

Weekly Beat

June 5th, 2026

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



IN THIS ISSUE

News from the City

Summer Swing 2026

Department Services and Progress

Lifeguard of the Week

Better Streets

City of Seymour Upcoming Events

By Jeffrey L. Brasher, Ed.D.

- June 18th, 2026 City Council Meeting at 7:00 PM City Hall
- July 21st-23rd, 2026 City of Seymour Golf Camp, 9-12 at Salt Fork Golf Course
- First Thursdays Bingo at Portwood Pavillion 6:00 PM

Summer Swing 2026 Brings Golfers and Economic Impact to Seymour



SEYMOUR, TEXAS; The City of Seymour welcomed golfers from across Texas on June 6–7, 2026, as the Salt Fork Golf Course hosted the annual Summer Swing Tournament, one of the community's premier golf events. Organized by the Seymour Golf Club, the two-day tournament attracted approximately 164 golfers, bringing both competition and economic activity to the city.

For weeks leading up to the event, Greensman Sean Weiser and Shawn Sanchez worked diligently to prepare the course for tournament play. Their efforts included increased mowing, equipment maintenance, turf management, and course beautification projects to ensure participants experienced the best playing conditions possible.

The tournament format featured two rounds of play over two days. Half of the field teed off each morning at 7:30 a.m., while the remaining golfers began their rounds at 1:30 p.m. Following the first day of competition, teams were divided into flights based on their scores. Each flight consisted of approximately eight teams, allowing golfers to compete against others of similar performance levels for prize money and tournament honors.

Beyond the competition itself, the Summer Swing Tournament serves an important role in supporting the future of the Salt Fork Golf Course. Funds raised through the event by the Seymour Golf Club are reinvested into course improvements, helping maintain and enhance one of the community's most valued recreational assets.

The benefits of the tournament extend well beyond the fairways. With participants and their families traveling from communities across Texas, local businesses also experience a positive economic impact. Tournament visitors support Seymour restaurants, convenience stores, hotels, retail businesses, and other local establishments throughout the weekend, providing an economic boost to the community.

Events such as the Summer Swing highlight the importance of partnerships between the City of Seymour, the Seymour Golf Club, volunteers, and community supporters. Their collective efforts help showcase Seymour as a welcoming destination while creating opportunities for recreation, tourism, and economic development.

As another successful Summer Swing comes to a close, the dedication of the Seymour Golf Club, the hard work of Sean Weiser, Shawn Sanchez and Ashley Jones, and the support of countless volunteers have once again demonstrated how community investment and teamwork continue to make Seymour a great place to live, work, and visit.

From Streets to Services: Seymour's Weekly Department Highlights



Pictured above left to right is Eli Torrez nominated for lifeguard of the week and pictured right Aaron Willden, Madi Parrish, Mitchell Fredrickson, Edison Donell, Everett Bishop, Cadence Donnell, and Oz Bishop during Water Safety Day.

The Seymour City Pool, under the direction of Pool Manager Kaila Donnell, continues to provide a safe, welcoming, and enjoyable environment for residents of all ages as summer activities are in full swing. This week proved to be another successful one for the facility, with a total of 573 visitors coming through the gates to enjoy swimming, recreation, and community events. The busiest day of the week was Friday, when 124 visitors took advantage of the warm weather and the pool's many amenities. A highlight of the week was the pool's Water Safety Day, which brought valuable education and resources to local families. Representatives from the Texas Department of Health and Human Services were on hand to share important information about water safety, drowning prevention, and safe swimming practices. Attendees also received free life jackets, helping ensure that children and families have access to essential safety equipment while enjoying water activities throughout the summer.

