

1. Pledge of allegiance
2. Role call – 7:03PM
 - a. All present
3. Motion to accept the agenda
 - a. Motion – David Whitney
 - b. Second – Richard Fitzgerald
 - c. 9-0
4. Paul Burns opens the discussion and asks each member for their views
5. Richard Fitzgerald
 - a. There are several forms of government but we are really only discussing two
 - b. Discussion of government forms..
 - c. Prefers the Town Manager and Town Council form of government. The charter could be improved.
6. Paul Wisnewski
 - a. Thanks Pathfinder for hosting the meeting and thanks Eric Duda for all his efforts
 - b. It seems that about 3 of 4 people at each meeting want the current form of government
 - c. Discussion..
 - d. The selectman form has two significant flaws
 - i. Part time people are the executive branch and run a \$33 million budget without expertise or a full time status
 - ii. The Town Meeting is not democratic it is a haven for special interest groups and isn't right for Palmer. This form may work in some smaller towns.
7. Ray Domey
 - a. Spoke to Marilyn Contreas, the Town Council role is budget and bylaws
 - b. The present Town Manager is from out of state and his interest in Palmer is unknown
 - c. We could have a Town Manager with selectman form of government
 - d. The Town Council can't hold at doing their job, they want to step into the executive role
 - e. Part time people are still doing the budget
 - f. Why not give the people a chance to vote on a return to the old form of government
 - g. The Town Manager meets with the department heads behind closed doors, the people don't know what is going on.
 - h. Supports Town Meetings and Town Selectman
8. David Whitney
 - a. Attended 90% of the town meetings
 - b. Helped write the charter and knows its intent

- c. He sees the system from the inside as a prior councilor
 - d. The charter needs tweaking
 - e. Would like to see all councilors at large
 - f. A \$33 million dollar budget needs full time management
 - g. Prefers Town Council form of government
9. Eric Duda
- a. Thinks Town Meetings are very democratic
 - b. Feels like the town has outgrown itself regarding the government
 - c. The Town Council has potential. Maybe there should be 5 or 7 councilors instead of nine
 - d. Major changes would have to made in the charter
 - e. One person with too much power is a problem
 - f. The majority of people that have attended the meetings have supported the current form of government
10. Mike Pajak
- a. Likes the town meeting form of government.
 - b. Thinks town meetings are democratic
 - c. If the current form remains, a lot of changes should be made
11. Charles Abbate
- a. Would like two items on the ballot
 - i. Town Meeting/Selectman and Town Manger/Council
 - ii. Give the citizens the chance to choose if this is possible
12. Joseph Mastalerz
- a. Agrees with Charles Abbate, would like to see both on the ballot
 - b. Voted twice for the Town Council form of government, mostly because the form of government was going to pay for itself
 - c. Led to believe that qualified department heads would be in place
 - d. Not against the current form of government, but would like to see a lot of changes
13. Paul Burns
- a. Favors the Town Council and Town Manager form of government
 - b. More accountability needs to be in place
 - c. Hears the concerns about the current form of government
 - d. Doesn't believe two forms of government could be placed on the ballot
 - e. Believes a final document needs to be on the ballot
14. Vote on the form government
15. Motion to un-table the previous motion
- a. (Previous motion - Motion to pursue the Town Council and Town Manager form of government)
 - b. Motion – David Whitney
 - c. Second – Richard Fitzgerald
 - d. 9-0

16. Motion to pursue the Town Council and Town Manager form of government
 - a. Discussion
 - b. Role call vote
 - i. Richard Fitzgerald – Yes
 - ii. Paul Wisnewski – Yes
 - iii. Ray Domey – No
 - iv. David Whitney – Yes
 - v. Eric Duda – No
 - vi. Mike Pajak – No
 - vii. Charles Abbate – No
 - viii. Joseph Mastalerz – No
 - ix. Paul Burns – Yes
 - x. 4-5
17. Motion for Marilyn Contreas to attend the next meeting to answer questions
 - a. Motion – Mike Pajak
 - b. Second – Charles Abbate
 - c. Discussion
 - d. 9-0
18. Motion to adjourn at 8:08PM
 - a. Motion – Richard Fitzgerald
 - b. Second – David Whitney
 - c. 9-0