
Special Joint Board of Economic Development Meeting
February 7, 2017

A. CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the Joint Board of Economic Development and the Palmer City Council was held on February 7, 2017, at 7:00 pm in the council chambers, Palmer, Alaska.

Mayor DeVries called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Edna DeVries, Mayor	Richard Best
Steve Carrington	David Fuller
Brad Hanson	Peter LaFrance

Deputy Mayor Linda Combs was absent and excused.

Comprising a quorum of the Board of Economic Development, the following were present:

LaMarr Anderson, Chair	Dusty Silva, Vice Chair
Christopher Chappel	Peter Christopher
Lorie Koppenberg	Tendra Nicodemus

Board of Economic Development Member Janet Kincaid was absent and excused.

Also in attendance were the following:

Nathan Wallace, City Manager	Sandra Garley, Community Development Director
Norma I. Alley, MMC, City Clerk	Michael Gatti, City Attorney

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor DeVries requested Approval of the Agenda be added to the agenda. Hearing no objection from the Council and Board concerning the agenda, the agenda was approved.

E. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

F. NEW BUSINESS

Item 1 – Committee of the Whole (note: action may be taken by the council following the committee of the whole)

- a. Discussion on the Economic Development Strategy
- b. Presentation on Open Meeting Act
- c. Other Matters Related to the Board of Economic Development

Main Motion: For City Council to Enter into a Committee of the Whole

Moved by:	Best
Seconded by:	Fuller
Action:	Motion carried
In favor:	Best, Carrington, DeVries, Fuller, Hanson, LaFrance
Opposed:	None
Absent:	Combs

Main Motion: For the Board of Economic Development to Enter into a Committee of the Whole

Moved by:	Koppenberg
Seconded by:	Chappel
Action:	Motion carried
In favor:	Anderson, Chappel, Christopher, Koppenberg, Nicodemus, Silva
Opposed:	None
Absent:	Kincaid

The Council and Board entered into a Committee of the Whole at 7:15 pm.

1.a. Discussion on the Economic Development Strategy

Items of discussion included the following:

- Summarized each of the goals in the Strategy;
- Direction from Council on each goal and objective for what updates the Board was to focus on;
- Direction from Council on ensuring the goals and objective are specific and measurable;
- Suggested the Board look at a vision and mission and then use that as a starting point to develop the Strategy's goals and objectives;
- Draft updated vision statement developed (see below); and
- Mechanism the Board is utilizing to notify the Council of their actions and recommendations to Council.

Current vision statement from the Strategy is as follows:

To promote and strengthen a vibrant economy where governmental and educational institutions, transportation and utility infrastructure, traditional and high-tech industry, tourism and shopping complement the cultural and historic charm of Palmer and celebrates its importance as the agricultural center of Alaska.

A draft updated vision statement drafted is as follows:

Palmer is the institutional hub in the MSB and an emerging center of high tech industry in Alaska. Palmer encourages this through modern infrastructure, professional city services, and planned development. To enhance the attractiveness of Palmer this includes promoting a historical charm, agriculture, tourism, and local shopping.

1.b. Presentation on Open Meeting Act

Items of discussion included the following:

- Public participation requirements;
- Meeting notices, advertisements, and proceeding records;
- Agenda requirements;
- Matters of executive session;

- Quasi-Judicial rights;
- Quorum constituting a meeting; and
- Serial Meetings.

1.c. Other Matters Related to the Board of Economic Development - None

The Council and Board exited the Committee of the Whole and reconvened the regular meeting at 9:02 pm.

G. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE

None

H. COUNCIL AND COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

Commission Chair LaMarr Anderson expressed appreciation for all the direction provided to the Board and stated he looked forward to the opportunity to work with the Council on developing the goals and objectives.

Commission Vice Chair Dusty Silva and Commissioners Chappel, Koppenberg, and Nicodemus expressed their appreciation to the Council for their time to meet with the Board and provide valuable direction.

Council Member Carrington:

- Stated he values the Board and all their hard work;
- Expressed appreciation for their focus on economic development, which is vital for the city as the economy and sales tax are the city's primary revenue source; and
- Recognized their dedication to the community.

Council Member LaFrance shared his appreciation of the Board's focus on quality of life and the clear message set forth in the Economic Development Strategy.

Council Member Best expressed appreciation for all board member's efforts and patience with the Open Meeting Act and requested the Council discuss an update to the Comprehensive Plan.

Mayor DeVries thanked the Board of Economic Development Members for their time, efforts, and hard work.

I. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:12 pm.

Approved by the City Council on this 13th day of February, 2018.

Norma I. Alley, MMC, City Clerk

Edna DeVries, Mayor

Approved by the Board of Economic Development this 5th day of March, 2018.

David Meneses, Community Development Director

Dusty Silva, Board of Economic Development Chair