

## **A. CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Palmer City Council was held on June 10, 2008, at 7 p.m. in the council chambers, Palmer, Alaska.

Mayor Combs called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

## **B. ROLL CALL**

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

Tony Pippel	Ken Erbey
Brad Hanson	Kathrine Vanover
John Combs	Michael Chmielewski – via teleconference
Richard Best – via teleconference	

Also in attendance were the following:

Sara Jansen, Acting City Manager  
Michael Gatti, City Attorney – via teleconference  
Janette Bower, City Clerk  
Shelly Acteson, Deputy City Clerk

## **C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Vanover.

## **D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

1. Approval of Consent Agenda
  - a. Introduction – Ordinance No. 08-010: Amending Palmer Municipal Code Section 18.35.085 Questioned Voter Notice (IM 08-018)
  - b. Introduction – Ordinance No. 08-013: Enacting Palmer Municipal Code Section 15.04.045; Specifically to Provide for Public Hearings Associated with City Public Construction Projects (IM 08-020)
2. Minutes of Previous Meetings
  - a. May 20, 2008, Special Meeting
  - b. May 27, 2008, Regular Meeting

Council Member Pippel forwarded a request from City Manager Allen to remove and forward Item K. 1. to the next regular meeting. There were no objections.

**E. COMMUNICATIONS AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS**

Mr. Norm Stevens, Director, Mat-Su Regional Hospital reported on the following items:

- presented an update and overview of the hospital project.

Mr. Joseph Hawkins reported on the following items:

- questioned the Council's ability to address items not posted on the agenda;
- expressed concern with the Valley Hospital sale;
- voiced unease with the South Palmer Elementary School Project;
- commented on the skateboard park pavement;
- asked the Council to reflect on their responsibilities.

Mr. Greg Wickham, Interim Director, Department of Public Works reported on the following items:

- provided a City project update; and
- spoke in support of forthcoming legislation regarding proposed Public Works projects..

Council Member Pippel:

- requested green chain link fencing for the soccer field; and
- commented affirmatively on the Tourist Center Gardens.

**F. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

**G. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**Item 1.** Ordinance No. 08-011: Amending Portions of the Palmer Municipal Code Title 15, Buildings and Construction, to Reflect the 2006 International Building Code (IM 08-015)

Mayor Combs opened the public hearing for ordinance no. 08-011. There being no one who wished to speak, the public hearing was closed and the matter was brought before the council.

MOVED BY:	Vanover	To adopt ordinance no. 08-011
SECONDED BY:	Pippel	

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

**Item 2.** Ordinance No. 08-012: Amending Palmer Municipal Code Sections 10.04.050 Overnight Parking, 10.04.080 Prohibiting Parking for Longer than 72 Hours, and 10.04.090 Prohibiting Parking that Obstructs Traffic (IM 08-017)

Mayor Combs opened the public hearing for ordinance no. 08-012. There being no one who wished to speak, the public hearing was closed and the matter was brought before the council.

MOVED BY:	Vanover	To adopt ordinance no. 08-012
SECONDED BY:	Erbey	

Primary Amendment #1 to Main		
Moved by:	Best	To postpone the legislation.
Seconded by:	Pippel	

Council Member Best:

- explained his motivation for requesting postponement; and
- requested review by Planning and Zoning Commission(P and Z) and PPD.

Acting City Manager Jansen:

- reminded Council of the joint meeting with P and Z on August 19<sup>th</sup>; and
- requested verbiage clarification from Council Member Best.

City Attorney Gatti:

- advocated additional discussion and scrutiny.

Council Member Vanover:

- questioned the call for postponement.

City Mayor Combs:

- recommended reviewing the legislation after the joint meeting.

Council Member Hanson:

- stressed the need to strengthen and clarify the language.

Secondary Amendment #1		
Moved by:	Pippel	To amend by setting the postponement date to September 9 <sup>th</sup> regular meeting...
Seconded by:	Vanover	

Council Member Chmielewski:

- spoke in favor of postponement.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously by a roll call vote.		
Yes:		No:
Best	Vanover	Hanson
Combs	Erbey	Pippel
Chmielewski		

Vote on Primary Amendment #1 carried by unanimous roll call vote		
Yes:		No:
Best	Vanover	Combs
Erbey	Hanson	Pippel
Chmielewski		

## H. BIDS

**Item 1** - Action Memorandum 08-043: Authorize the City Manager to Award and Execute a Contract for the Lucas Area Water and Street Improvements Project to Twin Peaks Construction in the Amount of \$3,324,832.30

MOVED BY:	Pippel	To authorize action memorandum 08-043 with the amount changed per the summary statement to \$3.295,714.30
SECONDED BY:	Vanover	

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

**Item 2 - Action Memorandum 08-045: Authorize City Manager to Enter into a Professional Services Agreement with AKT LLP (formerly Honchen & Uhlenkott, Inc.) for a Water & Sewer Utility Rate Study**

MOVED BY:	Vanover	To authorize action memorandum 08-045
SECONDED BY:	Erbey	

Council Member Pippel

- questioned the company's ability to complete the job;
- inquired of the cost of the last study;
- explained the cost of the current study as being rolled into the cost of the service; and
- spoke in favor of adoption.

Deputy City Director Lisa Vaughn:

- explained the request and recommended adoption; and
- stressed the necessity of the Rate Study.

