

Introduced by: City Manager Hannan  
Date: March 10, 2015  
Public Hearing: March 24, 2015  
Action: Adopted  
Vote: Unanimous

Yes:	No:
Best	
Erbey	
Carrington	
Combs	
DeVries	
Hanson	
Johnson	

CITY OF PALMER, ALASKA

**Ordinance No. 15-011**

**An Ordinance of the Palmer City Council Amending Palmer Municipal Code Chapter 2.35 City Departments Generally, Enacting Palmer Municipal Code Chapter 2.56 Palmer Fire and Rescue, Enacting Palmer Municipal Code Chapter 2.59 Palmer Police Department, and Repealing Palmer Municipal Code 2.55 Department of Public Safety**

THE CITY OF PALMER, ALASKA ORDAINS:

Section 1. Classification. This ordinance shall be permanent in nature and shall be incorporated into the Palmer Municipal Code.

Section 2. Severability. If any provision of this ordinance or any application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of this ordinance and the application to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

Section 3. Chapter 2.35 is hereby amended to read as follows (new language is underlined and deleted language is stricken out):

**Chapter 2.35  
CITY DEPARTMENTS GENERALLY**

The following departments are established:

- A. Department of finance, consisting of:
  - 1. Finance.
- B. Department of community development, consisting of:
  - 1. Building;
  - 2. Planning;
  - 3. Zoning;
  - 4. Community development;
  - 5. Palmer municipal library;
  - 6. Parks and recreation, including:
    - a. MTA Events Center;

- b. Palmer municipal golf course.
- C. *Repealed by Ord. 11-005.*
- D. ~~Palmer Fire and Rescue; Department of public safety, consisting of:~~
  - ~~1. Palmer fire and rescue;~~
  - ~~2. Palmer police department.~~
- E. Palmer Police Department;
- F. E. Department of public works, consisting of:
  - 1. Water;
  - 2. Sewage collection and treatment;
  - 3. Streets and snow removal;
  - 4. Maintenance;
  - 5. Airport maintenance;
  - 6. Construction management;
  - 7. Solid waste collection.

Section 4. Chapter 2.56 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

### **Chapter 2.56 PALMER FIRE AND RESCUE**

#### **2.56.010 Appointment.**

- A. The fire chief shall be appointed by the city manager and serve at the pleasure of the city manager.
- B. The fire chief is responsible for appointing assistant chiefs and other personnel the fire chief deems necessary for the effective operation of the department.

#### **2.56.020 Duties of Palmer fire and rescue.**

- A. The functions of the fire and rescue department shall include:
  - 1. Fire prevention and suppression;
  - 2. Fire investigation;
  - 3. Other services to protect life and property within the limits of the city, and subject to contracts and the availability of personnel and equipment, outside the city limits.
- B. The fire chief shall:
  - 1. Appoint and supervise assistant chiefs and other personnel the fire chief deems necessary for the effective operation of the fire department;
  - 2. Manage the budget, operation and personnel of the department;
  - 3. Possess demonstrated ability to command personnel;
  - 4. Implement an operations manual for the purpose of governing the department;
  - 5. Provide training and drills for department personnel in the operations and maintenance of firefighting equipment, emergency medical care and rescue salvage, fire prevention, fire science, water discipline and other subjects and practices that promote good firefighting and safety;
  - 6. Ensure the proper investigation of the cause, origin and circumstances of all fires, and ensure that all department personnel are trained in arson recognition and certain personnel are trained in arson investigation;
  - 7. Maintain comprehensive records of all fires, fire inspections, department apparatus and equipment, personnel roster and training records, and other information about the operation of the department;

8. Report department status and activities to the city manager;
9. Perform such other duties as shall be required by the city manager.

Section 5. Chapter 2.59 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

**Chapter 2.59**  
**PALMER POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**2.59.010 Appointment.**

- A. The Chief of Police shall be appointed by the city manager and serve at the pleasure of the city manager.
- B. The chief of police is responsible for oversight of certified and non-certified personnel of the police department.

**2.59.030 Duties of the Palmer police department.**

- A. The functions of the police department shall include:
  1. Enforcement of law and order;
  2. Police training and conduct of police work;
  3. Attendance at every fire to preserve order and to prevent theft and destruction;
  4. Patrol and inspect streets and alleys and cause to be removed all nuisances, obstructions or impediments therein, causing offenders to be cited to abate such nuisances;
  5. Investigate the cause and circumstances of any accident occurring for which the city may be liable and notify the city manager promptly of all such accidents; and
  6. Respond to routine and emergency calls and dispatch necessary response.
- B. The chief of police shall:
  1. Direct and supervise the duties listed under subsection (A) of this section;
  2. Cause to be investigated all applicants for any license or permit when such application requires certification by the chief of police;
  3. Implement an operations manual for the purpose of governing the department;
  4. Manage the budget, operations and personnel of the department;
  5. Supervise the dispatch center;
  6. Report department status and activities to the city manager;
  7. Make determinations as required in PMC Title 6, Animals;
  8. Perform such other duties as shall be required by the city manager.

Section 6. Chapter 2.55 is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Section 7. Effective Date. Ordinance No. 15-011 shall take effect upon adoption by the City of Palmer City Council.

Passed and approved this twenty-fourth day of March, 2015.



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DeLena Goodwin Johnson, Mayor



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Janelle M. Bower, MMC, City Clerk