

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Palmer City Council was held on June 28, 2016, at 7 pm in the council chambers, Palmer, Alaska.

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Richard Best	Brad Hanson
Steve Carrington	DeLena 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 LaFrance.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a. Introduction of **Ordinance No. 16-015**: An Ordinance of the Palmer City Council Amending Palmer Municipal Code 17.64.050 Central Business District Boundary and Amending the Zoning Map to Show the Expanded Boundary as Recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission (IM 16-027)
 - b. **Action Memorandum No. 16-052**: Approve Commissioner Jeff Tuttle's Resignation from the Airport Advisory Commission Effective June 17, 2016

Main Motion: To approve consent agenda

Moved by:	Hanson
Seconded by:	Combs
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 - Visitor Center/Museum Director Selena Ortega-Chiolero

- Provided an overview of the number of visitors in 2015;
- Shared about the Palmer Museum/Visitor Center Website released in June of 2015 and its features;
- Commented on the use of grant funding to acquire new display/storage cases, open the Saroma Collection display, purchase four desktop workstations, and purchase a new scanner and archival supplies;
- Detailed the current projects in progress;
- Provided an overview of the upcoming Midsummer Garden & Art Faire; and
- Fielded questions from the Council.

F. REPORTS

Item 1 – City Manager’s Report

City Manager Nathan Wallace:

- Highlighted his written report;
- Announced submission of the E-911 and Dispatch Proposal;
- Addressed purchase offer for City owned land received from Valor Corporation; and
- Fielded questions from the Council concerning the property sale.

Discussion ensued regarding ongoing parking of RV’s and vehicles on the street.

Item 2 – City Clerk’s Report

City Clerk Norma Alley:

- Apologized for issues with the projector;
- Announced the opening of registration for the Summer AML Conference;
- Recognized Deputy Clerk Packa for completion of the training requirement to receive her Certified Municipal Clerk designation; and
- Fielded questions from the Council.

Council Member DeVries asked for a follow up on research for the purchase of a voting board and provided a reminder that a mid-year budget review was requested.

Item 3 – Mayor’s Report

Mayor Johnson:

- Spoke to the International Scottish Highland Games held in Palmer last weekend.

G. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Matthew Beck, Member of the Mat-Su Borough Assembly:

- Encouraged the City staff and Council to draw him in as needed to address matters;
- Thanked City Manager Wallace for his attendance at a recent Borough Assembly meeting; and
- Expressed appreciation to the Council for its service.

John Lee, Airport Advisory Commission Chair:

- Spoke to the resignation of Airport Advisory Commission Member Jeff Tuttle; and
- Requested Mr. Tuttle remain eligible to return to the commission at a later date.

Mayor Johnson expressed appreciation for the service of Airport Advisory Commission Member Jeff Tuttle.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

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

Item 1 – Ordinance No. 16-014: An Ordinance of the Palmer City Council Amending Palmer Municipal Code Sections 3.22.020 (A), 3.22.045 (B), and 3.22.060 Regarding Disposal of Abandoned, Stolen or Found Property (IM 16-024)

Main Motion: To adopt Ordinance No. 16-014

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

I. ACTION MEMORANDA

Item 1 – Action Memorandum 16-041: Authorize the City Manager to Enter into a One Year Agreement with the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry to Provide Fire Suppression Response and Assistance to the Division of Forestry with Regards to Wildland Firefighting Emergencies

Main Motion: To authorize Action Memorandum 16-041

Moved by:	Hanson
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 16-047: Authorize the City Manager to Amend the Professional Services Agreement with HDR, Inc. in an Amount Not to Exceed \$842,107 for Design and Engineering Services for the Palmer Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades Project

Main Motion: To authorize Action Memorandum 16-047

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 16-048: Authorize the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute a Contract with the Lowest Responsive Bidder for the Construction of the Sherrod Area Water and Street Improvement, Phase 4, Project in an Amount Not to Exceed \$1,750,000

Main Motion: To authorize Action Memorandum 16-048 as amended

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

Primary Amendment #1: To replace Lowest Responsive Bidder with Dirtworks, Inc. and replace \$1,750,000 with \$1,231,752.15.

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

City Manager Wallace provided information concerning the bid proposal and fielded questions from the council.

Item 4 – Action Memorandum 16-049: Authorize the City Manager to Purchase Insurance Coverage for the Period July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, per the Premium Quote submitted by the City’s Insurance Broker, Alaska USA Insurance Brokers with Two Additional Renewal Years

Main Motion: To authorize Action Memorandum 16-049

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 5 – Action Memorandum 16-050: Direct the City Clerk to Prepare a Resolution to Place Council Term Limits on the October 4, 2016, Ballot

Main Motion: To authorize Action Memorandum 16-050

Moved by:	LaFrance
Seconded by:	Carrington
Action:	Motion carried by a 4-3 roll call vote.
In favor:	Carrington, DeVries, Johnson, LaFrance
Opposed:	Best, Combs, Hanson

Discussion ensued.

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

K. NEW BUSINESS

Item 1 – Resolution No. 16-015: A Resolution of the Palmer City Council Identifying the City of Palmer’s Capital Project Priorities for State and Federal Funding (IM 16-025)

Main Motion: To approve Resolution No. 16-015

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

City Manager Wallace provided clarification regarding the listed projects.

Item 2 – Resolution No. 16-016: Resolution No. 16-016: Accepting and Appropriating the 2016 Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant from the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry in the Amount of \$6,576 for the Purchase of Wildland Firefighting Equipment and Fire Safety Shelters (IM 16-026)

Main Motion: To approve Resolution No. 16-016

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

L. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE

Purchase Offer from Valor Corporation
Notice of Intent to Award to Dirtworks, Inc.

M. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Dave Fuller:

- Spoke to Capital Project Priorities list and challenged the Council to look at other needs that would improve quality of life or critical infrastructure.

N. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Council Member Combs:

- Expressed pleasure regarding the contract award to Dirtworks, Inc.;
- Shared about the upcoming Midsummer Garden & Art Faire;
- Reminded everyone that the Palmer Pride Picnic & City of Palmer Birthday Bash will take place July 22, 2016 from 4-7 pm at the Palmer Depot; and
- Requested support to direct that policy and procedures for boards and commissions be developed and that she be a part of that development. Council Member DeVries offered support.

Council Member DeVries:

- Commented on Tiny Houses and asked that the topic be placed on an upcoming Planning & Zoning Commission agenda; and
- Distributed copies of the Borough Marijuana Advisory Commission Resolution 16-002.

Mayor Johnson commented that copies of the Advisory Commission Resolution would be made available for the public at the next City Council meeting.

Deputy Mayor Hanson:

- Addressed the political climate in relation to a fair polling for term limits.

Council Member Carrington:

- Spoke to the Central Business District boundary expansion being insufficient and commented on the need to expand City boundaries as well.

Council Member LaFrance:

- Showed support for expansion of the City boundaries;
- Commented on the Little A Triathlon that took place last weekend; and
- Expressed excitement regarding the Matanuska Peak Challenge and Hatcher Pass Epic which are both scheduled for August.

Council Member Best:

- Asked for Council support to have the Planning & Zoning Commission review and determine the appropriate location for businesses who sell devices for smoking marijuana. Council Member Combs offered support.

O. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm.

Approved this twelfth day of July, 2016.

Norma I. Alley, MMC, City Clerk

DeLena Johnson, Mayor