

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Palmer City Council was held on April 25, 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 (on Zoom), Thomas Ojala IV, Richard W. Best, John Alcantra and Carolina Anzilotti.

Staff in attendance:

- Shelly M. Acteson, CMC, City Clerk
- Holly Dubose, Deputy City Clerk
- Sarah Heath, City Attorney
- Brad Hanson, Community Development Director
- Jude Bilafer, Public Works Director
- Chad Cameron, Fire Chief

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Main Motion: To Approve the Agenda as presented and minutes of the April 11, 2023 meeting

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

E. COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS

1. Presentation – Arctic Winter Games, Amy Spargo
Amy Spargo gave an overview of upcoming 2023 Arctic Winter Games and discussed the opportunity for the City of Palmer’s financial participation.
2. Presentation – Public Works Director, Jude Bilafer
Jude Bilafer, Public Works Director, gave an overview of the upcoming 2023 road and maintenance projects.
3. Proclamation Recognizing May 4 as a Day of Prayer
Mayor Carrington read the proclamation, recognizing May 4th, 2023, as Day of Prayer.

4. Proclamation Recognizing April 30th, 2023, as National Therapy Animal Day
Mayor Carrington read the proclamation, recognizing April 30th, 2023, as National Therapy Animal Day.

F. REPORTS

1. City Manager's Report

- Manager Moosey asked Council not to take action on Resolution No. 23-013, until the next meeting.
- Manager Moosey attended the Chambers "Rise & Shine" event this morning and acknowledged it as a great asset to the Palmer community.
- Library staff is working to get the temporary library up and running the beginning of May.
- RFP is due on May 19th for the Library rebuild.
- Salary position and review will be complete at the end of July.
- May 6th-7th is the Great Alaska Aviation Gathering.
- May 9th-13th is the Palmer Community Clean Up Day.

2. Mayor's Report

- Provided an overview of the written report in the packet.
- Who Let the Girls Out is happening this weekend, April 28th-29th.
- Story Time at the Musk Ox Farm is happening May 29th-30th.

3. City Clerk's Report

- Reminder of the Joint Special Council Meeting on May 9th at 5:00 p.m.

4. City Attorney's Report

Attorney Heath gave a presentation on Public Safety and Livability Enhancements.

Manager Moosey asked the Council for permission to write a Resolution to the Legislature and the Governor's Office asking for action on our court system to staff appropriate attorney and judges to meet our needs. Supported by Council Member Best and Deputy Mayor Melin.

Manager Moosey is currently working with the School District to onboard Safety Resource Officers for the Schools and during the Alaska State Fair.

A question and answer period ensued between Council Members and the City Attorney.

Mayor Carrington called for a recess at 7:30 p.m., and the meeting reconvened at 7:40 p.m.

G. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Travis Friesen:

- Noted the lack of recycling options in Palmer.

Chris Tyree:

- Spoke regarding pornography in the school district.

Wesley Artz:

- Commented on the vagrancy issue in Palmer.

Denise Statz:

- Commented on vagrancy issues in Palmer.

Shea O'Malley:

- Commented on the vagrancy issue in Palmer and the need for additional police resources.

Kelly McKay-Dolfi:

- Spoke on vagrancy issues experienced by business owners and their employees.

Jackie Goforth:

- Commented on Librarians.

Cindy Hudgins:

- Commented on vagrancy issues in Palmer.

Mike Chmielewski:

- Commented on two recent passings of friends that had their impact in the community, and that they chose to spend their time in the City of Palmer.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. **Resolution No. 23-011:** Authorize the Palmer City Manager to Accept the Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant Funds Awarded by the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry and Appropriate the Funds to the City of Palmer Fire & Rescue in the Amount of \$5,759.45 to Purchase Wildland Fire Equipment

Mayor Carrington opened the public hearing.

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

Chief Cameron provided a staff report.

Main Motion: To Approve Resolution No. 23-011.

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

2. **Resolution No. 23-013:** Support the Designation of the Mat-Su Valley Planning For Transportation (MVP for Transportation) as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) of the Mat Su Area

Mayor Carrington opened the public hearing.

