

Weekly Beat

April 17th , 2026

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City of Seymour Upcoming Events

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- May 21st, 2026 City Council Meeting at City Hall at 7:00 PM
- May 23rd, 2026 at 1:00 PM "Splash Day" Opening Day of the City Pool
- June 18th, 2026 City Council Meeting at 7:00 PM City Hall
- First Thursdays Bingo at Portwood Pavillion 6:00 PM

City Hall Turns the Page on Audit Delays with Major Progress



Pictured in the front row, from left to right, are Chief Bryce Sawyer, Officer Sid Rangel, and Sergeant Felip Deanda. In the back row, from left to right, are Council Member Billy Henricks, Nancy Townley, Mayor Mark McCord, and Council Member Lan Winn. Officer Rangel and Sergeant Deanda were honored with the Life Preservation Award, presented by Chief Sawyer at Thursday's City Council Meeting.

Seymour, Texas: The Seymour City Council met in regular session on April 16, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, located at 301 N. Washington. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mark McCord, with an opening prayer provided by Pastor Russel Roberts of Calvary Baptist Church and Red Springs Baptist Church. Following the invocation, Mayor McCord shared several announcements with the Council and those in attendance before transitioning to a special recognition presentation. Dr. Jeff Brasher and Police Chief Bryce Sawyer, on behalf of the Mayor and City Council, recognized two Seymour Police Department officers for their exceptional service. Officers Rangel and Sergeant Deanda were honored for their response to a critical incident on March 22, 2026. The officers responded to a welfare check involving an armed individual in crisis and successfully de-escalated the situation, persuading the individual to surrender the firearm without injury. Their calm, professional, and compassionate actions prevented a potential tragedy. In recognition of their efforts, both officers received the Life Preservation Award. The Council then received the City Administrator's report, which included updates across several operational areas. The personnel report indicated that City staffing is currently complete, with the exception of seasonal hiring for summer help and lifeguards, which is ongoing. An update was also provided on Salt Fork operations, noting current membership at 111. Additional departmental updates included reports from the Police Department, a financial report stating that the city continues great financial standing operating in the black through the month of April 2026.

As part of the evening's agenda, the Council approved a series of items under the Consent Agenda. These items included approval of the March 19, 2026 Regular City Council Meeting minutes, approval of the City of Seymour Accounts Payable Bills for March 2026, and adoption of Resolution 1603 related to a Homeland Security Grant for outdoor warning sirens. The Council also approved Resolution 1604 for a Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority drone grant, as well as the City's Quarterly Investment Report. Additional approvals included the 2026 Pool Calendar, which designates Splash Day on May 23 and sets the pool closing date for August 2, and authorization of a road closure in the 400 block of North Oak Street related to the demolition and removal of the old grain elevators. The Council also approved a request for a Specific Use Permit for property located at 1510 N. Main Street. The request seeks approval to place a new manufactured home on the lot for use as a permanent residence. The public hearing provided an opportunity for discussion and input from interested parties regarding the proposed use.

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From Streets to Services: Seymour's Weekly Department Highlights

The Seymour **Street Department**, under the direction of Supervisor Ronnie Kolacek, dedicated significant effort this week to enhancing the appearance and cleanliness of the community during the city's cleanup initiative. Crews spent the majority of the week traveling throughout Seymour collecting brush and leaves that residents placed curbside as part of cleanup week. By covering the entire town, the team worked efficiently to remove debris and restore a neat, orderly appearance across neighborhoods. The effort was met with strong participation from residents, reflecting a community-wide commitment to maintaining and improving the city's overall environment. In addition to cleanup operations, the department also focused on routine maintenance of public spaces. Several days were devoted to mowing city parks and other municipal properties, ensuring these areas remain well-kept and accessible for public use. The combined efforts of the Street Department and the cooperation of Seymour residents contributed to a noticeable improvement in the city's appearance this week, reinforcing community pride and quality of life.

