

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Palmer City Council was held on September 13, 2005, 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
Jim Wood	Steve Carrington
John Combs	Brad Hanson – <i>arrived at 7:15</i>

Also in attendance were the following:

Tom Healy, City Manager
Janette Bower, City Clerk

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Pippel.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

1. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a. Introduction – Ordinance No. 05-032: Amending Palmer Municipal Code 2.11.020; Specifically to Enact Language Regarding the Council, Mayor and Clerk Budget Process (IM 05-084)
2. Minutes of Previous Meetings – *the minutes were amended and approved.*
 - a. August 23, 2005, Regular Meeting
 - b. August 30, 2005, Special Meeting
 - c. September 6, 2005, Special Meeting

E. COMMUNICATIONS AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS

F. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Maryann Cockle provided the Mayor with 168 signatures in opposition to the plans for Wal-Mart. She commented on the rumors and mis-information circulating Palmer regarding Wal-Mart.

G. ACTION MEMORANDUMS

Item 1 – Action Memorandum 05-099: Authorize City Manager to Execute Change Order No. One with North Star Paving & Construction for Repaving Helen Drive

MOVED BY:	Pippel	To authorize the city manager to execute change order no. one with North Star Paving & Construction for repaving Helen Drive
SECONDED BY:	Erbey	

Council Member Pippel inquired of the budgeted funds. Rick Koch, Public Works Director stated that change due to change in project costs, an excess in matching funds exists and therefore a budget modification to complete the project was not necessary.

Council Member Pippel inquired of the residents in the affected areas and the relations between the City and residents. Mr. Koch stated that following a meeting with those residents, the relations have improved. He highlighted the meeting and the questions of the residents.

Council Member Pippel asked when the residents would have water. Mr. Koch stated that the contractor states that the project will be complete by mid-October.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Item 2 – Action Memorandum 05-101: Authorize City Manager to Purchase a Motor Grader from NC Machinery in the Amount of \$255,059 for Use at the Palmer Municipal Airport Using the Joint Purchasing Provisions in PMC 3.21.240; Authorize the Purchase of the Airport Surplus Grader by the City

MOVED BY:	Pippel	To authorize the city manager to purchase a motor grader from NC Machinery in the amount of \$255,059 for use at the Palmer Municipal Airport using the joint purchasing provisions in PMC 3.21.240
SECONDED BY:	Wood	

Council Member Pippel asked of the age of the existing grader. Mr. Koch explained that the grader is approximately 14 years old and highlighted the state of the grader. Discussion ensued regarding grader costs.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Item 3 – Action Memorandum 05-102: Authorize the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute Change Order No. One with International Bridge Corporation to Relocate the Water Main from the East Side of the Glenn Highway to the West Side of the Glenn Highway

MOVED BY:	Pippel	To authorize the city manager to negotiate and execute change order no. one with International Bridge Corporation to relocate the water main from the east side of the Glenn Highway to the west side of the Glenn Highway
SECONDED BY:	Erbey	

Council Member Pippel voiced his support of the concept to relocate the water main and asked of the Manager's memo regarding the relocation. City Manager Healy spoke of the west side easement options and the obtainment of easements with the property owners. He voiced his support of the alignment and future requests for water. He voiced his concern regarding the

contingency amounts and the commitment of 40 percent of the contingency funds with change order. City Manager Healy explained the following five options provided by the engineer:

1. Provide an immediate notice to proceed, using the contingency.
2. Provide an immediate notice to proceed, using City funds.
3. Delayed notice to proceed to a later date.
4. Build on the east side of the Glenn Highway.
5. Do nothing at this time.

Mr. Koch explained the provided drawing and the necessity to move forward with the project by October 31. He explained the contingency amount, funding mix and endorsed the option to provide an immediate notice to proceed.

Council Member Pippel asked of the balance in water/sewer enterprise reserve funds. City Manager Healy stated his belief of adequate reserves to provide contingency funding should it become necessary.

Council Member Pippel asked of the waterline connection and its ability to provide services to future developments along the west side of the highway. Mr. Koch explained the waterline and the ability to provide future services.