The City Pool is also proud to recognize Eli Torrez as this week's Lifeguard of the Week. Eli has become a favorite among many of the younger swimmers who spend their time in the shallow end of the pool. His positive attitude, strong work ethic, and willingness to help wherever needed have made him a valuable member of the lifeguard staff. Whether assisting fellow team members, covering additional shifts, or ensuring the safety of pool patrons, Eli consistently demonstrates the professionalism and dedication that contribute to the success of the facility. In addition to regular swimming hours, the Seymour City Pool continues to offer Senior Swim every Tuesday through Friday from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. This program provides local seniors with a dedicated opportunity to enjoy the pool in a comfortable and relaxed setting while staying active and healthy. With strong attendance, dedicated staff, and special educational events, the Seymour City Pool remains one of the community's favorite summer destinations. Under Kaila Donnell's leadership, the pool staff continues to focus on safety, customer service, and creating a positive experience for all visitors. Residents are encouraged to come out, cool off from the Texas heat, and enjoy everything the Seymour City Pool has to offer throughout the summer season.

The City of **Seymour Water Department**, under the leadership of Water Superintendent Chase Hoyt, continued its commitment to providing reliable water and wastewater services through a week of infrastructure improvements, preventative maintenance, and emergency response efforts. One of the department's major accomplishments this week was extending a water main along County Road 203 to provide service for a new water tap. This project supports growth and development while ensuring that new customers have access to the city's dependable water system. The department also performed routine maintenance on the wastewater collection system by rodding a sewer main on Lincoln Street. This proactive work helps prevent blockages, improves system performance, and reduces the likelihood of future service disruptions for residents. Throughout the week, crews responded to multiple utility locate requests across the city. Locates are a critical part of public safety and infrastructure protection, helping contractors and utility workers identify underground lines before excavation begins. These efforts help prevent accidental damage to essential water and sewer facilities. In addition to routine operations, the Water Department addressed an issue with a sewer main on East Idaho Street. Crews quickly identified the problem and completed the necessary repairs to restore proper system function and protect public health. Perhaps the most demanding task of the week occurred in the early morning hours when a large water main break was discovered on East McLain Street. At approximately 2:00 a.m., Water Department personnel responded to the emergency and worked diligently to repair the damaged main. Their swift response and dedication minimized service interruptions and ensured that water service was restored as quickly and safely as possible. The work performed by Chase Hoyt and the Water Department often takes place behind the scenes and frequently under challenging conditions. Whether responding to emergencies in the middle of the night, maintaining critical infrastructure, or preparing the system for future growth, the team's efforts are essential to the health, safety, and quality of life enjoyed by the citizens of Seymour.

Under the direct leadership of Street Superintendent Ronnie Kolacek, the City of **Seymour Street Department** continues to demonstrate its commitment to maintaining and improving the community's infrastructure and public spaces. Through a wide variety of projects and daily responsibilities, the department works diligently to ensure that city streets, properties, and public areas remain safe, clean, and attractive for residents and visitors alike. During the past week, Street Department crews completed mowing operations at the City Park, the Hospital Hill, and numerous other city-owned properties. These efforts help maintain the appearance of public spaces and provide residents with clean, well-kept areas to enjoy throughout the summer months. In addition to grounds maintenance, crews completed the cleanup and removal of debris from a lot located on West California Street, helping improve the appearance and safety of the surrounding neighborhood. The department also assisted with infrastructure restoration efforts by repairing a dirt roadway following the installation of a new water line by the Water Department. This work ensured the roadway was returned to a stable and drivable condition for area residents. Street repair activities remained a major focus throughout the week. Crews completed two significant street restoration projects following utility repairs, including a large repair on East McLain Street after a water leak and another substantial repair on West McLain Street following a sewer line repair. These projects required careful preparation, grading, and asphalt work to restore the affected areas and provide a smooth driving surface. In addition to these larger projects, Street Department personnel continued addressing potholes throughout the city, helping improve roadway conditions and enhance the safety and comfort of motorists. The wide range of work completed each week by the Street Department often goes unnoticed by the public, but the impact is visible throughout the community. From maintaining parks and public properties to repairing streets and responding to infrastructure needs, the department plays a vital role in the daily operation and appearance of the City of Seymour. The City extends its appreciation to Ronnie Kolacek and the entire Street Department team for their hard work, dedication, and commitment to serving the community. Their efforts help ensure that Seymour remains a safe, functional, and attractive place to live, work, and visit.

