

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Palmer City Council was held on August 10, 2010 at 7 pm in the council chambers, Palmer, Alaska.

Mayor Combs called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

B. ROLL CALL

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

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

The following council member was absent and excused by the council:

Ken Erbey

Also in attendance were the following:

Bill Allen, 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 Palmer Golf Course Manager George Collum.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a. Introduction – Ordinance No. 10-015: Amending Palmer Municipal Code Chapter 17.08 Definitions, to Include Section 17.08.363, Power Plant, and Section 17.08.463, Utility Substation; and Amending Section 17.36.030 Conditional Uses, in the I-Industrial District to Include Subsection 17.36.030 A.11., Power Plants (IM 10-067)
 - b. Information Memorandum 10-072: Regarding the City of Palmer Department of Public Safety (Police) Application for Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Local Solicitation FY 2010
2. Minutes of Previous Meetings
 - a. July 20, 2010, Special Meeting
 - b. July 27, 2010, Regular Meeting

E. COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS

George Collum, Manager – Palmer Golf Course:

- provided Council with a mid-season report.

Kelli Veech, Director – Department of Administration

- presented Council with a departmental update; and
- responded to Council inquiries.

Council Member Vanover:

- commented favorably on the Ms. Veech's report.

Council Member Best:

- commented favorably on interagency communication concerning business license requirements.

Council Member Brown:

- articulated the relationship between City, Borough, and State business licenses.

Mayor Combs:

- expressed concern with the dwindling undesignated fund balance; and
- requested Ms. Veech comment on fund balance requirements.

F. REPORTS

Item 1 – City Manager's Report

The council and all present observed a moment of silence for recently deceased Senator Ted Stevens.

City Manager Bill Allen reported on the following items:

- Revenue streams methods for the City;
- Airport Enterprise Fund;
- Palmer Police Department appreciation ceremony; and
- Trunk Road project.

Item 2 – City Clerk's Report

City Clerk Janette Bower reported on the following items:

- August meeting schedule.

Item 3 – Mayor's Report

Mayor Combs reported on the following items:

- Palmer Senior Citizen Center groundbreaking ceremony; and
- Valley Cruisers car show.

G. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Denise Stotz:

- spoke against ignorant spending; and
- requested Council vote down Action Memorandum 10-048.

Mike Madar:

- spoke against Action Memorandum 10-048;
- spoke in favor of using other venues; and
- stated Action Memorandum 10-48 was public appeasement.

Delena Johnson:

- voiced displeasure with Action Memorandum 10-048; and
- spoke in favor of handling the project in-house.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Item 1 – Ordinance 10-014: Amending Palmer Municipal Code Section 17.08.175 Definition of Fence, to Eliminate Conflicting Code Language (IM 10-066)

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

Mayor Combs opened the public hearing for Ordinance No. 10-014.

MOVED BY:	Chmielewski	To adopt Ordinance 10-014
SECONDED BY:	Best	

Council Member Chmielewski:

- spoke in support of the legislation.

Council Member Brown:

- questioned the height limit for fences; and
- inquired of any problems with escapee animals and six foot fences.

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

I. ACTION MEMORANDA

Item 1 Action Memorandum 10-057: Authorize the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute Amendment No. 2 to DOWL HKM for the Bonanza Area Water and Street Improvements Project in the Amount of \$24,010

MOVED BY:	Best	To authorize Action Memorandum 10-057
SECONDED BY:	Vanover	

Public Works Director Carter Cole provided a staff report.

Council Member Hanson:

- questioned the timeframe of the legislation.

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

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Item 1 - Resolution No. 10-043: Approving a Supplemental Appropriation not to Exceed \$29,960 from the General Fund (Fund 01) Undesignated Fund Balance to the Capital Project Fund (08) for Professional Services in Conducting a Charrette on the Future of the Downtown Railway Corridor (IM 10-059)

A motion to adopt was brought forth from the July 6, 2010 regular meeting.

Council Member Chmielewski:

- expounded on the legislation;
- voiced discomfort with the cost of the project; and
- spoke against project stagnation.

Council Member Vanover:

- spoke in favor of the charette process;
- voiced concern with the undesignated fund balance remainder; and
- spoke against financially “tying the hands” of a future Council.

Council Member Brown:

- questioned the immediate need of the endeavor;
- voiced concern with the fiscal impact of the legislation; and
- commented on funding sources to enact a plan.

Council Member Best:

- spoke against the legislation; and
- read a section from the Urban Revitalization Plan pertaining to rails and trails.

Council Member Hanson:

- spoke favorably of the charrette concept;
- disagreed with funding a charrette; and
- commented on the ever-changing ground rules pertaining to the rails.

Mayor Combs:

- expressed uneasiness with undesignated fund balance; and
- stated the rails are a barrier not a carrier.

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

Item 2 - Action Memorandum 10-048: Authorize the City Manager to Award and Execute a Contract in an Amount Not to Exceed \$79,960 with Corvus Design to Conduct a Charrette on the Future of the Downtown Railway Corridor

The motion to adopt was brought forth from the July 6 Regular Meeting.