City Manager Healy spoke of the current master agreement with the property owners on the west side of the highway. He stated that if the City were to choose to provide a delayed notice to proceed, the City would be required to renegotiate the easements currently in place.

Council Member Pippel spoke in support of providing an immediate notice to proceed. He requested that administration work on further funding identification for the project.

Council Member Hanson spoke of the future ability to incorporate other areas into the water system and stated that in order to do so, reserve funds may be necessary. He spoke in support of the immediate notice to proceed.

Mr. Koch asked that a not-to-exceed amount be included in the approval.

Primary Amendment #1 to Main Motion		
Moved by:	Pippel	To include the language "not to exceed
Seconded by:	Hanson	\$306,371"

Vote on Amendment:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Mayor Combs spoke in appreciation of City Manager Healy's full disclosure of information regarding the change order and spoke of the immediate notice to proceed.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Item 4 – Action Memorandum 05-103: Authorize City Manager to Enter Into an Attorney-Client Fee Agreement with Ashburn & Mason, P.C. for Legal Services

Council Member Carrington disclosed of a possible conflict of interest due to Ashburn & Mason's naming of his employer in a lawsuit. Mayor Combs ruled that Council Member Carrington did not have a conflict of interest.

MOVED BY:	Pippel	To authorize the city manager to enter into an attorney-client fee agreement with Ashburn & Mason, P.C. for legal services
SECONDED BY:	Hanson	

Council Member Pippel asked of the stated costs for a right-of-way attorney. City Manager Healy stated that the costs were appropriate.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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H. HEARINGS, ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Item 1 – Public Hearing – To Certify the Assessment Roll for **Special Assessment District No. 03-1-ST** as Identified in Resolution No. 1298: Establishing A Street Improvement District For N. Valley Way Between East Arctic Avenue and East Eagle Avenue and Determining the Need and Necessity for Construction of Same

Mayor Combs opened the public hearing on Special Assessment District No. 03-1-ST. There were no persons who wished to testify.

Item 2 – Public Hearing – Resolution No. 05-030: Confirming the Special Assessment Roll for Street Improvement District 03-1-ST; Known as North Valley Way Between East Arctic Avenue and East Eagle Avenue, and Setting the Date of Payment, Providing for Penalties and Interest in the Event of Delinquency (IM 05-081)

MOVED BY:	Pippel	To adopt resolution no. 05-031
SECONDED BY:	Hanson	

Mayor Combs opened the public hearing for resolution no. 05-030. There were no persons who wished to testify.

City Manager Healy spoke of lots 1, 2, 3 of Carl Meier Subdivision and the lack of a record setting up their inclusion in the original resolution. Mr. Koch explained the lot location and access to the lots.

Mayor Combs spoke of the current special assessment district and the notification made to the affected individuals.

City Manager Healy asked that the roll be amended to include the correct block designation for two of the Sherrod Subdivision properties.

Moved by:	Hanson	To amend the roll to correct block numbers related to lot nos. 13 and 14 of Sherrod Subdivision
Secinded by:	Pippel	

Vote on Amendment:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Council Member Hanson asked Mr. Koch of the original project estimate and closeness of the estimate with the actual work. Mr. Koch explained that the actual work was approximately 10 percent higher than originally estimated.

Council Member Hanson asked of the cost for the entire project. Mr. Koch stated that the cost was approximately \$1.38 million.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Item 3 – Public Hearing – To Certify the Assessment Roll for Special Assessment District No. 03-2-ST as identified in Resolution No. 1299: Establishing a Street Improvement District for N. Gulkana Street Between East Dolphin Avenue and East Eagle Avenue, and East Eagle Avenue Between North Gulkana Street and North Valley Way, and Determining the Need and Necessity for Construction of Same

Mayor Combs opened the public hearing for the Special Assessment District No. 03-2-ST. There were no persons who wished to testify.

