

City of New Plymouth Council Meeting

September 2, 2025

Regular Meeting

The New Plymouth City Council held a meeting at 215 N Plymouth Ave, New Plymouth, Idaho. Mayor Martinez called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Martinez led the Pledge of Allegiance

Council Present: Councilor Josh Davis, Councilor Suzanne Evans, Councilor Michael Hughes,
Council Present by Zoom: None

Council Absent: None

City Attorney: Jill Holinka

Staff Present: Marianne Gatchell, Stephanie Johnson, Beau Ziemer, Andy Gehrke

Staff Present by Zoom: None

Staff Absent: Melanie Cope

Public Present: Wayde James – New Plymouth, Ginny Barton – New Plymouth, Joe Levange – New Plymouth, Cora Kurth – New Plymouth, Dana Logan – Fruitland, Suzanna Culpepper – New Plymouth, Shelly Wilson – New Plymouth, Penny Kovick – New Plymouth, Greg Evans – New Plymouth, Chief Wyatt – New Plymouth

Presenters present via Zoom: Nick Huff, William F. Gigray III

Amendments to the Agenda: None

Declaration of Conflict of Interest: None

Declaration of Council Members' Discussion Outside an Open Meeting: None

Approval of City Council Minutes

Councilor Evans **MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR AUGUST 18, 2025, CITY COUNCIL MEETING.** Seconded by Councilor Davis. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Claim Approvals

Councilor Evans **MOVED TO APPROVE THE CLAIMS FOR SEPTEMBER 02, 2025, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$48,537.85.** Seconded by Councilor Hughes. Roll call vote. Councilor Davis – AYE, Councilor Evans – AYE, COUNCILOR Hughes – AYE. **Motion carried 3-AYES, 0-NOES.**

Citizens' Comments:

Greg Evans – spoke to the council requesting in his humble opinion that everyone has a right to be heard and wished last meeting's comments went a little differently even if he doesn't always agree with everything that is being said and thanked the Council for its time.

Shelly Wilson – presented information regarding the Kovick Scarecrow Contest and that the funds raised will go to the VFW.

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mayor: Mayor Martinez discussed a few of the goals he has during his term as Mayor; including:

1. Getting the waterwheel set up,
2. Going through codes and ordinances and getting them updated as needed
3. Discuss the possibility of implementing Impact Fees

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Councilor Davis apologized to the Mayor and Council and particularly Mrs. Barton for “losing his cool” at the previous meeting.

Councilor Hughes requested information from Superintendent of Public Works Beau Ziemer regarding arsenic levels in the water as well as what the purpose of the letters being sent out to homes regarding lead in the system. Per Mr. Ziemer arsenic is pretty much always in water but it is well below the limits of what would be considered unsafe for drinking water. In regard to the letter that goes out to homeowners it discusses the possibility that they may have lead piping in their house that could be contaminating their water and if indeed they do have lead pipes it is the homeowner’s responsibility to replace the pipes. But the pipes that the city uses are not lead based.

Announcements and Good of the Order: None

New Business:

Appointment of new City Councilor - Mayor Martinez recommended the appointment of Wayne James as the replacement for the position vacated by him when he became Mayor. Councilor Evans **MOVED TO APPROVE WAYDE JAMES AS A CITY COUNCILOR**. Seconded by Councilor Davis. **Motion carried by voice vote**. City Clerk Gatchell proceeded to swear in Councilor James and he took his seat on the Council.

Public Hearing

Councilor Davis **MOVED TO APPROVE OPENING THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE NEW PLYMOUTH FIRE DISTRICT IMPACT FEES**. Seconded by Councilor Hughes. **Motion carried by voice vote**.

Mayor Martinez called the Public Hearing regarding New Plymouth Fire Impact Fee to order at 6:23. William F. Gigray the attorney for New Plymouth Fire District gave a brief introduction of himself, Dana Logan the Secretary of the New Plymouth Fire District, Nick Huff of TischlerBise/Galena Associates and Fire Chief Wyatt and outlined the process of tonight’s hearings and the purpose of implementing the Fire District’s Impact Fees. Questions were asked by the Council and answered by Mr. Gigray and his associates.

City Attorney Holinka then interjected and stated that there had been scrivener’s error on the agenda and Mayor Martinez needed to have the agenda amended to open all four (4) Public Hearings congruently. Councilor Evans **MOVED TO AMEND THE AGENDA TO REFLECT THE NEED TO OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARINGS 2-4 CONGRUENTLY WITH PUBLIC HEARING #1**. Seconded by Councilor Hughes. Roll call vote. Councilor Davis – AYE, Councilor Evans – AYE, Councilor Hughes – AYE, Councilor James – AYE. **Motion carried 4 – AYES, 0 – NOES**.

