

New Plymouth City Council Special Meeting
MONDAY
29 July 2013
4:00pm
New Plymouth City Council Chambers (Library)

On the 29th of July 2013, the New Plymouth city council meeting was called to order at approximately 4:00 pm by Mayor Joe Cook. Roll call was taken with council members Mayer, Warnke, and York, were in attendance. Councilman Esplin was not in attendance.

Staff members in attendance was Danielle Painter and Beau Ziemer.

Old Business

Fire Department Update – Mayor Cook started by asking that during the discussion we keep it civil even though it is a hot issue and try to keep our emotions under control and do the best we can. The counter offer that was sent certified mail was dropped off by one of the Fire Commissioners this morning. In the envelope was a letter from the commissioners stating they reject the counter offer and that the \$45,000 they proposed on June 22nd was non-negotiable. Councilman York started by saying he does not like being held hostage. We knew when we sent the counter offer that it would come back denied. We have made requests for budgets figures and public records and we have received absolutely nothing. At this point in time Councilman York feels that our City Attorney needs to now make that request for us. These are things that we have the right to see and have pretty much refused to let us see them. If our city Attorney cannot get the public records that we are requesting, then we will need to move up the chain of command. Council is unsure how a Taxing Entity like the Rural Fire Department can get away with not advertising a complete budget. The budget that was advertised in the paper is very questionable. This is why we would like to see a full budget. Wages were set at \$35,000. Who are they paying \$35,000 a year to in the fire department? Council continued to discuss what they would like to see with the budgets. According to 12-13 fiscal year numbers that we were able to get from the county the Rural Fire Department levied \$78,000, New Plymouth for \$19,992 and Sand Hollow for \$10,000 that comes to \$107,992.00. If you add on another \$25,000.00 which is what they are requesting from the city, that is a total of \$132,992.00. The Rural Fire Department has only advertised for \$88,600.00. Where is the other \$44,392.00 going? Nowhere does it show that they are going to spend it. Councilman Warnke thought it might be a good idea to have the Mayor or someone that the Mayor appoints to start talking to Fruitland and Payette Rural and let them know our situation. Find out what kind of deal we can work out with them. Council continued to discuss starting a fire department and then asked the City Clerk to check into and see what insurance would cost. Council then discussed what it would cost to start the process of getting annexed into the fire district. Councilwoman Mayer would like an open invitation sent to the Fire Commissioners at our next regular scheduled council meeting. We need to be able to discuss the issue with them. City of New Plymouth still doesn't have the Storm Water, Run-Off Agreement fulfilled by the Rural Fire Department. Councilwoman Mayer agreed with Councilman Warnke and looking to the legal standings for the Rural not fulfilling the development agreement. We could revoke their temporary occupancy permit if the contract does not get fulfilled. This is something that can be looked into after October 1st. It is something that we would need to get Bert Osborn in on. **Councilman Warnke motioned to have City Attorney, Bert Osborn, to do whatever it takes to get the public records. Councilwoman Mayer seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in favour of the motion.**

Mayor Cook offered to write a letter to the Fire Commissioners requesting their appearance at the next scheduled council meeting on August 5th 2013 at 6:30pm. **Councilwoman Mayer motioned to have a workshop at 6:30 for the Fire Commissioners, immediately following that will be a budget workshop, and then immediately following that we will hold the regular scheduled council meeting. Councilman Warnke seconded the motion. Councilman York opposed the motion. The motion passed 2 to 1 in favour of the motion.**

Council would like Bert Osborn to send a letter to the county letting them know our concerns with having two commissioners in the same district. Councilman Warnke mentioned that the County Commissioners need to be CC on the letter as well. **Councilwoman Mayer motioned to have Bert Osborn send the letter to the County. Councilman Warnke seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in favour of the motion.**

Adjournment

Councilwoman motioned to adjourn. Councilman Warnke seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:39 pm.

Joe Cook, Mayor

Danielle Painter, City Clerk