The City of Seymour's **Animal Control Division** remained busy this week as Animal Control Officer Rick Shumate responded to a wide variety of calls and situations involving both domestic and wild animals. Through his commitment to public safety and animal welfare, Officer Shumate continues to provide an important service to the residents of Seymour. During the week, a total of seven dogs were housed at the city pound. Through successful reunifications, adoptions, and other outcomes, that number has been reduced to three dogs currently in the facility. Managing the city's animal shelter requires daily care, monitoring, and attention to ensure animals are treated humanely while awaiting their next opportunity for placement. Officer Shumate also responded to fourteen animal-related calls throughout the community. These calls ranged from nuisance animal concerns to public safety issues requiring immediate attention and resolution. As part of maintaining clean and safe roadways, Officer Shumate removed numerous deceased animals from city streets and roadways, including a cat, armadillo, raccoon, snake, and skunk. In addition, three squirrels were captured and safely removed from areas where they could have posed concerns for residents or property. Other activities included the removal of a bee hive and the capture and removal of two cats. These efforts help protect both residents and animals while maintaining a safe environment throughout the community. One of the week's most memorable and heartwarming incidents involved the rescue of a kitten that had become trapped inside the firewall of a vehicle. Faced with a difficult and delicate situation, Officer Shumate enlisted the assistance of David Malhaus from the Street Department. Working together, the two employees carefully jacked up the vehicle and removed part of the vehicle's structure to gain access to the trapped kitten. Their patience, determination, and teamwork ultimately resulted in a successful rescue. This rescue serves as an excellent example of the dedication and compassion that Officer Shumate brings to his position each day. While animal control is often associated with enforcement and public safety, it also requires a genuine concern for the well-being of animals and a willingness to go above and beyond when situations demand it. The City of Seymour appreciates the hard work and commitment demonstrated by Officer Rick Shumate and all city employees who assist in serving the community. Whether responding to calls, maintaining the pound, protecting public safety, or rescuing animals in distress, Officer Shumate's efforts make a positive difference in the lives of both residents and animals throughout Seymour.

The Greens Maintenance Team at **Salt Fork Golf Course**, led by Greensman Sean Weiser and Shawn Sanchez, completed an extensive week of preparation and maintenance in advance of the upcoming two-man golf scramble. Their focused efforts ensured the course is in excellent condition and ready to provide a high-quality playing experience for all participants. Throughout the week, the team worked diligently to prepare every playing surface on the course. All greens were carefully manicured to maintain smooth and consistent putting conditions. Fairways, rough areas, and tee boxes were also mowed and properly prepared to ensure uniform playing surfaces and optimal course presentation. In addition to routine mowing and grooming, the team completed detailed grounds maintenance tasks across the facility. This included comprehensive weed control efforts throughout the course, helping maintain both the appearance and health of the turf. Cart paths were bladed to improve accessibility and provide a smoother experience for golfers and course equipment. Further improvements included trimming trees around the number two tee box, enhancing both visibility and playability in that area while maintaining the aesthetic quality of the course layout. The team also responded promptly to an operational challenge when a power failure impacted the sprinkler system. Through quick action and technical skill, they were able to restore the irrigation system and bring all sprinklers back online, ensuring that turf conditions remain properly maintained leading into tournament play. The dedication and attention to detail demonstrated by Sean Weiser and Shawn Sanchez reflect a strong commitment to excellence in course management. Their efforts not only support daily operations but also ensure that Salt Fork Golf Course continues to provide a well-maintained, professional-quality experience for golfers and guests. The City of Seymour recognizes and appreciates the hard work of the Greens Maintenance Team for their continued professionalism, reliability, and pride in maintaining one of the community's valued recreational facilities.

