

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Palmer City Council was held on February 28, 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	Linda Combs, Deputy Mayor
Richard Best	Steve Carrington
David Fuller	Brad Hanson
Peter LaFrance	

Also in attendance were the following:

Nathan Wallace, City Manager	Norma I. Alley, MMC, City Clerk
Michael Gatti, City Attorney	Bernadette Packa, CMC, Deputy City Clerk

**C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Carrington.

**D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

1. Approval of Consent Agenda
  - a. Introduction of **Ordinance No. 17-004**: Amending Palmer Municipal Code Sections 4.30.100 Personal Leave Donations (IM No. 17-01)
  - b. **Action Memorandum No. 17-012**: Authorize the City Manager to Purchase Two New Police Patrol Vehicles and Equipment in the Amount of \$89,208.00, as Approved by the 2017 Budget, and to Purchase the Vehicles Under the Governmental and Proprietary Procurements Section of Palmer Municipal Code 3.21.230, by Attaching to the State of Alaska Contract Pricing

**Main Motion: To Approve Consent Agenda as Amended Including the Movement of Item H. 3. to Position H. 1.**

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

**E. COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS**

## **F. REPORTS**

### **Item 1 – City Manager’s Report**

City Manager Nathan Wallace:

- Highlighted his written projects report;
- Provided an update on progress with the Dispatch Center transition;
- Commented on meeting with the Greater Palmer Fire Service to extend the contract for a few additional months;
- Noted the arrival of the two new fire trucks;
- Shared about his trip to Juneau;
- Highlighted the introduction of the new City Wellness Program;
- Commented on the Department Of Transportation property acquisition and the pursuit of a commercial property analysis;
- Commented on discussion with the Matsu Borough concerning parks projects;
- Thanked Public Works for their continued work in keeping Palmer Alaska at its Best in snow removal; and
- Spoke to the Grand Opening of the new Fred Meyer’s.

Council Member Best requested support to have City Manager Wallace contact the Department of Natural Resources to determine if the grant is still available for purchase of the Kopperud property. Council Member LaFrance provided support.

### **Item 2 – City Clerk’s Report**

City Clerk Norma Alley:

- Presented a Certified Municipal Clerk Designation plaque to Deputy Clerk Bernadette Packa.

### **Item 3 – Mayor’s Report**

Mayor DeVries:

- Highlighted her written memo;
- Addressed the Town Hall scheduled for March 4, to discuss Senate Bill 91;
- Commented on her discussion with Governor Walker concerning the loss of Department of Environmental Conservation funding for the City sewer project;
- Highlighted her trip to Juneau;
- Spoke to the scheduled Fred Meyer Reception on Thursday and the Ribbon Cutting on Friday;
- Commented on Shelley Hughes planned telephonic attendance of the March 14, Regular City Council Meeting; and
- Provided highlights from the February 25, 2017, Fireman’s Dinner.

Council Member Hanson expressed his appreciation of Mr. Daniel Contini for his work in developing Palmer’s Volunteer Fire Department.

Deputy Mayor Combs commented on the hundreds of volunteer hours put in by members of the Volunteer Fire Department each year.

### **Item 4 – City Attorney’s Report**

Michael Gatti:

- Spoke to a financial presentation to be made by Attorney Cynthia Cartledge to provide clarification on the Utility Revenue Bond.

## G. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Eugene Carl Haberman:

- Addressed concerns regarding Valley Delegation Town Halls; and
- Reminded everyone the purpose of a Town Hall Meeting was to hear what the public had to say.

Jack Snodgrass:

- Spoke against the Planning and Zoning Commissions change of density requirements independent of the City Council.

Brooke Steinke, Museum Services Visitor Coordinator:

- Highlighted Museum and Visitor Center numbers for the year; and
- Spoke to the development of an Audio Walking Tour funded by a Rasmussen Grant.

## H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

**Item 1 – Resolution No. 17-012:** Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of a Utility Revenue Bond by the City in the Principal Amount of Not to Exceed \$4,816,000.00 and the Borrowing of Said Amount for Purposes of Financing Wastewater Utility Improvements; Establishing the Terms of the Utility Revenue Bond; and Related Matters (IM No. 17-012)

Mayor DeVries opened the public hearing.

