

Minutes

Seymour Common Council

July 8, 2024

The July 8, 2024, Seymour City Council was called to order by Mayor Matt Nicholson at 7:00pm. The invocation was given by Reverend Ken Davidson and the Pledge of Allegiance to the nation's flag was and led by the Cortland Crushers 4H. A virtual/steaming option was available.

Members Present: Mayor Matt Nicholson, Clerk/Treasurer Darrin Boas, Jerry Hackney, Brad Lucas, Clint Blish, Drew Storey, City Attorney Chris Engleking, Seth Davidson, January Rutherford, Kyle Hercamp, Brian Terrell, Fire Chief Eric Roll, Police Chief Greg O'Brien, Kevin Kaplin, Dana Clark, Fred Vogel, Bethany Rust, Les Linz, Erica Moore with the Tribune, DPW Director Chad Dixon, Will Everhart, Mark King, Jim Lucas, Zack Miller, Assistant Fire Chief Anthony Walker, Jerry Polley, Dr. Charles Calhoun, J.L. Brewer, and 10 various City/County residents.

On a motion made by Mr. Blish seconded by Mr. Hubbard, the minutes for the June 24, 2024, Council meeting were approved.

Reports from Committees, Boards, and Commissions

- a. Governmental Affairs Committee Chairman Brad Lucas reported on the information gathered for a Council Attorney. He presented the Council with a page of the costs associated with the 2 attorneys who expressed interest in the job. Councilman Storey made a motion for the Committee to continue moving forward, seconded by Councilman Hackney, and interview the 2 candidates and provide recommendations to council. This was approved 4-3. Further discussion was had regarding questions being submitted from other council members for the committee to ask, and the City Attorney recommended erring on the side of caution and not doing this for potential violation of the Open Door Law. On a motion by Mr. Storey, seconded by Mr. Hackney, the prior approved motion was rescinded on a vote of 6-1, and the interview process will be done at the next Council meeting depending on availability.

Public Hearing

- a. None to report.

Old Business

- a. None to report.

New Business

- a. None to report.

Miscellaneous Business

- J.L. Brewer, Community Corrections Director, spoke regarding JRAC – the Jackson County Justice Reinvestment Advisory Committee. He is offering the Committee’s services to review requests/grants for Opioid funds that the City receives. The Mayor shared his thoughts on the importance of recovery housing. On a motion by Councilman Hubbard, seconded by Councilman Hackney, the council approved utilizing JRAC to review projects/grant requests presented to the City Council.
- Councilman Hubbard offered appreciation to the Parks Department and Emergency Responders for the Fireworks show at Freeman Field and the ease of entrance and exit this year.
- Councilman Hackney asked for an update on the transfer station. DPW Director Chad Dixon stated the final forms have been submitted to IDEM so hopefully we will know something soon.
- Kevin Kaplin asked for an update on Fingerprint scanners with the SPD. Police Chief O’Brien shared he is waiting for a call back, as they have spoken to several companies.
- Deborah Olsen spoke and shared 3 concerns she had in relations to County issues.
- Will Everhart asked Council where they stood on the Egg Plant, and then asked about the building permit, and when there would be a public hearing/meeting regarding the permit. The Mayor shared there are no meetings/hearing for such permit, as it has industrial/commercial zoning and they have to abide by this zoning. Another resident asked about property values in the area, not realizing there would be no chickens on sight, and again, this property is zoned industrial and there should be no new effects to property values.
- Eric Mayfield questioned the fees associated with potential Council Attorney, and how many letters were sent out regarding this potential position. Brad shared 13 letters were sent to area attorneys, and 2 responded with interest. Attorney Zach Miller was present and shared his prices were negotiable.

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

Matt Nicholson, Mayor

Attest: Darrin Boas, Clerk/ Treasurer