The City of **Seymour Police Department**, under the supervision of Chief Bryce Sawyer, continued its commitment to public safety, community service, and professional law enforcement throughout the week. Officers remained actively engaged across the community, responding to a variety of calls and ensuring the safety and well-being of residents.

During the reporting period, the department handled a total of 60 calls for service. These calls reflect the steady demand for law enforcement response and highlight the department's ongoing role as the first line of assistance for emergencies, concerns, and public safety matters throughout the city.

Officers conducted numerous welfare checks during the week, demonstrating the department's dedication not only to enforcement, but also to community care and proactive engagement. These checks are an important part of ensuring the safety of vulnerable individuals and responding to requests from family members, neighbors, and concerned citizens.

Traffic enforcement efforts were also maintained throughout the week. Officers worked to promote roadway safety, address hazardous driving behaviors, and ensure compliance with traffic laws. These efforts contribute directly to reducing accidents and maintaining safe travel conditions for residents and visitors.

In addition to these activities, officers responded to several civil matters, assisting citizens in resolving disputes and providing guidance within the scope of law enforcement authority. These calls often require professionalism, communication skills, and sound judgment to help maintain peace and prevent escalation.

The department also executed a warrant arrest during the week, reinforcing its responsibility to uphold the law and ensure accountability within the community. This action reflects the ongoing efforts of officers to follow through on judicial processes and support the integrity of the local justice system.

The City of Seymour Police Department continues to serve with professionalism, dedication, and a strong commitment to protecting the community. Under the leadership of Chief Bryce Sawyer, officers remain focused on maintaining public safety, responding to community needs, and fostering trust between law enforcement and the citizens they serve.

Building Back Better Streets: Coordinated Efforts Restore Roads After Essential Utility Work



Pictured above, Kenny Davis on the excavator, Chase Hoyt Water Department Supervisor, and David Mailhous work to prepare the Intersection of McLain and North Stratton for asphalt patch after repairing a major water leak.

Seymour, Texas: The Seymour Street Department continues to make steady progress restoring roadways impacted by ongoing utility repairs, sewer work, and infrastructure upgrades across the city. Working in close coordination with the City of Seymour Water Department crews are addressing street cuts and surface disruptions as part of a structured, multi-step restoration process designed to return streets to safe and drivable condition. According to city operations, the Water Department takes significant care during water line leak repairs to minimize disruption to surrounding pavement. However, due to the nature of underground infrastructure work, some level of roadway disturbance is unavoidable. Once repairs are completed, the affected areas are carefully excavated, cleaned, and properly leveled to prepare for final restoration.

From there, the Street Department takes over the finishing phase of the process. Crews apply new asphalt, distribute it evenly, and compact and level the surface to ensure a smooth and durable driving surface for residents. This coordinated effort helps maintain consistent road quality while allowing essential underground utility work to continue without long-term disruption to traffic flow. Recent restoration work has included targeted repairs along Stratton Street and McLain Street, where crews addressed multiple utility-related cuts. In addition, a larger restoration project was completed on West McLain following a residential sewer repair initiative that required extensive excavation. The completed repairs now provide a more stable and even roadway surface for daily traffic in the area.

City officials note that roadway wear and tear has been further compounded by multiple external factors, including ongoing infrastructure upgrades by Atmos Energy, which has been actively replacing gas lines throughout the city. In addition, consistent heavy traffic from municipal trash collection vehicles has contributed to gradual deterioration of some streets, increasing the demand for ongoing maintenance and resurfacing. Despite these challenges, city leadership emphasizes that street improvement remains a top priority. The City Council has recently approved the purchase of an updated paving oil tank to be installed at the city street barn. The new equipment is expected to significantly improve the efficiency and accessibility of paving operations, allowing crews to respond more quickly and effectively to street repair needs, particularly during peak construction months.