Item 4 – Public Hearing – Resolution No. 05-031: Confirming the Special Assessment Roll for Street Improvement District 03-2-ST; Known as North Gulkana Street Between East Dolphin Avenue and East Eagle Avenue, and East Eagle Avenue Between North Gulkana Street and North Valley Way, and Setting the Date of Payment, Providing for Penalties and Interest in the Event of Delinquency (IM 05-082)

MOVED BY:	Pippel	To adopt resolution no. 05-031
SECONDED BY:	Hanson	

Mayor Combs opened the public hearing for resolution no. 05-031. There were no persons who wished to testify.

Council Member Pippel asked of the inclusion of the blinking light in the roll. City Manager Healy stated that the light was not included.

Council Member Pippel asked of the streetlight repair in the area of the special assessment. Mr. Koch explained the street lights placement prior to project completion. He explained the possibility of the contractor who completed the roadway improvement may have nicked the lighting wires.

Council Member Pippel asked of the Borough Dust Control fund monies. Mr. Koch stated that the monies had been applied to the project. He explained that the funds were approximately \$19,000 for Street Improvement District 03-2-ST and \$68,000 for Street Improvement District 03-1-ST.

Moved by:	Pippel	To correct the assessment roll to correct the block number related to Gold Key Estates and the lot number for the Mat-Su Borough
Seconded by:	Hanson	

Vote on Amendment:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Item 5 – Public Hearing – Resolution No. 05-032: Confirming the Appointment of Election Officials for the City of Palmer Regular Election on Tuesday, October 4, 2005 (IM 05-083)

MOVED BY:	Pippel	To adopt resolution no. 05-032
SECONDED BY:	Erbey	

Mayor Combs opened the public hearing for resolution no. 05-032. There were no persons who wished to testify.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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Item 6 – Public Hearing – Resolution No. 05-034: Accepting and Appropriating \$600,000 from the Alaska Department of Community and Economic Development for the Felton Street Improvement Project (IM 05-086)

MOVED BY:	Pippel	To adopt resolution no. 05-034
SECONDED BY:	Erbey	

Mayor Combs opened the public hearing for resolution no. 05-034. There were no persons who wished to testify.

Council Member Pippel asked of the origination of the grant funds. City Manager Healy stated that the funds originated through the legislature’s discretionary grant funds.

Council Member Wood expressed his pleasure over the receipt of the money.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Item 7 – Public Hearing – Resolution No. 05-035: Accepting and Appropriating \$70,000 from the Alaska Department of Community and Economic Development for Partial Funding of a Drug Enforcement Position for the State of Alaska Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2005, and June 30, 2006 (IM 05-087)

MOVED BY:	Pippel	To adopt resolution no. 05-035
SECONDED BY:	Hanson	

Mayor Combs opened the public hearing for resolution no. 05-035. There were no persons who wished to testify.

Council Member Pippel asked of the fiscal year ending dates. City Manager Healy explained the timeframe for the receipt of funds.

Council Member Pippel asked of the receipt of legislature funds versus funds received by the Byrne grant. City Manager Healy described the legislative funds as a one time source and that a negative impact will not be seen by the lack of application for the Byrne grant.

Council Member Pippel spoke in support of drafting a resolution to support the legislature in its efforts to fight methamphetamine use and to encourage the identification of local funding sources to fight its use. Mayor Combs spoke of the use by youth and his experiences with the youth at the Youth Center.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Item 8 – Public Hearing – Resolution No. 05-036: Accepting and Appropriating \$150,000 from the Alaska Department of Community and Economic Development for Palmer High School/Machetanz Field Visitor Side Bleachers and a School Wide-Video Surveillance System (IM 05-088)

MOVED BY:	Pippel	To adopt resolution no. 05-036
SECONDED BY:	Hanson	

Mayor Combs opened the public hearing for resolution no. 05-036. There were no persons who wished to testify.

Council Member Pippel asked of the receipt of funds for a Borough project. City Manager Healy explained the disbursement of grant funds throughout the state for school district purposes. He stated that the city will remain the grantee and will sign an agreement with the Borough to complete the project.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Item 9 – Public Hearing – Resolution No. 1365 (B): Amending the City of Palmer Fiscal Year 2005 Budget (IM 05-085)

MOVED BY:	Pippel	To adopt resolution no. 1365 (B)
SECONDED BY:	Erbey	

Mayor Combs opened the public hearing for resolution no. 1365 (B). There were no persons who wished to testify.