Cindy Hudgins:

- Spoke in opposition to Resolution No. 23-013.

Jackie Goforth:

- Spoke in opposition to Resolution No. 23-013.

Main Motion: To Approve Resolution No. 23-013.

Moved by:	Anzilotti
Seconded by:	Alcantra
Vote:	Unanimous
Action:	Motion Carried

Main Motion: To move Council Comments before Action Memoranda on the agenda

Moved by:	Melin
Seconded by:	Ojala IV
Vote:	Unanimous
Action:	Motion Carried

I. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Council Member Tudor:

- Thanked everyone for their participation during tonight’s meeting.
- Quoted Thomas Jefferson.

Council Member Alcantra:

- Appreciates the public for their comments tonight.
- Heard the responses regarding the MPO and foresees a slow and cautious future.
- Looking forward to Palmer Clean Up Week.

Council Member Melin:

- Thank you to everyone for attending the meeting tonight.
- Requested information on the cost, etc. for the City to employ their own prosecutor. Council Member Ojala IV offered support.
- Requested that the City outfit Palmer Police officers with bikes to patrol Palmer. Council Member Best offered support.
- Asked the public to study MPO’s and do their homework.

Council Member Anzilotti:

- Thankful to the public for sharing their experiences with vagrant individuals.

Council Member Ojala IV:

- Commented on vagrancy issues in Palmer.
- Commented on the MPO.

Council Member Best:

- Commented on vagrancy issues.
- Challenged non-profits to be better partners with the City.

J. ACTION MEMORANDA

1. Action Memorandum No. 23-020: Directing the City Manager to Notify the State of Alaska of the City Council’s Statement of Non-Objection of the license renewal of Alaska State Fair, License #39

Main Motion: To Adopt Action Memorandum No. 23-020.

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

1. Action Memorandum No. 23-021: Approving a Council Community Grant to Rodeo Alaska in the staff recommended amount of \$4,500 for the 49th State PRCA Xtreme Bros and Music Festival with \$1,500 to be paid from the City Council Community Grant Fund and \$3,000 to be paid from the City Manager’s Marketing Funds

Main Motion: To Adopt Action Memorandum No. 23-021.

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

3. Action Memorandum No. 23-022: Authorizing the City Manager to Purchase New Mobile Radios in the Amount not to Exceed \$322,177.71 Through the Awarded Homeland Security SHSP Grant Funds

Main Motion: To Adopt Action Memorandum No. 23-022.

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

4. Action Memorandum No. 23-023: Authorizing the Palmer City Manager to Purchase Fire Hose from LN Curtis Utilizing Capital Project Funding Adopted in the 2023 City of Palmer Budget

Main Motion: To Adopt Action Memorandum No. 23-023.

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

K. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

L. NEW BUSINESS

M. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE

Arctic Winter Games pins, Arctic Winter Games "Passport books", Documents from Jackie Goforth, Documents from Chris Tyree.

N. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Travis Friesen:

- Spoke regarding decriminalization in Portland, Oregon and enabling vagrants.

Denise Statz:

- Offered funds to buy bikes for Police Officers to allow them to patrol downtown.

Cris Tyree:

- Commented on MPO legislation.

Kelly McKay-Dolphi:

- Continued with comments of vagrancy issues in Palmer and offered funds to purchase bikes for the Police Officers.

Wesley Artz:

- Commented on vagrancy issues and efforts of the City Council.

Jackie Goforth:

- Commented on vagrancy issues.

Cindy Hudgins:

- Commented on the MPO.

Mike Chmielewski:

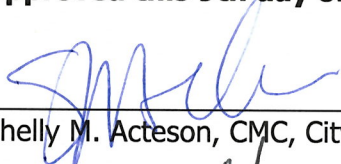
- Commented on the need for defined bike lanes in Palmer.

O. EXECUTIVE SESSION

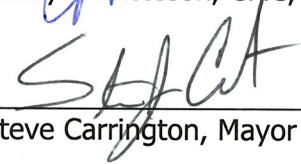
P. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Approved this 9th day of May, 2023.



Shelly M. Acteson, CMC, City Clerk



Steve Carrington, Mayor