

Weekly Beat

August 29, 2025

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City of Seymour Upcoming Events

By Jeffrey L. Brasher, Ed.D.

- September 1st, 2025 City Hall Closed for Labor Day
- September 18th, 2025 City Council Meeting at 7:00 PM at City Hall
- October 6th-12th "Residential Garbage Only Cleanup Week"
- October 16th, 2025, City Council Meeting at 7:00 PM at City Hall
- October 25th, 2025, Haunted City Hall at 6:00 PM -7:00 PM
- Chamber 3-Man Scramble September 13-14, 2025
- First Thursdays Bingo at Portwood Pavillion 6:00 PM

Electric Department Tackles Infrastructure Upgrade



SEYMOUR, TX — The Seymour Electric Department is making proactive strides in updating the city’s electrical infrastructure, with a recent project highlighting both their technical expertise and commitment to uninterrupted service. Under the supervision of John Joyce, and with the skilled assistance of Garett Hons and Johnathon Olinger, the team successfully replaced an aging utility pole located behind Fair Park Stadium—a critical upgrade for the area’s electrical reliability. What sets this project apart is the department’s ability to perform the replacement without disrupting power to customers. Thanks to the city’s newly acquired bucket truck, the crew was able to work on a live electrical line, a task that demands precision, training, and heightened safety protocols. “Working on energized lines is inherently more dangerous,” said Joyce, “but our team is well-trained and equipped to handle these situations safely. The goal is always to minimize inconvenience to residents while improving infrastructure.” The pole behind Fair Park Stadium had been identified as part of a broader initiative to replace aging components before they become liabilities. With the new equipment in hand, the department is now able to address these issues more efficiently and with greater flexibility. City officials praised the Electric Department’s proactive approach. “This kind of proactive maintenance is exactly what keeps our city running smoothly,” said City Administrator Dr. Jeff Brasher. “We’re proud of the work being done and the professionalism of our electric crew.” Residents can expect continued upgrades as the department evaluates other areas in need of attention. With safety, service continuity, and infrastructure resilience at the forefront, Seymour’s Electric Department is setting a strong example of municipal excellence.

Farewell to a Piece of Seymour’s Past: The Old Putt-Putt Shed Comes Down



A quiet chapter in Seymour’s community history came to a close this week as the old Putt-Putt shed, once a lively hub for summer fun and laughter, was officially demolished. The structure, pictured above with Street Department Supervisor Ronnie Kolacek overseeing its removal, had long stood as a nostalgic reminder of simpler times. Years ago, the shed served as the operations center for Seymour’s Putt-Putt golf course, a place where families gathered, friendships formed, and children celebrated victories. When the course was eventually closed and later the Portwood Pavilion was built, the shed was relocated to the north side of the Chamber of Commerce building—an effort to preserve a small piece of the past. But time, as it often does, took its toll. The shed, once surrounded with laughter and community spirit, became a haven for varmints and wasps, its structure deteriorating beyond repair. No longer serving a functional purpose and increasingly viewed as an eyesore, the City Council made the difficult decision to remove the building. The demolition marks not just the end of a physical structure, but the closing of a chapter in Seymour’s recreational history. As the city continues to evolve, it does so with respect for the past and a clear-eyed vision for the future. Though the shed is gone, the memories remain—etched in the hearts of those who once lined up for putters and scorecards, chasing joy one hole at a time.

Working for You: How Every City Department is Shaping Seymour's Future and Safety

Animal Control Officer Rick Shumate had a busy and productive week serving the City of Seymour. As of this report, there are currently four dogs housed in the city pound. One dog was released back to its owner on Wednesday, and eight additional dogs were picked up throughout the week, which were successfully returned to their owners thanks to Officer Shumate's diligent efforts. In addition to managing domestic animals, Officer Shumate addressed several wildlife concerns. Over the course of the week, he set eleven traps and safely captured and relocated a variety of animals, including one armadillo, three skunks, five raccoons, one possum, and one baby squirrel. Officer Shumate also remained active in community outreach and response. He issued five weed letters and fielded eleven animal-related calls from residents, continuing to provide prompt and professional service across the city.

