

**Minutes**  
**Seymour Common Council**  
**March 13, 2023**

The March 13th, 2023, City Council was called to order by Mayor Matt Nicholson at 7:00pm. Invocation was given by Pastor Les Linz, 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, Matt Wheeler, Jerry Hackney, Seth Davidson, Dave Earley, Brett Cunningham, City Attorney Chris Engleking, Police Chief O'Brien, Les Linz, Zach Spicer, Drew Storey, Chad Hubbard, City Media January Rutherford, Tyler Hinkle, Assistant WPC Director Doug Gregory, and Clarence Cornwell remotely.

On a motion by Mr. Hackney, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, the minutes from the February 27<sup>th</sup> council meeting were approved.

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

- None to report.

**Public Hearing**

- None to report.

**Old Business**

- A. Councilman Cunningham introduced Ordinance No. 7, Council Bill No. 8 (2023) for 2<sup>nd</sup> reading, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, an Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Seymour to rezone property located at 1341 at 2<sup>nd</sup> St. The zoning is currently R2, and the desire is to move to R3 for the development of duplexes in this area. Councilman Hubbard asked if there was a timeline for this project, due to the ongoing construction at the High School, and the upcoming reconstruction of 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Mr. Cornwell said he would work with the City to keep congestion at a minimum. On a motion by Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Storey, the ordinance passed second reading 7 -0.
- B. Councilman Earley introduced Ordinance No. 6, Council Bill No. 7 (2023) for second reading, seconded by Mr. Storey, an Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Seymour Amending Chapter 31 of the Seymour City Code Regarding Regular Meetings. This updates City Code with times and locations of regularly scheduled meetings and ties into the prior ordinance requiring recordings. On a motion by Mr. Earley, seconded by Mr. Storey, the ordinance passed second reading 7-0.

## New Business

- A. Councilman Hackney introduced Ordinance No. 8, Council Bill No. 9 (2023), seconded by Mr. Wheeler, an Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Seymour Amending Chapter 35 of the Seymour City Code Regarding the Sidewalk Program. This is to implement a sidewalk and curb partial reimbursement program, modeled after the Curb Appeal reimbursement program. Initial fund to be established is \$15,000. There was a lot of discussion regarding miles of sidewalks, who is eligible, how many are expected to participate, is this enough funds, etc. On a motion by Mr. Storey, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, the ordinance was tabled 7-0.
  
- B. Councilman Earley introduced Resolution No. 2, Council Bill No. 11, (2023), seconded by Mr. Davidson, a Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Seymour to authorize representation. This will allow the Mayor to sign documents with SRF for the upcoming Sewer bond issue for sewer projects. (Mutton Creek, Snyder Acres, etc) On a motion by Mr. Earley, seconded by Mr. Davidson, the resolution passed 7-0.

## Miscellaneous Business

- Councilman Storey discussed an upcoming ordinance regarding KPI's and reporting results to the Council. There was a lot of discussion, regarding why to do this, reporting, participation, communication, what it is and what it isn't from an evaluation perspective.
  
- Councilman Cunningham discussed a current BZA topic – Air B-N-B's. There was a lot of discussion about zoning and variances, neighborhood issues, restrictions, etc. An ordinance may be coming later in the year as discussion evolves.
  
- Tyler Hinkle spoke first on the Sidewalk/Curb comments from earlier, he questioned the funds and communication of the program, how will every resident know of the program? Not everyone has Facebook or a newspaper subscription to get the info. The ordinance has been tabled as there are issues to work through. Mr. Hinkle then shared his thoughts on the Air B-N-B, potential issues for neighbors, reduced inventory of homes for sale, and decision authority BZA vs. Council. Will a precedent be set?
  
- Les Linz spoke, sharing his support for the KPI program as a taxpayer and the potential for communication of results to the public. He also questioned

who owns the sidewalks vs responsibility and how/why/when they are replaced by the City. The Mayor shared when large sections are replaced, it is usually coordinated with the attached street upgrades/replacements.

- The Mayor shared the City has been approved to be classified as a Tree City by the Arbor Day Foundation, and will allow access to some new grant opportunities. Also, the tree windbreak funded through a grant from Duke will start being installed this week at Freeman Field.

### **Adjournment**

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

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Mayor Matt Nicholson

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Attest: Darrin Boas, Clerk/Treasurer