

New Plymouth City Council Meeting
MONDAY
7 April 2014
7:00 pm
New Plymouth City Council Chambers (Library)

On the 7th of April, 2014, the New Plymouth city council meeting was called to order at approximately 7:04 pm by Mayor Joe Cook. Roll call was taken with council members Warnke, York and Kurth in attendance. Councilman Mayer was not in attendance.

Staff members in attendance were Danielle Painter, Beau Ziemer and Gina Christensen.

Regular Agenda – **Councilman Warnke moved to approve regular agenda. Councilman Kurth seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.**

Consent Agenda – **Councilman Kurth moved to approve consent agenda. Councilman Warnke seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.**

Old Business

III-A Update – City Clerk Danielle Painter informed the council that she had attended a recent meeting concerning our employee insurance provider and had learned that the City of Jerome was indeed liable for leaving the insurance group early, and thus had to pay a sizable fine. She stated that in light of this and other information she had received, including rates and improved plans, she felt that the city should remain a member for the benefit of our employees. City Clerk Painter also mentioned that she was looking to be appointed to the III-A board at the elections in June to better represent our city and other small cities around the state. Councilman York and Mayor Cook expressed their approval.

Rural Fire District Update – City Clerk Danielle Painter commented that she was surprised at the incorrect information in the Independent-Enterprise newspaper, specifically that annexation of the city into the Fire District would be on the ballot in May, not the levy increase that the Fire District is looking for. She expressed concern that residents would be confused by this misinformation. City Clerk Painter stated that she had learned, directly from Fire District Secretary Joan Howell, that the Fire District intended to pass their resolution to annex the city on June 16th, contingent on the passage of the levy. Councilman York then requested that City Clerk Painter and Fire District Secretary Howell draft a letter together representing the city and the Fire District to be sent to the local newspapers containing the correct timeline and other information regarding the proposed levy and annexation. Mayor Cook requested that the city attorney and the Fire District attorney also be involved. After some discussion, **Councilman York moved to request a letter be drafted by City Clerk Painter and Fire District Secretary Howell, be reviewed by their respective attorneys and accepted by city council and the Fire District board and then sent to the local newspapers for publication. Councilman Warnke seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.**

New Business

Preparedness Fair – City Resident Dolly Grover presented her plan to hold a Preparedness Fair and then discussed a potential City Preparedness Plan. She mentioned that Payette County has an emergency plan in place but that she'd like to see one created specifically for the city. Ms. Grover stated that she had discussed this plan with Police Officer Andy Creech and would also like some involvement from the city council.

Annexation Discussion – Public Works Superintendent Beau Ziemer informed the council of some upcoming annexation requests and added a list of other properties that they may want to annex at the same time. He reminded the council that annexation was quite a process and recommended annexing several at once. After brief discussion, the council expressed their approval to move forward with the process.

Set Date & Time for Public Hearing if favorable motion from P&Z – City Clerk Painter requested approval for public hearings to be held on May 19th, 2014 and June 21st, 2014 at 7:00 pm for proposed annexation requests.

Councilman Warnke moved to set date & time for public hearings to be held on May 19th, 2014 and June 21st, 2014 at 7:00 pm. The motion was seconded by Councilman Kurth. The voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Ordinances and Resolutions

None

Open Forum

Mayor Cook acknowledged the youth in the audience and requested an introduction from a representative of the group. High School Student Hailey Ray stood and commented that she was attending the meeting with other members of her senior government class. Cub Scout Taede Stucki then introduced his scout pack and informed the council that they were attending as part of requirement to earn a Citizenship in the Nation merit badge. The council expressed appreciation for their attendance.

Mayor Cook commented that he would like to thank City Engineer Andy Gehrke for the hard work he puts in on behalf of the city. The council joined in with their appreciation and a round of applause.

Mayor and Council Comments

Councilman York reminded all to watch out for pedestrians in crosswalks as the weather gets nicer and more people are out walking. He also mentioned that ditch water would be flowing soon.

Adjournment

Councilman York moved to adjourn the council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Kurth. The voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:43 pm.

Joe Cook, Mayor

Danielle Painter, City Clerk