

1 Palmer Town Council  
2 Meeting Minutes January 11, 2010  
3

4 Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Council President Michael Magiera.  
5

6 **Roll Call** – Barbara Barry, Paul Burns, Eric Duda, Roger Duguay, Phil Hebert, William  
7 Heilman, Mike Magiera, Ray Remillard, Karl Williams – Present  
8

9 Newly elected/re-elected councilors were sworn in by Town Clerk Patricia Donovan.  
10

11 **Consent of the Agenda Order** – Item 7a of the agenda was moved to the first item on  
12 the agenda. Motion by Paul Burns, second by Phil Hebert – unanimously approved.  
13

14 **Discussion Item – Tax Sales** – Town Treasurer/Collector Melissa Zawadzki, Atty. Steve  
15 Roche and Robert Kwartler from the company Massachusetts Lien Servicing LLC were  
16 present to discuss Bulk Sale of Tax Receivables. There are currently 174 properties with  
17 liens. Taxes on these properties are approximately \$2.6 million. 200 parcels with  
18 delinquent taxes for FY2009 will be liened soon. Because of the cost of the Town  
19 initiating foreclosure proceedings this is being brought forward as a possible alternative.  
20 Not all parcels that are currently in Tax Title will be able to be sold. Those with  
21 environmental issues, taxpayers in bankruptcy and those who make payment  
22 arrangements would not be included in the sale.  
23

24 **Visitors Comments** – Ken Martin spoke regarding the Palmer High School Tennis  
25 Team. They are currently doing fundraising in order to fund the tennis team for the  
26 upcoming season. Mr. Martin questioned if it would be possible for the tennis team to  
27 use the tennis courts near Converse Middle School. There are some repairs that would be  
28 needed in order to use these courts. Mr. Martin also made a request to the Town for  
29 possible funding. Mr. Martin will work with the Town Manager and DPW Director  
30 regarding the use of the tennis courts.  
31

32 **Minutes of Preceding Town Council Meeting** – November 30, 2009 – Motion to  
33 approve Phil Hebert, second Paul Burns – Voted 5-0-4 with Roger Duguay, Ray  
34 Remillard, Eric Duda, and William Heilman abstaining. December 10, 2009 – Motion by  
35 Paul Burns, second Ray Remillard – Voted 6-0-3 with Eric Duda, William Heilman and  
36 Barbara Barry abstaining. December 14, 2009 – Motion by Paul Burns, second Phil  
37 Hebert – Voted 6-0-3 with Eric Duda, William Heilman and Barbara Barry abstaining.  
38

39 Five minute recess at 8:12 p.m. returned 8:15 p.m.  
40

41 **First Reading: Ordinance 2010-02 Zone Change** – Ordinance was read by Council  
42 Clerk Barbara Barry. To change the zoning designation on Map 2, Lot 60, 1524 Park  
43 Street from Rural Residential District to Highway Business District.  
44

45 **Resolution 2010-20 – Appointment Municipal Hearing Officer** – Motion by Barbara  
46 Barry, second Paul Burns to appoint Matthew Streeter as Municipal Hearings Officer for  
47 the Town of Palmer. Voted 9-0-0.  
48

49 **Resolution 2010-21 – Authorization deficit Spending for Snow and Ice** – Motion by  
50 Barbara Barry, second Paul Burns to allow deficit spending for Snow and Ice Removal in  
51 accordance with MGL Chapter 44, Section 31D. Voted 9-0-0.  
52

53 **Resolution 2010-22 – Amendment to Council Rules and Procedures** – Discussion  
54 regarding the reimbursement to Councilors for attendance at meetings/seminars. Mike  
55 Magiera invoked the Charter Rule that allowed no action to be taken on this item and it  
56 will be brought forward again at the next Regular Meeting of the Council. President  
57 Magiera also formed a sub-committee made up of Barbara Barry, Paul Burns, and Phil  
58 Hebert to work to draft revised language for this resolution.  
59

60 **Resolution 2010-23 – Transfer to Town Council Expense Account** – Motion by Paul  
61 Burns, second Karl Williams to transfer \$500 from the Reserve Account to the Town  
62 Council Expense Account to cover expenses for reimbursement to council member for  
63 attending training/seminars. Voted 6-3-0 with William Heilman, Ray Remillard and  
64 Barbara Barry opposed.  
65

66 **Sub-Committee Reports** – None  
67

68 **Town Manager’s Report** – In addition to items in the Town Manager’s Report dated  
69 January 11, 2010 the Town Manager reported that he would be attending the MMA  
70 Conference in Boston. He also reported that the Town is making available for sale  
71 extendable compost bins and kitchen compost buckets that were purchased with a Grant.  
72 The cost of the compost bins in \$35 and the cost of the kitchen compost bucket is \$11.  
73

74 **Councilor’s Round Table** – Newly elected Councilor’s Eric Duda and William Heilman  
75 were welcomed by all Councilors.  
76

77 Paul Burns – A written statement was read by Councilor Burns in regard to the  
78 presentation that was made for Dr. Fournier at a meeting held at Palmer High School on  
79 1/6/2010.  
80

81 Ray Remillard – Stated that he was looking forward to a productive year.  
82

83 Barbara Barry – Stated that she would like the Council to meet with the school as soon as  
84 revenue numbers are available from the Town Manager.  
85

86 Mike Magiera – Reminded everyone of the Special Election for State Senator to be held  
87 on January 19, 2010. Also thanked John DiNuovo and George Backus for their years of  
88 service to the Town.  
89  
90

91 **Reorganization of Town Council**

92

93 Council President – Barbara Barry nominated Paul Burns, second Phil Hebert – no other  
94 nominees – Council Clerk Barbara Barry cast ballot for Paul Burns

95

96 Council Vice President – Paul Burns nominated Barbara Barry, second Phil Hebert – no  
97 other nominees – Council Vice President Paul Burns cast ballot for Barbara Barry

98

99 Council Clerk – Paul Burns nominated Phil Hebert, second Barbara Barry – no other  
100 nominees – Council Clerk Barbara Barry cast ballot for Phil Hebert

101

102 Motion to adjourn by Paul Burns, second by Roger Duguay. Adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

103

104 Respectfully submitted,

105

106 Barbara Barry

107 Council Clerk

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