

New Plymouth City Council  
Budget Workshop  
20 July 2009  
6:30 pm  
New Plymouth City Council Chambers (Library)

The budget workshop meeting of the New Plymouth City Council was held at the New Plymouth City Hall on Tuesday, 20 July 2009 at approximately 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Mayor Joe Cook.

Roll call was taken with all council members present, Mayer, Cline, York and Esplin. Staff members in attendance were Beth Ann Christensen and Leon K. Jensen. One guest, Anne Esplin was also present.

The purpose of the workshop was to continue to review expenditures and revenues from the 08-09 fiscal budget year and continue work on the 09-10 fiscal budget proposal for the City of New Plymouth.

Beth Ann Christensen stated that there were problems with the revenues and that we had Ray Wickersham of HIT Industries working on the problem, with payroll, double entries and so forth. Councilman Cline mentioned that the figures up through June appeared to be accurate within a few percentage points.

There was discussion regarding park capitol outlay. Park improvements are planned to be minor. The Public Works Director discussed a possible future purchase of a lawnmower. Monies are being targeted for a future purchase. Irrigation was discussed for the parks and property owners of the city.

Councilman Esplin presented information regarding the need for bonding so that the work could be completed rather than doing the work, sections at a time. Councilwoman Mayer agreed that bonding is probably the best way to get the work accomplished.

A reserve account amount was discussed. The question being, how much money does the city need to sustain the operations of the city? All agreed that we should have monies available for continued operation of the city for at least one year.

The cost of paving and chip seal was again discussed...and how to fund such improvements, taxing versus bonding, LID, etc.

Discussion was held regarding whether or not the budget could be discussed in the meeting by amending the agenda of the next meeting when it is opened. It was determined that the council should continue the budget discussion in the public meeting which is to follow. Reasons for the decision of the council was the requirement to have a public hearing on a date already set by the council and several council members would be out of town at various times in the coming days, thus making it difficult to meet at a time when all could be present and still have adequate time for public notification of the budget.

Councilman Esplin moved to adjourn the budget workshop, seconded by Councilwoman Mayer. The voting was unanimous in favor.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:20 pm.

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Joe Cook, Mayor

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Leon K. Jensen, City Clerk/Treasurer