Council Member Pippel asked of the funding for the project manager position. City Manager Healy explained the discussion with the auditor regarding funding of the position. City Manager Healy stated the necessity for establishing a contra account line item and the payment of the employee through the general fund and reimbursement with grants funds.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Clerk’s note: Due to a recognized conflict of interest, Mayor Combs passed the gavel to Mayor Pro-Tempore Pippel who presided during item no. 10.

Item 10 – Public Hearing (2 of 2) – Ordinance No. 05-031: Amending Palmer Municipal Code 2.05.040 Specifically to Establish Additional Mayoral Duties, Adopting 2.05.045 to Institute Remedies Regarding Performance, and Amending 2.05.050 to Modify the Method of Determining and Increasing the Amount of the Mayoral Compensation (IM 05-079)

MOVED BY:	Hanson	To adopt ordinance no. 05-031
SECONDED BY:	Vanover	

Mayor Pro-Tempore Pippel opened the public hearing for ordinance no. 05-031. The following persons testified:

- Detleff Wanke spoke in opposition to the ordinance and spoke of the history of the former resolution. He voiced his opinion that the city is not in need of a full-time mayor and spoke of the council’s satisfaction with the manager. Mr. Wanke highlighted former Mayor Cooper’s activities and stated that because Mayor Combs has been a council member, he had prior knowledge of the time involved for the office of mayor. Mr. Wanke spoke of the Mayor’s attempt to lobby for funds on behalf of the City and proposed that a full-time City lobbyist be hired.
- DeLana Johnson stated that when she first learned of the proposed change of government, the idea seemed like a cliché. She stated that doesn’t know if Palmer is in need of a full-time mayor because the need had not been clearly defined. Ms. Johnson asked what the City would be buying for their money. She stated that when a person runs for election they choose to do so because they have made the choice to become a public servant and voiced her suspicions that had the position been a full-time paid position prior to the last election, there may have been more persons choosing to run for the office. She stated that following

further investigation and if the need for a full-time mayor is identified; the change should take place during the next election season. Ms. Johnson asked who the mayor would be accountable to and asked that the role be further defined.

- John Combs (Mayor) stated that since taking the role of mayor, the role had grown and after being in the position for approximately five months, it became apparent to him that he would be unable to fulfill the requirements for the office of mayor. Mayor Combs highlighted the activities and explained his research regarding the need. He spoke of his managerial background and code/charter requirements for the mayor. Mayor Combs explained the proposed candidate forums and expressed his belief in the voters to make the best choices for the City of Palmer when voting for Mayor. He stated that he does not view the change to a full-time mayor as any type of power play and highlighted his conversation with the Manager regarding political connections. He commented on the comments regarding changing gears mid-stream and voiced his concern about being left behind if Palmer does not take a step forward. Mayor Combs spoke of Charter Section 2.3 and the perception of his position as a salaried employee.

Council Member Wood spoke in opposition to the ordinance and lack of sufficient justification for the unprecedented change in the operation of the city government. He stated that he has spoken with members of the community and stated that thus far, only one person supports the change. Council Member Wood stated that the change represents a personal accommodation rather than a public accommodation and serves the ambitions of one person. He described the change as opening Pandora's Box and stated that perhaps not with the current mayor, but a future mayor may use the full-time mayor provision in a manner so as to change the form of government. He stated that the council has wisely and unanimously chosen the form of government as a manager form of government and spoke of the successes of that form. He described the impossibility of clear lines between the Mayor and Manager and stated that the change may interfere with the management of the affairs of the City. He described the possible retributions should a manager disagree with the mayor. He described the current mayoral role and described the proposed salary as six times higher than any other in the State of Alaska. Council Member Wood spoke of the ceremonial role of the mayor and stated that it is not the role of the mayor to become deeper involved in City roles and stated that it is the role of the entire council. He described the reasons offered by the Mayor to describe the need for a full-time mayor as anecdotal and the need or necessity for the change has not established. He stated that the Mayor should have considered the required timeframes prior to running for the office. Council Member Wood stated that the Mayor must prioritize the workload and the amount on his plate can be controlled. He spoke of the Mayor's desire to lobby the state and federal legislature and suggested that the hiring of a professional lobbyist to accomplish the goals. He described the optimum time to address a legislature as when they are "in our back yard". Council Member Wood spoke of the interjection of party politics and voiced his support for a city manager form of government which does not provide for that type of interjection. He stated that although he admires the Mayor for his desire to serve the community, he does not support the ordinance.

