

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Palmer City Council was held on April 13, 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:

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

Also in attendance were the following:

Sara Jansen, Acting City Manager  
Leila Kimbrell, 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. 10-010: Enacting Palmer Municipal Code Chapter 5.21 Massage Therapist Licensing, to Provide for Massage Therapist Regulations within the City of Palmer (IM 10-020)
  - b. Introduction – Ordinance No. 10-011: Amending Palmer Municipal Code Chapter 17.28, C-L Limited Commercial District to Add Public and Private Schools under 17.28.030 Conditional Uses; to Amend 17.28.010 C by Substituting the Word Uses for Establishments; to Amend the List of Permitted Uses in 17.28.020 to Delete Obsolete Language; to Amend 17.28.062 C for Clarity; and to Amend 17.28.070 Parking to include Landscaping in the Title (IM 10-038)
  - c. Resolution No. 10-014: Accepting and Appropriating the Alaska Highway Safety Office Grant in the Amount of \$7,928.34 to Reimburse the City Of Palmer for Travel, Lodging, and Tuition Expenses for Two Police Officers to Attend Drug Recognition Expert Training in Phoenix, Arizona (IM 10-036)
  - d. Action Memorandum 10-020: Authorize the City Manager to Extend the Existing Contract With the Matanuska-Susitna Borough for Animal Control Services for One Additional Year

- e. Action Memorandum 10-026: Authorize the City Manager to Extend the Existing Professional Services Agreement with Alaska USA Insurance Brokers for One Additional Year
  - f. Action Memorandum 10-025: Authorize the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute a Contract to Provide Dispatch Services for Guardian Ambulance, a Medical Ground Ambulance Company
  - g. Action Memorandum 10-029: Authorize a \$500 Donation to Palmer High School Grad Blast for the 2010 Senior Grad Blast Event
2. Minutes of Previous Meetings
    - a. March 16, 2010, Special Meeting
    - b. March 23, 2010, Regular Meeting

## **E. COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS**

Gary Wolf, Wolf Architecture, Envisioning a Future for Palmer and the Mat-Su:

- put forth a power point marketing presentation, describing Palmer and the surrounding communities as vacation destinations; and
- remarked favorably on Matanuska Lake Green Belt and Hatcher Pass area as vacation venues.

George Collum, Manager of the Palmer Municipal Golf Course:

- provided Council with a verbal Pre-Season Report related to the Golf Course; and
- commented favorably on the Friends of the Palmer Golf Course non-profit group.

## **F. REPORTS**

### **Item 1 – City Manager’s Report**

Acting City Manager Sara Jansen reported on the following items:

- City Manager Allen’s trip to Washington DC;
- Upcoming Annexation Strategy meeting on April 19;
- Design meeting for the new Carrs-Safeway store; and
- Project Development Process.

Council Member Hanson:

- questioned the new Carrs-Safeway store public input process.

### **Item 2 – City Clerk’s Report**

City Clerk Janette Bower reported on the following items:

- Shred Alaska’s on-site disposal of documents;
- Regular meeting on April 20; and
- May 11 agenda item titled “City Manager recruitment process”.

### **Item 3 – Mayor’s Report**

Mayor Combs reported on the following items:

- Presentation to Olympic Medalist Kerry Weiland;
- March 31, 2010 Kerry Weiland Day;

- Round table discussion with Academy Charter School students concerning domestic violence;
- Palmer Lions Club meeting;
- Senior Center 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on May 8, 2010;
- Census 2010 meeting; and
- Upcoming Saroma, Japan, Sister City meeting.

**G. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

**H. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**Item 1 – Ordinance No. 10-008:** Amending Palmer Municipal Code Section 2.20.010 Creation – Officers – Membership, of Chapter 2.30 Planning and Zoning Commission, to Allow Two of the Seven Planning and Zoning Commission Members to Reside Outside of the Palmer City Limits (IM 10-033)

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

Mayor Combs opened the public hearing for Ordinance No. 10-008. There were no comments.

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

MOVED BY:	Chmielewski	To adopt Ordinance No. 10-008
SECONDED BY:	Brown	

Mayor Combs:

- provided Council with an update concerning the Planning and Zoning Commission seats.

