

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Palmer City Council was held on May 24, 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
Steve Carrington	DeLena Goodwin Johnson
Linda Combs	Peter LaFrance
Edna DeVries	

Also in attendance were the following:

Nathan Wallace, City Manager
Norma Alley, City Clerk
Bernadette Packa, Deputy City Clerk
Michael Gatti, City Attorney

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Combs.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a. Introduction **Ordinance No. 16-012**: Amending Palmer Municipal Code Section 4.15.020 (I)(5) (Eligibility List) (IM 16-022)
 - b. **Action Memorandum No. 16-037**: Approve Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Advisory Board Chair Helene Antel's Resignation from the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Advisory Board
2. **Minutes** of Previous Meetings
 - a. May 10, 2016, Regular Meeting

Main Motion: To approve consent agenda and minutes

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

E. COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS

Item 1 - HDR – Waste Water Treatment Plant Facilities Plan

Ryan Moyers, PE, used a PowerPoint presentation to provide an overview of the Waste Water Treatment Plant Facilities Plan. He also fielded questions from the Council.

City Manager Wallace stated the next steps would be to take the draft plan for public comment and then back to the council for comment and final approval.

F. REPORTS

Item 1 – City Manager’s Report

City Manager Nathan Wallace:

- Highlighted his written report;
- Commented on tree plantings at the arboretum;
- Spoke to preparations for Colony Days being done by the Public Works Department;
- Commented on the start of this summer’s Friday Flings;
- Announced the new administrative assistant, Justyna Mazurkiewicz, started work; and
- Fielded questions from the Council.

City Manager Wallace was given direction to provide a status report concerning permitting and posting of signs regulating use of compression or engine breaking by vehicles at the next Council meeting.

Item 2 – City Clerk’s Report

City Clerk Norma Alley:

- Provided an update on software changes made to the City’s on-line code;
- Announced the use of PDF Bookmarks in packets posted to the City of Palmer website;
- Spoke to working on the record for a Planning & Zoning second appeal;
- Commented on the receipt of one board application; and
- Spoke to her attendance at the recent Chamber of Commerce luncheon.

Item 3 – Mayor’s Report

Mayor Johnson:

- Spoke to the soccer field dedication;
- Shared about throwing out the first pitch on the opening day for Palmer Little League;
- Commented on Alaska Bible College graduation;
- Commented on the Fred Meyer ground breaking;
- Shared about the Special Olympics Torch Run taking place in Palmer, and the involvement of members of the Police Department in coordinating the event;
- Shared that the Japanese Language Program will be back at Palmer High School this fall; and
- Spoke to attendance at the Museum’s annual meeting.

Item 4 – City Attorney’s Report: None

G. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Eugene Carl Haberman:

- Spoke to concerns regarding public process and meetings with the Mat-Su Borough.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Item 1 – Resolution No. 16-014: Authorizing, Ratifying and Confirming the Issuance and Sale of a Utility Revenue Bond by the City in the Principal Amount of not to Exceed \$1,285,714 and the Borrowing of Said Amount for Purposes of Financing Water Main Replacement (Sherrod Area Steel Water Main Replacement Phase 3); Establishing Ratifying and Confirming the Terms of the Utility Revenue Bond; and Related Matters (IM 16-021) (Public Hearing 2 of 2)

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing.

Eugene Carl Haberman:

- Spoke to confusion about Resolution 16-014 and the use of an election from 2007 as supporting documentation to authorize the resolution; and
- Commented on being the only member of the public in attendance at the meeting.

Mayor Johnson closed the public hearing.

Deputy Mayor Hanson requested a staff report. City Manager Wallace explained that Resolution 16-014 was a final step required by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation to close out the project. The action to incur debt for the project was already approved by the voters in 2007.

Main Motion: To approve Resolution No. 16-014

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

Item 2 – Ordinance No. 16-011: Local Vendor Preference for Purposes of Bid or Proposal Evaluation (IM 16-019) (Public Hearing 2 of 2)

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing.

Eugene Carl Haberman:

- Spoke to a desire for a history of the earlier legislation concerning the local vendor preference issue; and
- Spoke to a need for more information to be provided by Board of Economic Development in support of the resolution they forwarded to the Council.