Under the steady leadership of **Street Department Supervisor Ronnie Kolacek**, the City of Seymour's Street Department has wrapped up a week of impressive productivity, tackling a wide range of projects that directly benefit residents and improve city infrastructure. One of the most visible accomplishments was the demolition of a dilapidated structure at the park, a long-standing eyesore that had become both a safety concern and a barrier to future improvements. The removal clears the way for cleaner, more usable public space and reflects the city's ongoing commitment to revitalization. The department also made strides in signage and traffic safety, constructing new street signs and installing poles along FM 422, helping to improve navigation and visibility for drivers in and around Seymour. In addition to structural work, the team focused on beautification and maintenance. Crews mowed and weeded both the park and the creek, ensuring these public areas remain clean, accessible, and welcoming for families and visitors. On the infrastructure front, the department picked up a load of oil for street repairs and patched potholes throughout town, addressing long-standing road issues and improving driving conditions for residents. In a resourceful move, the team also recovered a load of weed eaters and pole saws from the city's transfer station. After repairing the equipment, the department added several functional tools back into rotation—an effort that not only saves taxpayer dollars but boosts operational efficiency. Supervisor Ronnie Kolacek praised his crew's dedication: "This week was a great example of what teamwork and pride in our city can accomplish. We're not just maintaining Seymour—we're improving it." As Seymour continues its progressive push toward cleaner spaces and stronger infrastructure, the Street Department remains a driving force behind the scenes, proving that hard work and local pride go hand in hand.

This week, the City of Seymour's **Reverse Osmosis (RO) Plant**, under the leadership of **Administrator John Davis**, continued its vital work in ensuring safe and reliable water for our community and surrounding areas. The plant successfully produced 4.9 million gallons of treated water, which was distributed to both the City of Seymour and the Baylor Water Supply Corporation. Throughout the week, plant operators remained vigilant in maintaining water quality and system performance. They conducted routine monitoring of chlorine residuals across town to ensure disinfection levels remained within safe and effective ranges. Operator also tracked the volume of wastewater discharged from the plant, a key metric in maintaining environmental compliance and operational efficiency. Daily readings were taken on the primary RO units, allowing Mr. Davis to closely monitor system pressure, flow rates, and membrane performance. In addition, the team performed maintenance by changing the pre-filters in one of the primary RO trains, helping to extend the life of the system and maintain optimal filtration. To meet regulatory standards and safeguard public health, the plant also completed its monthly laboratory sampling, which tests microbial contaminants in the water supply. These tests are essential in confirming that the water delivered to homes and businesses remains clean, safe, and compliant with state and federal guidelines. Administrator John Davis continues to demonstrate a strong commitment to operational excellence and public service. Their work ensures that Seymour residents have access to high-quality water every day, and Mr. Davis's proactive approach to maintenance and monitoring keeps our infrastructure running smoothly.

This week, the City of Seymour's **Electric Department**, under the leadership of **Supervisor John Joyce**, continued its dedicated work to maintain and improve the city's electrical infrastructure. Their efforts reflect a strong commitment to safety, reliability, and service to the community. The team began the week with routine vehicle maintenance checks, ensuring all department vehicles are in top working condition for field operations. They also completed weekly reclosure readings, a critical task for monitoring system performance and preventing outages. Crews responded to several locate requests, helping to identify underground utilities before excavation projects begin—an essential step in protecting infrastructure and public safety. Infrastructure improvements included the removal of an old utility pole on West Brazos and the disconnect of service power from the former miniature golf shack, clearing space for future development. The department also trimmed primary and secondary lines on the 500 block of North Donald Street, trimmed primary lines on the 600 block of East McLain Street, and cleared vegetation around a transformer on Cooke Street, all part of ongoing efforts to reduce outage risks and improve system reliability. Service calls were addressed promptly, including repairs on West Nevada Street and a cutout replacement on the 500 block of West Miller. The team also completed a major task by changing out a pole and crossarm along the run from the park to the hospital, reinforcing a vital section of the city's electrical grid. Additional work included changing the shop light at the Golf Course, replacing the high school water tower light, conducting meter reads, and constructing street and highway signs to support city navigation and safety. Power was also disconnected on South Stratton, as part of scheduled service adjustments. The Electric Department's continued hard work ensures Seymour residents receive dependable service and a safer, more modern electrical system. The City thanks John Joyce and his team for their professionalism and dedication to keeping Seymour powered and progressing.

This week, the **Seymour Police Department, under the steadfast leadership of Chief Bryce Sawyer**, continued to demonstrate courage, professionalism, and an unwavering commitment to public safety across our community. Officers assisted the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) in responding to a vehicle crash, providing critical support and ensuring the scene was secured for emergency personnel and investigators. Their quick response and coordination helped maintain order and safety during a stressful situation. Throughout the week, the department conducted numerous home checks, reinforcing their proactive approach to community policing and ensuring residents feel safe and supported. Officers also served multiple criminal trespass notices, addressing property concerns and helping to prevent further incidents. Traffic enforcement remained a priority, with officers monitoring roadways to ensure compliance and reduce risk. Special attention was given to school zone speed enforcement, helping protect students and families during peak travel times. Officers also made school visits, continuing their efforts to build trust and positive relationships with Seymour's youth. The Seymour Police Department's work this week reflects not only their dedication to law enforcement but also their deep investment in the well-being of our community. We thank Chief Sawyer and his team for their tireless service and courageous leadership.