TOWN OF
Palmer Lake
COLORADO
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1889

Board of Trustees Meeting

Thursday, June 25, 2026

Regular Meeting at 6:00 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 6:12PM.

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 Atis Jurka
Absent: Board of Trustees Member Elizabeth Harris, Board of Trustees Member John Marble

Invocation

Invocation given by Trustee Tony Beltran

Pledge of Allegiance

Presentations/Presentations

The Mayor informed the Board regarding a recent gathering organized by two Trustees and attended by another Trustee. Mayor Stern stated that the gathering was not an official meeting called or publicly noticed by the Town of Palmer Lake or the Board of Trustees. He further stated that the Town of Palmer Lake is currently operating without a Town Attorney but will continue to follow established processes and conduct Town business through the Town Clerk in accordance with Colorado law.

Mayor Dennis Stern moved to amend the agenda to discuss and give direction to Interim Town Administrator Smith regarding the ongoing investigation pertaining to Trustee Moseley to ensure that we are upholding our obligation as Board of Trustees. Tony Beltran seconded.
Voting Yes: Michael Beeson, Tony Beltran, Dennis Stern
Voting No: Roger Moseley, Atis Jurka
Abstaining: None

Motion Passed (3 - 2)

Mayor Stern moved to discuss and review the recommendation pertaining to staff safety presented by Interim Town Administrator Smith and moved to to discuss and review the recommendation. Tony Beltran seconded. The Board agreed to implement the recommendation.
Voting Yes: Michael Beeson, Tony Beltran, Roger Moseley, Dennis Stern, Atis Jurka
Voting No: None
Abstaining: None

Motion Passed (5 - 0)

1. Town of Palmer Lake Fire Department Recognition

Mayor Stern presented the Fire Department a certificate of recognition for their efforts in combatting a house fire on May 31st.

2. Recognition of Dead Flowers for Contributions to the Palmer Lake Community

Tony Beltran presented Dino Salvatore a certificate of recognition for his continued contributions to the community, including his contributions to the Fire Association and the 4th of July Committees.

Consent Agenda

3. Minutes from June 11, 2026, Meeting & Minutes from June 11, 2026, Special Meeting

Dennis Stern moved to approve the consent agenda.. Michael Beeson seconded.
Voting Yes: Michael Beeson, Tony Beltran, Roger Moseley, Dennis Stern, Atis Jurka
Voting No: None
Abstaining: None

Motion Passed (5 - 0)

Staff/Department Reports

4. Police

Police Chief Smith reported that the police department has deployed a speed trailer and is working on traffic enforcement, as well as addressing the e-bike issues.

5. Administration

Interim Town Administrator Smith requested direction from the Board regarding the retention of special counsel for a priority labor matter. Although the Town's current agreement with Lyons Gaddis permits the use of special counsel, he requested specific Board authorization for this matter.

The Interim Town Administrator also reported that Town staff continue to collaborate with SafeBuilt on the Elephant Rock Planned Development project. A follow-up meeting with the project engineer is scheduled for next week to continue advancing the review process.

El Paso County has submitted the Ben Lomond Mountain Village proposal to the Town for review and comment. The proposed development includes 72 residential lots and two church lots on the UCC property.

Interim Town Administrator reported that the Town remains involved in ongoing litigation concerning water rights with a property owner. Due to the active nature of the litigation, no additional details were provided in order to preserve attorney-client privilege and the confidentiality of the legal proceedings.

6. Administrator/Clerk

Town Clerk Erica Romero provided administrative and community updates. She announced the launch of the town's newly refreshed website, noting that while the new platform is live it's a ongoing project. Town Clerk Romero reported the successful completion of the annual CIRSA property and casualty audit, provided a status update regarding the publication of an RFP for the town general legal counsel, and the processes for completing the proper documentation for the upcoming coordinated election agreement with El Paso County. She highlighted upcoming community milestones, including the "Awake the Lake" volunteer drive, the Troll installation and ceremony on July 28th, and provided and update regarding her recent attendance at the Colorado Municipal League (CML) annual conference.

Trustee Moseley raised a question about why a vendor, Civicplus, sent him a disparaging email. It was noted that the email did not originate from Civicplus, rather a private individual.

Business Items

7. Consideration of Continued Participation in the El Paso County Urban County CDBG Program and Approval of Amendment No. 3 to the Intergovernmental Agreement

The Board discussed the Town's continued participation in the El Paso County Urban County CDBG program and approval of amendment number three to the intergovernmental agreement.

Michael Beeson moved to continue to participate in the CDBG program and have the mayor sign documents related thereto. Tony Beltran seconded.
Voting Yes: Michael Beeson, Tony Beltran, Roger Moseley, Dennis Stern, Atis Jurka
Voting No: None
Abstaining: None

Motion Passed (5 - 0)

8. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Appointment of a Citizen Member to the Planning Commission Board – Resolution No. 27-2026

The Board discussed the open vacancy and the recommendation from the Planning Commission for Alternate Planning Commissioner Katherine Keeley to be appointed as Planning Commissioner.

