

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Palmer City Council was held on August 12, 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
Kathrine Vanover	Richard Best via-teleconference
John Combs	Michael Chmielewski
Brad Hanson	

Also in attendance were the following:

Bill Allen, City Manager
Michael Gatti, City Attorney
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
2. Minutes of Previous Meetings
 - a. July 22, 2008, Special Meeting
 - b. July 22, 2008, Regular Meeting

E. COMMUNICATIONS AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS

Mr. Joseph Hawkins:

- discussed the Alaska Constitution;
- questioned zoning requirements in relation to wind turbines; and
- questioned skateboard park lighting.

Mr. George Collum, Manager, Palmer Municipal Golf Course:

- provided Council with a mid-season update;
- commented positively concerning customer satisfaction;
- explained the Little T. program; and

- expounded on the picturesque course conditions.

Council Member Vanover:

- questioned the effect fuel prices had on attendees.

City Attorney Gatti:

- reiterated his Father-in-law's positive comments concerning the golf course.

Mr. Dean Baugh, Director, Department of Administration:

- delineated the mid-year update;
- commented on the addition of a statistical section to the audit; and
- discussed the Title 4 rewrite.

Council Member Pippel:

- recommended reviewing the Rate Study before raising rates.

City Attorney Gatti:

- commented positively concerning the Finance Officers conference.

F. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Mike Madar:

- commented on the condition of the skateboard park;
- provided pictures of graffiti and litter; and
- questioned the safety of the park.

Joseph Hawkins:

- reminded Council of the opportunities in Palmer; and
- encouraged Council attendance during the Planning and Zoning meeting.

G. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Item 1 - Ordinance No. 08-014: Enacting Palmer Municipal Code Chapter 12.20, Encroachments (IM 08-025)

Mayor Combs opened the public hearing for ordinance no. 08-014. There being no one who wished to speak, the public hearing was closed and the matter was brought before the council.

MOVED BY:	Pippel	To adopt Ordinance No. 08-014
SECONDED BY:	Erbey	

Council Member Hanson:

- requested clarification.

Director Garley:

- clarified the ordinance; and
- explained encroachment in more detail.

Mayor Combs:

- expressed concern with the Purple Moose.

Council Member Hanson:

- questioned the encroachment process.

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

Item 2 - Ordinance No. 08-015: Amending Palmer Municipal Code Section 3.20.060, Sale of Personal Property; to Provide for Ongoing Disposal of Personal Property (IM 08-024)

Mayor Combs opened the public hearing for ordinance no. 08-014. There being no one who wished to speak, the public hearing was closed and the matter was brought before the council.

MOVED BY:	Pippel	To adopt Ordinance No. 08-015
SECONDED BY:	Hanson	

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

H. BIDS

I. ACTION MEMORANDA

Item 1 - Action Memorandum 08-056: Approve the Memorandum of Agreement Between the City of Palmer and the Mat-Su Borough and Direct the City Manager to Prepare a Budget Amendment to Appropriate \$50,000 to Develop a Scope of Work for a Professional Engineering Analysis of Wastewater and Septage Disposal Alternatives for the Valley

MOVED BY:	Hanson	To Authorize Action Memoranda 08-056
SECONDED BY:	Chmielewski	

Council Member Pippel:

- voiced support and apprehension; and
- spoke in favor of Palmer maintaining self-reliance.

Council Member Vanover:

- concurred with Council Member Pippel.

Mayor Combs:

- discussed mutually agreeable decisions.

City Manager Allen:

- thanked Council Member Pippel for initiating an introduction Mr. Ralph Hulbert; and
- expressed kudos to Mr. Hulbert.

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

Item 2 - Action Memorandum 08-057: Authorize the Purchase of Airline Tickets to Saroma, Japan for Mayor and Mrs. Combs for their Participation in the Sister City Program

This item was withdrawn.

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

K. NEW BUSINESS

Item 1 - Resolution No. 08-014: Accepting and Appropriating a Grant Increase of \$1,000,000 to Grant No. 67113 from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation for Water Main Replacement, Phase V (IM 08-031)

MOVED BY:	Pippel	To adopt Resolution 08-014
SECONDED BY:	Erbey	

Council Member Pippel:

- questioned the increase.

City Manager Allen:

- explained the funds were surplus from other projects.

L. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Bill Allen reported on the following:

- Walmart;
- Bristol Bay Native Corporation Convention;
- FAA Inspection;
- Tourism;
- Board of Economic Development;
- Tony Palmer, Vice President of TransCanada;
- Bud Fackrell, President of Denali Gas Line Project;
- Felton Street Project;
- Lucus Street Project;
- Budget Review Committee;
- Palmer Airport leased land appraisals;
- EMT Task Line document;

- Urban Revitalization;
- Chugiak Estates Senior Center; and
- Lobbying in Juneau.

Council Member Chmielewski:

- questioned the placement of storage units at the Senior Center.

Sandra Garley, Director of Community Development:

- stated the issue would be brought before the Planning and Zoning Commission during their next meeting.

M. CITY CLERK'S REPORT

N. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Combs reported on the following items:

- Skateboard Park.

O. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE

1. Goals and Objectives document.
2. EMT Task Line document.
3. Mid-year report for the Administrative Department.
4. Palmer golf course mid-season update.
5. Photos from Mr. Madar.

P. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Q. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Council Member Erbey:

- voiced concern with zoning regulations relating to wind turbines.

Council Member Pippel:

- spoke in favor of completing the Utility Rate Study prior to any increase; and
- commended the Police Department regarding vandalism at little league complex.

Council Member Hanson:

- suggested adding Council review of the CIP list to the budget meetings; and
- recommended the Skateboard Park user group police themselves.

Council Member Best:

- expressed concern with vandalism at the Skateboard Park; and
- verbalized his disheartenment concerning Council Member Pippel's choice not to file for office.

Council Member Chmielewski:

- proposed utilizing a webcam at the Skateboard Park; and

- moved by Mr. Hawkins' meticulous windmill story.

Council Member Pippel:

- encouraged the use of a webcam.

City Manager Allen:

- stated the Department of Public Safety is reviewing the lack lighting and use of a webcam at the Skateboard Park;
- discussed the artists renderings of a new Performing Arts Center; and
- recommended an open house at the ice arena.

R. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the council, the meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Approved this ninth day of August, 2008.

/s/

John C. Combs, Mayor

/s/

Janette M. Bower, CMC, City Clerk