Mayor Johnson closed the public hearing, and discussion by the Council ensued.

Main Motion: To adopt Ordinance No. 16-011

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

Item 3 – Ordinance No. 16-013: Amending Palmer Municipal Code Chapter 2.20 Planning and Zoning Commission; Chapter 2.22 Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Advisory Board; Chapter 2.25 Airport Advisory Commission; and Chapter 2.30 Board of Economic Development Authorizing the Mayor to Remove Board and Commission Members (IM 16-023) Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing.

Eugene Carl Haberman:

- Expressed concern regarding the lack of input from the boards and commissions concerning the legislation; and
- Addressed the lack of a definition for an excused absence.

Dave Fuller:

- Spoke against the ordinance; and
- Felt the current system properly implemented would work.

Andrea Fuller:

- Spoke against the ordinance;
- Addressed the difficulty of getting things done when members of boards and commissions do not attend meetings; and
- Expressed a need for better advertising for board or commission member vacancies.

Mayor Johnson closed the public hearing.

Main Motion: To adopt Ordinance No. 16-013

Moved by:	Hanson
Seconded by:	LaFrance
Action:	Motion failed by a 2-5 voice vote.
In favor:	Johnson, LaFrance
Opposed:	Best, Carrington, Combs, DeVries

I. ACTION MEMORANDA

Item 1 – Action Memorandum 16-034: Authorize City Manager to Negotiate and Execute an Assumption of Proprietary Lease from David R. Allen to Joshua Nance for Palmer Hangars Owners Association Unit No. 4 Lot 11 Block 3 at the Palmer Municipal Airport

Main Motion: To authorize Action Memorandum 16-034

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

Item 2 – Action Memorandum 16-035: Authorize the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute a One Year Contract with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough to Provide Fire Emergency Response to the Greater Palmer Fire Service Area (GPFSA)

Main Motion: To authorize Action Memorandum 16-035

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

Item 3 – Action Memorandum 16-036: Authorize the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute a One Year Contract for Rescue Services with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough

Main Motion: To authorize Action Memorandum 16-036

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

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

K. NEW BUSINESS

L. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE: None

M. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Eugene Carl Haberman:

- Requested the implementation of a voting board;
- Addressed the need for the meeting chair to ask if any member of the council is opposed to closing the public hearing prior to closing it; and
- Pointed out the difficulty experienced by the public when trying to attend Borough Assembly and City Council meetings due to conflicting dates.

Andrea Fuller:

- Expressed appreciation to the council members for all they do for the City.

N. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Council Member Combs:

- Expressed appreciation to active community members for their meeting attendance;
- Spoke to the upcoming Colony Days;
- Shared that Palmer Pride would take place on July 22 along with the 65th Birthday celebration for the City;
- Shared about attendance at the Chamber of Commerce luncheon; and
- Commented on attendance at Cash Mob last week.

Council Member DeVries:

- Requested support to have the Clerk, Manager, and City Attorney bring forth proposals regarding boards and commissions to identify excused vs. unexcused absences, how they are paid, and other regulations that may be needed. Council Member Combs offered support.
- Requested support to have the Clerk research the cost to have a voting board installed. Council Member Best offered support.
- Requested the Clerk provide an update on first six months of City Clerk and City Council budgets at the mid-year budget review.

Deputy Mayor Hanson:

- Requested the removal process of board and commission members be addressed as well. Council Member DeVries offered support; and
- Shared about attendance at his son's college graduation.

Council Member Carrington:

- Appreciated the good communication with the Board of Economic Development; and
- Suggested a standard be established for starting the clock during public comment. Council Member Combs offered support.

Council Member LaFrance:

- Spoke to missing the June 14 meeting.

Council Member Best:

- Spoke to attendance at the high school graduation for both of his daughters; and
- Commented on a graffiti clean-up project which was undertaken by several community members at the Amusement Park.

O. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm.

Approved this fourteenth day of June, 2016.

Norma I. Alley, MMC, City Clerk

DeLena Johnson, Mayor