



**PALMER TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MONDAY, June 29, 2009 @ 7:00 PM**  
**Town Council Meeting Room, Palmer Town Building**  
**Minutes**

1. Called to order at 1907
2. Roll Call:
  - a. Present: Mr. Magiera, Mr. Burns, Ms. Barry, Mr. Dinuovo, Mr. Backus, Mr. Duguay, Mr. Hebert,
  - b. Absent: Mr. Remillard, Mr. Williams (Mr. Remillard arrived at 1915)
  - c. Guests: Department heads
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Consent of the Agenda Order Moved by Mr. Dinuovo, second by Mr. Backus; vote was unanimous to approve agenda
5. Announcements:
  - a. Charter Review Committee appointees Keith Parent, Iris Cardin, Kathy Mailhot; still looking for four more people
  - b. Please submit written questions for Casino Committee at the end of the meeting
6. Agenda Items:
  - a. Resolution 2009-42: Re-authorize 53E1/2 Revolving Accounts
    - i. Read by Ms. Barry
      1. Mr. Dinuovo moved, Mr. Burns seconded motion to reauthorize revolving accounts
      2. Discussion:
        - a. There is a grouping of these accounts which are not under 53E&1/2
        - b. Mr. Streeter agreed that accounts listed are under 53&1/2
        - c. Ms. Barry: Wetlands account is not under 53E&1/2; Wetlands Act is separate legislation
      3. Council voted 4-3-0 for the motion with Mr. Magiera, Ms. Barry, and Mr. Dinuovo opposed.
    - ii. Ms. Barry asked, and Mr. Magiera agreed to revisit this article at the end of the meeting
  - b. Resolution 2009-43: Authorize transfers to snow and ice account
    - i. Read by Ms. Barry
    - ii. Mr. Dinuovo Moved, by Mr. Backus seconded to authorize transfer of funds
      1. Where did money come from? Mr. Streeter explained where revenues were found
      2. Funding for part time police officers was not used in this transfer
    - iii. Council voted 7-0-0 to authorize transfer of funds
  - c. Resolution 2009-44: Authorize transfers to Palmer Town Building Capital Project Account
    - i. Mr. Dinuovo moved, Mr. Burns seconded motion to authorize transfer of funds
    - ii. Council voted 7-0-0 to authorize transfers of funds
  - d. Discussion of FY 2010 budget

- i. Mr. Streeter recapped budget adjustments to date
- ii. Discussed utility repairs to Town Building (Mr. Remillard arrived during this discussion)
- iii. Mr. Streeter explained handout about budget adjustments
- iv. Ms. Barry explained that she can not participate in discussion regarding the budget pertaining to the schools side of the budget; she requested that school budget discussion be grouped so she can participate in other discussions
- v. Mr. Dinuovo discussed resolution for reconsideration; he stated that the resolution is dead since the past meeting was adjourned; Mr. Magiera explained the necessity to revisit the issue; Mr. Streeter clarified the stabilization issue and the budget adjustments that had been made to this point
- vi. Mr. Magiera opened discussion on how to apply funds realized from budget adjustments
- vii. Mr. Streeter explained the additional funding that came from the state, and the restructuring of projected funds.
- viii. Much discussion pertaining to the stabilization funds in the school budget; Mr. Burns discussed using the same formula to apply funds as council used to reduce funding to the school department
- ix. No one asked for reconsideration of the Stabilization funds issue; that item was removed from discussion
- x. Mr. Burns asked to amend stabilization funding to apply funds to schools and other items
- xi. Mr. Magiera discussed just adding funding to schools budget by itself
- xii. Mr. Dinuovo asked to just give schools free cash
- xiii. Mr. Remillard discussed using funding for cruiser for schools; also using funding for recreation director in general town budget instead
- xiv. Mr. Burns spoke for funding schools as fully as possible
- xv. Mr. Magiera spoke of original council intent to balance budget without using free cash
- xvi. Mr. Burns moved to fund free cash, police cruiser, town side, reduce unemployment, and add funds to school side of budget
- xvii. Ms. Barry objected to combined discussion of funding with school funding
- xviii. Mr. Burns moved to fund school side using \$149,410 of free cash, second by Mr. Hebert
  1. Discussion: School budget figure is \$15,264,410 currently; was lower figure
  2. Vote was 7-0-0 to approve applying \$149,410 to school budget
- xix. Mr. Backus spoke to remind council about CSO project at \$7.2 million
- xx. Mr. Duguay discussed recreational director position; we need to keep town going first, then consider recreation director position
- xxi. Mr. Burns moved to reduce usage of free cash, purchase one police cruiser, add funds to town side, and reduce unemployment on the town side in the total amount of \$87,000.00
 

