

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Palmer City Council was held on April 25, 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
David Fuller
Peter LaFrance

Linda Combs, Deputy Mayor
Steve Carrington
Brad Hanson

Also in attendance were the following:

Nathan Wallace, City Manager
Michael Gatti, City Attorney

Norma I. Alley, MMC, City Clerk
Bernadette Packa, CMC, Deputy City Clerk

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Finance Director Esther Greene.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a. Introduction of **Ordinance No. 17-008**: Adopting a City of Palmer Parks, Recreation and Outdoor Facilities Memorial and Donation Policy
 - b. **Resolution No. 17-016**: Designating Authorized Signature for Check Signing Affecting Any and All Disbursements of City Monies for the General Checking Account, the Palmer Construction Account and Designating City Representative Who Are Authorized and Empowered to Execute and Deliver All Documentation and Instructions on City Investment Accounts
2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings
 - a. March 28, 2017, Regular Meeting

Main Motion: To Approve Consent Agenda and Minutes

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

E. COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS

Item 1 – Special Presentation of Proclamation Declaring the Week of May 21-27, as Public Works Week

Mayor DeVries read and presented the proclamation to members of the Public Works Department.

Item 2 – Special Presentation of Proclamation Declaring May as Bike Month

Mayor DeVries read the proclamation.

Item 3 – Special Presentation of Proclamation to Delaina Rachelle Pugh

Mayor DeVries read and presented the proclamation to Delaina Rachelle Pugh.

Item 4 – Special Presentation of Proclamation Recognizing Greg Dellinger’s Retirement

Mayor DeVries read and presented the proclamation to Greg Dellinger.

Item 5 – Special Presentation of Proclamation Recognizing Esther Greene’s Retirement

Mayor DeVries read and presented the proclamation to Esther Greene.

The Council took a brief recess from 7:18 pm to 7:32 pm to greet guests and enjoy cake and punch.

F. REPORTS

Item 1 – City Manager’s Report

City Manager Nathan Wallace:

- Highlighted his written report; and
- Noted official notice was provided to the Mat-Su Borough specifying a July 1, 2017, termination date for the Dispatch Contract.

Item 2 – City Clerk’s Report

City Clerk Norma Alley:

- Spoke to having become a Fully Commissioned Notary; and
- Reminded the Council of community events requiring an RSVP.

Item 3 – Mayor’s Report

Mayor DeVries:

- Highlighted her written report;
- Commented on attendance of a rally in support of the Palmer Veterans and Pioneer Home; and
- Spoke to upcoming events not in the written report.

Item 4 – City Attorney’s Report

Michael Gatti:

- Noted completion of the brief for the IT proposal appeal; and
- Spoke to meeting with parties involved with the PUD hearing and noted the possibility of an amicable resolution.

G. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Item 1 – Ordinance No. 17-007: Repealing Chapter 17.84 of the Palmer Municipal Code in its Entirety and Adopting a New Chapter 17.84 Planned Unit Development

Mayor DeVries requested a staff report. City Manager Wallace provided background on the development of the ordinance and noted it outlined the process for developers. City Attorney Gatti highlighted process changes and noted the issue of density was not addressed.

Mayor DeVries opened the public hearing.

Keith Morberg:

- Spoke in favor of placing the decision-making responsibility on the Council for a proposed PUD;
- Spoke against the elimination of the density requirement in the new ordinance; and
- Requested the existing density requirement be carried over into the new ordinance.

Robert Nilsen:

- Spoke against removing the existing density requirement from the ordinance.

Allan Linn:

- Commended the Council for becoming involved in the PUD decision making process;
- Noted the City's Comprehensive Plan was only goals; and
- Noted the Borough Comprehensive Plan was commented on in the City's Comprehensive Plan.

City Clerk Alley read written testimony received from Jack Snodgrass concerning Ordinance No. 17-007.

City Attorney Mike Gatti noted the Mat-Su Borough was the areawide planning authority, and the City's Comprehensive Plan was a component of the Mat-Su Borough's Comprehensive Plan.

Hearing no objections, Mayor DeVries closed the public hearing.

Main Motion: To Adopt Ordinance No. 17-007 as Amended

Moved by:	Hanson
Seconded by:	Carrington
Action:	
In favor:	
Opposed:	

Primary Amendment #1: To Insert the Underlined Portion into 17.84.010(C) Causing it to Read: Encourage creative approaches in land development that will result in a more efficient, desirable environment in harmony with that of the surrounding area, including but not limited to providing a higher population density and increased intensity of use than is permitted in the zone in which the project is located. However, the minimum lot area per dwelling unit in planned unit development shall not be less than the minimum lot area per dwelling unit in the R-4 High Density Residential District as listed in 17.27.060(C). Appropriate mixing of uses and alternative approaches to development are permitted through the PUD zoning district process; and

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

Motion to Postpone: To Postpone to May 9, 2017, and Include All Changes of the Amended Section in the Packet

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

I. ACTION MEMORANDA

Item 1 – Action Memorandum No. 17-030: Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract with Pinnacle Mechanical Inc., for Procurement and Installation of a New Boiler System at the City of Palmer Library, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$43,898.00

Mayor DeVries requested a staff report. City Manager Wallace provided an overview of the bid process and the number of bids received.

