

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Palmer City Council was held on July 24, 2018, 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	Richard W. Best, Deputy Mayor
Steve Carrington	Linda Combs
Sabrena Combs	David Fuller (participated telephonically)

Council Member Pete LaFrance was absent and excused.

Staff in attendance were the following:

Nathan Wallace, City Manager	Norma I. Alley, MMC, City Clerk
Michael Gatti, City Attorney	Angie Anderson, Deputy City Clerk

**C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

**D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

1. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings
  - a. June 12, 2018, Regular Meeting
  - b. June 26, 2018, Regular Meeting
  - c. July 10, 2018, Regular Meeting

**Main Motion: To Approve Agenda and Minutes**

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

**E. COMMUNICATIONS AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS**

1. Presentation of a Proclamation to Kristie Bernier for Achievement as Emmy Award Winner

Mayor DeVries read and presented a proclamation recognizing Kristie Bernier for receiving an Emmy Award for her work on the historical documentary *True North - The Story of ASRC* (Arctic Slope Regional Corporation).

## 2. Presentation from Board of Economic Development Chair Dusty Silva

Board of Economic Development Chair Dusty Silva reported:

- Three seats have expiring terms in October;
- The Depot rental policy was reviewed and five categories were implemented for guidance in the reservation process;
- Meeting times were moved to 6:00 p.m. to allow for longer meetings as they are lasting about three hours;
- The Strategic Plan would be reviewed and presented to the Council;
- Review of short term rentals would be the focus for the next few months;
- Recent staff transition had brought new perspective and good questions for discussion at each meeting; and
- Pavilion usage guidelines were being drafted for future approval.

Deputy Mayor Best stated the BED meetings had been productive and appreciated the hard work of the board and chair.

Mayor DeVries expressed gratitude to the board members for their hard work and encouraged current members to reapply.

## F. REPORTS

### 1. City Manager's Report

City Manager Wallace highlighted his written report and announced:

- The City Hall front entrance was open and all that remains is the stair rail to be installed;
- \$519,000.00 was awarded from an FAA Airport Improvement Grant;
- Palmer Amusement Park received fresh mulch and Darren Park would be receiving new mulch soon, which was created with recycling's from the Palmer Clean Up Day;
- Quality Asphalt and Paving was awarded the contract for upcoming Glenn Highway Projects; and
- No road or utility work, impeding traffic would be done during the Alaska State Fair and work would resume after Labor Day.

### 2. City Clerk's Report

City Clerk Alley announced new Planning and Zoning Commission members were sworn in at their July 19 meeting; Parks and Recreation Cultural Advisory Board Member Heather Kelley would take her Oath of Office on August 2; candidacy filing would be closing Friday, July 27, at 4:00 p.m.; and Palmer had the needed poll workers for the October election.

### 3. Mayor's Report

Mayor DeVries highlighted her written report and announced:

- She and Deputy Mayor Best attended the Friendship Park ribbon cutting on July 22;
- Senator Shelley Hughes was to be the speaker at "Best in the Valley" awards night on July 31, at the Palmer Depot;
- Input was requested from the Council for questions to be submitted to AML in reference to Ballot Measure One;
- Charter College's interest in volunteer opportunities for students to aid the city of Palmer;
- Council Members were invited to celebrate the passage of SB 63 Smoke Free Workplace law at Mat-Su Health Foundation on August 3; and
- She recently joined Palmer police chief at a meeting to address concerned citizens about prisoners released in Palmer and the affects to the community.

Council Member L. Combs commented she had heard from citizens that there was a perception of increased crime and homelessness in the community.

4. City Attorney's Report

City Attorney reported crime, car theft, homelessness, and drug use were widespread and hoped the state and city can increase its resources to combat the problem.

**G. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

None.

**H. PUBLIC HEARING**

- 1. **Resolution No. 18-001-A:** Amending the Budget for the City of Palmer, Alaska for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2018

Mayor DeVries opened the public hearing on Resolution No. 18-001-A, 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. 18-001-A**

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

**I. NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Committee of the Whole: Discuss 2019 Budget Priorities (note: action may be taken by the council following the committee of the whole)

The Council entered into a Committee of the Whole at 8:02 p.m.

Mayor DeVries called a recess at 8:05 p.m. Mayor DeVries called the meeting to order in Committee of the Whole at 8:15 p.m.

Topics addressed in the Committee of the Whole included:

- Budget planning and direction for 2019;
- Possible future revenue from internet sales tax;
- Possible future revenue from glass recycling for roads, sidewalks, and parks;
- Offering citizens yard waste collection more often; and
- Economic growth and future annexation.

Deputy Mayor Best inquired about the state and condition of the golf carts at the Palmer Golf Course, furthering the bike lane to Helen Road near Friendship Park, adding a park in the Hidden Ranch Subdivision, and requested City Manager Wallace look into possibilities of purchasing property in the area. Council Member L. Combs stated support.

Council Member Fuller expressed interest in the annexation of Whispering Winds. Deputy Mayor Best agreed and stated he believed looking into annexation was important.

The Council adjourned from Committee of the Whole at 8:52 p.m. and reconvened the Regular Meeting.

## **J. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE**

City Clerk Alley reported communication from AML on Ballot Measure One was an Item Placed on the Table.

## **K. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

None.

## **L. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

Council Member S. Combs thanked Board of Economic Development Chair Dusty Silva for the report, congratulated Kristy Bernier on her Emmy Award, and thanked the Garden and Art Faire volunteers.

Council Member L. Combs stated she hoped to see all at the Palmer Pride Picnic on July 27, expressed gratitude for police and fire for their hard work, and announced she was grateful to live in a community where public safety is of the utmost importance.

Deputy Mayor Best stated he was misquoted in the paper regarding his comments at the last meeting towards MEA.

Council Member Carrington thanked Chair Dusty Silva for her report.

Council Member Fuller thanked Chair Dusty Silva and encouraged the Board of Economic Development to keep up the good work as it is appreciated.

## **M. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

**Approved this 14<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2018.**

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Norma I. Alley, MMC, City Clerk

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Edna B. DeVries, Mayor