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**PALMER TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, August 27, 2009, 7:00 PM**  
**Town Council Meeting Room, Palmer Town Building**  
**Minutes**

- I) Called to order at 1906
- II) Roll Call:
- A) Present: Mr. Magiera, Ms. Barry, Mr. Backus, Mr. Burns, Mr. Hebert, Mr. Dinuovo, Mr. Duguay, Mr. Remillard, Mr. Streeter
- B) Absent: Mr. Williams
- III) Pledge of Allegiance
- IV) Mr. Burns moved, Mr. Backus seconded motion to accept agenda as written, Council voted 8-0-0 to accept agenda as written
- V) Agenda Items
- A) Public Participation on Excise Tax issue-hearing opened at 1907
- 1) Mr. David Whitney from Bondsville spoke in favor of meals excise tax
  - 2) Hearing closed with no further comment at 1909
- B) Resolution 2010-03 – Meals Excise Tax read by Ms. Barry
- 1) Ms. Barry moved, Mr. Dinuovo seconded motion to enact resolution
  - 2) Discussion:
    - (a) Mr. Duguay, Mr. Hebert spoke against, Ms. Barry, Mr. Burns spoke in favor of resolution
    - (b) Mr. Magiera spoke of difficulty of decision and necessity of issue
    - (c) Ms. Barry spoke of being wary of state budget changes
    - (d) Mr. Burns spoke of tax being voluntary choice
    - (e) Council voted 5-3-0 in favor of the resolution, with Mr. Duguay, Mr. Hebert and Mr. Backus voting against
- C) Resolution 2010-04 – Rooms Excise Tax read and moved by Ms. Barry
- 1) Motion seconded by Mr. Dinuovo
  - 2) Council noted that the Excise:
    - (a) Affects only 1 business in town
    - (b) Revenue generated is minimal
    - (c) Palmer has not accepted that section of MA General Laws thus far
    - (d) Council's job is to raise enough money to keep the town going forward.
    - (e) Neither of these taxes will bail out the town

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(f) There will be very little impact to the town

(g) This is another way of exporting a tax to non-residents

3) Council voted to defeat the motion 4-4-0 with Mr. Backus, Mr. Burns, Mr. Duguay, and Mr. Hebert voting against and Mr. Magiera, Ms. Barry, Mr. Remillard, and Mr. Dinuovo voting in favor

VI) Mr. Burns moved, Mr. Backus seconded motion to adjourn; Council voted 8-0-0 to adjourn at 1922.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ramon M. Dole

Recording Secretary