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

K. NEW BUSINESS

Item 1 - Resolution No. 10-050: Establishing the City of Palmer's Capital Project Priorities for Fiscal Year 2012 Funding under the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation's Municipal Matching Grant Program (IM 10-068)

MOVED BY:	Chmielewski	To adopt Resolution No. 10-050
SECONDED BY:	Vanover	

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

City Manager Bill Allen

- stressed the importance of the legislation.

Council Member Hanson:

- requested clarification concerning project ranking.

Primary Amendment #1 to Main Motion		
Moved by:	Best	To amend Resolution No. 10-050 by striking "3. Palmer Waste Water Treatment Low Temperature Distribution System"
Seconded by:	Hanson	

Council Member Best:

- explained the amendment; and
- spoke in favor of the amendment.

Council Member Hanson:

- spoke in favor of the amendment.

Director Cole:

- explained project three in greater detail; and
- responded to Council inquiries.

Council Member Chmielewski:

- questioned the time-line for the proposed power plant at the Fairgrounds; and
- spoke in opposition to the amendment.

Council Member Brown:

- requested clarification concerning Program deadlines;
- pointed out the future significance of Council decisions;
- commented on the proposed power plant located on the Fairgrounds; and
- spoke against the amendment

City Manager Allen:

- articulated the project time-line;
- highlighted the importance of the document in relation to lobbying efforts for the City;
- stated secured funds were in place for two years; and
- encouraged Council approval.

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

Primary Amendment #2 to Main Motion		
Moved by:	Best	To amend Resolution No. 10-050 by changing number three to number four and number four to number three
Seconded by:		

The above motion failed for lack of a second.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION: Carried by 5 to 1 voice vote				
Yes:			No:	
Hanson	Brown	Chmielewski	Best	
Combs	Vanover			

Item 2 - Resolution No. 10-051: Accepting and Appropriating the Increase to the Steel Water Main Replacement, Phase VII Grant From the State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) in the Amount of \$2,450,000 and Appropriating a Match From the Water and Sewer (02) Unrestricted Fund Balance to the Steel Water Main Replacement, Phase VII Project in the Amount of \$1,050,000 (IM 10-069)

MOVED BY:	Chmielewski	To adopt Resolution No. 10-051
SECONDED BY:	Vanover	

Director Cole provided a staff report and responded to Council inquiries.

Council Hanson:

- requested clarification concerning project phases.

Council Member Chmielewski:

- commented on the elasticity of the Scope of Work.

Administration Director Kelli Veech:

- addressed Council questions and concerns.

Primary Amendment #1 to Main Motion		
Moved by:	Chmielewski	To amend Resolution No. 10-051 by adding "including, but not limited to" after the first sentence in the Scope of Work
Seconded by:	Best	

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

Primary Amendment #2 to Main Motion		
Moved by:	Chmielewski	To amend Resolution No. 10-051 by removing "These funds will complete the Steel Water Main Replacement program"
Seconded by:	Best	

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

Council Member Hanson:

- requested an report of the Water and Sewer Fund balance.activity summation of the Water and Sewer Fund.

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

Item 3 - Resolution No. 10-053: Accepting and Appropriating Grant No. 11-DC-328 from the State of Alaska Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development (DCCED) to the Equipment Capital Project Fund (09) in the Amount of \$100,000 for the Purchase of Two Fire Command Vehicles and Personal Protective Equipment and Approving the Scope of Work and Budget (IM 10-073)

MOVED BY:	Hanson	To adopt Resolution No. 10-053 and Action Memorandum 10-056
SECONDED BY:	Best	

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

Item 3 a - Action Memorandum 10-056: Authorize the City Manager to Purchase Two New Fire and Rescue Command Vehicle Pickup Trucks in the Amount of \$51,039 from Alaska Sales and Service Using the State of Alaska Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development Grant Funds

Item 4 - Resolution No. 10-054: Approving a Supplemental Appropriation of \$24,534.55 from the Water and Sewer Unrestricted Fund Balance (Fund 02) to the Water and Sewer Repair and Maintenance Fund for the Emergency Repair of Well No. 4 (IM 10-074)

MOVED BY:	Chmielewski	To adopt Resolution No. 10-054
SECONDED BY:	Best	

A staff report was presented by Director Cole.

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

L. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE

Palmer Golf Course update
 Department of Administration update

M. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

N. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Brown:

- questioned partial sidewalk replacement on Sidewalk Gulkana Street;
- requested support to add a discussion item concerning Code language relating to sidewalk food vendors to a future agenda. Council Member Vanover offered support;
- mentioned an upcoming film festival; and
- remarked favorably on Senator Stevens' contributions to the state of Alaska.

Council Member Best:

- requested support to add a discussion item concerning deferral of hiring senior level management pending the appointment and arrival of the new City Manager. Council Member Hanson offered support; and
- wished his wife happy 14th Wedding Anniversary.

Council Member Hanson:

- remarked favorably on Senator Stevens' contributions to Alaska and the City.

Council Member Chmielewski:

- shared an anecdote featuring Senator Stevens.

Mayor Combs:

- commented favorably on the City's Department of Public Safety;
- noted Senator Stevens' hard work for the State and City; and
- hoped for a safe return of Council Member Erbey's brother.

O. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 pm.

Approved this twenty-fourth day of August, 2010.

Richard Best, Mayor Pro-Tempore

Janette M. Bower, MMC, City Clerk