

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Palmer City Council was held on April 11, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Palmer, Alaska. Mayor Carrington called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Mayor Steve Carrington, Deputy Mayor Pam Melin, Joshua Tudor, Thomas Ojala IV, Richard W. Best, and John Alcantra (on zoom).

Carolina Anzilotti (excused absence).

Staff in attendance:

Shelly M. Acteson, CMC, City Clerk
Brad Hansen, Acting City Manager
Holly Dubose, Deputy City Clerk
Sarah Heath, City Attorney

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Main Motion: To Approve the Agenda as modified (Move Council Comments before Executive Session) and approval of minutes of the March 28, 2023, meeting. (Council Member Tudor recused himself from the vote due to conflict)

Moved by:	Best
Seconded by:	Melin
Vote:	Unanimous
Action:	Motion Carried

E. COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS

- 1. Presentation – Governor’s Carbon Initiative, Todd Smoldon, Mat-Su Office**
Todd Smolden provided an overview on the Governor’s Carbon Initiative.
- 2. Proclamation Recognizing Tyler Aklestad and Nick Olstad Winning the 2023 Iron Dog**
Council Member Ojala presented Tyler Aklestad and Nick Olstad with a proclamation recognizing their 2023 Iron Dog win.
- 3. Proclamation Recognizing April 22, 2023, as Patriots of the American Revolution Remembrance Day**

Mayor Carrington presented Chapter Chaplin, Cheri Lindholm with a proclamation recognizing April 22nd as Patriots of the American Revolution Remembrance Day.

4. Presentation – Mat-Su Valley Planning Organization (MPO) – Kim Sollien, Mat-Su Borough Planning Office

Kim Sollien gave an overview of the MPO Project.

F. REPORTS

1. City Manager’s Report

- Manager Moosey will be providing a draft Resolution to the City Council on the MPO project.
- The Artic Winter Games will present at the April 25th Council meeting.
- Informational Memorandum No. 23-001 update on the library.
- RFP is out for an architect for the Palmer library project.
- The library is expected to open in its temporary location in May.
- The Booster Station is being worked on to get water to Colony High School.
- Safety Resource Officer Request for two officers to come to Council during the next meeting.
- Saturday, May 13th is Palmer Community Clean Up in cooperation with the Palmer Chamber.

2. Mayor’s Report

- Provided an overview of the written report in the packet.
- Mayor Carrington asked the City Council for their consent to contribute 25% of the airfare purchase for the 2024 Saroma Sister City trip. There were no objections.

3. City Clerk’s Report

- No formal report.

4. City Attorney’s Report

- Reviewing the Agreements and SRO MOU’s as they have been developed; highly beneficial to Palmer as they have been in process of developing this agreement.
- Evaluated the Library procedures and they are legal as well as fall within national and state standards.
- Commented on book reconsideration policy in place currently at the library.
- Commented on threats made to City employees.
- Evaluated the Library procedures and noted they are legal as well as fall within national and state standards.

Mayor Carrington Called for a recess at 7:34 pm, the meeting reconvened at 7:45 pm.

G. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Jackie Goforth:

- Spoke regarding the classification of book ratings.

Joseph Parreira:

- Provided an update on the Palmer Family Park.

Cindy Hudgins:

- Commented on statements during “reports” section.

Mike Chmielewski:

- Commented on Saroma Kai Sister City Exchange Program.
- Mentioned the Big Cabbage Radio Artic Winter Games Pod Cast on their website.
- Commented on Metropolitan Planning.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. **Ordinance 23-001:** Amending the Zoning Map to Revise the Zoning Designation of Lots 8 & 9, Colony Fair Subdivision Located in Section 32, Township 18 North, Range 2 East, Seward Meridian, Alaska to be Rezoned from R-4, High Density Residential to C-L, Limited Commercial

Community Development Director Brad Hanson provided a staff report.

Mayor Carrington opened the public hearing.

Joe Gerard, noted the parking restrictions.

Jackie Goforth, commented on the hazardous safety issue near the rezone.

Cindy Hudgins, commented on the road conditions on the road.

Mike Chmielewski, commented on the lack of sidewalks and street conditions.

Mayor Carrington closed the public hearing.

Main Motion: Ordinance 23-001: Amending the Zoning Map to Revise the Zoning Designation of Lots 8 & 9, Colony Fair Subdivision Located in Section 32, Township 18 North, Range 2 East, Seward Meridian, Alaska to be Rezoned from R-4, High Density Residential to C-L, Limited Commercial

Moved by:	Best
Seconded by:	Melin
Vote:	Unanimous
Action:	Motion Carried

2. **Resolution No. 23-010:** Supporting the Opening of a Social Security Office in the Mat-Su Borough

Mayor Carrington opened the public hearing.

Cindy Hudgins, commented in support of the Resolution.

Main Motion: Resolution No. 23-010: Supporting the Opening of a Social Security Office in the Mat-Su Borough

Moved by:	Melin
Seconded by:	Tudor
Vote:	Unanimous
Action:	Motion Carried

I. ACTION MEMORANDA

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

K. NEW BUSINESS

L. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE

Governor’s Carbon Initiative Informational packet and MPO Informational Packet

M. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Cindy Hudgins:

- Spoke regarding the comments about threats.
- Commented on World Economic Forum.

Jackie Goforth:

- Exhibited a Facebook Post regarding the City of Palmer.

Mike Chmielewski:

Commented on population growth in Palmer.

N. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Mayor Carrington:

- Stated there would be a joint meeting with the Parks and Recreation Board on May 9, 5 pm.

Council Member Tudor:

- Spoke in favor of the Social Security Office resolution.

Council Member Ojala IV:

- Appreciated the update from Todd Smolden.
- Commented on the MPO.

Council Member Best:

- Commented on recent meetings with the Police Chief.

Council Member Alcantra:

- Commented on population growth.

O. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Matters, the Immediate Knowledge of Which Would Clearly Have an Adverse Effect Upon the Finances of the Government Unit – City Clerk Evaluation

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Melin and second by Council Member Best to enter executive session at 8:32 pm. The Roll Call Vote was unanimous. The regular meeting was reconvened with no objections at 9:12 pm.

The Council VOTED unanimously in favor of a 3.5% raise for the City Clerk, active retroactively to November 1, 2022, and an extension of the contract to March 1, 2026.

P. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 10:32 p.m.

Approved this 25th day of April, 2023.



Shelly M. Acteson, CMC, City Clerk



Steve Carrington, Mayor