With summer paving season approaching, city departments are preparing for an increased workload aimed at improving roadway conditions across multiple neighborhoods. Officials describe the investment in equipment and coordinated interdepartmental work as a key step in strengthening long-term infrastructure maintenance and improving travel conditions for residents and visitors alike. As restoration efforts continue, the City remains committed to balancing essential utility work with timely and effective street repairs, ensuring that progress below ground is matched by visible improvements above it.

Providing safe, reliable drinking water is one of the most essential services a municipality can offer, and the City of **Seymour's Reverse Osmosis (RO) Plant** continues to meet that responsibility through the leadership of RO Plant Supervisor John Davis and the dedication of the plant operations team. During the past week, the RO Plant successfully produced approximately 4.7 million gallons of treated water that was distributed to both the City of Seymour and Baylor Water Supply Corporation. This remarkable accomplishment reflects the constant attention, technical expertise, and commitment required to maintain a dependable water supply for thousands of residents and businesses. Water production, however, is only one part of the important work performed by the RO Plant staff. Throughout the week, operators diligently monitored chlorine residuals across the city to ensure water quality standards were maintained and public health was protected. The team also tracked wastewater discharge volumes from the plant, conducted daily readings and inspections of the primary reverse osmosis units, and carefully monitored system performance to ensure efficient operations. In addition to operational responsibilities, the RO Plant crew maintained the facility grounds through routine mowing and upkeep, demonstrating pride in both the appearance and functionality of the city's critical infrastructure. Operators also completed the end-of-the-month reporting requirements mandated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), ensuring continued regulatory compliance and accountability. The work performed by John Davis and his team often takes place behind the scenes, but its impact is felt every day by every customer who turns on a faucet and expects clean, safe water. Their dedication, professionalism, and attention to detail help ensure that Seymour's water system remains reliable, efficient, and prepared to meet the needs of the community. The City of Seymour is proud of the efforts of Supervisor John Davis and the RO Plant staff. Their commitment to excellence exemplifies the spirit of public service and reflects the important role they play in safeguarding one of our community's most valuable resources—clean drinking water.

The City of **Seymour Electric Department**, under the leadership of Electric Superintendent John Joyce, remained focused on system reliability, infrastructure improvements, and preventative maintenance throughout the week. Through a combination of routine inspections and significant field projects, the department continued its commitment to providing safe and dependable electric service to the community. As part of ongoing preventative maintenance efforts, crews completed weekly vehicle inspections to ensure all department equipment remains operational and ready to respond to service needs. Employees also conducted weekly readings of system reclosers, which play a critical role in monitoring and protecting the electrical distribution system. The department responded to utility locate requests throughout the week, helping ensure the safety of contractors, utility workers, and residents by accurately identifying underground utility infrastructure before excavation activities begin. Infrastructure improvements were a major focus of the week's work. Crews successfully replaced a transformer on North Foley Street, improving service reliability in the area. On North Odom Street, employees completed a substantial project that included replacing an existing utility pole, installing two new poles, setting a new transformer, and establishing electrical service. These upgrades help strengthen the city's electric distribution system while supporting current and future service needs. Additional maintenance activities included replacing a meter on West California Street and removing a utility pole on East Ingram Street. Crews also conducted a drive-out inspection of Circuit 5, an important system evaluation process used to identify potential maintenance needs and ensure the continued reliability of electrical infrastructure throughout the service area. Beyond electrical operations, department personnel maintained the appearance of city facilities by mowing around the electric department shop, reflecting the team's commitment to both operational excellence and community pride. The work performed by John Joyce and the Electric Department often occurs behind the scenes, but its impact is felt throughout the community every day. From maintaining critical infrastructure to responding to service needs and planning for future reliability, the department continues to demonstrate professionalism, dedication, and a strong commitment to serving the residents and businesses of Seymour. The City of Seymour appreciates the hard work and expertise of the Electric Department as they continue to keep the lights on and the community powered safely and efficiently.