

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Palmer City Council was held on March 9, 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:

Mike Chmielewski	Brad Hanson
Kevin Brown	Kathrine Vanover
John Combs	Richard Best – arrived at 8:37

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

Ken Erbey

Also in attendance were the following:

Sara Jansen, 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 Community Services Director Steve Carrington.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a. Introduction – 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)
 - b. Introduction – 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)
 - c. Resolution No. 10-005: Supporting the Friends of Mat-Su in its Efforts to Balance Human Activity and Economic Growth with a Healthy Environment by Creating a Green Infrastructure Plan for the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (IM 10-035) ***This item was moved to K. 3.***
 - d. Action Memorandum 10-022: Confirm the Mayor’s Appointment of Rhonda Preslar to

- the City of Palmer Planning and Zoning Commission
- e. Action Memorandum 10-024: City Council Statement of Non-objection to the Renewal of Liquor License, License #1436, for Pizzeria Delphi Restaurant at 103 West Arctic Avenue
2. Minutes of Previous Meetings
 - a. March 9, 2010, Regular Meeting

Mayor Combs requested to move item D. 1. c. to K. 3. There were no objections.

Mayor Combs read a Proclamation of the Palmer City Council proclaiming the month of April as National Poetry Month.

E. COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS

District 13, State Representative Carl Gatto:

- updated Council on local events.

F. REPORTS

Item 1 – City Manager’s Report

Acting City Manager Sara Jansen reported on the following items:

- Mr. Allen’s trip to Juneau;
- New Director of Community Services;
- Introduced Attorney Layla Kimbrell; and
- Project development time-line.

Item 2 - City Clerk’s Report

City Clerk Janette Bower reported on the following items:

- April 6, April 13, and April 20 meetings.

Item 3 - Mayor’s Report

Mayor Combs reported on the following items:

- City of Palmer income and expense report review.

G. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Dave Jenkins:

- expressed concern with annexation;
- spoke against being regulated by the City; and
- regarded Resolution No. 10-005 as nebulous.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Item 1 – Ordinance No. 10-006: Amending Palmer Municipal Code Chapter 2.05 Mayor, to Clarify the Duties and Pay of the Office of Mayor (IM 10-018)

City Clerk Janette Bower provided a staff report.

Mayor Combs opened the public hearing for Ordinance No. 10-006.

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

MOVED BY:	Chmielewski	To adopt Ordinance No. 10-006
SECONDED BY:	Vanover	

Council Member Chmielewski:

- commended the Clerk for verbiage clarifications in the document.

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

I. ACTION MEMORANDA

Item 1 - Action Memorandum 10-023: Award the Purchase of One Greens Mower and One Fairway Mower to Western Equipment Distributors, Inc for the Amount of \$34,008.31

MOVED BY:	Chmielewski	To adopt Action Memorandum 10-023
SECONDED BY:	Vanover	

A staff report was provided by Golf Course Manager George Collum

Council Member Hanson:

- questioned the number of bids received.

Director of Administration Kelli Veech:

- confirmed three bids were received.

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

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Item 1 – City Manager’s Monthly Report Concerning Public Construction Projects

Acting City Manager Sara Jansen:

- provided Council with a staff report;
- addressed Council member concerns and questions; and
- reminded Council the proposed projects were in the contemplation stage.

Mayor Combs:

- commented favorably on the improved content of the document.

Council Member Chmielewski:

- requested clarification concerning the order of the projects.

K. NEW BUSINESS

Item 1 – Eastern Terminus Project Update

Jack Snodgrass, Alex Kopperud, and Al Strong provided Council with the update and addressed Council concerns.

Council Member Vanover:

- thanked the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) members; and
- requested clarification concerning lane placement within the project.

Council Member Hanson:

- verbalized concerns with proposed changes to intersections; and
- questioned the lack of an analysis concerning economic impacts to the downtown area.

Mayor Combs:

- expressed accolades to CAC members.

Council Member Best:

- thanked CAC members for their time and dedication; and
- expressed gratitude to Department of Transportation employees who helped facilitate the meetings.

Council Member Brown:

- questioned the "Level of Service" document content relating to Evergreen Avenue and Alaska Street.

Item 2 - Resolution No. 10-024: Approving a Supplemental Appropriation Not to Exceed \$30,000 from the General Fund Undesignated Fund Balance to the Airport Enterprise Fund to Perform Appraisal Services at Palmer Municipal Airport

MOVED BY:	Chmielewski	To adopt Resolution No. 10-024
SECONDED BY:	Vanover	

Council Member Hanson:

- questioned the funding source.

Director of Administration Veech:

- responded to inquiries.

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

Item 3 – Resolution No. 10-005: Supporting the Friends of Mat-Su in its Efforts to Balance Human Activity and Economic Growth with a Healthy Environment by Creating a Green Infrastructure Plan for the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (IM 10-035)

MOVED BY:	Chmielewski	To adopt Resolution No. 10-024
SECONDED BY:	Vanover	

Council Member Chmielewski:

- reminded Council the legislation was requested by Council;
- expounded on the proposed legislation; and
- spoke in support of green infrastructure planning.

Council Member Vanover:

- inquired of the green infrastructure plan.

Council Member Brown:

- expressed concern with particular verbiage in the legislation.

Primary Amendment #1 to Main Motion		
Moved by:	Brown	To amend Resolution No. 10-005 by striking "THE FRIENDS OF MATSU" in the title and "Friends of Mat-Su" in the NOW THEREFORE clause
Seconded by:	Hanson	

City Attorney Gatti:

- explained the function of a resolution.

Mayor Combs:

- recognized the value of non-partisanship.

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

Primary Amendment #2 to Main Motion		
Moved by:	Brown	To amend Resolution No. 10-005 by deleting "their" and add "its, and add "a" after the word "on" in the NOW THEREFORE clause
Seconded by:	Vanover	

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

Council Member Hanson:

- concurred with the importance of a green infrastructure plan;
- stated verbiage concerns; and
- spoke in favor of the legislation.

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

L. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE

Eastern Terminus Project Update document

M. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Jeff Johnson:

- stated he was a member of the Eastern Terminus Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC);
- requested Council carefully review the CAC’s recommended alternative; and
- stated the CAC’s recommendation could harm Palmer.

N. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Vanover:

- remarked favorably on the CAC committee participants and progress.

Council Member Chmielewski:

- spoke appreciatively of the long-awaited awaited report from the CAC; and
- requested support from another Council Member to add a clear outline of restriction and guidelines for paying wages out of force accounts by the City as an agenda item to an upcoming Council agenda, and ensure the City Attorney is involved in the information gathering process. Council Member Vanover offered support.

Council Member Hanson:

- imparted verbal recognition to CAC members.

Council Member Best:

- applauded CAC participants including Department of Transportation staff; and
- commended Committee members on their ability to reach a viable compromise.

Council Member Brown:

- conveyed gratitude to CAC members;
- commented on the third Palmer Community Newsletter; and
- thanked persons who submitted articles for the Newsletter.

Mayor Combs:

- thanked and recognized Department of Transportation (DOT) Representatives in attendance; and
- commented on City sewer and water boundaries.

O. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Approved this thirteenth third day of April, 2010.

/s/

John C. Combs, Mayor

/s/

Janette M. Bower, MMC, City Clerk