

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Palmer City Council was held on September 12, 2017, 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 Best
Brad Hanson

Linda Combs, Deputy Mayor
David Fuller
Peter LaFrance

Steve Carrington was absent and excused.

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 Council Member Best.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a. Introduction of **Ordinance No. 17-012**: Amending the City of Palmer Municipal Code Chapter 5.04 Business Licenses
 - b. **Resolution No. 17-027**: Amending the City of Palmer Resolution No. 1150 Regarding the Issuance of Utility Revenue Bond
2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings
 - a. August 22, 2017, Regular Meeting

Main Motion: To Approve Consent Agenda and Minutes

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

E. REPORTS

Item 1 – City Manager’s Report

City Manager Nathan Wallace:

- Highlighted his written report;
- Spoke to the joint School Board and Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly meeting currently underway;
- Commented on action being taken by the City of Wasilla addressing plastic bags;
- Commented on the sales tax outcome from the Alaska State Fair;
- Noted students from Palmer’s Sister City, Saroma, were visiting;
- Commented on progress with the budget preparation; and
- Fielded questions from the Council.

Item 2 – City Clerk’s Report

City Clerk Norma Alley:

- Highlighted her written report;
- Noted having presented proposed code changes to the boards and commissions;
- Encouraged the Council to bring in their electronic devices to archive their documents;
- Reminded the Council that notes, texts, or correspondence by use of technology during a meeting become part of the record and are subject to records requests;
- Commented on receipt of invitations for the Council; and
- Fielded questions from the Council.

Item 3 – Mayor’s Report

Mayor DeVries:

- Highlighted her written report;
- Noted upcoming events;
- Spoke to meeting with Representative Colleen Sullivan-Leonard; and
- Commented on hosting the Sister City Delegation at a lunch time event tomorrow.

Item 4 – City Attorney’s Report

Michael Gatti:

- Encouraged the Council to use government provided devices for governmental use; and
- Reminded the Council that anything on the device was public record.

F. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Clairanne Foley:

- Spoke to a strong odor coming from the Water Treatment Plant; and
- Commented on an increasingly loud noise coming from the Plant as well.

Terry Snyder:

- Provided copies of an AARP publication titled Where We Live; and
- Spoke to Liveable Communities ideas.

Reece Everett:

- Addressed current and projected enrollment for the Palmer schools; and

- Expressed appreciation to the First Responders and Public School Staff who dealt with the tragic event of last week.

G. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Item 1 – Resolution No. 16-027: Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and the Mayor Execute the Sale of a 6.908 Acre Parcel of Land Located at 3854 S. Glenn Highway to the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities in Accordance with Palmer Municipal Code 3.20.080(D) for the Amount of \$165,000.00 (4th Public Hearing) (Pending Motion)

Mayor DeVries opened the public hearing. Seeing no one come forward to speak and hearing no objection from the council, the public hearing was closed.

Council Member Hanson requested a staff report. City Manager Wallace noted at time of purchase the property was subject to litigation due to an error by the City's contractor. This lead to a settlement to purchase the property for a higher original purchase price than the current appraised value.

Main Motion: To Approve Resolution No. 16-027

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

H. ACTION MEMORANDA

Item 1 – Action Memorandum No. 17-060: Approval of a City Council Member to Serve on the Alaska Municipal League Board of Directors for a Term Starting November, 2017

Main Motion: To Authorize Action Memorandum No. 17-060 as Amended

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

Primary Amendment #1: To Approve Council Member Richard Best

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

Item 2 – Action Memorandum No. 17-061: Directing the City Clerk to Negotiate and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Agreement with eDocs Alaska for the Purchase of a Laserfiche Electronic Records Management System in the Amount of \$6,915.00

Council Member Hanson requested a staff report. City Clerk Alley addressed eDocs vendor scholarships currently available and features of the system. The Council asked questions and requested additional information be provided at the next meeting.

Main Motion: To Authorize Action Memorandum No. 17-061

Moved by:	Best
Seconded by:	Fuller
Action:	
In favor:	
Opposed:	
Absent:	

Motion to Postpone: To Postpone to the Meeting on September 26

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

Item 3 – Action Memorandum No. 17-062: Authorizing the City Manager to Amend the Professional Services Agreement with HDR, Inc. in an Amount Not to Exceed \$231,259.00 for Additional Required Design Services and Contract Negotiation for the Palmer Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Upgrades Project

The Council took a recess from 8:42 to 8:50 p.m.

Mayor DeVries requested a staff report. City Manager Wallace provided an explanation of the funding for the project.

Main Motion: To Authorize Action Memorandum No. 17-062

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

I. NEW BUSINESS

J. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE

Invitation to Tour the Bishop’s Storehouse and Home Storage Center
 AARP Magazine, entitled Where We Live, provided by Terry Snider

K. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Eugene Carl Haberman:

- Spoke to the conflict of local government meeting schedules;
- Noted tonight’s Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly meeting addressed the proposed sales tax issue; and

- Spoke to events occurring at meetings of other local governmental bodies.

L. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Council Member LaFrance:

- Noted the Thursday Night Runs have started again;
- Commended the City Clerk on moving forward with an electronic records management system; and
- Announced a Mountains' Rescue Challenge Race at Eklutna Lake on October 7, which is a fund raiser for the Alaska Mountain Rescuers Group.

Council Member Best:

- Thanked the local Fire Fighters and First Responders for their professional efforts in dealing with a tragic fire last week;
- Addressed the recent need to take action concerning homeless people squatting on private property and the use of drugs and honey buckets there;
- Expressed appreciation to Community Development, Public Works, Finance, and the Clerk's Office for a professional job well done; and
- Spoke to the value of expressing open and honest opinions to create dialog and informed decision making.

Council Member Hanson:

- Agreed with Council Member Best on the homelessness issue;
- Noted he believed homelessness was as high as it has ever been; and
- Spoke to the need to mitigate its effects.

Council Member Fuller:

- Echoed comments by Council Member Best concerning the recent fire;
- Spoke to upcoming benefit events planned; and
- Spoke positively of the move to an electronic records management system.

Deputy Mayor Combs:

- Echoed sentiments concerning the tragic fire and noted the community's strong response;
- Provided an update on the Mat-Su Regional Medical Center's Certificate of Need request;
- Noted Senior Fall Prevention Awareness Day was scheduled for September 22;
- Spoke to attendance of the Saroma Sister City Delegation events; and
- Commented on attendance of the signing ceremonies which made Sister Schools of Sherrod Elementary, Swanson Elementary, and the Saroma Elementary schools.

M. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Approved this 26th day of September, 2017.

Norma I. Alley, MMC, City Clerk

Edna B. DeVries, Mayor