

**Palmer Town Council  
Meeting Minutes  
January 8, 2017**

1 **Call to Order**

2           The Palmer Town Council Meeting of Tuesday, January 8, 2018 was called to order at 6:30pm by  
3           Town Council President Barbara Barry. Councilors Mary Salzman, Lorinda Baker, Michelle  
4           Sikes, Karl Williams and Robert Lavoie were present. Councilor Matthew Lemieux was absent.  
5           Also present was Town Manager, Charles Blanchard and Executive Assistant, Nicole Parker.

6 **Meeting Minutes**

7           Motion was made to approve as amended by K.Williams. Seconded by R.Lavoie. Motion passed (5:0:1)  
8           Salzman

9 **Old Business**

10 Update on Security Camera Proposal

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12           Chief Janulewicz was present to answer questions. The main question was regarding as to whether  
13           direct feed to the police station was necessary for all proposed cameras or whether some could have a  
14           memory card. Chief recommendation was to follow the recommendation by the Town Manager.  
15           Another question was how much storage the memory cards had. C.Blanchard stated that he would find  
16           out and get back to the Council. L.Baker stated that if there was sufficient data on the SD cards, she  
17           would support all of the cameras having the SD card only, and could possible get another camera for  
18           another location. It was recommended that Joe Cebula attend the next Council meeting to answer any  
19           final questions.

20

21 **New Business**

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23 Preliminary Budget Discussion

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25           John Kuzmiski, Finance Director, provided a year to date budget to the Council for their review. The  
26           Council was asked if they had specific requests or recommendations to provide to Town Manager as he  
27           begins to prepare the budget. L.Baker stated that she would like to see more money in the budget to  
28           allow more than two Councilors attend the annual MMA conference. B.Barry stated that she believed  
29           there were other conferences offered that could be more beneficial to Town Councilors but this can be  
30           looked into. The repair of Eager Pool was discussed, and once quotes are received, if the cost is feasible  
31           it should be looked into further. B.Barry stated that she would like to see the replacement of the  
32           bleachers at Legion Field funded. She stated that over the years there has been conversation about the  
33           deterioration of the bleachers and believes it should be funded this year. B.Barry also stated that the  
34           landscaping at the school compound and Town Hall need attention. She stated that it has become too  
35           overgrown and unmanageable and needs replacing. She felt this work was beyond what should be  
36           handled by the DPW. She also noted that a conversation should be had with the school regarding the  
37           level of support the Town had with the school and whether or not the Town is able to keep up with the

1 landscaping for maintenance other than the mowing and snow removal. She stated that a Memorandum  
2 of Understanding was in place when Tom Charko was Superintendent and should be revisited. B.Barry  
3 stated that there should be discussion regarding capital expenses with the Sewer Department. A  
4 concern of hers is a significant rate increase all at one time if no capital is budgeted. B.Barry also stated  
5 that additional benches could be added at Endelson Playground at the basketball courts, after discussion  
6 of how the current benches at the park are constantly being moved to the courts.

7  
8 B.Barry asked when a budget would be presented. C.Blanchard stated that it would be presented at the  
9 first meeting in March. B.Barry also stated that there will be a budget sub-committee so Councilors can  
10 go to the subcommittee with any concerns. She stated that the subcommittee members are Barbara  
11 Barry, Lorinda Baker and Matthew Lemieux.

12  
13 **Town Manager Report**

14 C.Blanchard stated that he received four proposals for a housing consultant on the reuse of Converse  
15 Middle School.

16 A District Local Technical Assistance grant was applied for to assist in the next phase for a regional  
17 animal facility to serve Palmer, Monson, Ware and Warren. There was good indication on the grant that  
18 there should be enough money for initial architectural design but not positive as of yet.

19 A reception was held on January 3, 2018 to showcase two new electric vehicles that were awarded  
20 through a Green Communities Grant submitted by Town Planner/Economic Director, Linda Leduc.

21 C.Blanchard stated that Alice Davey, Community Development Director will be retiring on April 12, 2018.

22 **Miscellaneous Correspondence**

23 There were two letters from Comcast regarding a web page they created and another stating that there  
24 will be program changes.

25 Acknowledgement of receipt of an email received from a resident regarding the Conservation Agent's  
26 position. She stated she will forward it to everyone.

27 **Town Council Roundtable**

28 K.Williams stated that he attended the Eagle Scout ceremony for Hunter Cienciwa.

29 R.Lavoie stated that Pathfinder donated all of the leftover plants from holiday flower sales to Meals on  
30 Wheels and distributed to elderly residents when they received their meal

31 **7:15PM Adjournment**

32 Motion was made to adjourn at 7:15PM by R.Lavoie. Seconded by L.Baker. Motion passed (6:0:0)