Mr. Backus seconded motion

  1. Discussion: Hours reductions; Mr. Dinuovo noted that town employee positions and hours reduction discussion was separate issue from recreation director position
  2. Vote was 7-1-0 to reduce free cash by funding the items listed, with Ms. Barry opposed
- xxii. Ms. Barry said that we have no idea what is in this budget; items listed:
  1. Police cruisers, cruiser maintenance and safety issues; part time officer funding missing from this budget
  2. Payroll issues at the end of fiscal year were not discussed
  3. Budget eliminates a conservation agent; a step backwards for the town
  4. Now is not the time to add the recreation director position
  5. Reconsideration of copays to save money was not done
  6. No plan for replacement of computer hardware
  7. Didn't discuss outsourcing work from the collector's office

- 1 8. Didn't discuss Wastewater Treatment Plant budget cost increases  
2 9. We're fooling ourselves if we think we can continue to fund the same level of  
3 services with reduced budgets year after year  
4 10. At some point we need to make hard decisions  
5 11. Cuts made were not proportional or fair or in the best interests of the community  
6 xxiii. Mr. Dinuovo spoke about reconsidering library funding as part of this discussion  
7 xxiv. Mr. Magiera pointed out that we are not selectmen and do not run the town; it's up to Mr.  
8 Streeter to administrate. We cannot micromanage.  
9 xxv. Recess for 5 minutes to allow Mr. Streeter to print copies @1955  
10 xxvi. Meeting resumed at 2014 with resolution 2009-45  
11 e. Resolution 2009-45: Adoption of FY 2010 Town Budget revised item read by Ms. Barry  
12 i. Mr. Dinuovo moved, Mr. Burns seconded to adopt FY 2010 Town Budget:  
13 ii. Discussion:  
14 1. P. 11 under Police Capital outlay, Highway expenses: what is this line item for?  
15 2. P. 12 several inspectors disappeared from the budget? Falls under building  
16 inspector line item  
17 3. P. 18: do we collect fines for the Board of Health? Very infrequently.  
18 4. Do we have a mechanism for consumer and tenant complaints? Yes  
19 5. Are we going to combine separate Parks and Cemetery departments into a DPW?  
20 Yes; it's a goal  
21 6. Revenues vs. expenditures? Mr. Streeter left briefly to get recap sheet.  
22 iii. Council voted 6-2-0 to carry motion to adopt budget, with Mr. Hebert and Ms. Barry  
23 opposed  
24 f. Mr. Burns moved, Mr. Backus seconded Reconsideration of Resolution 2009-42  
25 i. Discussion: Mr. Streeter recapped funds and reason for resolution, legal opinions  
26 ii. Council voted 8-0-0 to reconsider resolution  
27 g. Mr. Burns moved, Mr. Duguay seconded motion to approve Resolution 2009-42  
28 i. No discussion  
29 ii. Council voted 6-1-1 to approve resolution with Ms. Barry voting against and Mr.  
30 Dinuovo abstaining  
31 7. Announcement: July 8 we will meet with the Casino Impact Committee here at 7 PM to hear from two of  
32 the subcommittees; we will meet subsequently with the other two subcommittees with a third meeting for  
33 public input at either the high school or the Public library  
34 8. Mr. Burns moved, Mr. Backus seconded motion to adjourn formal session; council voted unanimously to  
35 adjourn at 2028  
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37 Respectfully Submitted:

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40 Ramon Dole  
41 Recording Secretary