

CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP
MONDAY
01 JUNE 2015
City Council Chambers (Library)
6:30 pm

On the 1st of June 2015, the New Plymouth city council budget workshop was called to order at approximately 6:30 pm by Council President Bill Warnke. Roll call was taken with council members Mayer, Warnke, York and Kurth in attendance. Mayor Joe Cook was not in attendance.

Staff members in attendance were Danielle Painter, Beau Ziemer and Amy Gibbons.

Councilman York moved to approve the agenda. Councilman Mayer seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Council members began the workshop by discussing a possible 3% property tax increase. Councilman Mayer expressed her disapproval of increasing taxes to the city residents. Councilman York questioned whether not taking the increase would affect eligibility for receiving future grants. Public Works Superintendent Ziemer responded that it was possible, but most likely would not. The discussion moved to the State revenue sharing decrease for FY2016 and its possible effect on the upcoming budget. Councilman Warnke then returned the conversation to the tax increase by commenting that our city residents were seeing the effects on the New Plymouth Rural Fire District for choosing to forego tax increases for many years. He stated that the resulting shortage of funds was forcing them to continually try to pass a levy without success. Councilman Warnke expressed his opinion that the small increase should be taken when available to avoid such a situation in the future. Councilman Kurth commented that, as a city resident, she was hesitant to approve an increase but, as a city councilman, saw the necessity of the increase. Councilman York mentioned that he appreciated the improvements being made to the city and would approve the increase to enable them to continue.

Councilwoman Mayer moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman York seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:10 pm.