

Minutes

Seymour Common Council

April 22, 2024

The April 22, 2024 City Council was called to order by Mayor Matt Nicholson at 7:00pm. The invocation was given by Pastor Rick Prather and the Pledge of Allegiance to the nation's flag was recited by young Marine Ms. Ariella Siefker. A virtual option was available.

Members Present: Mayor Matt Nicholson, Clerk/Treasurer Darrin Boas, Jerry Hackney, Brad Lucas, Clint Blish, Drew Storey, City Attorney Chris Engleking, Police Chief Greg O'Brien, Seth Davidson, January Rutherford, Dan Robison, Brett Cunningham and spouse, Jim Plump, Dan Davis, Jim Lucas, Brian Savilla, Paula Hercamp, Heather Clark, Parks Director Chad Keithly, 2nd Deputy Melissa Herndon, Denise and Zoe Wischmeier, Betsy Cornett, Chris Booth, Mark Dennis, Assistant Fire Chief Anthony Walker, SMSU Director Jarin Gladstein, Assistant SMSU Director Doug Gregory, Will Everhart and spouse, Bob Beatty, and 70 various City/County residents.

On a motion made by Mr. Hackney, seconded by Mr. Blish, the minutes for the April 08, 2024, Council meeting were approved.

Reports from Committees, Boards, and Commissions

- Councilman Davidson presented the following Compliance of Statement of Benefits that were reviewed by the Industrial Development Committee and came to the Council with a favorable recommendation for approval. Jim Plump ran through the various industries:
 1. SBE Property Group LLC, 806 F Ave., Seymour (1 Real Estate) – Glen Sawyer/Mark Dennis
 2. United Pipe and Steel Corp., 6520 N. Co. Rd. 1 000E., Seymour (2 Real Estate) – Bob Martinelli
 3. Touchpoint LLC dba The Royal Group, 2245 Killion Ave. and 328 Elsner, Seymour (1 real estate, 2 Personal Property) – Jennifer Penner
 4. RR Donnelley Inc., 709 A. Avenue E., Seymour (2 Personal Property) – Chris Booth
 5. Pet Supplies Plus, 1510 E. 4th St., Seymour (2 Personal Property) – Jerry Troupe
 6. Premier Ag Co-Op Inc., 811 W. 2nd St., Seymour (1 Real Estate) – David Waskom
 7. PD Sub, LLC dba Particle Dynamics, 2223 Killion Ave., Seymour (1 Real Estate, 1 Personal Property) – Randy Klemen
 8. HiPo Properties, 1471 W. Tipton St., Seymour (1 Real Estate) – Andrew Stauffer
 9. Golden Endeavors LLC., 2209 Killion Ave., Seymour (1 Real Estate) – Tammy Burton
 10. Fostech Properties, LLC., 320 Myers St., Seymour (2 Real Estate, 3 Personal Property) – Mark Foster
 11. AISIN USA Mfg., Inc., 1700 E. 4th St., Seymour (10 Real Estate, 22 Personal Property) – Betsy Cornett
 12. TDAK Development Inc., 2099 E. Tipton St., Seymour (2 Real Estate) – Thom Hayes

13. Kremers Urban Pharmaceuticals Inc. dba Lannett, 1101 C. Ave. East, Seymour (1 Real Estate, 4 Personal Property) – Rich Archer and Grant Block
14. Guardian Bike Co., 2230 D. Ave. E., Seymour (1 Personal Property) – Sam Markel
15. Valeo North America, Inc., 1231 A. Ave. North, Seymour (10 Personal Property) – Michael Mlecsko
16. Alterra Holdings Company Inc., 2213 Killion Ave., Seymour (2 Personal Property) – Carrie Cartwright
17. Spaceguard Land Holdings, Inc., 711 S. Commerce Dr., Seymour (1 Real Estate, 2 Personal Property) – Terrance Tracey

There was some discussion, initiated by Brett Cunningham and Bob Beatty, asking if the City Ordinances established years ago were being followed, if perhaps Industry had gotten too big, and how it was affecting local taxpayers. Councilman Davidson shared the Industrial Development Committee, along with Jim Plump, is planning on reviewing the Abatement ordinance from 1989 and updating the criteria in the ordinance.

On a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Storey, the compliances numbered 1-15 were approved 6-0

On a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Lucas, the compliances numbered 16-17 were approved 5-0-1. (one abstention by Mr. Storey)

Councilman Davidson presented the following Statements of Benefits, also reviewed by the Industrial Development Committee, and brought to Council with favorable recommendations. Jim Plump went through the Statement facts:

1. Valeo North America, Inc., 1231 A. Avenue North, Seymour (1 Personal Property) – Michael Mlecsko. This investment will add up to 192 new associates. On a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Storey, the Statement of Benefits was approved.
2. Fostech Inc., 320 Myers St., Seymour (1 Personal Property) – Mark Foster. This investment will add 2 additional associates. On a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Hubbard, the Statement of Benefits was approved.
3. AISIN USA Mfg., Inc., 1700 E. 4th St., Seymour (2 Real Estate, 2 Personal property) – Betsy Cornett. These investments will help with the transition of some lines to produce parts for EV's. On a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Lucas, the Statements of Benefits were approved.

