

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Palmer City Council was held on January 26, 2010 at 7 pm in the council chambers, Palmer, Alaska.

Mayor Combs called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

B. ROLL CALL

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

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

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 Council Member Erbey.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a. Introduction – 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)
 - b. Introduction – 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)
 - c. Action Memorandum 10-010: Confirm the Mayor’s Appointment of Mike Meekin to the City of Palmer Airport Advisory Commission
2. Minutes of Previous Meetings
 - a. January 12, 2010, Special Meeting
 - b. January 12, 2010, Regular Meeting

E. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mayor Combs:

- commented on the Palmer Public Library anniversary celebration.

Item 1 - A Proclamation of the Palmer City Council, Proclaiming January 29, 2010, as Jeanne Novosad Day in the City of Palmer

Mayor Combs read the proclamation and presented it to Ms. Novosad.

Item 2 - Mayor's Award of Excellence for Palmer Public Works Department Employee Dave Sutton

Mayor Combs read and presented the award to Public Works Employee Dave Sutton.

Item 3 - A Proclamation of the Palmer City Council, Proclaiming February 16, 2010, as Kate Shugak Day in the City of Palmer

Mayor Combs read and presented the proclamation to Fireside Books owner Dave Cheezem.

F. COMMUNICATIONS AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS

Jillyan Webb, Greater Palmer Chamber of Commerce, Executive Director:

- provided Council with an update of Chamber activities;
- commented on the Tourism Committee; and
- explained the Chamber's website enhancements.

Mayor Combs:

- questioned the necessity of a Downtown Merchants Association and a Greater Palmer Chamber of Commerce.

Council Member Brown:

- expressed accolades to Executive Director Webb.

Council Member Chmielewski:

- spoke highly of Executive Director Webb's leadership skills and contributions to the community.

G. REPORTS

Item 1 - City Manager's Report

City Manager Bill Allen reported on the following items:

- Mayor of Saroma, Japan;
- Meeting with Council Member Brown and Jenny Vanderweele;
- Courtesy car at the Palmer Airport;
- Older golf carts stationed at the Palmer airport;
- Palmer Airport lessees;
- Palmer Airport appraisal;
- Visitor Center restrooms;

- Special Meeting January 19;
- Juneau trip next week;
- Break in the water line on South Alaska Street;
- Transportation Infrastructure; and
- Dallas Cowboys.

Item 2 - City Clerk’s Report

Item 3 - Mayor’s Report

Mayor Combs reported on the following items:

- Visitors from Saroma, Japan; and
- Future trips to Juneau.

H. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Chad Malone:

- read a letter of support for Mr. Allen’s job performance from Mr. Riggs.

I. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Item 1 - Resolution No. 10-013: Approving Work to be Performed on City Premises Under Two Tourism Infrastructure (Bed Tax) Grants Agreement from the Matanuska-Susitna Borough to the Palmer Museum of History and Art for Signs and Improvements to a Walkway at the Palmer Visitor Information Center in the Total Amount of \$18,680 (IM 10-009) (Note: this public hearing complies with Palmer Municipal Code 15.04.045)

Mayor Combs opened the public hearing for Resolution No. 10-013.

Tom Healy:

- provided council with visual additions to the legislation;
- explained the request; and
- expounded on the request for City assistance.

Mayor Combs:

- expressed delight with the funding source.

Mayor Combs closed the public hearing and the matter was brought before the Council.

MOVED BY:	Best	To adopt Resolution No. 10-013
SECONDED BY:	Chmielewski	

Council Member Vanover:

- suggested the grantee coordinate with Public Works for assistance.

Council Member Chmielewski:

- reminded council the City owns the Visitor Center building; and
- spoke in support of the legislation.

Council Member Brown:

- inquired of the project timeline.

Council Member Best:

- questioned the process for City assistance.

City Manager Allen:

- explained the internal chargeback system utilized by the City.

