Board of Trustees Meeting

Thursday, July 2, 2026

Special Meeting at 5:00 PM

Palmer Lake Town Hall – 28 Valley Crescent, Palmer Lake, Colorado

Live Stream Link

Minutes

Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting Called to Order at 5:00PM.

Present: Board of Trustees Member Michael Beeson, Board of Trustees Member Tony Beltran, Board of Trustees Member Roger Moseley, Mayor Dennis Stern, Board of Trustees Member John Marble, Board of Trustees Member Atis Jurka
Absent: Board of Trustees Member Elizabeth Harris

Pledge of Allegiance

Business Items

1. Discussion, Review, and Approval to Expand the Scope of Services for Lyons Gaddis Special Counsel

The Interim Town Administrator updated the Board regarding its prior direction to retain additional special counsel for matters related to the investigation and hearing process previously discussed. He recommended, in the interest of transparency, that Lyons Gaddis provide a separate engagement agreement specifically outlining the scope of the additional legal services so that the roles, responsibilities, and representation are clearly defined. The Board discussed expanding the Town's use of special counsel through Lyons Gaddis and directed the Interim Town Administrator to work with the firm to prepare a separate engagement agreement for these services, including the establishment of a formal process for municipal investigations.
Town Clerk Romero also requested authorization to utilize Lyons Gaddis for the Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) to ensure compliance with statutory requirements.
While some Board members expressed concerns regarding overall legal expenditures, the Board acknowledged the need for these specialized legal services while the Town's Request for

Proposals (RFP) for permanent general counsel remains open and directed staff to encourage Lyons Gaddis to consider.

Public Comment

Martha Brodzik - Commented on the town's reliance on multiple interim attorneys, arguing that piecemeal counsel causes operational inefficiency. While supporting the current RFP process to establish a level playing field for permanent general counsel, she requested greater transparency regarding the town's existing contracts and legal expenditures with Lyons Gaddis.

Dennis Stern moved to approve the request to go forward with Lyons Gaddis to proceed with the quasi-judicial process for investigations of appointed and elected officials. Roger Moseley seconded.

Voting Yes: Michael Beeson, Tony Beltran, Roger Moseley, Dennis Stern, John Marble, Atis Jurka

Voting No: None

Abstaining: None

Motion Passed (6 - 0)

Dennis Stern moved to approve the Town Clerk's request to retain Lyons Gaddis to assist with legal counsel for Records Requests (CORA). Michael Beeson seconded.

Voting Yes: Michael Beeson, Tony Beltran, Roger Moseley, Dennis Stern, John Marble, Atis Jurka

Voting No: None

Abstaining: None

Motion Passed (6 - 0)

2. Discussion, Review and Possible Action of the CBK Contract

Town Clerk Romero provided an update regarding the contract with CBK Consulting, explaining that the agreement was reviewed and approved in accordance with the Town's purchasing policies, identified within the approved budget, and executed under administrative authority. The contract was entered into to address critical website deadlines, ensure compliance requirements, and support the Board's stated goals of enhancing public transparency and improving communication through the Town's website and newsletter initiatives as a few examples.

Board members questioned whether the scope of the agreement was substantially similar to a proposal that had been tabled by a previous Board in June 2025. Town staff explained that the current agreement is a separate, budgeted contract for specific technical deliverables and is distinct from the previously tabled proposal.

The Board requested a side-by-side comparison of the current agreement and the prior proposal for review and agreed to seek legal counsel's opinion regarding the procedural implications, if any, of the prior Board action on the current contract.

Public Comment

Martha Brodzik — Commented that past board resolutions remain binding across transitions, meaning a tabled item cannot be bypassed without a formal vote. She urged the town to separate website tasks from public relations and criticized the flat-rate contract for lacking a spending ceiling or specific deliverables. Questioning why it wasn't structured as an hourly bid like other town contracts, Ms. Brodzik requested that the board formally restructure the agreement.

Town Staff and CBK Consulting presented a performance overview of the monthly municipal contract, highlighting achievements like the newly launched website and an emergency alert system. While some officials defended the agreement as a legally executed, budget-compliant administrative tool, other board members argued its public relations scope improperly bypassed a previous board's formal vote to table a nearly identical proposal.

After a brief statement, CBK Consulting indicated that they had enacted their 14-day exit clause in their contract and would discontinue their services with the Town of Palmer Lake.

Public Comment

Katherine Keeley — Acknowledged the high quality and clear vision of the vendor's work but emphasized the need for municipal transparency regarding procurement. She stated that the primary remaining questions focus on the initial vendor selection process and whether the agreement was subjected to a competitive bidding process before being finalized.

Martha Brodzik — Commented on the meeting's holiday-eve timing and argued that the communication contract should have gone through a formal RFP process rather than direct vendor selection. She noted that officials privately validated her past factual inquiries into town invoices despite publicly criticizing her, and strongly rejected claims that local critics are outsiders, urging leaders to rely on facts over assumptions.

Board Reports

Trustee Marble - Reported on his experience at the annual CML Conference.

Next Meeting and Future Items

Adjourn

Tony Beltran moved to Adjourn. John Marble seconded.
Voting Yes: Michael Beeson, Tony Beltran, Roger Moseley, Dennis Stern, John Marble, Atis Jurka
Voting No: None
Abstaining: None

Motion Passed (6 - 0)

Meeting Adjourned at 6:54PM.

Mayor Dennis Stern

Attest: Erica N. Romero, CMC Town Clerk