Councilman Lucas shared that the Governmental Affairs committee had met in regard to the assignment of producing a template of questions for seeking separate Legal Counsel for Council. Brad stated at this time, the Committee decided to not take action due to the repetitive duties and costs associated with dual attorneys. Councilman Hubbard then made a motion to suspend Councilman Storey's motion from the prior meeting to seek Council representation, seconded by Mr. Blish. This led to some discussion from Mr. Everhart, questioning whether there had been a dereliction of duties by the current City Attorney, and Mrs. Paula Hercamp reiterated the

discussion on this topic from the last meeting. Mr. Lucas shared there was some confusion on the Committee's part as to what was asked for them to accomplish in this project. Mr. Hubbard's motion was called to a vote, and the vote came back as a tie with the Council. The Mayor cast the deciding vote, allowing the committee to move forward with their project of determining criteria for a Council Attorney.

Public Hearing

- None to report

Old Business

- Councilman Davidson reintroduced Resolution No. 15, Council Bill 27 (2024 tabled 4/8/24), seconded by Councilman Blish, a Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Seymour, Indiana, approving a tax abatement for Nippon Steel Pipe American, Inc. for Qualified Personal Property. On a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Lucas, the resolution passed 6-0.

New Business

- Councilman Blish introduced Ordinance No. 13, Council Bill No. 26 (2024), seconded by Mr. Hackney, an ordinance amending Chapter 50 of the Seymour City Code regarding building and house sewers. This is to clean up language and to clearly define who owns the lateral lines between a residence/building and the sewer main. On a motion by Mr. Blish, seconded by Mr. Hackney, the ordinance passed the first reading 6-0.
- On a motion by Councilman Blish, seconded by Councilman Storey, the next 3 ordinances on the agenda, Ordinance #'s 14, 15, & 16 were tabled until such time some language and financials could be validated and cleared up.
 - Councilman Davidson introduced Resolution No. 16, Council Bill No. 28 (2024), seconded by Councilman Blish, a Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Seymour, Indiana Approving a Tax Abatement for Valeo North America, Inc. for Qualified Personal Property. This was discussed above by Mr. Plump. On a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Lucas, the resolution passed 6-0.
 - Councilman Davidson introduced Resolution No. 17, Council Bill No. 29 (2024), seconded by Councilman Lucas, a Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Seymour, Indiana Approving a Tax Abatement for Aisin USA Mfg., Inc. for Real Estate Improvements to be Located at 500 Burkart Blvd, Seymour, Indiana 47274. This was discussed above by Mr. Plump. On a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Hubbard, the resolution passed 6-0.
 - Councilman Davidson introduced Resolution No. 18, Council Bill No. 30 (2024), seconded by Councilman Blish, a Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Seymour, Indiana Approving a Tax Abatement for Aisin USA Mfg. Inc. for Qualified Personal Property – Plant 2.

This was discussed above by Mr. Plump. On a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Blish, the resolution passed 6-0.

- Councilman Davidson introduced Resolution No. 19, Council Bill No. 31 (2024), seconded by Mr. Blish, a Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Seymour, Indiana Approving a Tax Abatement for Aisin USA Mfg. Inc. for Real Estate Improvements to be Located at 1700 E. 4th Street, Seymour, Indiana. This was discussed above by Mr. Plump. On a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Lucas, the resolution passed 6-0.
- Councilman Davidson introduced Resolution No. 20, Council Bill No. 32 (2024), seconded by Councilman Blish, a Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Seymour, Indiana Approving a Tax Abatement for Aisin USA Mfg. Inc. for Qualified Personal Property – Plant 1. This was discussed above by Mr. Plump. On a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Lucas, the resolution passed 6-0.
- Councilman Davidson introduced Resolution No. 21, Council Bill No. 33 (2024), seconded by Councilman Storey, a Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Seymour, Indiana Approving a Tax Abatement for Fostech, Inc. for Qualified Personal Property. This was discussed above by Mr. Plump. On a motion by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Hackney, the resolution passed 6-0.

Miscellaneous Business

The Mayor asked the Council if they wanted move the Memorial Day Council meeting to the next day, Tuesday, May 28th. On a motion by Mr. Blish, seconded by Mr. Lucas, the meeting was moved to Tuesday, May 28th.

Some audience discussion ensued regarding the Brooking Study.

- Paula Hercamp asked if there was intent to introduce a motion to resurrect any part of the study by the Council. Was there intent to use Readi 2.0 monies for any of these projects, or are any other agencies considering parts of the projects.
- Councilman Storey discussed there are some parts of the plan that probably deserve some consideration. Mr. Storey thought there should be a conversation/committee with the County to discuss economic development.
- Paula Hercamp and Mr. Everhart shared their opinion that looking into the “good” part of the study will lead to the bad/open the door to the undesirable parts of the study.
- A comment was made that we created the housing problem because of the economic growth.
- A comment was shared we are not against immigrant, but those here illegally.
- Some comments were made about the study being Devilish and demonic as it was produced by the Brookings Institute.
- Comments were made about no need for trails and additional parks.
- Keeping children/grandchildren safe at schools and home was a concern.
- Paula Hercamp shared the difference between Immigrant, Migrant, and Alien.
- Heidi Collier spoke of working with a Hispanic crew, what hard workers they are, and that you cannot assume by just by looking if they are legal or not.

- Councilman Hubbard thanked the Park's Board for the upcoming Steve Coombs Memorial Field of Dreams at Shields Park. This is scheduled for Wednesday at 5pm.

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

Matt Nicholson, Mayor

Attest: Darrin Boas, Clerk/ Treasurer

- There will be another public meeting later once availability is determined at the High School.

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

Mayor Matt Nicholson

Attest: Darrin Boas, Clerk/Treasurer