

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Palmer City Council was held on January 26, 2016, at 7 pm in the council chambers, Palmer, Alaska.

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Richard Best	Brad Hanson
Linda Combs	DeLena Goodwin Johnson
Edna DeVries	Peter LaFrance

Council Member Carrington was absent and excused.

Also in attendance were the following:

Nathan Wallace, City Manager
Janette Bower, City Clerk
Summer Rife, Deputy City Clerk

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Hanson.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a. Action Memorandum 16-011: City Council Statement of Non-objection to Liquor License #1194, for the Caboose Lounge, Located at 606 South Alaska Street, Palmer
 - b. Action Memorandum 16-012: City Council Statement of Non-objection to Liquor License #1195, for Iron Horse Liquor, Located at 606 South Alaska Street, Palmer
2. Minutes of Previous Meetings
 - a. January 12, 2016, Regular Meeting

E. COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS

F. REPORTS

Item 1 – City Manager’s Report

City Manager Nathan Wallace:

- Highlighted his written report;
- Spoke to his plans concerning future City Manager Reports;
- Updated the Council on the status of the dispatch request for proposal;
- Informed the Council staff would examine the Mat-Su Borough Assembly budget; and
- Fielded questions from the Council.

Item 2 – City Clerk’s Report

City Clerk Janette Bower:

- Updated the Council on the PUD Appeal and stated the Appeal Hearing was currently scheduled for February 11.

Item 3 – Mayor’s Report

Mayor Johnson:

- Informed the Council of the City’s Manager’s introduction to the Lions Club where he spoke to the state of the City;
- Spoke to her attendance of a gas line work session; and
- Expanded on the Mayor’s inability to remove City Board Members due to absences and requested action from the Council with regard to a Board Member who had been frequently absent.

Item 4 – City Attorney’s Report

G. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Item 1 – Resolution No. 15-001 J: Amending the City of Palmer 2015 Budget by Approving an Appropriation and Transfer of \$90,000 from the Water and Sewer Utility Fund Unrestricted Net Position to the Airport Fund to Facilitate the Land Transfer of City Water Wells 4 and 5 from Airport Land to Water/Sewer Utility Land At The Deflated Value of \$40,909 (IM 15-063) (Public Hearing 1 of 2)

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing. Seeing no one come forward the public hearing was closed.

Main Motion: To adopt Resolution No. 15-001 J

Moved by:	Best
Seconded by:	DeVries
Action:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote
In favor:	Best, Combs, DeVries, Hanson, Johnson, LaFrance
Opposed:	None

City Manager Wallace:

- Presented of the allocation of funds.

Council Member Best:

- Voiced appreciation for the information.

Council Member Hanson:

- Stated he was glad action had been taken care of and suggested the Manager examine possible action regarding the Fire Training Center.

Mayor Johnson directed the City manager to examine possible action regarding the Fire Training Center. Council Member Combs offered support.

Item 2 – Ordinance No. 16-001: Amending Palmer Municipal Code Chapter 17.08 Definitions to include 17.08.208 Handicapped Accessible Ramps; and Amending Chapter 17.60.050 Projections into Required Yards to Add 17.60.050(G) (IM 16-002)

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing. Seeing no one come forward the public hearing was closed.

Main Motion: To adopt Ordinance No. 16-001

Moved by:	Combs
Seconded by:	Best
Action:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote
In favor:	Best, Combs, DeVries, Hanson, Johnson, LaFrance
Opposed:	None

Item 3 – Ordinance No. 16-003: Enacting Palmer Municipal Code Section 10.04.110 Use of Compression or Engine Braking by Vehicles Prohibited (IM 16-004)

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing.

Douglas Cruthers:

- Voiced support for the ordinance;
- Spoke of the rising noise levels;
- Spoke of studies completed in his neighborhood demonstrating high noise levels; and
- Asked the City to approach the State and ask them to put signs prohibiting exhaust brakes on the highway.

Leon Kitagone:

- Voiced support for the ordinance and spoke to the noise levels.

Main Motion: To adopt Ordinance No. 16-003

Moved by:	Combs
Seconded by:	Best
Action:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote
In favor:	Best, Combs, DeVries, Hanson, Johnson, LaFrance
Opposed:	None

City Manager Wallace:

- Informed the Council on the cost of signs, the location of signs and the possible number of signs; and
- Fielded questions from the Council.

Council Member Best:

- Spoke to the need to install a sign prohibiting exhaust brakes.