Council Member Best:

- expressed reservation concerning the allowance of Planning and Zoning Commission seats being filled by non-residents.

Council Member Chmielewski:

- questioned the legal ramifications of the legislation; and
- spoke in favor of the ordinance.

City Attorney Leila Kimbrell:

- stated there were no legal ramifications related to the legislation.

Council Member Erbey:

- pointed out the legislation could be perceived as “self-limiting” to the City; and
- stated the legislation was a short-term fix.

Council Member Brown:

- reminded Council final member selection was the responsibility of the legislative body.

Council Member Hanson:

- expressed concern with quasi-judicial nature of Planning and Zoning Commission.

Mayor Combs:

- spoke against the legislation.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION: Failed by a 1 to 6 voice vote			
Yes:		No:	
Chmielewski		Combs	Best
		Vanover	Erbey
			Hanson Brown

**Item 2 - Ordinance No. 10-009-Z-1:** Amending the Zoning Map to Revise the Zoning Designation of Lots 14, 15, 16, and 17, Block 2, Greatland Terrace, Ph. I, Section 5, Township 17 North, Range 2 East, S. M., Alaska, from R-1, Single-Family Residential District, to P, Public Use District (IM 10-034)

A staff report was provided by Director Garley.

Mayor Combs opened the public hearing for Ordinance No. 10-009-Z-1. There were no comments.

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

MOVED BY:	Chmielewski	To adopt Ordinance No. 10-009-Z-1
SECONDED BY:	Erbey	

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

## I. ACTION MEMORANDA

**Item 1 – Action Memorandum 10-028:** Authorize the City Manager to Execute Amendment No. 1 to DOWL HKM for the Bonanza Area Water and Street Improvements Project in the Amount of \$66,055

MOVED BY:	Chmielewski	To approve Action Memoranda 10-028
SECONDED BY:	Erbey	

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

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

## J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**K. NEW BUSINESS**

**Item 1** - City Manager's Monthly Report Concerning Public Construction Projects

**L. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE**

**M. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

**N. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Council Member Vanover:

- expressed concern with water keys shifting on several of the lawns on Bailey Street.

Council Member Erbey:

- requested everyone voluntarily comply with the April 15 Internal Revenue Service deadline.

Council Member Chmielewski:

- expressed kudos to Attorney Kimbrell for her performance in place of City Attorney Michael Gatti;
- commented favorably on the recent discussion with Academy Charter students concerning domestic violence issues in the Valley; and
- requested Council support for a second item on the May 11 agenda which raises the question of extending the City Manager's contract to the end of the year. Council Member Erbey offered his support.

Council Member Best:

- questioned the Council's ability to amend verbiage in the City Manager's contract.

Attorney Leila Kimbrell:

- responded to Council inquiries concerning amending the City Manager's contract within the current motion.

Council Member Chmielewski:

- stated the opportunity to extend the Manager's contract was important due budgeting impacts the City would experience after the October 2010 election; and
- recognized the value of a smooth transition regarding a possible new Mayor and City Manager.

MOVED BY:	Best	To over ride the request of Council Members Chmielewski and Erbey to request Council support for a second item on the May 11 agenda which raises the possibility of extending the City Manager's contract to the end of the year
SECONDED BY:	Vanover	

Council Member Chmielewski:

- indicated preference for leeway and options during the transition time after the October 2010 election.

Council Member Brown:

- spoke in favor of the option to discuss extending the contract at a later date.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION: Carried by 4 to 3 roll call vote					
	Yes:			No:	
Vanover	Combs	Hanson	Chmielewski	Brown	Erbey
Best					

Council Member Best:

- reminded everyone motorcycle enthusiasts were back on the road.

Council Member Brown:

- provided Council with the Board of Economic Development (BED) meeting recap; and
- stated the BED had requested a joint work session with the Council to discuss the City Economic Development Plan; and
- commented on the number of phone calls received after the last regular Council meeting.

A joint work session consisting of the Council and the BED was scheduled for May 18.

Mayor Combs:

- commented on the rudderless feeling expressed by the BED.

## O. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm.

**Approved this eleventh day of May, 2010.**

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John C. Combs, Mayor

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Janette M. Bower, MMC, City Clerk