Eugene Carl Haberman:

- Expressed concern over the resolution not having been introduced prior to being brought for a public hearing; and
- Requested the financial presentation providing details on the Utility Revenue Bond be made prior to the public being given a chance to speak.

Hearing no objection from the council, the public hearing was closed.

Council Member Hanson requested the public hearing be reopened in order for the public to hear the financing information to be presented and have an opportunity to speak on the issue. Council Member Best offered his support.

City Manager Wallace pointed out the legislation was only for the security of the loan.

Attorney Cynthia Cartledge addressed the terms and conditions of the bond, noted the bond will be issued pursuant to the voter authorizations of 2011 and 2016, and fielded questions from the Council.

Mayor DeVries reopened the public hearing.

Eugene Carl Haberman:

- Expressed concerns regarding a possible shortfall;
- Requested an additional public hearing; and
- Requested the project details, costs, and schedule be provided to the public before that hearing.

Hearing no objection from the council, the public hearing was closed.

Council Member Hanson asked why the Summary Statement of the Information Memorandum did not include more of the details.

City Manager Wallace noted the majority of the information was in the packet, but may not have been specifically included in the Summary Statement.

**Main Motion: To Approve Resolution No. 17-012**

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

**Item 2 – Ordinance No. 17-002:** Amending Palmer Municipal Code Chapter 12.24.025.E Regarding Firearms in City Parks, Amending 12.24.025.J. Animals in Parks and Recreational Facilities, Adding 12.24.025.M. Establishing Hours During Which Parks are Closed, Adding 12.24.025.N Establishing Quiet Hours in Parks; and Amending 12.24.030 to Update Park Use Permits Process (IM No. 17-004) (2<sup>nd</sup> Public Hearing) (Pending Motion)

Mayor DeVries opened the public hearing.

Eugene Carl Haberman:

- Stressed the need for an additional public hearing on the matter.

Hearing no objection from the council, the public hearing was closed.

Mayor DeVries announced there was a pending motion on the floor. Discussion by the Council ensued.

**Main Motion: To Adopt Ordinance No. 17-002 as Amended**

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

The council took a recess from 8:48 pm to 8:54 pm.

**Item 3 – Ordinance No. 17-003:** Repealing Ordinance No. 428 and Adopting Palmer Municipal Code Title 7, Airport Regulations (IM No. 17-006)

Mayor DeVries opened the public hearing.

Eugene Carl Haberman:

- Noted more public hearings were in order on the issue; and
- Expressed a need for the Airport Advisory Commission to hold a public hearing on the issue before sending it to the council for approval.

Hearing no objection from the council, the public hearing was closed.

Mayor DeVries read the Summary Statement from IM No. 17-003 providing clarification to the public concerning questions raised during the public hearing.

City Manager Wallace provided an overview to the Council of the changes made to Ordinance No. 17-003 following the review done by the Joint City Council and Airport Advisory Commission at the January 17, 2017 meeting.

Council Member Hanson noted additional situations not addressed in Section 7.90.060 and spoke to clarifying those issues prior to adopting the ordinance.

**Main Motion: To Adopt Ordinance No. 17-003**

Moved by:	Combs
Seconded by:	Fuller
Action:	
In favor:	
Opposed:	

**Motion to Postpone: To Postpone and be Brought Back Before the Council at City Manager Wallace’s Discretion**

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

**Item 4 – Resolution No. 16-001-C:** Amending the Budget for the City of Palmer, Alaska for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2016 (IM No. 16-047)

Mayor DeVries opened the public hearing.

Eugene Carl Haberman:

- Encouraged two public hearings be held for budget amendments; and
- Pointed out the public should be allowed to speak after Council discussion on the issue.

Hearing no objection from the council, the public hearing was closed.

Mayor DeVries noted the budget amendment was for the 2016 calendar year. The amendment reflected additional funds due in 2016 which were collected since the end of the year.