Primary Amendment #1 to Main Motion		
Moved by:	Hanson	To amend by adding "WHEREAS, the City Public Works Department will provide necessary site improvements for sign and walkway improvements at the Palmer Visitor Center; and"
Seconded by:	Vanover	

Council Member Chmielewski:

- questioned the open-endedness of the amendment; and
- spoke in favor of obtaining an estimated project cost.

Council Member Hanson:

- reminded Council of Public Works' ability to maximize a project with minimal funds; and
- stressed the usefulness of the project.

City Manager Allen:

- reminded Council of the City's lack of excess funds.

Council Member Vanover:

- spoke in favor of City assistance via the Public Works Department.

Tom Healy:

- noted the cost estimate in the legislation.

Secondary Amendment #1		
Moved by:	Chmielewski	To amend by adding "not to exceed \$3,000" to the WHEREAS.
Seconded by:	Brown	

Council Member Hanson:

- stressed the cooperative spirit of the project.

Public Works Director Carter Cole:

- agreed to the amendment.

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

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

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

J. ACTION MEMORANDA

Item – 1 Action Memorandum 10-007: Authorize the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute a Memorandum of Agreement with the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, State of Alaska Department of Corrections (DOC) and the City of Palmer Pertaining to the DOC Mat-Su Pretrial Master Planning Effort

MOVED BY:	Erbey	To approve Action Memoranda 10-007
SECONDED BY:	Best	

Special Assistant Sara Jansen:

- explained the legislation.

Council Member Chmielewski:

- mentioned the Palmer Police Department building.

City Manager Allen:

- commented on negative fiscal repercussions of the lease with the State Department of Public Safety.

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

K. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

L. NEW BUSINESS

M. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE

Information from the Palmer Museum of History and Art
 Letter from Mr. Riggs
 Letter from Palmer Senior Center

N. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Gerry Keeling:

- commented on the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Resolution concerning the Matanuska Maid property;
- reminded Council of the historic value of the Matanuska Maid property; and
- expressed concern with the perceived structuring of goals during the December 16 Planning meeting regarding the Charrette.

O. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Brown commented on the following items:

- Palmer Community Newsletter;
- Alaska Municipal League (AML) meeting in Juneau;
- Film series extravaganza starting next Saturday;
- One-act plays;
- Relative's birthday; and
- Charrette meeting.

Council Member Best commented on the following items:

- Purpose and duties of the Economic Development Committee as outlined in Code; and
- Requested support to discuss the purpose and duties of the Economic Development Committee during a future Council meeting. Mayor Combs offered his support.

City Manager Allen:

- stated the Economic Development Committee Chairman was scheduled to appear before Council during an upcoming meeting.

Council Member Hanson commented on the following items:

- Hockey games that coincide with Council Meetings.

Council Member Chmielewski commented on the following items:

- Planning Charrette meeting;
- Matanuska Maid property;
- Mayor's ball; and
- Visitor Center restroom project.

Council Member Vanover commented on the following items:

- Planning Charrette meeting clarification;
- Festivities at the Morely House with visitors from Saroma, Japan; and
- Meeting attendance during the February 9 regular meeting.

Mayor Combs commented on the following items:

- Meeting attendance;
- Matanuska Maid property; and
- Municipal State funding distribution.

P. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item 1 - Subjects That Tend to Prejudice the Reputation and Character of Any Person – City Manager Clerk Evaluation (Note: Personnel action regarding the City Manager may taken following the executive session)

MOVED BY:	Chmielewski	To enter into Executive Session to Discuss Subjects That Tend to Prejudice the Reputation and Character of Any Person – City Manager Evaluation
SECONDED BY:	Vanover	

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

The council entered into Executive Session at 8:43 and adjourned at 10:26.

Q. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 10:26 pm.

Approved this ninth of February, 2010.

John C. Combs, Mayor

Janette M. Bower, MMC, City Clerk