

Weekly Beat

November 26st, 2025

Stay in the know—your community, your news, your future.



IN THIS ISSUE

News from the City

Christmas Lights
and Teamwork

Departmental
News and Update

City of Seymour Upcoming Events

By Jeffrey L. Brasher, Ed.D.

- December 4th, 2025 Mistletoe Market 5:00-8:30 PM
- December 11th, 2025 City of Seymour's Lighted Christmas Parade at 7:00 PM
- December 13th, 2025 Lighted Christmas in the Park 6:00-8:00 PM.
- December 18th, 2025 at 7:00 PM City Council Meeting
- January 15th, 2025 City Council Meeting at 7:00 PM City Hall
- February 21st, 2026 Trout Fishing Tournament at Salt Fork Recreational Facility: 9:00-11:00 AM.
- First Thursdays Bingo at Portwood Pavillion 6:00 PM

Seymour Glows Bright with Kay Bradley's Vision



In the photos above, the Electric and Street Department team up to install another festive display sign at the park. Pictured right is Kay Bradley, whose vision and dedication have transformed the park into a shining symbol of Christmas joy for the entire community.

This holiday season, Seymour is shining brighter than ever, thanks to the dedication and vision of Kay Bradley. What began as her dream to bring festive cheer to the community and honor the memories of loved ones has grown into a spectacular Christmas Park display that draws families from across the area. With the support of her family, friends, and countless community members, Mrs. Bradley has worked tirelessly to make the lights bigger, better, and more magical each year. The City of Seymour is proud to stand alongside Kay Bradley in bringing her vision to life. Both the Electric Department and the Street Department have played important roles in setting up the displays, ensuring the park sparkles in the spirit of Christmas. Yet it is Kay Bradley's creativity, determination, and leadership that have truly transformed the park into a holiday destination cherished by all. To celebrate her contributions, Kay Bradley will serve as the Grand Marshal of Seymour's annual Christmas Parade, which will take place downtown on Thursday, December 11, 2025, at 7:00 PM. The parade will mark the beginning of the city's holiday festivities.

The celebration continues with the Lighted Christmas in the Park event on Saturday, December 13, 2025, from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. Families are invited to enjoy:

- Free lighted carriage rides through the park
- Free pictures with Santa
- Free hot beverages at the Pool House, presented by the City of Seymour
- Appearances by both Santa and the Grinch, adding extra holiday fun

This year, Seymour is not only celebrating Christmas—it is celebrating the vision of one woman whose passion for community and holiday spirit has brought joy to all. Thanks to Kay Bradley, the Christmas Park Lights have become a tradition that warms hearts, creates lasting memories, and brightens the season for everyone.

From Streets to Services: Seymour's Weekly Department Highlights

During the shortened Thanksgiving week, and despite weather conditions that limited trapping efforts, **Animal Control Officer Rick Shumate** remained highly productive in serving the Seymour community. Over the course of the week, Officer Shumate successfully picked up two raccoons and one possum, ensuring these critters were safely removed from residential areas.

He also responded to calls involving two dogs, both of which were returned to their owners. At present, there are no dogs being housed in the city pound. In total, Officer Shumate responded to seven animal-related calls, demonstrating his continued commitment to public safety and animal welfare even during a holiday week.

His efforts reflect the city's dedication to maintaining a safe and healthy environment for residents while ensuring animals are handled responsibly.

Under the supervision of Ronnie Kolacek, the **Seymour Street Department** has continued its important work this week to improve and beautify our city. The team has been focused on tearing down and cleaning up dilapidated structures along North East Street. This process involves more than simply knocking down the buildings—it requires removing the foundations and hauling away the debris separately to ensure the area is fully cleared and safe for future use. In addition to demolition and cleanup efforts, the department has also contributed to the holiday spirit by assisting with the installation of Christmas displays in the park. Their work has helped bring festive cheer to the community as Seymour prepares for the upcoming holiday events. The Street Department has also responded to various work orders throughout the city, addressing maintenance needs and ensuring that public spaces remain safe and functional. Their dedication reflects the city's commitment to both infrastructure improvement and community celebration.

Under the supervision of Mr. John Davis, the Reverse Osmosis Plant has continued to provide essential service to Seymour and the surrounding area. Over the last week, the plant produced 3.8 million gallons of treated water, which was distributed to both the City of Seymour and the Baylor Water Supply Corporation. In addition to water production, plant operators carried out critical monitoring and maintenance tasks. They checked chlorine residuals throughout the town to ensure water quality and safety, tracked the amount of wastewater discharged from the plant, and took daily readings on the primary RO units to maintain efficiency and reliability. The consistent work of Mr. Davis and his team ensures that Seymour's residents and Baylor Water Supply customers receive clean, safe, and dependable water every day. Their efforts highlight the importance of ongoing monitoring and careful management in sustaining the city's water infrastructure.

Although Supervisor John Joyce was out on vacation this week, the **Electric Department** continued to operate smoothly under the capable leadership of Garret Hons and Johnathon Olinger. The team carried out a wide range of projects and services that benefited both the city's infrastructure and its holiday celebrations. The department hung Christmas banners along Washington Street and installed festive lights on the Portwood Pavilion, adding to the overall Christmas display throughout the park. They also completed the installation of a new power bank at the park, ensuring reliable service for the holiday season. Beyond seasonal projects, the department assisted the city mechanic in diagnosing and repairing truck unit 8, responded to a power outage at a residence on North Stratton, and restored service to the Northeast part of town by repairing a cutout on Nevada Street. Their quick response ensured minimal disruption for residents. The Electric Department also partnered with the Street Department to install the community Christmas tree at the City Park, further contributing to Seymour's holiday spirit. In addition, they performed routine locates and meter reads, maintaining essential services for the community. Thanks to the dedication of Garret Hons and Johnathon Olinger the Electric Department continues to demonstrate reliability, teamwork, and commitment to both the city's infrastructure and its festive traditions.

Under the leadership of Chief Bryce Sawyer, the **Seymour Police Department** has continued its dedicated service to the community this week. Officers attended a Narcan training session, furthering their preparedness to respond to emergencies involving opioid overdoses and ensuring they have the tools needed to save lives. In addition to training, the department carried out routine traffic enforcement to promote roadway safety, conducted a welfare check to ensure the wellbeing of a resident, and responded to a call regarding a suspicious person. Each of these actions reflects the department's commitment to protecting and serving Seymour with vigilance and care. With the holiday season bringing increased activity, the police department has been operating most of the week with a swing shift officer. This staffing approach allows two officers to be on duty for the majority of the time, providing greater coverage and ensuring the safety of our community during this busy period. The Seymour Police Department remains steadfast in its mission to safeguard residents, respond quickly to concerns, and maintain peace throughout the city.

Under the supervision of Chase Hoyt, the **Seymour Water Department** has been hard at work ensuring reliable service and preparing the city's infrastructure for the winter season. The team diagnosed an issue with the sewer jetting trailer, ordered the necessary part, and had it repaired and back in operation, restoring this critical piece of equipment. Ahead of the holiday, operators also pre-treated lift stations to maintain smooth operation and prevent potential issues.

In addition, the department repaired a 2" meter on East McLain, ensuring accurate readings and dependable service for customers. Staff organized the shop to improve efficiency and readiness for upcoming tasks, while also completing seasonal winter preparations to safeguard equipment and infrastructure against cold weather. Routine responsibilities such as performing locates and meter rereads were also carried out, supporting accurate billing and safe excavation practices.

Through these efforts, the Water Department continues to demonstrate its commitment to maintaining essential services, preparing for seasonal challenges, and supporting the needs of Seymour residents.