Council Member Hanson voiced his disagreement with Council Member Wood and voiced his support of the ordinance. He spoke in opposition to the suggestion of a change in the form of government. He stated that his vote regarding the proposed ordinance has nothing to do with the current mayor and has to do with the betterment of Palmer and the ability to attract qualified candidates for mayor. Council Member Hanson spoke of the lack of candidates for mayor and stated that the City is not doing a good job of attracting mayoral candidates. He described the

possible reason for this as the overwhelming nature of the job. He stated that if the City truly desires to make the community a more desirable place to live, greater representation is needed in the office of Mayor. He described the need to compensate the mayor for those duties. Council Member Hanson spoke of the comments as a change to benefit just one person and described the benefits of a full-time mayor as far reaching. He described the importance of a central point of contact and stated that considering the size of the budget, the issue is not as large as originally perceived. Council Member Hanson described the levels of activity within the City and the importance of the full-time mayoral role.

Council Member Carrington spoke of his examination of other cities the same size of Palmer for ideas and stated that a change of government would not be beneficial to the City. He spoke of the ability to change the mayor's salary within the proposed code. Council Member Carrington described the political process and stated that in regards to the mayor's salary, the council has the ability to pay for what they get as opposed to you getting what you pay for. He spoke of the council/clerk budget and previous conflicts regarding the clerk position. He stated that there may be potential conflicts with a full-time mayor but that the risks of that occurring may outweigh the benefits.

Council Member Erbey voiced his agreement with Council Member Hanson and stated that as a council member with a full-time job he is prevented from attending a lot of activities on behalf of the City. He stated that he does not wish to see a mayor prohibited likewise and stated that he is comfortable with the differentiation in duties between the mayor and manager. Council Member Erbey spoke of the addition of a police lieutenant as an opportunity for the police department to keep ahead of demands and stated that he would like the council to be in the same position. Council Member Erbey stated that he believes that can happen with the addition of a full-time mayor.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Pippel stated that he found himself agreeing with a lot of what Mr. Wanke and Council Member Wood had to say. He described the inherent problems with creating a position such as the ordinance creates. He stated that the ordinance has been brought forward as a response to a perceived problem and stated that there isn't enough of the city manager to go around. Mayor Pro-Tempore Pippel described the growth rate and stated that the demands on the City within the next ten years for infrastructure will be tremendous. He spoke of the necessary lobbying efforts to provide for the infrastructure needs and stated the necessity of an elected official to be face-to-face with the elected officials at the State and Federal level. Mayor Pro-Tempore Pippel stated his belief that the investment in a full-time mayor will bring in millions of dollars. He stated that the proposed full-time may become problematic but described the issue as manageable. He stated that he does not feel the range of pay is not out of line with the required duties.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:	Motion passed 4-1 (Wood) roll call vote.
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Reconsideration		
Moved by:	Carrington	To move for reconsideration of ordinance no. 05-031
Seconded by:	Pippel	

Vote on Reconsideration:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Clerk's note: Following reconsideration, the main motion became pending.

Primary Amendment #1 to Main Motion		
Moved by:	Wood	To add the language section K to read as follows: K. Subsections G through J notwithstanding, the mayor shall not perform or interfere with the duties of the city manager as set out in Charter or in this code, and the manager may inform the mayor and/or council of any transgressions;
Seconded by:	Erbey	

Vote on Amendment:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:	Motion passed 4-1 (Wood) roll call vote.
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Clerk's note: Mayor Combs presided over the remainder of the meeting.

