



Mayor Edna B. DeVries
Deputy Mayor Sabrena Combs
Council Member Julie Berberich
Council Member Richard W. Best
Council Member Steve Carrington
Council Member Brian Daniels
Council Member Jill Valerius

City Attorney Michael Gatti
City Clerk Norma I. Alley, MMC
City Manager John Moosey

City of Palmer, Alaska
Special City Council Meeting
Wednesday, November 18, 2020, at 6:00 PM
City Council Chambers
231 W. Evergreen Avenue, Palmer
www.palmerak.org

AGENDA

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

E. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

F. PUBLIC HEARING

1. **Ordinance No. 20-016:** Enacting an Emergency Mask or Face Covering Mandate Page 3

G. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE

H. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

I. ADJOURNMENT

**City of Palmer
Ordinance No. 20-016**

Subject: Emergency Ordinance Issuing Mandatory Mask or Face Coverings

Agenda of: November 18, 2020 (Wednesday)

Council Action: **Adopted** **Amended:** _____
 Defeated

Originator Information:

Originator: Deputy Mayor Sabrena Combs and Councilmember Jill Valerius

Department Review:

Route to:	Department Director:	Signature:	Date:
_____	Community Development	_____	_____
_____	Finance	_____	_____
_____	Fire	_____	_____
_____	Police	_____	_____
_____	Public Works	_____	_____

Approved for Presentation By:

	Signature:	Remarks:
City Manager	_____	_____
City Attorney	_____	_____
City Clerk	_____	_____

Certification of Funds:

Total amount of funds listed in this legislation: \$ **0** _____

This legislation (√):

- Creates revenue in the amount of: \$ _____
- Creates expenditure in the amount of: \$ _____
- Creates a saving in the amount of: \$ _____
- Has no fiscal impact

Funds are (√):

- Budgeted Line item(s): _____
- Not budgeted _____

Director of Finance Signature: _____

Attachment(s):

Summary Statement/Background:

The COVID-19 pandemic has generated a public health emergency that threatens to overwhelm our health system, endangering the lives and well-being of our citizens. The governor has issued an emergency alert asking citizens to remain diligent in social distancing and masking.

The CDC recommends wearing masks or face coverings in public settings in addition to maintaining 6 feet a physical distancing. In line with his recommendation, the city puts forth this emergency ordinance to preserve the health and safety of our community.

The City Council has the authority to issue a mask mandate to protect the citizens of Palmer.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Introduced by: Deputy Mayor Combs and Council Member Valerius
Public Hearing: November 18, 2020
Action:
Vote:

Yes:	No:

CITY OF PALMER, ALASKA

Emergency Ordinance No. 20-016

An Emergency Ordinance of the Palmer City Council Enacting an Emergency Mask or Face Covering Mandate

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has generated a public health emergency that threatens to overwhelm our health system, endangering the lives and well-being of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, the governor has issued an emergency alert asking citizens to remain diligent in social distancing and masking; and

WHEREAS, The CDC recommends wearing masks or face coverings in public settings in addition to maintaining 6 feet a physical distancing.

THE CITY OF PALMER, ALASKA, ORDAINS:

Section 1. Classification. This ordinance shall be temporary in nature and shall last for the duration of any Emergency Ordinance to no more than 60 days.

Section 2. the city puts forth this emergency ordinance to preserve the health and safety of our community:

1. All individuals must wear masks or face coverings over their noses and mouths when they are:
 - a. indoors in public settings or communal spaces outside the home, or
 - b. outdoors when at a gathering or, when not at a gathering, when 6 feet of physical distancing from non-household members, (or small chosen close group) cannot be maintained.
2. A face shield is generally not permitted in lieu of a mask or face covering, as face shields are less effective in stopping the spread of COVID-19. However, face shields may be permitted in lieu of a mask or face covering for the following individuals, who must wear a face shield whenever a mask or face covering would be required unless it is impossible to do so:

- a. Any individual who cannot tolerate a mask due to a physical or mental disability;
 - b. Individuals who are communicating with someone who is deaf or hard of hearing;
 - c. Individuals performing an activity that cannot be conducted or safely conducted while wearing a mask (for example, a driver experiencing foggy glasses, a dental patient receiving care, and equipment operator where there's a risk of dangerous entanglement).
3. Employers must make sure employees who are present in the workplace have access to and wear masks or face coverings when with others.
4. This ordinance does not apply to the following categories of people or activities:
 - a. Any child under the age of two years. Additionally, masks are recommended, but not required, for children's ages two through five. Daycare settings that serve preschool children are encouraged but not required to enforce mask usage for children age 2 and older.
 - b. Individuals who are incarcerated, in police custody, or inside a court room; these individuals should follow guidance particular to their location or institution.
 - c. Presenters, musicians, others communicating to an audience or being recorded, if they are 25 feet from the audience and all members of the audience are wearing masks or face coverings.
 - d. Individuals removing their masks or face coverings to eat, drink, or briefly scratch an itch.
 - e. Employees within their own fully enclosed office or workspace or within an enclosed workspace if they are totally alone.
 - f. Individuals doing high intensity exercise indoors or outdoors.
5. Businesses and building owners shall deny admittance to any individual who fails to comply with this order and shall require or compel removal of such individuals from the premises. Provided, however, that this regulation shall be applied in a manner consistent with the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and any other applicable provision of law. Businesses may choose to allow individuals who request an accommodation under the ADA to wear a face shield, or may consider accommodating these individuals through alternate means of providing goods or services, such as curbside, delivery, or telephonic service.
6. The City reserves the right to use all available enforcement options to ensure compliance with this ordinance. Violation of this ordinance does not create grounds for residents to harass individuals who do not comply with it.
7. Definitions.

"Mask" means a medical grade mask.

“Face covering” means a cloth, polypropylene, paper or other face covering that covers the nose and the mouth and the rest snugly above the nose, below the mouth, and on the sides of the face.

“Face shield” means a clear plastic shield that covers the forehead, extends below the chin, and wraps around the sides of the face.

Section 4. Effective Date. Ordinance No. 20-016 shall take effect upon adoption by the City of Palmer City Council.

Passed and approved this _____ day of _____, 2020.

Edna B. DeVries, Mayor

Norma I. Alley, MMC, City Clerk