

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Palmer City Council was held on September 28, 2010 at 7 pm in the council chambers, Palmer, Alaska.

Mayor Combs called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Mike Chmielewski	Richard Best
Kevin Brown	Ken Erbey
Kathrine Vanover	John Combs
Brad Hanson	

Also in attendance were the following:

Sara Jansen, Deputy 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 Airport Advisory Commission Member John Lee.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a. Action Memorandum 10-067: Confirm the Mayor's Appointment of John Lee to the City of Palmer Airport Advisory Commission
 - b. Action Memorandum 10-068: City Council Statement of Non-objection to the New Liquor License, License #5010, for Alaska Avalanche Hockey Club, Located at the MTA Palmer Arena, 1317 Kerry Weiland Court, Palmer
2. Minutes of Previous Meetings
 - a. September 7, 2010, Special Meeting
 - b. September 14, 2010, Regular Meeting
 - c. September 20, 2010, Special Meeting

E. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item 1 - Proclamation – Proclaiming the Month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Mayor Combs read a proclamation declaring October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month

F. COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS

Public Safety Director Jon Owen:

- commented on domestic violence awareness;
- articulated a recent arrest during the State Fair;
- provided an overview of the written report; and
- fielded questions from Council Members.

Council Member Best:

- requested clarification regarding the dispatch issue in the City of Houston; and
- questioned the possibility of an Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) violation involving the City.

Deputy City Manager Jansen:

- recommended further review of the possible violation.

Council Member Hanson:

- encouraged the Administration to formulate procedures to follow if a violation were to occur.

G. REPORTS

Item 1 – City Manager’s Report

Deputy City Manager Sara Jansen reported on the following items:

- Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) grant departure;
- 2011 balanced budget;
- Bleachers at the Palmer Arena;
- Windstorm power outage issues; and
- Joint parking project with the Palmer Junior Middle School.

Deputy City Manager Jansen responded to Council inquiries.

Council Member Vanover:

- commented favorably on the inter-agency cooperation during the windstorm.

Council Member Best:

- relayed a story of heroic measures witnessed during the last windstorm.

Item 2 – City Clerk’s Report

City Clerk Janette Bower reported on the following items:

- October 11 Special Meeting 6 pm, Special Meeting and Regular Meetings October 12.
- Noted the response from the Alaska Public Offices Commission was in Council Member boxes;
- Possible dates for a joint meeting with the City of Wasilla to discuss library funding issues; and
- Increase in the number of registered voters.

Item 3 – Mayor’s Report

Mayor Combs reported on the following items:

- Shared a tale of a special needs child who wanted to meet the Mayor;
- City Council Member candidate forum;
- Interview with Alaska Business monthly magazine;
- Potato Bowl; and
- Chamber meeting September 29, 2010.

Mayor Combs:

- commented on the finality of the council meeting;
- wished his colleagues luck;
- thanked previous and current Council Members;
- remarked favorably on the Council’s ability to disagree with respect;
- recognized the value of serving the public; and
- thanked the City Staff for all their hard work.

H. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Larry Hill:

- wished the candidates for Mayor and Council luck in the upcoming election;
- commented unfavorably involving an unlicensed day care in Palmer; and
- requested Council review the legality of the unpermitted day care.

Micah Weinstein, Business Solution Sales Manager for Matanuska Telephone Association:

- commented on Action Memorandum 10-0665; and
- requested the Council reevaluate extending Tekmate’s contract without putting it out to bid.

I. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Item 1 - Ordinance No. 10-019: Amending Palmer Municipal Code Chapter 3.16 Sales Tax, By Specifically Enacting Sections 3.16.035 Transaction in the City, to Clarify When a Transaction is Taxable; Section 3.16.065 Application of Sales Tax Payment, to Specify How Tax Payments are to be Applied; Enacting Subsection 3.16.080 G. Tax Returns – Contents – Administration Cost and Interest, to Allow for a Waiver of Penalty and Interest Within a Twenty-Four Month Period; Enacting 3.16.087 Tax Records – Inspection and Audit, to Meet Records Retention Requirements; Amending Section 3.16.040 Examples of Taxed Transactions, By Adding Games of Chance and Computer Programmers, to Clarify Applicable Requirements; and Amending Various Sections to Replace Finance Director with Director of Administration to Accurately Reflect the Title of the Position, and Repealing Sections 3.16.130 and 3.16.140 in the Entirety to Reflect the Relocation of the Language to the Business License Section, Palmer Municipal Code Chapter 5.04 (IM 10-082)

The City Clerk explained the Administration’s request to postpone the legislation.

MOVED BY:	Chmielewski	To postpone action on Ordinance No. 10-019 until the November 9 regular meeting
SECONDED BY:	Vanover	

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

J. ACTION MEMORANDA

Item 1 – Action Memorandum 10-065: Authorize the City Manager to Extend the Information Technology Services Contract with TekMate, Inc.

MOVED BY:	Chmielewski	To authorize Action Memorandum 10-065
SECONDED BY:	Vanover	

Director of Administration Kelli Veech;

- provided a staff report; and
- responded to Council inquiries.

Council Member Chmielewski:

- spoke in favor of considering other options;

Mayor Combs:

- questioned the contract extension; and
- spoke in favor of a one year extension of the contract.

Primary Amendment #1 to Main Motion		
Moved by:	Chmielewski	To amend the title of Action Memorandum 10-065 by adding “ Negotiate and Execute” and strike “Extend”
Seconded by:	Vanover	

Council Member Chmielewski:

- recommended an independent evaluation of the City’s Information Technology (IT) requirements.

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

Council Member Hanson:

- noted his wife works was employed by Matanuska Telephone Association (MTA); and
- spoke in favor of evaluating alternatives for Information Technology (IT) services.

Council Member Best:

- spoke in favor of requesting bids for IT services.

Mayor Combs:

- spoke in favor of a one year extension, while preparing to go out to bid.

Primary Amendment #2 to Main Motion		
Moved by:	Combs	To amend Action Memorandum 10-065 by extending the contract for one year instead of three years
Seconded by:	Vanover	

Vote on primary amendment #2: Motion carried by unanimous voice call vote		
Yes:		No:
Erbey	Brown	
Chmielewski	Combs	
Hanson		
	Best	
	Vanover	

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

K. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

L. NEW BUSINESS

M. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE

Department of Public Safety Semi-annual report

N. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

O. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Best:

- thanked everyone for their wishes and prayers during surgery.

Council Member Chmielewski:

- thanked the Mayor for his years of service; and
- commented on the School District’s standalone emergency notification system.

Council Member Vanover:

- thanked Mayor Combs for his years of service to the City.

P. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.

Approved this twelfth day of October, 2010.

John C. Combs, Mayor

Janette M. Bower, MMC, City Clerk