

New Plymouth City Council Meeting
MONDAY
6 December 2010
7:00 p.m.
New Plymouth City Council Chambers (Library)

On the 6th of December 2010 the city council meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Joe Cook. Roll call was taken with council members Mayer, Cline and York in attendance. Councilman Esplin arrived about 5 minutes past the hour.

Staff members in attendance were Beau Ziemer, Leon K. Jensen and Beth Ann Christensen. City Librarian Amy Gibbons and Library Board Chairperson Cathy Myers were also in attendance as well as Mr. White and his son Cameron, a Boy Scout.

Regular Agenda – **Councilman York moved to approve the agenda. Councilwoman Mayer seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.**

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

New Business

NPRFD – Discussion of Fees / New Building - Mr. Hawker, of the New Plymouth Rural Fire District, called earlier in the day and asked that staff give an update of the department's progress to obtain a building permit. He stated, and staff reported, that the building plans had been returned to the fire department architect for revision along with a letter from Holladay Engineering, the city engineer. Mr. Hawker further stated to city staff that there was really no further business he had with the city at the time and that there was no need for him to be at city council meeting tonight.

Councilman Cline stated that it appeared that the city needed to update the current building code and urged that it be done at the next city council meeting in January of 2011. Councilman York moved to table this discussion further to a date certain of the next council meeting, January 19, 2011. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cline. The voting was three in favor of the motion. Councilman Esplin abstained from voting as he did not hear all of the discussion leading up to the motion.

New Librarian introduction – Cathy Meyers, Chairperson of the Armoral Tuttle Library Board introduced Amy Gibbons as the newly hired city librarian. Ms Gibbons stood and offered some information about her training.

She received a Bachelors Degree in education from Brigham Young University and moved to New Plymouth in 2005. She has served on the Library Board for one year. She started story time with the Library and growth has gone from 4 children to 14 children each week. As part of the outreach program she goes to daycares and kindergarten classes and one first grade class so far. She goes dressed up in costumes on occasion and encourages children to read.

Amy uses the six literacy skills, motivation, phonological awareness, vocabulary, narrative skills, print awareness and letter knowledge. Those skills are needed to teach your child to read. She tries to incorporate one of these skills into each of her story times to make sure that the children are not just getting story time but education as well.

Amy stated that one of her goals is to get more space so that she can provide more programs for teens as well as adults and children. She encouraged the council to move city hall and the library to the new building vacated by the Internet Truck Stop. She also stated that some new book shelves have been acquired to place in the new space. Amy provided the council with a petition from the public asking for more space for the library.

Some other goals for the future are:

1. To find a head for the friends of the library. The purpose is to help generate money for the library to help with keeping the library going in the future.
2. She desires to see that many children get a book of their own. She stated that this is very important.

Amy also stated that she started the summer reading program which has been going for three years and has been very successful.

Appointment of Library Board Member Katie Harris – Discussion was held with regard to who appoints the library board member. Cathy Meyers stated that Katie Harris has been on the Board and her term has expired. Cathy would like her to continue and the Mayor agreed with Cathy's suggestion. **Councilman Esplin moved to reappoint Katie Harris to the Library Board. The motion was seconded by Councilman York and the voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.**

Letter from NP School District – The New Plymouth School District sent a letter to the New Plymouth City Council and asked that the city reinstate the water billing as it was previous to the negotiations with the city, which reduced the water bills for the district due to budget restrictions. **Councilwoman Mayer moved that the city reinstate the bill beginning in January of 2011 and not make them retroactive. The motion was seconded by Councilman York and the voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.**

Old Business

Potential move of City Hall to old Internet Truck Stop Building – Staff provided the council with a written report regarding the proposal by Mr. Moscrip for the city to take possession of the old Internet Truck Stop building. His first proposal to the city included having the Fire District remain at the current location, swap buildings and the new location for the fire department would then end up in possession of the NP School District for future expansion. The New Plymouth Rural Fire District determined to build in their proposed location rather than utilize the existing fire department, city hall and library. Mr. Moscrip stated his fear that the city may keep two buildings and have to maintain them. That would raise taxes and he is against that.

Staff discussed the movement of the Sheriff department. Chief Moore stated that he is happy where he is and has no desire to move at this time.

Public works at this time stated that they had no desire to move. That could change in the future.

The Quick Response Unit (QRU) was not sure what they would or could do. In discussions with Ms Shipley staff suggested that a good parking space for their vehicle could be the bay between the Sheriffs office and the Shop. It can be secured, has power and easy access to the highway.

Moving the Library would give them much needed room to expand. Some modifications may be

required for the Library to operate securely and effectively.

City Hall would have more room and council chambers would come available. Much needed storage space for city hall would be available for files, documents, etc. as well as more work space which would alleviate crowded conditions. Staff found no requirement for the city to have a vault in place. Many cities in the state use a safe for critical items, such as money.

City hall could be sold but if it were to be auctioned off, the best interests of the city may not be served.

If the city decides to decline the offer by Mr. Moscrip, he will apply for a demolition permit and raze the building, thus not having to pay taxes on it.

The city council discussed holding a special meeting for further discussions and a decision on this matter of business. **Councilman Cline moved to hold a special council meeting at 5:30 pm in the Library at City Hall on the 14th of December 2010. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Mayer. The voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.**

Ordinances & Resolutions

None

Open Forum

None

Mayor and Council comments

Councilman York expressed thanks to the city public works department for their efforts during the snow removal. The rest of the council also expressed their appreciation for the snow removal.

Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45 pm.

Joe Cook, Mayor

Leon K. Jensen, City Clerk/Treasurer