

The Seymour Board of Alderman met for a regular meeting at 6:00 pm on Thursday, June 25, 2015 in the Seymour City Hall Board Room, 123 West Market Street.

Meeting called to order by Mayor Dale Bailey.

Roll call: Grady Bennett, Charlie Ivy, Jim Ashley, Absent: Dean Rowe.

Also present was City Administrator Sam Burt, City Attorney Dani Padgett, Police Chief Ron Wright, Fire Chief Shawn Crump, Supervisor Mitch Plummer, City Clerk Leslie Houk.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Ashley/Ivy to approve the minutes as written. Ayes: All. Nays: None.

Derek Chambers-YMCA

Derek is here to discuss the YMCA's contract renewals for the parks program and pool maintenance. Derek would like for the \$120,000.00 cap on the pool contract to be increased to \$150,000.00 on the contract.

Chris Swatosh-Apiaries and Bee Ordinance

Chris Swatosh expressed his concerns on the City passing an ordinance allowing apiaries and beehives in I1 zoning.

Ordinance-Apiaries and Beehives

A motion was made by Ivy/Ashley to table the ordinance until the August 27th Board meeting. Ayes: All. Nays: None.

Parks Program Contract-YMCA

A motion was made by Bennett/Ashley to approve the contract for the YMCA parks program. Ayes: All. Nays: None.

Pool Contract-YMCA

A motion was made by Bennett/Ivy to approve the YMCA pool contract and revisit the \$120,000.00 cap in January. Ayes: All. Nays: None.

Approval of 2015-2016 Budget

Aldermen Charlie Ivy presented a statement addressing the budget. See attached statement.

A motion was made by Ivy/Bennett to approve the 2015-2016 budget. Ayes: All. Nays: None.

ORDINANCE NUMBER 719B AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AN ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING ON JULY 1, 2015 AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS PURSUANT THERETO.

A motion was made by Ivy/Ashley to accept the first reading of Bill # 2015-719B Ordinance # 719B. An ordinance adopting an annual budget for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2015 and appropriating funds pursuant thereto. Ayes: All. Nays: None. The following roll call vote was recorded. Ayes: Bennett, Ivy, Ashley. Nays: None. Absent: Rowe.

A motion was made by Bennett/Ashley to accept the second and final reading of Bill # 2015-719B Ordinance # 719B. An ordinance adopting an annual budget for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2015 and appropriating funds pursuant thereto. Ayes: All. Nays: None. The following roll call vote was recorded. Ayes: Bennett, Ivy, Ashley. Nays: None. Absent: Rowe.

Supervisor's Report-Mitch Plummer

The employees were busy setting up and tearing down for rock n freedom.

The employees have been working on sewer projects.

Getting caught up on the mowing.

Administrator's Report-Sam Burt

See Report

Mayor's Report-Dale Bailey

Nothing to report.

Attorney's Report-Danette Padgett

Nothing to report.

Aldermen's Report

Alderman Charlie Ivy made a motion to have City Attorney Dani Padgett draft an ordinance that would allow chickens in Seymour. Alderman Grady made seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Nays: None. See Alderman Ivy's attached statement.

Alderman Charlie Ivy made a motion to have the abatement officer prepare a survey of standing water at abandoned property in the City. Alderman Ivy withdrew his motion because this subject was voted on at the May 28th meeting. See Alderman Ivy's attached statement.

Alderman Charlie Ivy made a motion that the Board appoint a committee to evaluate the motto of the City. Alderman Jim Ashley seconded the motion. Ayes: All. Nays: None. See Alderman Ivy's attached statement.

A motion was made by Bennett/Ivy to take a 10 minute break and go into executive session. Ayes: All. Nays: None. The following roll call vote was recorded. Ayes: Bennett, Ivy, Ashley. Nays: None. Absent: Rowe.

The reason for executive session is Personnel and Real Estate.

A motion was made by Ivy/Bennett to go back into open session. Ayes: All. Nays: None. The following roll call vote was recorded. Ayes: Bennett, Ivy, Ashley. Nays: None. Absent: Rowe.

A motion was made by Ivy/Bennett to have Whitney Keith fill the vacant Library Board seat. Ayes: All. Nays: None.

A motion was made by Bennett/Ivy to adjourn. Ayes: All. Nays: None.