Michael Beeson moved to approve Resolution 27-2026 to appoint Kathy Keeley for the remainder of the 2025-2027 vacancy for Planning Commission. Tony Beltran seconded.
Voting Yes: Michael Beeson, Tony Beltran, Roger Moseley, Dennis Stern, Atis Jurka
Voting No: None
Abstaining: None

Motion Passed (5 - 0)

9. Discussion and Approval Checks over $15,000 to JVAM

The Board discussed this matter, and it was confirmed through their review and Town staff that all the charges were correct. Concerns were raised regarding the privileged information and the redaction of some items. Town staff responded that the title on the invoices were marked confidential to and stated that it should have stated privileged instead, it was also stated that redactions were made consistently regarding any information pertaining to a matter in which required redactions. Staff further advised the Board that the same redaction standards had been used in a separate legal matter and that the releasable information presented to the Board was consistent with the approach taken in that matter.
Michael Beeson moved to pay the JVAM invoices in their entirety. Tony Beltran seconded.
Voting Yes: Michael Beeson, Tony Beltran, Dennis Stern
Voting No: Roger Moseley, Atis Jurka
Abstaining: None

Motion Passed (3 - 2)

Public Comment:
Martha Brodzik - Spoke on the operational differences between risk-pool attorneys and a dedicated municipal attorney, noting that pool-appointed counsel primarily protects the insurer's interests rather than the town's. The Board was urged to keep this distinction in mind for all future legal appointments, as a designated town attorney is uniquely responsible for prioritizing local municipal interests.

10. Discussion and possible direction for the investigation with Trustee Moseley

The Board discussed whether to engage an attorney for a special project for determining the process of a public hearing and current employment issues. Concerns were raised about cost and the lack of a defined process.

Dennis Stern moved to hire Lyons Gaddis for this special project to nail down the process for the issue involving Trustee Moseley. Michael Beeson seconded.

Voting Yes: Michael Beeson, Tony Beltran, Dennis Stern
Voting No: Atis Jurka
Abstaining: None
Trustee Moseley recused himself from the vote due to his involvement in this matter.
Motion Passed (3 - 1)

11. Discussion and Possible direction on staff safety

Interim Town Administrator Smith provided an update to the Board regarding concerns presented by Trustee Moseley at an outside meeting stating that Interim Town Administrator Smith failed to prevent the harassment of town staff; Smith formally refutes that claim and referenced a prior memorandum from the former Town Attorney explicitly disagreeing with the allegation. To mitigate ongoing municipal liability and ensure a safe workplace, Smith requested that the Board of Trustees implement immediate guidelines protecting staff from further risk, including restricting Trustee Moseley's physical access to the administrative building and requiring him to schedule an appointment with Smith to accompany him with any interactions with staff to include all staff correspondence. These temporary restrictions would remain in effect until a newly appointed town attorney establishes a formal hearing process or alternative, permanent protective measures are adopted by the Board.

The Board discussed workplace safety protocols, potential governance precedents, and a proposal to retain outside legal counsel to resolve the matter expeditiously.

Public Comment
Martha Brodzik - Clarified that Trustee Moseley's recent remarks focused on a timeline contradiction regarding the town's requirement for immediate administrative action. She highlighted a multi-month gap between the alleged September incident and the December investigation, arguing that the town failed to follow its own handbook protocols.

The Board continued to discuss the proposed staff safety guidelines, with Interim Town Administrator Smith emphasizing his duty to protect office employees from intimidating and harassing behavior and citing a direct example of Trustee Moseley confronting the Town Staff. Trustee Moseley maintained that his interactions are strictly limited to routine inquiries, while other board members discussed the scope of the restrictions to the main administration building and the broader need for clear code-of-conduct protocols to manage municipal conflict fairly.

Public Comment
Katherine Keeley - Suggested resolving the conflict objectively by establishing a designated meeting space equipped with a glass barrier and a security camera for trustee-staff interactions. She noted that this physical setup would eliminate the need for personal administrative escorts while creating a universal protocol that protects staff without singling out any individual trustee.

The Board attempted to reach a compromise on the temporary safety guidelines through a personal appeal to Trustee Moseley to comply until an interim attorney could review the matter.

Trustee Moseley rejected a personalized restriction as an excessive measure without formal evidence, stating he would only agree to scheduling rules if they were applied universally to all board members. Other trustees expressed a willingness to adhere to a universal scheduling protocol to secure a fair compromise.

Michael Beeson moved to adopt and accept our Interim Town Administrator's suggestion that Trustees call first before coming in to Town staff and are accompanied by at least one other person in addition to this. Tony Beltran seconded.
Voting Yes: Michael Beeson, Tony Beltran, Dennis Stern, Atis Jurka
Voting No: Roger Moseley
Abstaining: None

Motion Passed (4 - 1)

Public Comment

Public comments are encouraged to be emailed to the Town office at info@palmer-lake.org with subject line of Public Comment (24 hours prior to meeting) and shall be distributed and read at the meeting. Otherwise, please be recognized to speak, sign in, and address the Board on matters not on the agenda. Thank you!

Kent Hutson - Shared his takeaways from the CML conference, focusing on town planning, housing, and water management. He announced he would share a summary of resources, including meeting governance tools like Bob's Rules of Order, with the Planning Commission and the Board, while encouraging broader future attendance by town officials to network with other Colorado municipalities.
Dino Salvatore - Highlighted the major success of the town's recent car show, which registered 136 vehicles and donated all proceeds directly to the fire department. He also shared updates on converting his property into a private garage and dedicated Corvette museum, inviting the community to visit once the memorabilia collection and renovations are complete.

Board Reports

Trustee Jurka - Asked if more brochures could be delivered to the Tri Lakes Chamber of Commerce as he had received reports of them running out. Also requested an agenda item for a future meeting for the discussion of the Town taking a stance on a proposed travel center.

Trustee Moseley - Asked a question about the Mayor being listed on the JVAM invoices.

Next Meeting and Future Items

Adjourn

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

Motion Passed (5 - 0)

Mayor Dennis Stern

Attest:Erica N. Romero, CMC Town Clerk