

New Plymouth City Council
Budget Workshop
14 July 2009
7:00 pm
New Plymouth City Council Chambers (Library)

The budget workshop meeting of the New Plymouth City Council was held at the New Plymouth City Hall on Tuesday, 9 June 2009 at approximately 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Joe Cook. Role call was taken with Councilwoman Mayer, Councilmen Cline, York and Esplin in attendance. Staff members present were Beth Ann Christensen, Deputy Clerk and Leon K. Jensen, City Clerk. No guests were present.

The purpose of the workshop was to review expenditures and revenues from the 08-09 fiscal budget year and continue work on the 09-10 fiscal budget proposal for the City of New Plymouth.

The report began with Public Works Director Beau Ziemer presenting his budget information. He presented information on a 4% raise versus a 50 cent raise now and another in 50 cents in April of 2010. He stated that it was cheaper for a dollar raise over the year than a 4% raise. Concern was expressed about raises and the ability of the city to pay for increased wages. It was determined that the city water and sewer and budgets are sufficient to sustain a raise out of current water and sewer fees. City employees in the public works department are skilled and qualified. The city is receiving better services than it has been in the past.

It was determined that there would be a 4% raise for city employees with the exception of Library employees and Jeremy Howell. He would receive a \$1.25 per hour raise. He has worked here for three years and now has completed training that is required for his position.

All funds were discussed. There were differences between budget figures from Public Works and the figures that the Clerks office has. Interest income figures were adjusted downward due to investment amounts being reduced over the year and interest rates falling.

The Library budget remained in tact with the exception of interest income. It should be reduced to more accurately reflect anticipated in for the next budget year.

The council discussed some possible improvement projects for the city, including but not limited to paving, park improvements, irrigation and sidewalks.

The council determined that another workshop is needed. Due to calendar conflicts with council members it was decided that the council would meet prior to the next regularly scheduled council meeting on the 20th of July. The workshop would begin at 6:30 pm. Staff is to have all the information on one form/worksheet and an updated list of expenditures.

Councilman Cline moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Esplin. The voting was unanimous in favor.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 pm.

Joe Cook, Mayor

Leon K. Jensen, City Clerk/Treasurer