

Minutes
Seymour Common Council
February 13, 2023

The February 13rd, 2023, City Council was called to order by Mayor Matt Nicholson at 7:00pm. Invocation was given by Pastor Rick Prather, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the nation's flag was recited. A virtual option was available.

Members Present: Mayor Matt Nicholson, Clerk/Treasurer Darrin Boas, Brett Cunningham, Matt Wheeler, Jerry Hackney, Seth Davidson, Dave Earley, City Attorney Chris Engleking, Police Chief O'Brien, Les Linz, Zach Spicer, Drew Storey, Chad Hubbard, January Rutherford, Tyler Hinkle, Fire Chief Lucas, Main Street Director Bri Roll, Pastor Angel Armstrong, Tyler Wessel, and Paul Boone.

On a motion by Mr. Hackney, seconded by Mr. Storey, the minutes from the January 23rd council meeting were approved.

Reports from Committees, Boards, and Commissions

- Councilman Davidson introduced a Compliance with Statement of Benefits, seconded by Mr. Earley, for Crossroads Village LP, 500 S Poplar, for 1 real property. On a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Hubbard, the Statement of Benefits was accepted 7-0.

Public Hearing

- None to report.

Old Business

- Councilman Storey introduced for Second Reading Ordinance No. 3, Council Bill No. 4 (2023), seconded by Councilman Cunningham, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 30 of the Seymour City Code Regarding Recording of Public Meetings. There was a lot of discussion at the last meeting, and Councilman Hubbard asked if there was any pushback from Department heads not wanting to record their meetings. The Mayor said no, everyone seems OK with it. Councilman Storey stated the goal was to make these meetings more accessible to those we serve. Tyler Hinkle asked if there had been some thought that the recordings might cause less people to attend/participate. Mr. Storey stated the committee involved in this Ordinance would continue to be involved and help work through the bugs. On a motion by Mr. Storey, seconded by Mr. Hubbard, the Ordinance passed second reading 7-0.

New Business

- A. Councilman Hackney introduced Ordinance No. 5, Council Bill No. 6 (2023), seconded by Mr. Wheeler, an Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Seymour to Authorize Borrowing from the Seymour Municipal Sanitation Utility. This has been done annually to support the Parks Department until the next tax distribution comes through. On a motion by Mr. Hackney, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, the ordinance passed first reading 7-0.
- B. Mainstreet Director Bri Roll shared her annual review. She shared occupancy rates, grants funded, the work on the master plan, walkability of downtown, hiring of the new assistant, and a new reporting program to help streamline the grant process.

Miscellaneous Business

- Councilman Hackney shared that the City Museum has potentially found a cost-effective way to have the head and hand replaced on the soldier statue in front of the museum.
- Councilman Earley share the situation Councilman Hubbard is going through with the recent house fire and trying to find a place to rent and the struggles associated with the fire. Anyone with a lead on rentals please reach out to Mr. Hubbard. Mr. Hubbard also was thankful for the community support he has been receiving.
- Tyler Wessel from the Hospital shared concerns about safety at the West Brown and Poplar street intersection and some near misses that have happened with their employees crossing Brown street at that intersection. The Mayor shared that the light pole on that corner will soon be updated to LED as part of a Citywide plan with Duke energy. Tyler Hinkle also shared concerns about traffic and speed on Poplar and the cross streets along Poplar. There was discussions about congestion due to parking, possibility of a 4 way stop, and lost parking places due to a 4 way stop. It was shared there are traffic counters currently on Poplar, and those results will be taken under advisement.
- Fire Chief Lucas shared that the preemption devises are being installed on the designated stoplights in town.

Adjournment

- On a motion by Mr. Hackney, seconded by Mr. Storey, the meeting was properly adjourned.

Mayor Matt Nicholson

Attest: Darrin Boas, Clerk/Treasurer