

Minutes

Seymour Common Council

December 9, 2024

The December 9th, 2024, Seymour City Council was called to order by Council President Jerry Hackney at 7:00pm. The invocation was given by Pastor Rick Prather, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A virtual/steaming option was available.

Members Present: Clerk/Treasurer Darrin Boas, Jerry Hackney, Brian Terrell, Chad Hubbard, Bob Beatty, Brad Lucas, City Attorney Chris Engleking, January Rutherford, Drew Storey, Police Chief Greg O'Brien, Erica Moore with the Tribune, Fred and Sally Vogel, Fire Chief Eric Roll, Jon Stahl, Mike Wright, Les Linz, Dr. Calhoun, JJ Reinhart, Jim Lucas, DPW Director Chad Dixon, Parks Director Chad Keithley, Tyler Hinkle, Dan Robison, and roughly 15 other Community citizens.

On a motion made by Mr. Storey, seconded by Mr. Beatty, the minutes for the November 25th, 2024, Council meeting were approved.

Reports from Committees, Boards, and Commissions

- Councilman Storey touched on 3 items from the Thorofare and Drainage Committee:
 1. The committee continues to NOT support speed bumps, as one was requested.
 2. Bryant and 4th St, heading north, requesting City Engineer look at way enhancing safety.
 3. Jackson Park Drive – parking along the street. The committee is requesting an ordinance be written banning parking along Jackson Park Drive from the VFW to Oak Street.

Public Hearing:

- None to report

Old Business

- a. Ordinance No. 36, Council Bill No. 66 (2024), an Ordinance amending Chapter 150.38 of the Seymour City Code: Standards for ERA Evaluation. This Ordinance was left on the table, as Mr. Storey shared he is still receiving feedback and input from those businesses who receive tax abatements.

New Business

- b. Councilman Hackney introduced resolution No. 36 Council Bill No. 72 (2024), seconded by Councilman Hubbard, a resolution of the City of Seymour, Indiana, to transfer funds for Health Insurance and Public Safety Expenditures. Mr. Hackney shared this is an annual request that insures there are adequate funds to cover insurance expenditures through the end of the year and spend some additional unused budgeted dollars for police and fire requests. There were 2 versions of this

ordinance as it changed late last week from the one published earlier in the week. On a motion by Mr. Hubbard, seconded by MR. Storey, a motion to amend those copies of the ordinance that were incorrect was approved 6-0-1. (the correction involved a \$36,000 move in unused budgeted funds for the Fire Department). On a motion by Mr. Storey, seconded by Mr. Terrell, the amended resolution passed 6-0-1.

- c. Councilman Lucas introduced Ordinance No. 37, Council Bill No. 69 (2024), seconded by Councilman Storey, and Ordinance amending Chapter 10.05 of the Seymour City Code: Rules of Interpretation; Definitions. This is part of the Code review the Mayor and Council are doing, and more clearly defines key terms used throughout City Code. On a motion by Mr. Lucas, seconded by Mr. Beatty, the Ordinance passed first reading 6-0-1. A motion to suspend the rules for a second vote by Councilman Hubbard was declined as full council was not present for a unanimous vote.
- d. Councilman Lucas introduced Resolution No. 34, Council Bill No. 70 (2024), seconded by Councilman Storey, a resolution of the Seymour City Council supporting the detention and documenting of individuals driving without a license to ensure accountability and tracking. This was the City's version of the County resolution passed a few weeks ago. Councilman Hubbard shared his concerns (constitutionality) with this resolution and offered a resolution he worked with the City Attorney on citing the Codes needed changed to make this possible. Councilman Beatty asked what was unconstitutional about the resolution, as it only is offering support for a change in state law. Jim Lucas shared this is one of his statehouse priorities this year, and will be submitting a bill addressing this, Brad's Law, and the LLC's providing vehicles to unlicensed drivers. Mr. Hubbard asked City Attorney Engleking what she saw as legal issues with the resolution(s), which she shared civil rights concerns if the resolutions initiated action on the part of law enforcement prior to the Statehouse changing the law. On a motion by Mr. Lucas, seconded by Mr. Beatty, the resolution passed 6-0-1.
- e. Councilman Lucas introduced Resolution No. 35, Council Bill No. 71 (2024), seconded by Councilman Storey, a resolution of the Seymour City Council supporting Brad's Law and urging further support from other governmental bodies within Jackson County. This was the City's version of the County resolution passed a few weeks ago. On a motion by Mr. Lucas, seconded by Mr. Beatty, the resolution passed 6-0-1.

Miscellaneous Business:

- Councilman Hubbard asked for a vote on his resolution No. 37, Council Bill No. 73, seconded by Councilman Terrell, a resolution urging the General Assembly to amend Indiana Code regarding driving without a license. This resolution sites the codes that need changed in Resolution No.34 and No. 35. On a motion by Mr. Hubbard, seconded by Mr. Terrell, the resolution passed 6-0-1.

- On a motion by Mr. Lucas, seconded by Mr. Hubbard, the December 23rd meeting is cancelled unless urgent City business becomes apparent and needs addressed. The motion passed 6-0-1.
- Clerk Treasurer Boas presented Councilman Storey with a service award as this was his last meeting. He is transitioning to Jackson County Council. Good Luck and thank you for your service. Drew shared what led him to community service, and his desire to continue that service.

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

Matt Nicholson, Mayor

Attest: Darrin Boas, Clerk/ Treasurer