

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Palmer City Council was held on January 24, 2017, at 7:00 pm in the council chambers, Palmer, Alaska.

Mayor DeVries called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Edna DeVries, Mayor	Linda Combs, Deputy Mayor
Richard Best	Steve Carrington
David Fuller	Peter LaFrance

Council Member Hanson was absent and excused.

Also in attendance were the following:

Nathan Wallace, City Manager	Norma I. Alley, MMC, City Clerk
Michael Gatti, City Attorney	Bernadette Packa, Deputy City Clerk

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Fuller.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a. Introduction of **Ordinance No. 17-002**: Amending Palmer Municipal Code Chapter 12.24.025.E Regarding Firearms in City Parks, Adding 12.24.025.M. Establishing Hours During Which Parks are closed, 12.24.025.N. Establishing Quiet Hours in Parks; and Amending 12.24.030 to Update Park Use Permits Process (IM No. 17-004)
2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings
 - a. November 1, 2016, Special Meeting
 - b. November 8, 2016, Special Meeting
 - c. November 8, 2016, Regular Meeting
 - d. November 22, 2016, Regular Meeting

Main Motion: To Approve Consent Agenda and Minutes

Moved by:	Best
Seconded by:	Combs
Action:	Motion carried unanimously by members present
In favor:	Best, Carrington, Combs, DeVries, Fuller, LaFrance
Opposed:	None
Absent:	Hanson

E. COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS

Main Motion: To Suspend the Rules to Allow Additional Time for Speakers

Moved by:	Combs
Seconded by:	LaFrance
Action:	Motion carried unanimously by members present
In favor:	Best, Carrington, Combs, DeVries, Fuller, LaFrance
Opposed:	None
Absent:	Hanson

Item 1 – Kawasaki Disease Proclamation – Mayor DeVries read and presented the proclamation to Shannon and Aubrey Virgin.

Item 2 – Patrick Durand, Engine 557 Restoration Company President

- Provided a brief overview of the project’s origin in 2012 including its history and purpose;
- Addressed plans for Engine 557 following completion of the restoration project;
- Addressed some current needs, including restoration of the Alaska Rail Road Company right of way from the Alaska State Fair Grounds to the Depot in Downtown Palmer, access to the Palmer Industrial Park spur to the Airport for trial runs and training purposes, and a permanent engine house; and
- Fielded questions from the Council.

Additional information on the 557 Restoration Company project is available in the meeting packet file.

Council Member Carrington requested a resolution of support be prepared allowing for non-exclusive use of the airport spur. Council Member Best offered his support.

Item 3 – Thomas Olsen, Drug Enforcement Agency Task Force Partnership Group Supervisor

- Spoke concerning the Tactical Diversion Squad 360 Program whose focus is the control of heroin and non-prescription opioid medications;
- Shared about the action plan for the 360 Program and the role of the Task Force Officers; and
- Addressed the benefits of the program to the City of Palmer Police Officers and the community.

City Manager Wallace pointed out Asset forfeiture may assist with future funding of the program.

Deputy Mayor Combs requested an opportunity for discussion on partnership with the Drug Enforcement Agency Task Force be on a future agenda. Council Member Best offered his support.

The Council took a brief recess from 7:42 pm to 7:49 pm.

F. REPORTS

Item 1 – City Manager’s Report

City Manager Nathan Wallace:

- Highlighted his written report;
- Provided updates on the two construction projects;
- Offered Kudos to the Public Works Department for their excellent efforts on snow removal;
- Commented on the priorities used for snow removal;
- Highlighted the coming weekend events scheduled for the MTA Events Center; and
- Fielded questions from the Council.

Item 2 – City Clerk’s Report:

City Clerk Norma Alley highlighted her written report.

Item 3 – Mayor’s Report

Mayor DeVries:

- Highlighted her written report;
- Thanked Deputy Mayor Combs for filling in for her at the Japanese Kabuki theater presentation;
- Clarified attendance of the Wayfinding Committee Open House by Council Members Best and LaFrance;
- Spoke to scheduling a presentation by the Mat-Su Health foundation; and
- Addressed the potential design of a permanent plaque listing Golden Heart Award recipients.

Item 4 – City Attorney’s Report

City Attorney Michael Gatti offered to review proposed Legislative Bills with those going to Juneau.

G. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Eugene Carl Haberman:

- Addressed the issue of meeting dates conflicting with the Mat-Su Borough Assembly meetings; and
- Noted following his late arrival to the meeting, packets for the public had run out.

Mayor DeVries noted the large number of people present at the start of the meeting depleted the packets.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Item 1 – Action Memorandum No. 17-005: City Council Statement of Non-Objection to the Renewal of Liquor License #4064, for the Palmer Municipal Golf Course, Located at 1000 LePak Avenue

Mayor DeVries opened the public hearing.

Eugene Carl Haberman:

- Spoke to the need for two public hearings on liquor license renewals; and
- Stated the more complicated an issue the greater the need for notice and for the public to speak.

Hearing no objection from the council, Mayor DeVries closed the public hearing.

No written notice or public input was received concerning renewal of the license.