Councilor Davis **MOVED TO OPEN ALL FOUR (4) PUBLIC HEARINGS CONGRUENTLY**. Seconded by Councilor Hughes. **Motion carried by voice vote**.

Mayor Martinez opened four (4) Public Hearings regarding Hearing 1: To consider the amendment to the City of New Plymouth Comprehensive Plan. Hearing 2: Consideration of adoption by City Council Resolution 2025-06 Approving the New Plymouth Fire Protection District Impact Fee Study and Capital Improvement Plan Final Report March 4, 2025. Hearing 3: Consideration of adoption by City Council of Findings of Fact Conclusion of Law and Decision-

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to amend the City's Comprehensive Plan. Hearing 4: Consideration of Adoption by City Council Ordinance #431 – New Title XIII (13) Municipal Code of the City of New Plymouth: The City of New Plymouth Development Impact Fee Ordinance at 7:05p.m.

William F. Gigray requested consent of Mayor Martinez that his introduction and opening statement made for Public Hearing 1 be included in the Public Hearings 2-4. Mr. Gigray then deferred to his fellow associates for further questioning. Nick Huff then shared a slideshow re: the New Plymouth Fire Protection District Impact Fee Results.

After all information was presented Mayor Martinez requested input from the Public. Councilor Hughes then **MOVED TO ADJOURN THE FOUR (4) PUBLIC HEARINGS**. Seconded by Councilor Davis. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

The Four (4) Public Hearings were adjourned at 7:27pm.

Consideration of adoption by City Council Resolution 2025-06. Councilor Evans **MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2025-06 THE NEW PLYMOUTH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT IMPACT FEE STUDY AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FINAL REPORT MARCH 4, 2025**. Seconded by Councilor Hughes. Roll call vote. Councilor Davis – AYE, Councilor Evans – AYE, Councilor Hughes – AYE, Councilor James – AYE. **Motion carried 4 – AYES, 0 – NOES.**

Consideration of adoption by City Council of Findings of Fact Conclusion of Law and Decision to amend the City's Comprehensive Plan. Councilor Hughes **MOVED TO APPROVE THE ADOPTION OF THE FINDINGS OF FACT CONCLUSION OF LAW AND DECISION TO AMEND THE CITY'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**. Seconded by Councilor Davis. Councilor Davis – AYE, Councilor Evans – AYE, Councilor Hughes – AYE, Councilor James – AYE. **Motion carried 4 – AYES, 0 – NOES.**

Consideration of adoption by City Council Resolution 2025-07. Councilor Evans **MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2025-07 AMENDING THE CITY OF NEW PLYMOUTH IDAHO COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**. Seconded by Councilor Davis. Councilor Davis – AYE, Councilor Evans – AYE, Councilor Hughes – AYE, Councilor James – AYE. **Motion carried 4 – AYES, 0 – NOES.**

Consideration of Adoption by City Council Ordinance #431. Councilor Davis **MOVED TO DISPENSE WITH THE RULE REQUIRING ORDINANCES TO BE READ ON THREE SEPARATE DAYS AND ONE IN FULL AND THAT THE ORDINANCE BY READ BY TITLE ONLY**. Seconded by Councilor Evans. Councilor Davis – AYE, Councilor Evans – AYE, Councilor Hughes – AYE, Councilor James – AYE. **Motion carried 4 – AYES, 0 – NOES.**

City Attorney Jill Holinka read Ordinance #431.

Councilor Evans **MOVED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE #431 – NEW TITLE XIII (13) MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF NEW PLYMOUTH: THE CITY OF NEW PLYMOUTH DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE ORDINANCE**. Seconded by Councilor Davis. Roll Call Vote. Councilor Davis – AYE, Councilor Evans – AYE, Councilor Hughes – AYE, Councilor James – AYE. **Motion carried 4 – AYES, 0 – NOES.**

Discussion

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City Clerk Gatchell gave an update on the Comprehensive Plan. The Final Draft of the plan will be available this week and can be reviewed by the Public on the City's website and here at City Hall. The Public is encouraged to provide input via email to the City Clerk. The Public Hearing for the approval of the Comprehensive Plan will be on October 27, 2025, for Planning and Zoning. Public Hearing for City Council will be on November 17, 2025.

DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY REPORTS:

City Clerk – No report

Library – No report

Payette County Sheriff Department – Report in packet

Public Works – No report

Treasurer – No report

Engineer – No report

ADJOURN

Councilor Hughes **MOVED TO ADJOURN**. Seconded by Councilor Davis. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Mayor Ron Martinez

Marianne Gatchell, City Clerk