Main Motion: To Authorize Action Memorandum No. 17-030

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

Item 2 - Action Memorandum No. 17-031: Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract with Dirtworks Inc., for Installation of ADA Compliant Sidewalks and a Driveway in Accordance with City of Palmer Resolution No. 17-006 and the City of Palmer 2006 Comprehensive Plan, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$79,310.00

Mayor DeVries requested a staff report. City Manager Wallace provided an overview of the bid process and the number of responsive bids received.

Main Motion: To Authorize Action Memorandum No. 17-031

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

Item 3 - Action Memorandum No. 17-032: Approve a Council Community Grant in the Amount of \$2000.00 to Downtown Merchants Association to Support the April 28-29, 2017, Community Event “Who Let the Girls Out”

Council Member Fuller requested a staff report. City Manager Wallace provided the history behind the event and a recap of the City's past support.

Main Motion: To Authorize Action Memorandum No. 17-032

Moved by:	Combs
Seconded by:	Fuller
Action:	Motion carried with a 6-1 vote
In favor:	Best, Carrington, Combs, DeVries, Hanson, LaFrance
Opposed:	Fuller

Primary Amendment #1: To Reduce Community Grant Amount to \$1,500.00

Moved by:	Best
Seconded by:	
Action:	Motion failed for lack of a second
In favor:	
Opposed:	

J. NEW BUSINESS

Item 1 - Resolution No. 17-017: Supporting the Engine 557 Restoration Company Preservation and Restoration of Engine 557 and Rail Infrastructure in Palmer

Mayor DeVries requested a staff report. City Manager Wallace noted the resolution did not provide any financial support.

Main Motion: To Approve Resolution No. 17-017

Moved by:	Carrington
Seconded by:	Best
Action:	Motion carried by a 6-1 vote
In favor:	Best, Carrington, Combs, DeVries, Hanson, LaFrance
Opposed:	Fuller

Primary Amendment #1: To strike out from the fifth whereas ~~the Warren "Bud" Woods Palmer Municipal Airport~~ and replace it with Chugach Street.

Moved by:	Fuller
Seconded by:	Hanson
Action:	Motion failed by a 1-6 vote
In favor:	Fuller
Opposed:	Best, Carrington, Combs, DeVries, Hanson, LaFrance

Item 2 - Resolution No. 17-018: Encouraging Congress to Create a Reliable, Predictable Stream of Resources to Address Deferred Maintenance Needs In America's National Park System

Main Motion: To Approve Resolution No. 17-018

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

K. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE

Written Testimony Concerning Ordinance No. 17-007 from Jack Snodgrass

L. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Eugene Carl Haberman:

- Spoke to the need to provide opportunity for the public to speak; and
- Addressed failed bid processes in local governing bodies.

Patrick Durand:

- Highlighted plans for operation of Engine 557; and
- Noted the need for access to the airport spur and the two stub tracks at the airport for test runs.

M. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Deputy Mayor Combs:

- Announced the month of May being designated Older Americans Month;
- Spoke to presenting to the Alaska Commission on Aging on May 9, regarding recent events with the Palmer Veterans and Pioneer Home;
- Commented on attendance of the Recycling Conference; and
- Addressed the need to resolve the single use plastic bag issue in regards to litter.

Council Member Fuller:

- Spoke to concerns related to the route planned for Engine 557;
- Noted he was fully behind the Who Let the Girls Out event; and
- Wanted to ensure a full report would be forthcoming to the Council after the event.

Council Member Hanson:

- Noted he was a fan of the Engine 557 Restoration Project; and
- Proposed a change to the Community Grant Process regarding downtown merchant's participation.

Council Member Best:

- Expressed excitement about the Who Let the Girls Out Event; and
- Encouraged everyone to work on clean-up before the weekend.

Council Member LaFrance:

- Commended the organizers of the Science March in Palmer this past weekend; and
- Echoed concerns regarding plastic bag usage and litter.

Council Member Carrington:

- Commented on a news report addressing the addition of recycled plastic to asphalt as a means to help it last longer; and
- Expressed appreciation to all those involved with the Valley Interfaith Agency sponsored meeting concerning the Veterans and Pioneer Home this past weekend.

N. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:28 pm.

Approved this 9th day of May, 2017.

Norma I. Alley, MMC, City Clerk

Edna B. DeVries, Mayor