

City of New Plymouth Council Meeting

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December 15, 2025

The New Plymouth City Council held a regular meeting at 215 N Plymouth Ave, New Plymouth, Idaho.

Mayor Ron Martinez called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

Mayor led the **Pledge of Allegiance**

**Council Present:** Councilor Josh Davis, Council-President Suzanne Evans, Councilor Michael Hughes, Councilor Wayde James

**Council by Phone:** None

**Council Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Stephanie Johnson – Treasurer, Melanie Cope – Librarian, Public Works Superintendent – Beau Ziemer, Andy Gehrke – City Engineer, Jill Holinka – City Attorney

**Staff by Phone:**

**Staff Absent:** Marianne Gatchell- City Clerk

**Public Present:** Ginny Barton, Mike & Connie Carroll, Suzanna Culpepper, Angie Robinson Wade Wilson, Neil & Janet Sung, Jamie Payne, Mike Ware, Cora Kurth, Duane Presnell, Tyson Flannery

**Declaration of Conflicts of Interest:** None

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

Approval of Minutes – Councilor James **MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 1, 2025.** Seconded by Council-President Evans. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Approval of Payables – Council-President Evans **MOVED TO APPROVE THE PAYABLES OF \$107,734.58.** Seconded by Councilor Davis. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Vacate of Aspen Street. Councilor Hughes **MOVED TO OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE VACATE OF ASPEN STREET.** Seconded by Councilor Davis. **COUNCIL- PRESIDENT EVANS – AYE, COUNCILOR DAVIS – AYE, COUNCILOR HUGHES – AYE, COUNCILOR JAMES – AYE. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0. Motion carried.**

A. Mayor Martinez opened the Public Hearing at 6:03 pm.

B. Beau Ziemer, Public Works Superintendent gave a staff report on the vacation request, Jill Holinka, City Attorney presented legal information to the Council of what to consider when hearing the testimony in regards to the vacation.

C. Neil & Janet Sung at 901 S. Plymouth Ave, New Plymouth, ID 83655 the requestors of the vacation gave their presentation.

D. Mayor Martinez requested Public Comment.

a. **For** Mike & Connie Carroll

b. **Against** Wade Wilson – Superintendent of New Plymouth School District. Virginia Barton

c. **Neutral**

E. Council-President Evans **MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE VACATE OF ASPEN STREET.** Seconded by Councilor Hughes. **COUNCIL- PRESIDENT**

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**EVANS – AYE, COUNCILOR DAVIS – AYE, COUNCILOR HUGHES – AYE, COUNCILOR JAMES – AYE. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0. Motion carried.**

F. Mayor Martinez closed the Public Hearing at 7:40pm.

G. Decision of the Public Hearing. Council-President Evans **MOVED TO APPROVE THE VACATION OF ASPEN STREET PURSUANT TO IDAHO CODE 50-11 AND 50-13 AND DIRECT THE CITY ATTORNEY TO DRAFT AN ORDINANCE TO COMPLETE THE VACATION FOR THE APPLICANTS NEIL & JANET SUNG.** Seconded by Councilor Hughes. **COUNCIL- PRESIDENT EVANS – AYE, COUNCILOR DAVIS – NAY, COUNCILOR HUGHES – AYE, COUNCILOR JAMES – AYE. AYES – 3, NAYS – 1. Motion carried.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Accept the 2025 General City Election Canvassed Results – Stephanie Johnson, Treasurer. Council-President Evans **MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2025 GENERAL CITY ELECTION CANVASSED RESULTS.** Seconded by Councilor Davis. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

B. Approval of Alcohol Licenses – Stephanie Johnson, Treasurer. Councilor Davis **MOVED TO APPROVE THE ALCOHOL LICENSES FOR 2026** Seconded by Councilor Hughes. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

C. Council-President Evans asked to discuss the status of Co-Op Park and who owns the parcel of land. Councilor Hughes recommended that we either need to develop an agreement stating what the owner of the property is obligated to as well as what the city is obligated to do for the park. No decision was made as this was not an action item.

**DEPARTMENT/ ACTIVITY REPORTS**

**A. Payette County Sheriff** – No report

**B. Clerk** – Marianne Gatchell –No report

**C. Library** – Melanie Cope, Director–Gave report

**D. Treasurer** – Stephanie Johnson – Gave report

**F. Public Works** – Beau Ziemer – No report

**G. Engineer** – Andy Gehrke – No report

**ELECTED OFFICIALS:**

**COUNCIL:** Councilor Hughes asked about grants opportunities that we may be able to take advantage of. Council-President Evans asked about the funding that Payette County Recreation District and why do we receive such small funds from PCRD.

**MAYOR:** Thanked everyone who attended the sentencing of Danielle Painter.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** Duane Presnell 4555 E. Idaho – worried that his land will be annexed. Virginia Barton – 205 Canal St. – Requested that we put an ordinance to do Forensic Audits.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Councilor Davis **MOVED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON 74-206-1(b) TO CONSIDER THE EVALUATION, DISMISSAL OR DISCIPLINING OF, OR TO HEAR COMPLAINTS OR CHARGES BROUGHT AGAINST, A PUBLIC OFFICER, EMPLOYEE, STAFF MEMBER OR INDIVIDUAL AGENT, OR PUBLIC-SCHOOL STUDENT. 74-206-1(f) TO COMMUNICATE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE PUBLIC AGENCY TO DISCUSS THE LEGAL RAMIFICATIONS OF AN LEGAL OPTIONS FOR PENDING LITIGATION, OR CONTROVERSIES NOT YET BEING LITIGATED BUT IMMINENTLY LIKELY TO BE LITIGATED. THE MERE PRESENCE OF LEGAL COUNSEL AT AN EXECUTIVE SESSION DOES NOT SATISFY THIS REQUIREMENT.** Seconded by Council-President Evans. **COUNCIL- PRESIDENT EVANS – AYE, COUNCILOR DAVIS – NAY, COUNCILOR HUGHES – AYE, COUNCILOR JAMES – AYE. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0.** Motion carried.

**Council entered into Executive Session at 7:52pm.**

Council-President Evans **MOVED TO ADJOURN THE EXECUTIVE SESSION 74-206-1(b) AND 74-206-1(f).** Seconded by Councilor Davis. **COUNCIL- PRESIDENT EVANS – AYE, COUNCILOR DAVIS – NAY, COUNCILOR HUGHES – AYE, COUNCILOR JAMES – AYE. AYES – 4, NAYS – 0.** Motion carried.

**Regular Session re-convened at 9:08pm**

**DECISION OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

There was no decision to be made.

Council-President Evans **MOVED TO ADJOURN.** Seconded by Councilor James. **Motion Carried by voice vote.**

**Meeting Adjourned 9:11p.m.**

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**Mayor Ron Martinez**

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**Stephanie Johnson, City Treasurer**