

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Palmer City Council was held on February 9, 2010 at 7 pm in the council chambers, Palmer, Alaska.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Richard Best called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Mike Chmielewski	Richard Best
Kevin Brown	Ken Erbey
Brad Hanson	

The following council members were absent and excused by the council:

John Combs and Kathrine Vanover

Also in attendance were the following:

Kelli Veech, Acting City Manager
Michael Gatti, City Attorney
Janette Bower, City Clerk
Shelly Acteson, Deputy City Clerk

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Chmielewski.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a. Introduction – Ordinance No. 10-001: Amending the October 2009 City of Palmer Personnel Regulations Section 2.15 Pay Ranges and Merit Increases; Section 2.25 Salary Adjustments on Transfer, Promotion and Demotion; and Section 3.25 Probationary Period, to Limit the Amount of Step Increases Following Successful Completion of a Probationary or Evaluation Period (IM 10-003)
 - b. Introduction – Ordinance No. 10-007: Amending Palmer Municipal Code Sections 2.30.080 Meetings; 2.30.090 Public Meeting Notification; and 2.30.140 Cause for Removal of Chapter 2.30 Board of Economic Development, to Change the Meeting Night to the Fourth Monday of the Month, to Clarify the Method of Posting the Meeting Agenda, and to State the City Council's Role in the Cause for Removal (IM 10-019)
 - c. Resolution No. 10-015: Supporting the Alaska State Fair in its Request to Secure Capital Project Funding from the State Legislature (IM 10-021)

- d. Resolution No. 10-017: Supporting the Greater Palmer Fire Service Area's Legislative Request for Funding for a New Fire Engine (IM 10-024)
 - e. Resolution No. 10-019: Supporting Palmer Arts Council (IM 10-026)
 - f. Action Memorandum 10-009: Non-Objection Statement to Renewal of Liquor License, License #4758, for Turkey Red Located at 550 S. Alaska St., Ste 100
 - g. Action Memorandum 10-011: Approve the Resignation of Board of Economic Development Member Charles Logsdon
2. Minutes of Previous Meetings
 - a. January 19, 2010, Special Meeting
 - b. January 26, 2010, Regular Meeting

E. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item 1 – Mayor's Presentation to Morgan Blakeman and Mike Madar.

Council Member Hanson read and presented the Appreciation Award to Mike Madar.

F. COMMUNICATIONS AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS

Kelli Veech, Director of Administration:

- provided Council with a verbal overview of the written report; and
- responded to Council inquiries.

Council Member Chmielewski:

- questioned the utility shut-off process;
- inquired of payment plan options; and
- commented on establishing a procedure for non-profit funding requests.

G. REPORTS

Item 1 – City Manager's Report

Acting City Manager Kelli Veech reported on the following items:

- Governor's Capital Budget;
- Community Services Director resignation;
- Matt Hill, Deputy Director of Administration; and
- Credit card audit update.

Item 2 - City Clerk's Report

City Clerk Janette Bower reported on the following items:

- Tri-Cities and Borough meeting on February 10, 2010;
- Joint Planning and Zoning and Council Meeting on February 19;
- Anti-Corruption Act; and
- Alaska Municipal League Board Meeting.

Item 3 - Mayor's Report

Mayor Pro-Tempore Best reported on the following item:

- Meeting with Legislators in Juneau.

H. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Jim Sykes, Alaska Center for the Environment Representative:

- commented on the Senate Bill 152;
- discussed Senate Bill 220; and
- provided details of the Railbelt Electric Efficiency Landscape.

Bridget Preston, President of the Palmer Arts Council:

- requested Council support for the Resolution No. 10-019

I. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Item 1 - Ordinance No. 10-003: Amending Palmer Municipal Code Sections 2.35.005 Department Established; 2.55.005 Creation; 2.55.020 Palmer Emergency Services; and 8.36.020 Specific Acts Designated, to Change the Name Palmer Emergency Services to Palmer Fire and Rescue to More Accurately Reflect the Duties of the Department (IM 10-006)

A Staff Report was provided by Public Safety Director Jon Owen.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Best opened the public hearing for Resolution No. 10-013. There were no comments.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Best closed the public hearing and the matter was brought before the Council.

MOVED BY:	Erbey	To adopt Ordinance No. 10-003
SECONDED BY:	Chmielewski	

Council Chmielewski:

- encouraged adoption of the legislation.

Council Member Brown:

- commented on the legislation.

