

New Plymouth City Council Meeting
MONDAY
June 5, 2023
6:00 P.M.
New Plymouth City Council Chambers

On the 5th of June 2023, the New Plymouth City Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Mayor Rick York.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Heather Airoidi.

Roll call was taken with council members Heather Airoidi, Cora Kurth, Eileen Balcer, and Mayor York present. Bill Warnke was absent.

Staff members in attendance were City Clerk Danielle Painter, Deputy Clerk Marianne Gatchell, Public Works Superintendent Beau Ziemer, City Attorney Dan Chadwick, and City Engineer Andy Gehrke.

May 15, 2023, City Council Minutes- Action Item

Councilwoman Balcer made a motion to approve the minutes from May 15, 2023. Councilwoman Airoidi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Claim Approvals- Action Item

Councilwoman Airoidi made a motion to approve the claim approvals totalling \$33,507.47. Councilwoman Kurth seconded the motion. Motion carried.

New Business-

- a. IRWA Apprenticeship Program Certification- Matthew O’Leary. Gary Severs from IRWA presented public works employee Matthew O’Leary with his apprenticeship certification. Gary said that Matt has put in a lot of time towards this program, including 4000 hours of on-the-job training as well as 288 hours of class time. This certificate is recognized nationwide and given by the Federal Department of Labor. Public works employee Jeremy Howell has been Matt’s mentor throughout the program. The council and Mayor York as well as staff applauded Matt’s accomplishment.
- b. SREDA- Kristen Nieskens
Kristen Nieskens from Snake River Economic Development Association presented a plaque of appreciation to the city. This year is the 11th year of operation for SREDA. They are a three-county association with Malheur, Washington, and Payette County. Councilwoman Balcer asked if the city can get the minutes from their meetings. Kristen will see to it that that happens. Mayor York asked if we could set up a meeting with Jerry Miller, Kristen will set that up with our city clerk.
- c. Payette Soil Conservation Donation- (Action Item) Allen Schmid representing Payette Soil Conservation thanked the council for its contributions in the past years. It does make a big difference, what is raised is matched by the state.
Councilwoman Balcer made a motion to approve the donation of \$1000.00 to the Payette Soil Conservation. Councilwoman Kurth seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- d. 213 N Plymouth Library Design (Action Item) Library director Melanie Cope shared the first set of plans for the library remodel design submitted by Trout Architects. In order to apply for the grant, the council does need to approve the plans at tonight’s meeting. The grant application has a June 12th deadline.
Councilwoman Kurth made a motion to accept the plans for the library design submitted by Mr. Trout. Councilwoman Airoidi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- e. School Pedestrian Crossings Project- Change Order No. 1 (Action Item) This is the first of the expected change orders for this project, due to the additional funding of \$50,000.00 from LHTAC. City engineer Andy Gehrke recommends approval.
Councilwoman Balcer made a motion to approve change order No. 1. Councilwoman Airoidi seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Councilwoman Balcer, yes. Councilwoman Airoidi, yes. Councilwoman Kurth, yes. 3 yeses. Motion carried.

- f. Housing Cleaning Mayor York- Mayor York addressed the council and city staff with some items he would like addressed. He would like to see the sign ordinance as an action item at the next city council meeting. He would like the trench in Kiwanis Park to get a little more tlc, using grass seed or sod. The new bathrooms in Kiwanis Park need a steel plate on the doors. He would also like to see a camera in place to help deter the vandalism. He would like the parking lot at the new city hall to have the lines repainted. He would like the new city hall to get some office furniture and some décor, pictures on the walls and magazines on the tables. He would like to have a grand opening for the new city hall in the very near future. He would like the vault at the new city hall to be finished and the items in the old vault moved down. He would like two big screen tv's that are wireless to be put up in the council room so we can use them for meetings when needed. He wants a job posting for a part time employee for city hall, 20 hours per week. City Clerk Danielle Painter and City Public Works Superintendent Beau Ziemer will get to work on the items addressed.

Department Reports

- a. March Financials- Councilwoman Balcer said it is nice to see some good interest being paid. Looks there are new stop signs in place.

Mayor & Council Comments

Adjournment

Councilwoman Balcer moved to adjourn the council meeting. Councilwoman Kurth seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 P.M.

Approve:

Attest:

Rick York, Mayor

Marianne Gatchell, Deputy Clerk