

# Town of Palmer

*Bondsville, Depot Village, Thorndike & Three Rivers*  
*“The Town of Seven Railroads”*

Town Council

4417 Main Street  
Palmer, MA 01069  
Town: (413) 283-2603  
cblanchard@townofpalmer.com

## Councilors

Barbara A. Barry  
President

Mary Salzmann  
Vice President

Robert Lavoie  
Council Clerk

Lorinda Baker

Matthew Lemieux

Michelle Sikes

Karl Williams

Charles T. Blanchard  
Town Manager

June 11, 2018

Sponsor: Administration

Second Reading/Public Hearing/Vote  
Ordinance 2018-05

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PALMER TOWN COUNCIL

AMENDMENT TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN OF  
PALMER TO ADOPT A

## VETERAN EMERGENCY FUND

### 1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this ordinance is to vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 60, Section 3F; the law would allow the Town to designate a place on its property or motor vehicle excise tax bills or mail with such bills a separate form whereby taxpayers may voluntarily check off, donate and pledge an amount of money, which shall increase the amount already due, for the purposes of providing support for veterans and their dependents in need of immediate assistance, or take any action relative thereto.

### 1.1 Summary

This fund, under the direction of the Veteran Services Department, will enable the Town to act expeditiously when responding to immediate needs of veterans and their dependents. Expenditure from the fund can be made without further appropriation and will be only utilized to provide emergency food, transportation, heat and oil expenses.

### 1.2 Enclosures

Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 60, Section 3F

**Section 3F:** Voluntary donation to multiple veterans' assistance fund by designation on municipal property tax or motor vehicle excise bills.

*[Text of section added by 2016, 141, Sec. 12 effective July 14, 2016.]*

**Section 3F:** A city, or town or district that accepts this section may designate a place on its municipal property tax bills or motor vehicle excise bills or mail with such bills a separate form whereby taxpayers of the city, town or district may voluntarily check off, donate and pledge an amount of money which shall increase the amount already due to establish and fund a municipal veterans assistance fund which shall be under the supervision of the local veterans agent, the board or officer in charge of the collection of the municipal charge, fee or fine or the town collector of taxes.

*[Paragraph inserted following the first paragraph by 2016, 283, Sec. 9 effective October 6, 2016.]*

Any amounts donated to the fund shall be deposited into a special account in the general treasury and shall be in the custody of the treasurer. The treasurer shall invest the funds at the direction of the officer, board, commission or other agency of the city or town who or which is otherwise authorized and required to invest trust funds of the city or town and subject to the same limitations applicable to trust fund investments except as otherwise specified in this section. The fund and any interest thereon shall be used for the purposes of this section without further appropriation.

Money in the fund shall be used to provide support for veterans and their dependents in need of immediate assistance with food, transportation, heat and oil expenses. The city, town or district's veterans' services department shall: (i) establish an application process for veterans and their dependents to obtain assistance; (ii) establish standards for acceptable documentation of veteran status or dependent status; and (iii) establish financial eligibility criteria for determining need and amount of assistance for eligible applicants. The veterans' services department shall be responsible for reviewing each applicant and fairly applying the eligibility and level-of-need standards.

**Adoption History:**

Proposed Ordinance Submitted to Town Council on March 12, 2018

Agenda item and First Reading at Regular Town Council Meeting held on May 7, 2018

Second Reading, Public Hearing and Vote at Regular Town Council Meeting held on June 11, 2018

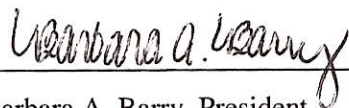
Public Hearing was warned in Palmer Journal Register on May 24, & May 31, 2018.

Vote on Ordinance at Regular Council Meeting and entered into the minutes of this meeting on June 11, 2018. Vote to approve Ordinance passed by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_7-0\_\_\_\_\_


Posted in public places on May 22, 2018

Notice of adoption published in the Palmer Journal Register on June 21, 2018

Effective Date: July 12, 2018



Barbara A. Barry, President



Charles T. Blanchard, Town Manager