Mayor Dale Bailey

City Clerk Leslie Houk

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT
JUNE 25, 2015**

COMPLETION OF RURAL SEWER GRANT APPLICATION

Duane Ottmar and I completed the form on 6/9/2015

Completed application and plan have been sent for approval

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT

Permit expires December 31, 2015.

Form completed by John Griechen/ Reviewed by Duane Ottmar

Signed and mailed June 16, 2015

SMALL COMMUNITY ENGINEERING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Contract with Duane Ottmar has expired

Addendum to agreement is completed

I contacted Jeremy Payne for details

Notes:

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Petrichor /pe tri kor/ the smell of earth after a rain

June 25, 2015

BUDGET COMMENTS

While I did participate in the budget public hearing and have, on my own, examined our accounting formats, I want to say, publicly, and have it on the public record that I feel the manner in which the City accounts for and budgets its funds can be improved significantly. I do not, nor do I have any reason to, believe that there is anything inappropriate occurring. What needs to happen is an improvement in the overall knowledge and understanding of the use and purpose of appropriately designed financial statements. We can see that it certainly improves one's perspective in understanding of financial conditions as was shown earlier with the improvements to the YMCA Accounting documents. We need to overcome ~~a~~ recurring statements in the Accountant's report for 2011, 2012, and 2013. We do not have 2014 as of yet.... But I anticipate the same type of statement to wit:

We need to be held accountable to do things in accordance with appropriate standards and the public needs to do that. The addressing of this issue simply has been of a lower priority than other issues but it has become a chronic issue and needs to be addressed by working with our software provider and with training. We have already discussed much of this and plans are being put in place to examine our recording procedures and reporting processes.

Having said this, Mr. Mayor, I move the approval of the 2015-~~21-016~~ 2016 Budget....

June 25, 2015

I move that our City Attorney be instructed to proceed with the draft of an ordinance that would allow residents of the city of Seymour to care for and keep poultry on their residential property. On April 27, I handed out some of the requisite changes to our ordinance that reflect code adopted by the city of Springfield. Code changes similar to these enable the interest of all residents to be protected.

As of May 1, over 45 days ago, Iowa, which produces 20% of the nation's egg supply, is expected to loose over 25% of its 60 million laying hens. With the recent spread of the H5N2 virus among very tightly confined chickens, the price of eggs have risen to over \$5.00 in some locations and has created a rationing in several markets. Such additional expenses to residents of Seymour can be avoided by such enabling code adoptions.

Mr Mayor, I need a second for the motion.....

Other Old Business:

On 3/28/2013, Section 215,010 (A)3 was added to the city code specifically to address an issue of standing water. To date, nothing has been done about at least 2 incidents of this health and safety hazard, both of which are well known by many in the public as well as this body. Specifically, I am referring to the standing water in the storm shelter/root cellar in the back yard of a long vacated house at 220 West Garfield Avenue and the water in the swimming pool at the vacant house at 416 N Division Street. These are just 2 examples of the many major problems that need addressing and with dispatch.

It is the city's responsibility to be responsive to its citizens.... And in these cases, we certainly haven't. I would like a report at the first meeting of each month on the progress of cleaning up these nuisances among others. The abatement officer needs to be able to prepare a city wide report on vacant and deteriorating houses that continue to be a blight on the city. Seymour can NOT be "open for business" when we allow such characteristics of our town to develop.

I move that the Abatement Officer prepare a survey of the housing of the City specifically identifying those vacancies and the owners thereof, to be presented with recommendations at the meeting of the Council scheduled for the first meeting in October.

I need a second...

June 25, 2015

committee

I move that this Council appoint a ~~commission~~ *committee* comprised of 14 individuals of which 2 would be aldermen, one from the north ward and one from the south, who would in turn appoint 6 people, 4 of whom reside within the city limits of Seymour, and 2 of whom have business or property interests within the city limits but actually reside outside of the city limits. The commission members would set their own structure, methods and timeline in order to report back their findings.

The purpose of this commission is to evaluate the motto of the City:

Land of the Big Red Apple

Vivat – Crescat – Floreat

In the past, we have used “City of Flowers” which notably was part of a nationally recognized achievement in Washington, D.C. Another was “The Summit City of the Ozarks.”

Through public meetings, discussions and solicitations from the public, the commission would report back to the City Council no later than 1 March 2016.

I need a second to the motion so discussions can ensue.