

Palmer Town Council

Meeting Minutes

June 24, 2024

Call to Order:

The Palmer Town Council Meeting of Monday, June 24, 2024, was called to order at 6:32pm by Town Council President Barbara Barry. Councilors Jessica Sizer, Matthew Lemieux and Mark Caci were present. Also present were Town Manager Brad Brothers and Executive Assistant Marlene Ottomaniello. *Philip Hebert enters at 6:35pm*

Visitor Comments – none

New Business

Resolution 2024 – 19 – To adopt the FY 2025 Budget

WHEREAS the Town Council conducted a Public Hearing on the FY 2025 budget on June 10, 2024, after due notice was given.

WHEREAS, the Town Council considered the FY 2025 Budget on an organizational basis, and by vote so determined the size of appropriations for each department on June 24, 2024, as listed and outlined in the Palmer Final Budget Document, a copy of which is attached and will remain a part of this budget resolution as follows:

| | |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Department of Public Service | \$ 2,545,724 |
| Department of Municipal Finance | 558,466 |
| Department of Public Safety | 3,440,914 |
| Department of Public Works | 1,920,484 |
| Stormwater Management | 83,750 |
| Palmer Public Schools | 18,222,812 |
| Pathfinder | 2,066,358 |
| Palmer Public Library | 940,835 |
| Unclassified | 10,181,697 |
| Wastewater Treatment Plant | 3,844,568 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$ 43,805,608 |

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT MOVED AND VOTED to raise and appropriate the sum of \$42,281,522 to pay the Town charges for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and to raise through the collection of sewer fees the amount of \$4,449,490,000 for the Wastewater Treatment Plan budget. \$124,074 while raised in the General Fund is funded through sewer fees.

Also, to raise and appropriate:

\$15,000 to the OPEB Trust Fund,
\$150,000 to the Capital Stabilization fund,
\$115,500 to Duke Track Stabilization,
\$52,500 to Tree Removal/Trimming Capital Projects fund.
\$33,000 to Revaluation Special Revenue Fund

Motion by J. Sizer, 2nd by M. Caci vote: 4-0-0

Resolution 2024-20- FY 2025 Revolving Funds Spending Limits

To authorize annual spending limits for the Town’s Revolving Funds in FY 2025.

| Revolving Fund | Account No. | FY 2025 Spending Limit | |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Electrical Inspections | 2702451 | \$ | 120,000 |
| EV Charging Station | 2701231 | \$ | 15,000 |
| Gas Inspections | 2702421 | \$ | 30,000 |
| Legion Field | 24650738 | \$ | 5,000 |
| Plumbing Inspections | 2702431 | \$ | 30,000 |
| Recreation Fund | 24630548 | \$ | 30,000 |
| Sealer of Weights & Measures | 2702441 | \$ | 15,000 |
| Senior Center | 24541008 | \$ | 30,000 |

Motion by J. Sizer, 2nd by M. Lemieux *vote: 5-0-0*

Resolution 2024 – 21 - To approve a transfer of \$2,166,187 from Free Cash to the Capital Stabilization Fund for future projects.

Motion by M. Caci, 2nd by J. Sizer *vote: 5-0-0*

Resolution 2024 – 24 - To increase the Senior Property Tax Exemption (M.G.L. CH. 59, §5, CL. 41C)

To approve an increase to the Senior Property Tax Exemption (M.G.L. CH. 59, §5, CL. 41C) from \$500 to \$600 effective July 1, 2024

Motion by M. Caci, 2nd by J. Sizer *Vote: 0-5-0 (2 absent) Did not pass*

A Substitute Motion was made to approve an increase to the Senior Property Tax Exemption (M.G.L. CH. 59, §5, CL. 41C) from \$500 to \$1,000 effective July 1, 2024

Motion by P. Hebert, 2nd by M. Lemieux *Vote: 5-0-0 (2 absent) Passed*

Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:58pm by M. Lemieux, 2nd by P. Hebert *vote: 5-0-0.*