Council Member Best pointed out the purpose of the action memorandum was only to verify the City had no concerns with the renewal of the license. This verification would then be supplied to the licensing agency for the State of Alaska, and they would determine whether to renew the license.

Main Motion: To Authorize Action Memorandum No. 17-005

Moved by:	Fuller
Seconded by:	Combs
Action:	Motion carried unanimously by members present
In favor:	Best, Carrington, Combs, DeVries, Fuller, LaFrance
Opposed:	None
Absent:	Hanson

Item 2 – Action Memorandum No. 17-006: City Council Statement of Non-Objection to the Renewal of Liquor License #2931, for the Mat-Su Miners, Located at the Alaska State Fairgrounds Hermon Brothers Field

Mayor DeVries opened the public hearing.

Eugene Carl Haberman:

- Spoke to the need for two public hearings on liquor license renewals; and
- Noted he viewed a single public hearing on the issue as fast-tracking.

Hearing no objection from the council, Mayor DeVries closed the public hearing.

No written notice or public input was received concerning renewal of the license.

Council Member Best clarified the State of Alaska was the governing body tasked with issuing liquor licenses. Alaska Statute 04.11.480 allows the local governing body to provide a protest to the State of Alaska concerning a liquor license renewal. No public hearing was required by the State of Alaska; however, the City of Palmer chose to allow the public to speak to the issue prior to the Council making its decision of protest or non-objection concerning each renewal.

Main Motion: To Authorize Action Memorandum No. 17-006

Moved by:	Best
Seconded by:	Fuller
Action:	Motion carried unanimously by members present
In favor:	Best, Carrington, Combs, DeVries, Fuller, LaFrance
Opposed:	None
Absent:	Hanson

I. ACTION MEMORANDA

Item 1 – Action Memorandum No. 17-007: Authorize the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute a Phase 2 of the Contract with HDL Engineering Consultants for the Second Phase of the Engineering Services for the Rehabilitation and Repaving of Runway 16/34 not to exceed \$182,579.00 from the revised “Scope and Fee, Proposal for RFP #16-01PAQ

Main Motion: To Authorize Action Memorandum No. 17-007

Moved by:	Combs
Seconded by:	Fuller
Action:	Motion carried unanimously by members present
In favor:	Best, Carrington, Combs, DeVries, Fuller, LaFrance
Opposed:	None
Absent:	Hanson

J. NEW BUSINESS

Item 1 – Resolution No. 17-008: Adoption of the Warren “Bud” Woods Palmer Municipal Airport Master Plan 2016, developed by HDL Engineering Consultants (IM No. 17-005)

Main Motion: To Approve Resolution No. 17-008

Moved by:	Best
Seconded by:	Fuller
Action:	Motion carried unanimously by members present
In favor:	Best, Carrington, Combs, DeVries, Fuller, LaFrance
Opposed:	None
Absent:	Hanson

Item 2 – Golden Heart Lifetime Achievement Award

Discussion by the Council ensued.

Council Member Best requested support to have the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Advisory Board discuss a permanent installation location and design for the Golden Heart Achievement Award.

Deputy Mayor Combs requested the recipients of the Golden Heart Achievement Award be notified of the date and time of the award presentation prior to the next Council meeting.

K. RECORD OF ITEMS PLACED ON THE TABLE

Airport Runway 16/34 Project Handout

L. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Eugene Carl Haberman:

- Spoke to the need for a fair opportunity for the public to be heard.

Sloane Dellafosse:

- Spoke to the recent Women’s March; and
- Thanked Council Member LaFrance for extending an invitation to the meeting as an opportunity to be heard.

M. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Council Member Carrington:

- Spoke to the good road conditions in Palmer; and
- Suggested we continue to pursue Federal Aviation Administration funding.

Council Member LaFrance:

- Commented on the great job done on snow removal;
- Spoke to the 1,000 people peacefully demonstrating in Palmer over the weekend; and
- Reminded everyone of the February 15, Night Time Orienteering Race.

Council Member Best:

- Reminded everyone to be careful of children possibly playing in snow berms.

Council Member Fuller:

- Thanked Public Works for their efforts in keeping the roads cleared;
- Thanked those who attended the meeting; and
- Encouraged everyone to attend at least one meeting a month and keep informed.

Deputy Mayor Combs:

- Expressed kudos to Public Works for their work on the roads;
- Shared she would be unable to attend the upcoming Joint Council and Board of Economic Development meeting as she would be attending a series of meetings in Juneau as a commissioner on the Governor's Commission on Aging; and
- Shared about the Japanese Cinema Kabuki presentation this past weekend.

Mayor DeVries:

- Asked for an update from the City Manager on the Local Improvement District Special Assessments;
- Asked for an update on the land appraisal for the Glenn Highway Property; and
- Reminded everyone the next meeting was the Joint Council and Board of Economic Development meeting scheduled for February 7, 2017.

City Manager Wallace confirmed the Special Assessments update would take place in April and then again in October.

N. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Approved this 28th day of March, 2017.

Norma I. Alley, MMC, City Clerk

Edna B. DeVries, Mayor