

**Minutes**  
**Seymour Common Council**  
**October 12, 2026**

The October 12, 2026, Seymour Common Council was called to order by Mayor Matt Nicholson at 7:00PM. The invocation was led by Brad Lucas, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A virtual/streaming option was available.

**Members Present:** Mayor Matt Nicholson, 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Melissa Herndon, Brad Lucas, Seth Davidson, Mark Maxie, Chad Hubbard, Denny Frey, City Attorney Chris Engleking, Police Chief Greg O'Brien, DPW Director Alan Axsom, Parks Director Chad Keithley, Building Commissioner Jeremy Gray, Fire Chief Eric Roll, WPC Director Jarin Gladstein, Doug Gregory, Danielle Kaufman, Jane Hays, Colin Smith, The Parkers, The Stahls, The Farris', Tyler Henkle, Micheal Maxie, Trevor Lane, Jim Plump, 2 representatives from O&K American, Mary Winburn, Kevin Kaplan, Ashley Grizzle, Bill Braman, Matt Beam, and a few other residents.

On a motion by Councilman Lucas, seconded by Councilman Frey, the minutes from the 09/28/2026 meeting were approved.

**Reports from Committees, Boards, and Commissions:**

- Seth Davidson, Industrial Development Committee, presented the Statement of Benefits for O&K American Corp., 1625 Bateman Dr., Seymour, for 1 personal and 1 real property abatement. Jim Plump shared O&K is requesting 10-year abatement for nearly \$9 million in new investment, maintaining 74 jobs and adding 5 new jobs. Mr. Plump gave further explanation on the breakdown of how the new investment would be spent, as well as how much payroll the current jobs bring and the new jobs would generate. He also spoke on the taxes that O&K will pay, as well as how much they have spent to date in investments. Councilman Hubbard asked if the project would move forward, even if they voted against the tax abatements, and a representative from O&K said yes; Mr. Plump also spoke on the risk of turning down tax abatements on projects of this magnitude as the City of Seymour has been looked at as progressive and open to new business. Councilman Frey asked if the project was still on track to start around October 15<sup>th</sup>, and Mr. Plump said yes. Ashley Grizzle spoke about the \$250,000.00 added payroll for 5 new employees, and her concerns for a need for higher salary jobs. Matthew Beam asked what the \$8 million in new investment would for, and Darrell Clodfelder from O&K explained the new machinery that they would be bringing in. As there was no further discussion, on a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Lucas, the Statement of Benefits was accepted 5-0-1.

**Public Hearing:**

- The Mayor opened a public hearing for the Budget of Fiscal Year 2027 for the Seymour Municipal Airport Authority. Colin Smith from the Airport spoke. Councilman Lucas asked if it was still a fact that no tax dollars are used to fund the airport, and Colin confirmed, and said the Airport has no tax levy, receives no tax funding, and is fully self-sustaining on their budget. Councilman Davidson asked about hangar project, and Colin said that project was added to their Capital Improvement Plan. He went on to discuss their Capital Projects; 2 were completed in 2026, and one more is to be completed in 2027. Councilman Lucas inquired about grant funding for these projects, and Colin spoke on that. As there was no other discussion, the public hearing was properly closed.

### **Old Business:**

- Councilman Maxie made a motion for the second reading of Ordinance No. 19, Council Bill No. 40 (2026), by title only, seconded by Councilman Hubbard, an Ordinance Annexing Territory to the City of Seymour, IN, placing the same within the corporate boundaries thereof, and making the same part of the City in hopes of a full council next meeting. Bill Braman, attorney for Ten Foot Rim spoke on positives of the annexation for the City of Seymour, including tax revenues, as well as the reason Ten Foot Rim had requested the annexation due to some of the concerns of the owners of some of the neighboring properties, including drainage. He also spoke on some of the positive feedback that the contractor working there has heard. On a motion by Mr. Maxie, seconded by Mr. Lucas, the Ordinance passed second reading 5-0-1.
- Councilman Maxie made a motion for the second reading of Ordinance No. 20, Council Bill No. 41 (2026), by title only, seconded by Councilman Hubbard, an Ordinance to rezone property located at 1223 E. 4<sup>th</sup> St, Seymour, IN 47274 from R-1 to C-2. This came to Council with a favorable recommendation from Planning and Zoning. Mr. Hubbard asked Mr. Farris if he has received any objections from anyone in the surrounding properties, and Mr. Farris said no, and shared some of the positive feedback he has heard. Doug Gregory asked if they have a design laid out, and Mr. Farris said they have a tentative design, but they are still looking into drainage. On a motion by Mr. Maxie, seconded by Mr. Hubbard, the Ordinance passed second reading 5-0-1.
- Councilman Davidson made a motion for the second reading of Ordinance No. 21, Council Bill No. 42 (2026), by title only, seconded by Councilman Lucas, an Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates for the City of Seymour for 2027. Mayor gave an general overview of the ordinance, including a 4% raise as well as the advertised tax rate and what is expected to be approved from the state. On a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Lucas, the Ordinance passed second reading 5-0-1.