Council Member Best:

- questioned the fiscal impact of the legislation.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION: Carried by unanimous voice vote			
Yes:		No:	
Chmielewski	Hanson	Brown	
Erbey	Best		

Item 2 - Ordinance No. 10-004: Amending Palmer Municipal Code Title 5, Business Licenses and Regulations, by Repealing Chapter 5.16, Trailer Courts, in its Entirety and Amending Palmer Municipal Code Title 17, Zoning, by Adopting Chapter 17.92, Mobile/Manufactured Home Parks (IM 10-014)

A Staff report was provided by Community Development Director Sandra Garley.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Best opened the public hearing for Resolution No. 10-013. There were no comments.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Best closed the public hearing and the matter was brought before the Council.

MOVED BY:	Erbey	To adopt Ordinance No. 10-004
SECONDED BY:	Chmielewski	

Council Member Hanson:

- questioned the necessity of the legislation.

Director Garley:

- responded to Council inquiries.

Council Member Chmielewski:

- inquired why travel trailers could only be parked in areas with R1 and R2 zoning designations.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION: Carried by unanimous voice vote		
Yes:		No:
Chmielewski	Hanson	
Erbey	Best	

J. ACTION MEMORANDA

Item – 1 Action Memorandum 10-006: Approve the Final Palmer Municipal Airport Master Plan

MOVED BY:	Chmielewski	To approve Action Memoranda 10-006
SECONDED BY:	Erbey	

Public Safety Director Jon Owen provided Council with a staff report.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION: Carried by unanimous voice vote		
Yes:		No:
Chmielewski	Hanson	
Erbey	Best	

Item 2 - Action Memorandum 10-008: Authorize the City Manager to Award and Execute a Contract with Anchorage Daily News for Advertising Services

MOVED BY:	Erbey	To approve Action Memoranda 10-006
SECONDED BY:	Chmielewski	

City Clerk Janette Bower presented Council with a staff report.

Council Member Brown:

- questioned the circulation numbers.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION: Carried by unanimous voice vote			
	Yes:		No:
Chmielewski	Hanson	Brown	
Erbey	Best		

Item 3 - Action Memorandum 10-012: Authorize the City Manager to Execute Amendment One with Hattenburg Dilley & Linnell in the Amount of \$149,109 for the Construction Phase Engineering Services to the Gulkana Water and Street Improvements Project

MOVED BY:	Chmielewski	To approve Action Memoranda 10-006
SECONDED BY:	Hanson	

A staff report was provided by Public Works Director Carter Cole.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION: Carried by unanimous voice vote			
	Yes:		No:
Chmielewski	Hanson	Brown	
Erbey	Best		

K. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

L. NEW BUSINESS

Item 1 - Information Memorandum 10-023: Declaration of Emergency: Steel Water Main Breaks

Public Works Director Carter Cole provided a staff report.

Council Member Brown:

- questioned the time-line of the legislation.

Acting City Manager Kelli Veech:

- responded to Council inquiries.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Best:

- questioned if an emergency plan had been established.

Item 2 - Resolution No. 10-016: Establishing the City of Palmer's FY 2010 Programs for Progress and Fast Track Priorities Capital Improvement Projects (IM 10-022)

MOVED BY:	Chmielewski	To adopt Resolution No. 10-016
SECONDED BY:	Erbey	

A staff report was provided by Acting City Manager Kelli Veech.

Council Member Hanson:

- spoke against purchasing an excavator; and
- spoke in favor of establishing equipment purchase criteria.

Council Member Erbey:

- questioned the funding source.

Public Works Director Cole:

- explained the excavator purchase request.

Council Member Best:

- inquired of the cost to relocate the excavator.

Primary Amendment #1 to Main Motion		
Moved by:	Hanson	To amend Resolution 10-016 by removing #10 Excavator from the 2010 Legislative Fast Track Priorities Capital Improvement Projects list.
Seconded by:	Best	

Council Member Chmielewski:

- provided a sympathetic ear to the idea of Council needing more information; and
- expressed confidence with suggestions from the lobbyist.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Best:

- spoke against purchasing an excavator.

Vote on primary amendment #1: Motion failed by a 3 to 2 roll call vote. 4 affirmative votes was necessary for the motion to carry
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Yes:	No:
Hanson Brown Best	Erbey Chmielewski

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION: failed by a 3 to 2 vote:

Yes:	No:
Chmielewski Brown	Best Hanson
Erbey	

Item 3 - Resolution No. 10-018: Establishing Four Working Subcommittees for the Board of Economic Development and Approving a Supplemental Appropriation of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) from the Undesignated Fund Balance to City Manager’s Operating Budget Account 01-01-05-6022 for Advertising Subcommittee Meetings (IM 10-025)

MOVED BY:	Brown	To adopt Resolution No. 10-018
SECONDED BY:	Erbey	

Marketing Manager Chris Gates:

- provided a staff report; and
- responded to Council questions and concerns.