K. BIDS

Item 1 - Action Memorandum 05-100: Authorize City Manager to Enter Into a Professional Services Agreement with Greenstreet Contracting in the Amount of \$22,000 to Move a Building Located at the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration Tsunami Center to the Public Works Shop

MOVED BY:	Pippel	To authorize the city manager to enter into a professional services agreement with Greenstreet Contracting in the amount of \$22,000 to move a building located at the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
SECONDED BY:	Erbey	

Council Member Wood inquired of the cost presented in the bid. City Manager Healy explained the building as a small to medium size home and could not be picked up by a fork lift.

Council Member Pippel asked of the building's use. Council Member Healy stated that the building will be used as offices.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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L. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Item 1 - Action Memorandum 05-095: Approve Design and Construction of an Extension to the Storm Water Collection System in Valley Trails Subdivision; Specifically On and In the Vicinity of Anna Street

MOVED BY:	Pippel	To approve design and construction of an extension of the storm water collection system in Valley Trails Subdivision; specifically on and in the vicinity of Anna Street
SECONDED BY:	Wood	

Mr. Koch spoke of the as-built survey regarding the placement of storm drain pipes. He explained the existing storm drainage pipe system on Anna Street and conversation with the contractor to install a catch basin that will significantly reduce the overall cost of the project. Mr. Koch stated that should the property owners in the area wish to connect to the system, the City will be willing to accommodate at the expense of the property owner.

Discussion ensued regarding the storm drainage system on Anna Street.

Mr. Koch highlighted a conversation held with DOT regarding the water quality and run-off areas.

Council Member Hanson asked of plans to place additional catch basins on Anna Street. Mr. Koch stated that there are not plans at this time but the issue will be addressed next year.

Discussion ensued regarding further utility easements.

Council Member Hanson spoke of the need to eliminate the run-off off in the streets.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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M. NEW BUSINESS

N. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Healy reported on the following items:

- S. Chugach Project – the funding timeframe is in question, more information should become available in one week;
- Borough property under lease to the City;
- Health Trust;
- Finance Director – applicant has declined, an offer has been made to another candidate;
- Vacation – will be gone October 12 through October 20.

O. CITY CLERK'S REPORT

Ms. Bower reported on the following items:

- Website Statistics – top three pages viewed are the home page, Ice Arena, and Employment Opportunities page;
- Election Officials;
- Second High School in Palmer.

P. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE

The following items were placed on the table:

- Letter to Ron Swanson; and
- Special Meeting Packet.

Q. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Detleff Wanke complimented the City Clerk and those involved in launching the website and asked of the disposition of resolutions and action memorandums.

R. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Erbey stated that although Palmer is a small town, our town has been represented throughout the nation and extended his condolences to the Berberich family.

Council Member Pippel asked of the vacancy on the Planning and Zoning Commission. Ms. Bower explained the staggered terms, the vacated seats and the deadline for application. Council Member Pippel congratulated Council Member Hanson and the Palmer High School football team for their win. He also commended Council Member Erbey for his job of referring the game. Council Member Pippel asked the Clerk of the status of an ordinance regarding the salary for work sessions and special meetings. Ms. Bower explained that she would attend training on September 14 regarding the Open Meetings Act and would report back regarding the matter.

Council Member Hanson echoed the sentiments regarding condolences to the Berberich family and wished the other young soldiers the best.

Council Member Carrington stated that he will be out of town from September 27 through October 4, 2005.

Council Member Wood stated that with great pleasure that he noted that the Building Department has collected the highest amount of fees to date and commented on the funds that he has placed in their account.

Mayor Combs stated that he would work on a resolution regarding methamphetamines and voiced the appropriateness of addressing the issue at a joint tri-city meeting. He spoke of the Borough's ballot issue regarding the matter. Discussion ensued regarding the consequences and effects of the drug.

Q. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

APPROVED THIS 27th day of September, 2005.

/s/

John C. Combs, Mayor

/s/

Janette M. Bower, City Clerk