

New Plymouth City Council Meeting Minutes  
MONDAY  
August 4, 2025  
6:00 P.M.  
New Plymouth City Council Chambers

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of August 2025, the New Plymouth City Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M.

Pledge of allegiance.

Roll call was taken with councilors Hughes, Evans, Martinez, Davis and Mayor Grace present. Staff members in attendance were City Clerk Marianne Gatchell, City Treasurer Stephanie Johnson, Public Works Superintendent Beau Ziemer, City Engineer Andy Gehrke, City Attorney Jill Holinka and Librarian Melanie Cope present.

City Attorney made a statement reflecting what the requirements are for official minutes. The motions for each Action Item must be recorded, stating which councilor made the motion and who seconded. Roll call votes must be noted. As well as any items the council has requested to be included.

July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025, City Council Minutes

**Councilor Evans moved to approve the minutes from July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025, City Council Meeting with the amendment of the comments made by Councilor Hughes and Evans stating “how we are covering the deputy clerk’s wages and benefits” under item B. Approve FY2025-26 Tentative Budget. Councilor Hughes seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion carried.**

Claim Approvals

**Councilor Evans moved to approve the claims for August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Councilor Davis seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in Favor. Motion carried.**

Citizen Comments

Toni Blacketter-5187 SE 1<sup>st</sup> Ave NP- Asked that we use the microphones during the meeting.

Mike Ware- 413 Walnut St NP- Concerns with the fireworks starting fires at his residence.

Judith Weiss- 413 Walnut St NP- Concerns with the weeds in the new Hampton Development. Beau Ziemer responded that the developer has been informed, and the abatement process has been started.

Debbie Mills-Smith-108 SW Blvd NP- She is so happy to see the benches in the parks

Mayor & Council Comments

Councilor Hughes stated concern with the security of the city email. Clerk Gatchell will contact our IT for resolution.

New Business

- a. Executive Session 74-206 (1) (b) and (f) – (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 a public school student. (f) To communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated.

**Councilor Martinez moved to go into Executive Session. Councilor Evans seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote. Councilor Davis, yes. Councilor Hughes, yes. Councilor Evans, yes. Councilor Martinez, yes. Entered Executive Session 6:20 pm.**

**Councilor Davis moved to exit Executive Session. Councilor Hughes seconded the motion. Roll Call**

**Vote. Councilor Davis, yes. Councilor Hughes, yes. Councilor Evans, yes. Councilor Martinez, yes. Motion carried. Exit Executive Session 7:50 pm.**

- b. Items requiring decision from Executive Session- No decisions to be made.
- c. Special Events Permit- Double Diamond Saloon- After Rodeo Street Dance- Road Closure -  
**Councilor Evans moved to approve the Special Events Permit. Councilor Davis seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.**
- d. Pond 4 Lining Final Pay App #7- Idaho Site Works- City Engineer Andy Gehrke said the project has reached final completion on 7/22/25. With the liquidated damages total of \$50,000.00 the final payout is \$9025.00.  
**Councilor Evans moved to approve the Pond 4 Lining Final Pay App #7 for \$9025.00 and allow the mayor to sign. Councilor Martinez seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.**
- e. Tank 9 Recoating Final Pay App #3-Fossil Coatings LLC- City Engineer Andy Gehrke said this brings the project to 100% completion. The total for the final pay app #3 is \$80,625.00  
**Councilor Hughes moved to approve Tank 9 Final Pay App #3 for Fossil Coatings LLC in the amount of \$80,625.00 and allow the mayor to sign. Amendment No.1 Councilor Evans seconded the motion. Motion carried.**
- f. Accept Letter of Resignation Mayor Grace- Mayor Grace read her letter of resignation.  
**Councilor Hughes moved to approve the Letter of Resignation by Lisa Grace. Councilor Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried.**
- g. Nomination for Mayor- Lisa Grace nominated Ron Martinez for Interim Mayor. Councilor Evans said she was not comfortable appointing an interim mayor at this time. She wants to let the dust settle a bit. Councilor Hughes asked if there was anyone else that made interest in being the mayor. Currently, no. Hughes asked if we elect Ron Martinez as mayor, we need a new council member which means bringing a new person up to speed. Lisa said we don't have to have a 4<sup>th</sup> council member; we can run with 3. Councilor Davis said that the city needs to have leadership, by not having a mayor now allows things to not be safe. Councilor Martinez became a member of the council to be helpful to the city. He has continued faith in the staff to work together. He has major respect for his fellow council members for their job running the city.  
**Councilor Evans made a motion to table this item to a later date. Councilor Hughes seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Councilor Davis, yes. Councilor Hughes, no. Councilor Evans, yes. Councilor Martinez, no. Mayor Grace voted no to break the tie.**  
**Councilor Davis moved to approve the Nomination of Ron Martinez to Interim Mayor. Councilor Martinez seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Councilor Davis, yes. Councilor Hughes, yes. Councilor Evans, no. Councilor Martinez, yes. Motion carried.**
- h. Oath of Office for Mayor- City Clerk Marianne Gatchell read the oath of office to Interim Mayor Martinez.
- i. Nomination for Councilor- Wayde James & Justin Harrell spoke to the council regarding their desire to be councilors.  
**Councilor Davis moved to table the nominations to replace the councilor until they can meet with each of the gentlemen individually. Councilor Hughes seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Councilor Davis, yes. Councilor Hughes, yes. Councilor Evans, yes. Motion carried.**
- j. Oath of Office for Councilor- Not needed.

Adjournment

**Councilor Davis moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Evans seconded the motion. Motion carried by voice vote.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 P.M.

Approve:

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ron Martinez, Council President

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Marianne Gatchell, City Clerk