Item 4 – Ordinance No. 16-004: Amending Palmer Municipal Code Sections 10.04.040 Snow Vehicles and 10.04.045 Off-highway Vehicles (IM 16-005)

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing. Seeing no one come forward the public hearing was closed.

Main Motion: To adopt Ordinance No. 16-004

Moved by:	Best
Seconded by:	Devries
Action:	Motion carried by 5-1 voice vote
In favor:	Best, Combs, DeVries, Johnson, LaFrance
Opposed:	Hanson

City Clerk Bower:

- Spoke to the background and reason for the ordinance.

Council Member Hanson:

- Stated he thought the City was going in the wrong direction by not offering snow or off highway vehicles a route through the City.

I. ACTION MEMORANDA

Item 1 – Action Memorandum 16-013: Authorize the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute Amendment No. 2 to the Contract for Services with Greene Garden Services approved by Council on January 12, 2014, to reflect Payments for 2016

Main Motion: To authorize Action Memorandum 16-013

Moved by:	Best
Seconded by:	DeVries
Action:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote
In favor:	Best, Combs, DeVries, Hanson, Johnson, LaFrance
Opposed:	None

Council Member Hanson:

- Questioned why the contract did not state that the flowers be placed before Colony Days.

Mayor Johnson:

- Stated she had been assured the City Manager would bring back a more detailed contract in the future.

City Manager Wallace:

- Assured the Council the City would work with the contractor to make sure the flowers were up before Colony Days.

Ms. Greene:

- Introduced herself to the Council;
- Spoke to the reason the flowers were late last year;
- Thanked the museum; and
- Spoke to the new plan for this year.

Item 2 – Action Memorandum 16-014: Authorize the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute an Agreement with Glenn Air LLC for the Lease of Approximately 1.59 Acres of Land on Airport Road at the Palmer Municipal Airport

Main Motion: To authorize Action Memorandum 16-014

Moved by:	Combs
Seconded by:	Best
Action:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote
In favor:	Combs, DeVries, Hanson, Johnson, LaFrance
Opposed:	Best

Primary Amendment #1: To change the name to ADD Investments

Moved by:	Johnson
Seconded by:	Combs
Action:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote
In favor:	Combs, DeVries, Hanson, Johnson, LaFrance
Opposed:	Best

City Manager Wallace:

- Provided detailed information about the lease.

Council Member Combs:

- Voiced appreciation to the staff for the great work on the lease.

Item 3 – Action Memorandum 16-010: City Council Statement of Non-objection to Liquor License #119, for Palmer City Alehouse, Located at 320 E Dahlia Avenue, Palmer

Main Motion: To authorize Action Memorandum 16-010

Moved by:	DeVries
Seconded by:	Combs
Action:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote
In favor:	Best, Combs, DeVries, Hanson, LaFrance
Opposed:	None

Mayor Johnson asked to recuse herself from the vote due to a conflict of interest.

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

K. NEW BUSINESS

Item 1 – Golden Heart Award Nominations

Main Motion: To approve the nominations

Moved by:	Best
Seconded by:	DeVries
Action:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote
In favor:	Best, Combs, DeVries, Hanson, Johnson, LaFrance
Opposed:	None

Mayor Johnson:

- Brought the following additional names forward for nomination: Ken Erbey for his years on the City Council, Joe Ehman, and Janette Bower. Council Member Best seconded the nominations.

Council Member Best:

- Spoke of the three potential designs for the award and presented the designs to the Council;
- Spoke to presenting awards on February 9; and
- Suggested the Council approve the nominations and select a design.

Mayor Johnson stated she and Council Member Best would select the design.

L. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE

City Manager’s Report
Golden Heart Award Information
Exhibit A – Airport Lease

M. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

N. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Council Member Combs:

- Voiced appreciation for the great work done this evening;
- Voiced a preference concerning the Golden Heart Award design;
- Spoke to her attendance of a Lions Club meeting; and
- Noted there were some busy couple weeks in the future.

Council Member DeVries:

- Thanked the City Clerk for her years of service; and
- Suggested Council Member Hanson bring forward his ideas on off road vehicles and snow vehicles.

Council Member Best:

- Explained his no vote on the lease agreement and stated he agreed with the lease and the lease language; and
- Wished the City Clerk well and clarified the resignation of the City Clerk was her decision.

O. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:19 pm.

Approved this ninth day of February, 2016.

DeLena Goodwin Johnson, Mayor

Janette M. Bower, MMC, City Clerk