Council Member Hanson:

- questioned the cost of the last study;
- voiced concerns with funding; and
- expressed concern regarding the lack of audited financial report concerns.

Council Member Vanover

- commented on the funding amount listed in the action memorandum and the amount listed in the proposal.

Mr. Loren Uhlenkott Director of Utility Consulting for AKT LLP:

- stated the last study was approximately \$25,000; and
- described the new study as more complex.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION: Carried by a 6 to 1 roll call vote		
Yes:	No:	
Erbey Vanover Chmielewski	Combs	Pippel Best  Hanson

**I. ACTION MEMORANDA**

**Item 1 - Action Memorandum 08-041: Authorize City Manager to Execute Amendment No. 3 to the Professional Services Agreement with Hattenburg, Dilley and Linnell in the Amount of \$72,990 for Construction Management Services for Phase II of the Arctic Avenue and Transmission Main Water System Improvements**

MOVED BY:	Pippel	To authorize action memorandum 08-041
SECONDED BY:	Erbey	

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION: Carried by unanimous roll call vote

Yes:			No:
Erbey	Combs	Pippel	
Vanover	Hanson	Best	
Chmielewski			

**Item 2 - Action Memorandum 08-042: Confirm the Mayor’s Appointments to the Board of Economic Development**

MOVED BY:	Vanover	To authorize action memorandum 08-042
SECONDED BY:	Erbey	

Council Member Vanover:

- questioned the term ending dates for the new members.

Council Member Best:

- queried if there was a residency requirement for board members.

Council Member Pippel:

- stated there was not a residency requirement for the board.

Primary Amendment #1 to Main		
Moved by:	Vanover	To change J. Lee’s term ending date to 2010 and change C. Logsdon’s term ending date to 2011.
Seconded by:	Pippel	

Mayor Combs:

- stated the proposed members may have already agreed to the term ending dates.

Vote on Primary Amendment #1 Carried by 6 to 1 roll call vote

Yes:			No:
Best	Vanover	Combs	Pippel
Erbey	Hanson		
Chmielewski			

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION: Carried by unanimous roll call vote

Yes:			No:
Erbey	Combs	Pippel	
Vanover	Hanson	Best	
Chmielewski			

**Item 3** - Action Memorandum 08-044: Authorize the City Manager to Enter into the Construction Memorandum of Agreement with the Alaska Department of Transportation for the Palmer Urban Revitalization Project

MOVED BY:	Vanover	To authorize action memorandum 08-044
SECONDED BY:	Erbey	

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

**Item 4** - Action Memorandum 08-046: Authorize City Manager to Execute Amendment No. 2 to the Professional Services Agreement with Hattenburg, Dilley and Linnell in the Amount of \$359,339 for Construction Management Services of the Lucas Area Water and Street Improvements Project

MOVED BY:	Pippel	To authorize action memorandum 08-046
SECONDED BY:	Vanover	

Council Member Hanson:

- questioned the necessity of full time inspection at the job site.

Dave Lundin, Hattenberg, Dilley and Linnell:

- provided details concerning job site inspections.

Mr. Greg Wickham, Interim Director, Department of Public Works:

- concurred with Mr. Lundin's need assessment.

Council Member Pippel:

- spoke in favor of a full time inspector on the job site.

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

**J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**K. NEW BUSINESS**

**Item 1** - Resolution No. 08-006: Submitting the Question of Amending Charter Section 2.13, Filling Vacancies, to the City's Qualified Voters at the October 7, 2008, City of Palmer Election (IM 08-019)

MOVED BY:	Hanson	To adopt resolution no. 08-012
SECONDED BY:	Erbey	

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

**Item 2** - Resolution No. 08-007: Urging the Matanuska-Susitna Borough to Adopt a More Flexible Policy Regarding Liquor License Transfers (IM 08-021)

MOVED BY:	Pippel	To adopt resolution no. 08-012
SECONDED BY:	Erbey	

Council Member Pippel:

- asked Council Member Best for comments.

Council Member Best:

- provided details explaining the legislation; and
- stated the City of Wasilla had adopted a similar resolution.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION: Carried by a 6 to 1 roll call vote			
Yes:			No:
Erbey	Combs	Pippel	Hanson
Vanover		Best	
Chmielewski			

**Item 3** - Resolution No. 07-020 (A): Amending the City of Palmer 2007 Fiscal Year Budget (IM 08-022)

*This item was postponed until the next regular council meeting.*

**K. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT**

**L. CITY CLERK’S REPORT**

City Clerk Janette Bower reported on the following:

- Initiative petition submitted and denied concerning term limits; and
- June 17 meeting packet.

**M. MAYOR’S REPORT**

Mayor Combs reported on the following items:

- Capital Budget Funds appreciation.

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

- 1.) AML Summer Legislative Meeting
- 2.) Senate Bill 303 letter

## O. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

## P. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Council Member Pippel:

- stated the Little League players from all over the State love the Palmer ball fields.

Council Member Best:

- eloquently described Kepler-Bradley Lakes Recreation area as a small jewel in the crown of the Palmer area.

Council Member Chmielewski:

- thanked the Council for the lively and engaging meeting.

## Q. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the council, the meeting adjourned at 9:08: p.m.

**Approved this twenty-fourth of June, 2008.**

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John C. Combs, Mayor

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Janette M. Bower, CMC, City Clerk