Council Member Brown:

- questioned the validity of the legislation;
- spoke in support of Board of Economic Development; and
- strongly encouraged a tangible Report from the Board of Economic Development.

Council Member Chmielewski:

- spoke in favor of a viewing a report from the Board; and
- questioned the time-line for the report.

Council Member Hanson:

- requested clarification concerning the duties of the Board of Economic Development.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Best:

- reminded Council of the duties of the Board of Economic Development as outlined in the Code.

Primary Amendment #1 to Main Motion		
Moved by:	Best	To amend by postponing action on the resolution until the March 9 Regular Council Meeting
Seconded by:	Erbey	

Vote on primary amendment #1: Motion carried by unanimous voice vote		
Yes:		No:
Erbey	Brown	
Hanson	Chmielewski	
		Best

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION: Carried by unanimous voice vote		
Yes:		No:
Chmielewski	Hanson	
Erbey	Best	
		Brown

Item 4 - Ordinance No. 10-006: Amending Palmer Municipal Code Chapter 2.05 Mayor, to Clarify the Duties and Pay of the Office of Mayor

City Clerk Janette Bower:

- explained the suggested verbiage changes.

MOVED BY:	Chmielewski	To amend Section 2.05.050 Compensation B. from \$24,000 to \$12,000
SECONDED BY:		

The motion failed for lack of a second.

MOVED BY:	Chmielewski	To amend by adding verbiage changes recommended by the Clerk and add the amended legislation to a regular meeting agenda in the near future
SECONDED BY:	Best	

Primary Amendment #1 to Main Motion		
Moved by:	Brown	To amend by making similar changes to 2.05.040 B.
Seconded by:	Best	

Vote on primary amendment #1: Motion carried by unanimous voice vote

Yes: Erbey Hanson	No: Brown Chmielewski
Best	

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION: postponed to March 9, 2010	
Yes:	No:

Item 5 - City Manager's Monthly Construction Report

Acting City Manager Veech:

- responded to Council inquiries.

Council Member Best:

- questioned the soccer fields "soccer ball" project;
- requested a more detailed report in the future; and
- suggested a post-project report requirement.

Council Member Hanson:

- questioned the Plane Wash Area project.

Council Member Brown:

- requested more detail in future reports; and
- clarified the inadequate report was not a green light for projects listed on the report.

Council Member Chmielewski:

- offered suggestions pertaining to the reports.

M. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE

Information from Jim Sykes
Map from Public Works

N. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

O. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Chmielewski:

- noted the expediency of the Council meeting;
- commented on the Alaska Municipal League Winter Conference in Juneau; and
- thanked the Mayor's Ball participants for their support.

Council Member Brown:

- requested support for adding a discussion item regarding establishing a non-profit funding request process to a regular meeting agenda in April, and Council Member Erbey offered support; and

- stated the Matanuska Electric Association Meeting on April 27 conflicts with the Regular Council Meeting.

MOVED BY:	Brown	To amend April council Meeting dates by cancelling the April 27 Regular Meeting.
SECONDED BY:	Erbey	

Primary Amendment #1 to Main Motion		
Moved by:	Chmielewski	To amend the motion by changing the April Council meetings to: April 6 Special Meeting, April 13 Regular Meeting, and April 20 Regular Meeting
Seconded by:	Brown	

Vote on primary amendment #1: Motion carried by unanimous voice vote

	Yes:		No:
Erbey	Brown	Best	
Hanson	Chmielewski		

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION: Carried by unanimous voice vote

	Yes:		No:
Chmielewski	Hanson	Brown	
Erbey	Best		

Council Member Brown:

- expressed the importance of tracking the Anti-Corruption Act;
- discussed the Greater Railbelt Electrical Transmission Corporation; and
- confirmed the encompassing value of Council Members traveling to Juneau to meet with Legislators.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Best:

- reiterated Council Member Brown's comments.

Council Member Chmielewski:

- commented on Revenue Sharing funds.

P. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:37 pm.

Approved this twenty-third of February, 2010.

John C. Combs, Mayor

Janette M. Bower, MMC, City Clerk