

**Palmer Town Council
Meeting Minutes
May 20, 2019**

1 **Call to Order**

2 The Palmer Town Council Meeting of Monday, May 20, 2019 was called to order at 6:00
3 pm by Town Council President Barbara Barry. Councilors Lorinda Baker, Mary
4 Salzmann, Karl Williams, Matthew Lemieux, Michelle Sikes and Robert Lavoie were
5 present. Also present was Town Manager, Charles Blanchard and Executive Assistant,
6 Nicole Parker.

7
8
9 **Executive Session**

10 The Council went into Executive Session by roll call.
11 Motion approved unanimously by Roll Call vote:

12
13 Matthew Lemieux – Yes
14 Karl Williams – Yes
15 Lorinda Baker – Yes
16 Michelle Sikes – Yes
17 Mary Salzmann – Yes
18 Barbara Barry – Yes
19 Robert Lavoie - Yes

20
21 **Open Session**

22
23 **Old Business**

24
25 Minutes:

26
27 February 20, 2019

28
29 Motion was made to approve minutes by L.Baker. Seconded by K.Williams. Motion passed (7:0)

30
31 February 25, 2019

32
33 Motion was made to approve minutes by R.Lavoie. Seconded by L.Baker. Motion passed (7:0)

34
35 March 25, 2019

36
37 Motion was made to approve minutes by M.Lemieux. Seconded by L.Baker. Motion passed (7:0)

38
39 April 8, 2019

40
41 Motion was made to approve minutes by L.Baker. Seconded by R.Lavoie. Motion passed (7:0)

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46

Cover Letter for East- West Rail Report

There was discussion over the opening part of the letter and who it should be addressed to. B.Barry also stated that the report should be reviewed before it is sent out. C.Blanchard agreed to review it with East-West Rail Committee members and Town employees Sarah Szczebak and Linda Leduc.

Motion was made to approve letter as amended and for authorization of Town Council President Barbara Barry to sign by M.Lemieux. Seconded by R.Lavoie. Motion passed (7:0)

Church Street and Main Street Bridge update

An existing conditions survey was conducted by Tighe and Bond. Bound reports were distributed to the Council by Town Manager C. Blanchard. The Church Street Bridge was closed to one lane. C.Blanchard also distributed a cost analysis for 4 options for the repairs/replacement. There was discussion on the need to contact Congressman Richard Neal’s office to discuss support for the Federal Bridge Program for funding. M.Lemieux stated that there should be a truck route in town that makes oversized vehicles stay on the main roads. It was stated that Emergency procurement was used to rent the barriers and signs that are being used at the Church Street bridge location. C.Blanchard stated that he will look into options for funding.

New Town Manager Contract

B.Barry stated that she has been in contact with Ryan McNutt and he has agreed to all of the terms for his contract.

Motion was made for authorization of B.Barry to execute the contract for three year period by L.Baker. Seconded by M.Lemieux. Motion passed (7:0)

Legion Field Bleachers

C.Blanchard recommended the demolition of the current bleachers and purchasing two sets of portable bleachers at a cost of \$185,000 without press box or \$298,400 with a press box. The bleachers will take up to two months for delivery. B.Barry stated that the existing bleachers are nostalgic for people and are part of the character of Legion Field. She felt further discussion should occur if the bleachers are to be demolished. There was discussion over hiring a professional to determine the best way to repair the bleachers.

G.Skowronek stated that a tree fell on the bleachers over the winter and will need to be repaired for graduation.

Motion was made to table the bleachers topic for the time being by M.Lemieux. Seconded by R.Lavoie. Motion passed (6:0:1) Sikes

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40

DPW Report

There was discussion over landscaping and the upkeep of Town properties. It was recommended that a landscaper be hired to remove existing overgrown shrubs and brush at the Town Hall, Police Station and School Campus. There was also discussion regarding reviewing/updating the MOU with the schools.

Motion was made to take \$7,500.00 out of Town Council Discretionary fund and put it into the landscaping fund for Town Hall, Police Station and School Campus's by B.Barry. Seconded by L.Baker. Motion passed (6:1:0) Sikes

Resolution 2019-29 Motion: To approve the transfer of \$60,000.00 from Health Insurance Line Item #019142.51701 to Veterans Benefits Line Item #015433. 57700.

Motion was made to approve resolution by B.Barry. Seconded by R.Lavoie. Motion passed (7:0)

Resolution 2019-30 Motion: To approve the transfer of \$27,160.22 from Health Insurance Line Item #019142.51701 to: Snow and Ice Overtime Line Item # 014231.51103.

Motion was made to approve resolution by M.Lemieux. Seconded by K.Williams. Motion passed (7:0)

Resolution 2019-31 Motion: To approve the transfer of \$72,415.35 from Health Insurance Line Item #019142.51701 to: Snow and Ice Supply Line Item # 014232.52222.

Motion was made to approve resolution by R.Lavoie. Seconded by K.Williams. Motion passed (7:0)

Resolution 2019-32 Motion: To approve the transfer of \$40,000 from Free Cash for the dredging and brush removal along Graves Brook in conjunction with work being done by CSX Railroad.

Motion was made to approve resolution by R.Lavoie. Seconded by K.Williams. Motion passed (7:0)

Annual Town Election Warrant for June 11, 2019

Motion was made to authorize the signing of warrant by L.Baker. Seconded by M.Lemieux. Motion passed (7:0)

Resignation of PVTA Liaison Paul Burns- Johnson

Motion was made to acknowledge receipt of PVTA Liaison Paul Burns-Johnson and appoint Town Manager as PVTA Liaison by L.Baker. Seconded by R.Lavoie. Motion passed (7:0)

1 Town Manager Report

2 C.Blanchard reviewed his report dated May 9, 2019 and is attached:

3 The Policy included in Town Manager's report entitled "**Group Health and Life Insurance for Active**
4 **Employees and Retirees**" will be voted on in June so the Town Council has more time to review. Also in
5 Town Manager's Report, all free cash requests will also be considered in June.

6

7 Adjournment

8

9 Motion was made to adjourn by M.Salzmann. Seconded by L.Baker. Motion passed (7:0)

10

11

12