE, Palmer Community Foundation, and Palmer Rotary in the amount of \$13,000.00 for lighting improvements at local parks.

Mr. Larry Hill spoke to the thirty-day duration for of short-term rental stays as being too long and encouraged the Council to find a way to enforce the current ordinances.

H. PUBLIC HEARING

1. **Ordinance No. 19-003:** Amending Palmer Municipal Code Section 17.89.060(E) and Section 17.89.070(F) Relating to Short Term Rentals

Mayor DeVries opened the public hearing on Ordinance No. 19-003.

Deputy Mayor LaFrance asked for definitions be given on the short-term rental language. Community Development Director Bard Hanson spoke to the definitions and brought clarity to the ordinance.

Mr. Dean Phipps stated he supported the conditional use permit process, encouraged the Council to adopt Ordinance No. 19-003, and felt it will benefit Palmer by giving more opportunities for people to stay in the area as there are limited hotel options in the city.

Ms. Cassy Campbell spoke in favor of Ordinance No. 19-003 and asked the Council to adopt the ordinance.

Mayor DeVries closed the public hearing.

Main Motion: To Adopt Ordinance No. 19-003

Moved by:	S. Combs
Seconded by:	Fuller
In favor:	Berberich, S. Combs, Fuller, LaFrance
Opposed:	Carrington, L. Combs, DeVries
Action:	Motion Carried

Discussion ensued regarding the amount of time that was allowed for a single stay and potential impacts on allowing short-term rentals in the R-1 Zone.

Primary Amendment #1: To Postpone Ordinance No. 19-003 to April 23 and Set it to a Second Public Hearing

Moved by:	Carrington
Seconded by:	L. Combs
In favor:	Carrington, L. Combs, DeVries,
Opposed:	Berberich, S. Combs, Fuller, LaFrance
Action:	Motion Failed

Vote on Main Motion: To Adopt Ordinance No. 19-003

In favor:	Berberich, S. Combs, Fuller, LaFrance
Opposed:	Carrington, L. Combs, DeVries
Action:	Motion Carried

- Resolution No. 19-012:** Accepting and Appropriating the 2019 Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant from the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry in the Amount of \$3,641.06 for the Purchase of Wildland Firefighting Equipment

Mayor DeVries opened the public hearing on Resolution No. 19-012. Seeing no one come forward to speak and hearing no objection from the Council, the public hearing was closed.

Main Motion: To Approve Resolution No. 19-012

Moved by:	S. Combs
Seconded by:	Fuller
In favor:	Berberich, Carrington, L. Combs, S. Combs, DeVries, Fuller, LaFrance
Opposed:	None
Action:	Motion Carried

I. NEW BUSINESS

- Action Memorandum No. 19-042:** Approving a Council Community Grant in the Amount of \$1,000.00 to the Palmer Spring Classic Organizers to Support the Palmer Spring Classic 2019 Bike Event

Council Member Berberich was recused due to her business being the primary sponsor for the event.

Main Motion: To Approve Action Memorandum No. 19-042

Moved by:	L. Combs
Seconded by:	Carrington
In favor:	Carrington, L. Combs, S. Combs, DeVries, Fuller, LaFrance
Opposed:	None
Abstained:	Berberich
Action:	Motion Carried

J. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE

City Clerk Alley stated the Education and Sharing Day brochure, Palmer Municipal Code handout pertaining to conditional use permits, and a petition provided by Mr. Larry Hill were the Items Placed on the Table.

K. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Mr. Mike Chmielewski asked for clarification on the amount of time one can rent their short-term rental.

Mr. Dean Phipps spoke to the parking for short-term rentals being a valid concern.

Mr. Larry Hill invited the Council to the 49th State Street Rodders’ indoor car show held on May 3-5 at the Palmer Ice Arena.

L. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Council Member Berberich thanked the Council for approving Action Memorandum No. 19-042, stated she believed in the conditional use permits process, and felt short-term rentals would be valuable for Palmer.

Deputy Mayor LaFrance thanked the city for the flowers sent after his recent injury, was glad to hear the city manager was bringing back police foot patrols, and encouraged the city manager to consider bike patrols.

Council Member S. Combs reported citizens expressed they were pleased with police presence at the Amusement Park and announced she would be doing clean up at the arboretum in honor of Arbor Day May 20, 2019.

Council Member L. Combs stated she was grateful for all the city offers for events and drawing people to the city.

M. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Approved this 23rd day of April, 2019.

Norma I. Alley, MMC, City Clerk

Edna B. DeVries, Mayor