The Seymour Electric Department, under the supervision of John Joyce, completed a wide range of maintenance, service, and support activities this week to ensure reliable electrical service across the community. Crews began the week with routine operational responsibilities, including weekly vehicle maintenance checks to ensure all department equipment remains in safe and working condition. In addition, staff conducted their regular readings of reclosers throughout the system, an important task for monitoring circuit performance and maintaining system reliability. Utility locates were also performed to support safe excavation and ongoing infrastructure work within the city. The Electric Department also dedicated time to interdepartmental support, assisting the Street Department for three days during the citywide brush cleanup effort. This collaboration helped expedite debris removal and contributed to the overall success of the cleanup initiative. Several service repairs were completed during the week, including addressing a bad electrical connection at the Contech plant and another on Starlight Drive. These repairs were critical in maintaining consistent power delivery and preventing potential outages. Infrastructure improvements were also carried out, with crews installing a new pole and service line on North Washington Street to support system expansion and reliability. Additionally, securing lights at the golf course clubhouse were replaced, improving safety and visibility at the facility. Overall, the Electric Department maintained a strong balance of routine maintenance, emergency repairs, infrastructure upgrades, and community support throughout the week under the leadership of John Joyce.

The Seymour **Police Department**, under the supervision of Chief Bryce Sawyer, remained active throughout the week with a steady volume of calls for service and a variety of public safety responsibilities handled by officers. During the reporting period, the department responded to a total of 37 calls for service. These calls ranged from routine assistance requests to more complex investigative matters, reflecting the department's ongoing commitment to maintaining public safety and responding promptly to community needs. Officers conducted numerous welfare checks throughout the week, ensuring the safety and well-being of residents who were reported as potentially needing assistance or follow-up contact. In one notable case, officers successfully located and returned a juvenile runaway, resolving the situation safely and reuniting the individual with appropriate care. The department also handled several investigative cases, including a harassment complaint and a reported assault. Both matters were investigated by officers to determine the circumstances and ensure appropriate enforcement action where necessary. Traffic enforcement remained active, with officers conducting numerous traffic stops aimed at promoting roadway safety and addressing violations. In addition, officers responded to and investigated a motor vehicle crash, documenting the incident and assisting those involved. Overall, the week's activity reflects a balanced workload of proactive enforcement, investigative follow-up, and community-oriented service by the Seymour Police Department under Chief Sawyer's leadership.

The **Reverse Osmosis (RO) Plant**, under the supervision of Plant Supervisor John Davis, had a productive and closely monitored week of operations focused on maintaining water quality and ensuring reliable service delivery to both the City of Seymour and Baylor Water Supply Corporation. Over the past week, the facility produced approximately 3.9 million gallons of treated drinking water, which was successfully distributed across the system to meet municipal and wholesale supply demands. This consistent production reflects the plant's ongoing commitment to operational efficiency and dependable service to the community. Throughout the week, plant operators conducted continuous monitoring of chlorine residual levels across the distribution system within the City of Seymour. This critical process ensures that disinfectant levels remain within regulatory standards and that water quality is maintained from production through delivery to consumers. In addition, staff closely tracked wastewater discharge volumes from the plant to ensure compliance with environmental regulations and operational reporting requirements. Daily operational oversight also included routine readings of the primary RO units, allowing operators to verify system performance and identify any early indicators of equipment concerns. Quality control remained a key focus, with operators performing regular calibration and verification checks on all handheld meters used in field and plant measurements. These QC procedures help ensure accuracy in all water quality testing and operational decision-making. Routine maintenance was also completed on the plant's chlorine analyzer, an essential component of the disinfection monitoring system. This maintenance helps ensure the reliability of real-time chlorine measurements and supports safe and consistent water treatment operations. Overall, the week at the RO Plant reflected steady production, strong operational oversight, and continued attention to regulatory compliance and system reliability under the leadership of John Davis and the plant operations team.

Animal Control operations in Seymour, led by Animal Control Officer Rick Shumate, remained active this week with a variety of calls and ongoing efforts to manage animal welfare and ordinance compliance throughout the community. During the week, a total of 11 animal-related calls for service were handled. These calls included both domestic animal concerns and wildlife issues, requiring timely response and coordination to ensure public safety and proper animal care. At the beginning of the week, five dogs were housed at the city pound. Since then, one dog has been released and another placed into foster care, leaving three dogs currently at the pound in need of adoption. Residents are encouraged to consider adoption as a way to provide these animals with permanent homes while supporting local animal control efforts. Animal Control also worked closely with local veterinary services, as Dr. Tucker administered rabies vaccinations to three dogs. This effort supports public health standards and helps ensure compliance with vaccination requirements. In addition to domestic animal cases, Officer Shumate responded to several wildlife-related calls, including the removal of one possum and one skunk from within the city limits. A cat located on East Miller was also removed following a reported concern. Code enforcement activities were also addressed during the week. A complaint regarding a rooster creating excessive noise was investigated, resulting in action to remove three roosters that were being kept without the required permit. Additionally, weed violation notices are scheduled to be distributed beginning next week as part of ongoing efforts to maintain property standards across the community. Overall, the week's work reflects a comprehensive approach to animal control, combining enforcement, public health measures, and community service under the direction of Officer Rick Shumate.

