

# Minutes

## Seymour Common Council

May 27, 2025

The May 27th, 2025, Seymour City Council was called to order by Mayor Matt Nicholson at 7:00pm. The invocation was given by Rev. Les Linz, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A virtual/steaming option was available.

**Members Present:** Mayor Matt Nicholson, Clerk/Treasurer Darrin Boas, Jerry Hackney, Seth Davidson, Brian Terrell, Brad Lucas, Chad Hubbard, Dennis Frey, City Attorney Chris Engleking virtually, Fred and Sally Vogel, Jon and Laura Stahl, Kevin Kaplin, the Parkers, Fire Chief Eric Roll, Police Chief Greg O'Brien, DPW Director Chad Dixon, Rich Starkey, Dave and Christina Boggs, Mayor Admin Jane Hayes, Dr. Calhoun, Information Specialist January Rutherford, Parks Director Chad Keithley, Cole Fosbrink, Matt Frische, Craig Luedeman, Jennifer and Mark Hoplins, and a few other Community citizens.

On a motion by Councilman Hubbard, seconded by Councilman Hackney, the minutes from the 5/12/25 meeting were approved.

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

- Councilman Davidson presented the following Compliance with Statement of Benefits:
  1. MSF Seymour L.P. (Seymour Loft Apartments). This came to the City on 5/15, and they will make sure it comes in on time next year. On a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Terrell, the compliance was accepted 6-0-1.

### Public Hearing:

- The Mayor opened the Public Hearing to discuss the upcoming Pool Bond issue. Richard Starkey spoke on the bond process, Matt Frische spoke on where the funds would come from to pay the bond and the financial aspects, and Park's Director Chad Keithley spoke of the need, current conditions, and proposed updates of the pool. Some public discussion was had, about the revenue the pool generates, age of current infrastructure, and attendance. Once discussion ended, the Mayor closed this public hearing.
- The Mayor opened the 2<sup>nd</sup> public hearing to discuss the additional appropriations of \$1.2 million of MVH Restricted funds to fund the CCMG matching grant this year. The reasons why were explained by the Clerk/Treasurer and Mayor. This will free up the RDC from funding the grant this year, as they will continue funding the 2<sup>nd</sup> St. and O'Brien St. projects. A couple of questions were answered about the status of O'Brien St., and the timeline. The Mayor close the public hearing.

### Old Business

- a. Councilman Hackney introduced Ordinance No. 10, Council Bill No. 23 (2025), seconded by Councilman Lucas, for second reading. This Ordinance is to amend Chapter 74 Schedule III, Table D of the Seymour City Code. This will place a Stop sign on St. Louis Ave at the Poplar Street intersection, eastbound on the south side of the tracks. On a

motion by Mr. Hackney, seconded by Mr. Hubbard, the ordinance passed 2nd reading 6-0-1.

- b. Councilman Hackney introduced Ordinance No. 11, Council Bill No. 24 (2025), seconded by Councilman Davidson, for a second reading. This is an Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Seymour, Indiana, approving a lease between the City of Seymour Redevelopment Authority and the City of Seymour Redevelopment Commission, and addressing matters related thereto. This is part of the upcoming bond issue for the City Pool rehabilitation/upgrade project, and was discussed in the public hearing. On a motion by Mr. Hackney, seconded by Mr. Hubbard, the ordinance passed 2nd reading 6-0-1.
- c. Councilman Hackney introduced Ordinance No. 12, Council Bill No. 25 (2025), seconded by Councilman Hubbard, an ordinance for additional appropriation – MVH Restricted Funds. This will be used this year as matching funds for the 2025 CCMG grant provided through the state, as discussed in the Public Hearing. Total appropriation of \$1.2 million is requested. On a motion by Mr. Hackney, seconded by Mr. Hubbard, the ordinance passed 2<sup>nd</sup> reading 6-0-1.
- d. Councilman Frey asked for an update of Fingerprint readers. Police Chief O'Brien shared 2 readers had been ordered, The County had been testing them, and they will only build a county wide database. Councilman Frey asked if this would ever be a statewide database, and the Chief shared how the state system worked, the costs associated, and the current pause with the state system updates due to administration changes.

#### **Miscellaneous Business:**

- The Mayor shared that Birge and Held is interested in coming to the City Council and asking for a tax abatement for an apartment complex, investing \$45 million and requesting a 10% abatement. This will provide them with approximately a \$5,000,000 tax abatement, but over 20yrs will provide the City with an additional \$21 million in property tax revenue. The Council approved 6-0-1 to hear their proposal at a meeting in June.
- Jennifer Hopkins passionately spoke about the need to bring the Dare program back into the schools. Even Seymour has the potential for big city problems like gang issues, drugs, etc. This program helped bridge the gap between children and the police, so they realize that the police are approachable. Chief O'Brien spoke as to the issues that has caused the Dare program not to be renewed in the schools. It was recommended that perhaps a discussion with the School Board might be an avenue. Jennifer's husband, Mark, asked for a show of support from the council, so on a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Hubbard, the council approved support for a resolution to reinstate the Dare program in the schools. Chief O'Brien said he will get with Jennifer and schedule a meeting with the school superintendent to discuss it.

On a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Hubbard, the meeting was properly adjourned.

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Matt Nicholson, Mayor

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Attest: Darrin Boas, Clerk/ Treasurer