**Main Motion: To Approve Resolution No. 16-001-C**

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

**I. ACTION MEMORANDA**

**Item 1 – Action Memorandum No. 17-013:** Authorize the City Manager to Sign Amendment No. 5 to the Palmer Museum of History and Art Contract for Curatorial, Archival and Museum Services to Reflect Payments for 2017

Council Member Fuller noted prior membership on the Board for the Museum of History and Art prior to his election to the City Council in 2016.

**Main Motion: To Authorize Action Memorandum No. 17-013**

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

Council Member Hanson encouraged the City Manager to have the Palmer Museum of History and Art provide an Annual Work Plan presentation during budget season.

**Item 2 - Action Memorandum No. 17-014:** Authorize the City Manager to Sign Amendment No. 2 to the Visitors Information Services Contract Awarded to the Palmer Museum of History and Art to Reflect Payments for 2017

**Main Motion: To Authorize Action Memorandum No. 17-014**

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

**Item 3 - Action Memorandum No. 17-015:** Authorize the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute a Contract with the Matanuska Susitna Borough (MSB) for Animal Control Services

**Main Motion: To Authorize Action Memorandum No. 17-015**

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

**Item 4 – Action Memorandum No. 17-016:** Approve a Council Community Grant in the Amount of \$465.00 to Palmer High School to Support Rockin’ Hockey 2017

**Main Motion: To Authorize Action Memorandum No. 17-016**

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

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

Palmer Museum of History and Art Annual Report  
Audience Participation Comments from Jack Snodgrass  
Handouts provided by Council Member Fuller addressing Governor Walker’s Fiscal Plan

**K. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Timothy Rocky:

- Expressed appreciation to the Council for their support in keeping dogs off of the ball fields.

Eugene Carl Haberman:

- Spoke against use of the Consent Agenda for passing legislation since it occurs before the public has an opportunity to speak; and
- Spoke against changes made to the City website for posting agendas, packets, and minutes.

Mayor DeVries pointed out the Consent Agenda item Action Memorandum 17-012 was discussed at eight budget work sessions, which were all open to the public, as well as three public hearings.

## L. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Council Member LaFrance:

- Commented on the recent Orienteering Event and the Avalanche Center Fund Raiser;
- Expressed excitement about the museum's proposed walking tour; and
- Wished everyone a Happy Mardi Gras.

Council Member Best:

- Commented on his trip to Juneau;
- Encouraged everyone to be watchful on the snowy roads.

Council Member Hanson:

- Spoke to his planned attendance of the Fred Meyer Grand Opening.

Council Member Fuller:

- Commented on his trip to Juneau;
- Addressed a presentation he attended on Governor Walker's Fiscal Plan and documents supplied to him by the Alaska Municipal League; and
- Wished everyone a Happy Mardi Gras.

Deputy Mayor Combs:

- Commented on attendance at the Annual Chamber of Commerce meeting;
- Highlighted her attendance at the Annual Fundraiser for the Valley Recycling Center;
- Spoke to the Town Hall Meeting scheduled for March 4, at the Palmer Senior Center, addressing Senate Bill 91;
- Thanked Council Member Fuller for the budget documents brought back from Juneau; and
- Thanked the visiting college students for attending the meeting.

## M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. **Item 1** – Pending Litigation; Matters, the Immediate Knowledge of Which Would Clearly Have an Adverse Effect Upon the Finances of the City Concerning the Mountain Rose Estates Condominium Owners Association, Inc. vs. City of Palmer Superior Court No. 3PA-16-02060 CI (Note: City Council may take action following the executive session)

**Main Motion: To Enter into Executive Session to Discuss Pending Litigation; Matters, the Immediate Knowledge of Which Would Clearly Have an Adverse Effect Upon the Finances of the City Concerning the Mountain Rose Estates Condominium Owners Association, Inc. vs. City of Palmer Superior Court No. 3PA-16-02060 CI (Note: City Council may take action following the executive session)**

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

The Council took a recess at 9:53 p.m. and reconvened at 9:58 p.m.

The Council entered into Executive Session at 9:59 p.m. and exited at 10:59 p.m.

#### **N. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 10:59 pm.

**Approved this 28th day of March, 2017.**

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Norma I. Alley, MMC, City Clerk

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Edna B. DeVries, Mayor