### **New Business:**

- Councilman Davidson introduced Resolution No. 22, Council Bill No. 43 (2026), by title only, seconded by Councilman Lucas, a resolution of the Common Council of the City of Seymour approving a tax abatement for O&K American Corp for Qualified Personal Property. This is for the Personal Property tax abatement that was discussed in the Reports from Committees, Boards, and Commissions. On a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Lucas, the Resolution passed 5-0-1.
  
- Councilman Davidson introduced Resolution No. 23, Council Bill No. 44 (2026), by title only, seconded by Councilman Lucas, a resolution of the Common Council of the City of Seymour approving a tax abatement for O&K American Corp for Real Estate Improvements to be located at 1625 Bateman Drive. The is for the Real Estate Improvement tax abatement that was discussed in the Reports from Committees, Boards, and Commissions. On a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Lucas, the Resolution passed 4-1-1.
  
- Councilman Davidson introduced Ordinance No. 22, Council Bill No. 45 (2026), by title only, seconded by Councilman Hubbard, an Ordinance establishing the salaries of appointed officials and employees of the City of Seymour, Indiana for the year 2027. Mr. Davidson spoke on the 4% raise; Mr. Lucas asked if there had been any changes since the budget meeting, and Mayor Nicholson spoke of 3 positions that are being moved up in pay, as well as some title changes from WPC. On a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Lucas, the Ordinance passed first reading 5-0-1.
  
- Councilman Davidson introduced Ordinance No. 23, Council Bill No. 46 (2026), by title only, seconded by Councilman Lucas, an Ordinance setting the salaries of elected officials for the City of Seymour, Indiana for the year 2027. Tyler Henkle asked about what is happening with the salary appropriated for the vacant seat in Council, and Mayor Nicholson explained that at the end of the year any funds not spent go back into the General Fund. Ashely Grizzle asked if the salaries were posted, and Mayor Nicholson told her all salaries are available on Gateway; she also spoke on tax abatements taking funds away from salaries. On a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Lucas, the Ordinance passed first reading 5-0-1.
  
- Councilman Davidson introduced Resolution No. 1, Authority Bill No. 2 (2026), by title only, seconded by Councilman Lucas, a Resolution reducing unobligated balances in the Seymour Municipal Airport Authority's Rainy-Day Fund for the year 2027. Mr. Davidson asked Colin what the plan was for the \$18,533 from the Rainy-Day fund, and Colin explained it incorporates the reduction in the budget for fiscal year 2027. Mr. Lucas asked if the Airport Board also approves this, and they have approved it. On a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Hubbard, the Resolution passed 5-0-1.
  
- Councilman Davidson introduced Ordinance No. 2, Authority Bill No. 3 (2026), by title only, seconded by Mr. Hubbard, an Ordinance fixing the budget of the Seymour Municipal Airport Authority for the year 2027. Ashley Grizzle asked about what the total of the budget was. Mr. Davidson answered \$1.2 million General Fund, \$18,000

Rainy-Day Fund. On a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Lucas, the Ordinance passed first reading 5-0-1.

**Miscellaneous Business:**

- Councilman Davidson asked if there was an update on the District 2 Council seat. He asked if Council could send Mr. Hackney a letter asking him to officially resign his seat, as this is what has been told to Clerk/Treasurer Boas is needed for his seat to be filled. Mr. Davidson expressed that the letter should be written by the City Attorney. Mr. Lucas shared he thinks they need to do whatever they can to speed the process up so the seat can be filled. Mr. Hubbard asked if a recommendation or motion was needed. Mayor said the recommendation would come in the form of a motion. The motion would be the Council would give the City Attorney the authority to compose and send Mr. Hackney a letter asking for his resignation. Mayor asked Chris if she could send the letter to Council so they can read it before it gets mailed out, and she said it would need to be reviewed in an open meeting; she said she could have it ready to be reviewed at the next meeting. On a motion by Mr. Davidson seconded by Mr. Hubbard, the motion passed 4-1-1.
- Matthew Beam spoke on his concerns surrounding Flock cameras and mass surveillance.

On a motion by Mayor Nicholson, seconded by Mr. Lucas, the meeting was properly adjourned.

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Matt Nicholson, Mayor

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Attest: Darrin Boas, Clerk-Treasurer