The **Seymour Golf Course** staff remained focused this week on maintaining high standards of playability and appearance, while continuing routine operations and making targeted improvements across the facility. Crews carried out essential weekly maintenance, including mowing fairways, greens, and other key areas to ensure the course meets the level of quality expected by players. Tee boxes were cleaned and maintained, and weeding efforts were conducted throughout the course to preserve turf health and overall aesthetics. These routine tasks are critical to keeping the course in consistent condition week after week. In addition to regular maintenance, staff began applying fertilizer and other necessary treatments to promote healthy turf growth and improve overall playing conditions as the season progresses. These applications are part of a proactive approach to course management and long-term sustainability. The team also completed several smaller projects aimed at enhancing the course's appearance. This included repairing the out-of-bounds cable on Hole #4, improving both functionality and course integrity. Around the clubhouse, staff focused on cleanup and visual improvements, including planting flowers and revitalizing the outdoor "S" feature in the rock garden. Overall, the golf course staff balanced routine upkeep with ongoing improvement projects, demonstrating a continued commitment to providing a well-maintained and visually appealing course for the Seymour community.

Continuation of the City Council Meeting:

Following the public hearing, the Council moved into action items and took the following actions:

The Council reviewed and approved the 2025 City of Seymour Audit report presented by Auditor Paul Fleming, noting continued progress, improved financial standing for the City with an unmodified audit. Bringing the City's audits current marks a significant milestone and reflects a major accomplishment after nearly a decade of backlog caused by a variety of challenges. This progress is the result of focused effort, improved processes, and a commitment to accountability. Being fully up to date on audits positions the City to pursue additional grant funding opportunities, enhances transparency with the community, and allows for more accurate, real-time financial management moving forward. A variance request submitted by Lee Lohman and Amy Wyatt with CLAW Contractors was also considered. The request sought approval to place a manufactured home older than five years at 503 South Tackitt, a property zoned R-3 where manufactured housing is otherwise permitted. The Council approved the variance. The Council reviewed the proposed Electric Line Extension Policy as submitted by SEngery Engineering. The policy is intended to standardize the process and cost structure for extending electric service to new customers. The Council approved the policy. Council members also discussed development of a regulatory RV Park Ordinance and approved moving forward with guidance to establish standards and oversight for RV parks within the City. In infrastructure-related action, the Council reviewed bids for a new vacuum trailer for the Electric Department. After considering four bids, the Council approved the purchase of a new 800-gallon vacuum trailer from Economy in the amount of \$49,500.00. The Council approved a noise variance request submitted by Brad Hammack for HH Creek's Timeless Goods located at 112 West Morris Street, allowing extended hours for noise-producing activities until 11:59 p.m. on Friday and Saturday nights. Council also approved extending Salt Fork membership discounts to City retirees, allowing qualifying former employees to retain membership at the employee rate as a gesture of appreciation for their service. In a significant infrastructure funding step, the Council approved Resolution 1605, authorizing the City to apply for financial assistance through the Texas Water Development Board in an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000 for water system improvements. Related to that effort, the Council approved required application documentation, including the TWDB-0201 Application Affidavit and TWDB-0201B Certificate of Secretary, allowing the City to move forward with the grant process. The Council also addressed ongoing code compliance concerns at property located at 301 North Donald Street, taking action to address the deteriorated condition of the structure and lack of remediation following a previously granted compliance period. Appointments to the Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) Board were also considered, with Council taking action to appoint Cit Council member Nancy Townley to serve on the HOT board for two years. The Council approved reopening the Salt Fork gun range for exclusive use by the Seymour Police Department and local law officials, allowing officers a controlled and supervised environment for training and certification. In solid waste operations, the Council approved updated pricing from Waste Connections for residential and commercial garbage service, transfer station use, and sludge handling. The adjustment reflects a contractual 5% increase based on the Consumer Price Index. Finally, the Council discussed Chapter 11 of the Utilities Code of Ordinances and supported the review by legal counsel to ensure the City's policies properly address billing practices and cost recovery for new and extended utility services. The meeting concluded after all agenda items were addressed, with the Council continuing its work to support infrastructure, public safety, and long-term planning for the City of Seymour. The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 PM.