

Weekly Beat

June 19th, 2026

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City of Seymour Upcoming Events

By Jeffrey L. Brasher, Ed.D.

- June 30th, 2026 Budget Workshop @ 6:00 PM at City Hall
- July 4th, 2026 Chamber of Commerce Firework Display at Salt Fork Recreational Complex.
- July 15th 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

City Council Addresses Economic Development, Infrastructure, and Community Improvement Initiatives During June 2026 Meeting

SEYMOUR, TEXAS; The Seymour City Council met on Thursday, June 18, 2026, at Seymour City Hall for a productive evening focused on strategic planning, infrastructure investment, community enhancement, and recreational opportunities for residents. Prior to the official meeting, the Council convened at 6:00 PM for two presentations designed to provide information for future council consideration. Council heard a presentation from Mark Durany with AMKO Advisors regarding a Fund Analysis Proposal and also received a presentation from Justin Jaworski with My EDO concerning economic development opportunities and strategies to support future growth within the community. No action was taken during these presentations, and both topics may return to the Council at a future meeting for formal consideration.

The regular meeting officially began at 7:00 PM with Mayor Mark McCord calling the meeting to order. Skyler Henricks led the invocation and Mayor McCord shared several announcements with those in attendance. McCord has been working with the County Commissioners to address the need for a tornado shelter for those in need and discussed the upcoming rodeo in July. City Administrator Dr. Jeff Brasher on behalf of the Mayor and City Council recognized Mitchell Fredrickson for the lifeguard of the month honors for his exceptional service. Dr. Brasher also presented the administrative reports and updates from departments across the City. During the Personnel and Salt Fork Membership Report, Council was informed that membership at the Salt Fork Recreational Complex has increased to 118 memberships, reflecting continued community engagement and support of recreational services. The Police Department Report highlighted the department's continued commitment to public safety, noting active enforcement and community presence with twenty-five citations and forty-five warnings issued during the reporting period. Financial information presented by the Finance Department showed continued positive performance through May 2026, with revenues continuing to outperform expenditures for the fiscal year, demonstrating responsible fiscal management and financial stability. Additional updates included the City's ongoing efforts to proactively address dilapidated and substandard properties throughout the community as part of broader beautification and revitalization efforts. Council also received an update on operations at the City Swimming Pool, where Pool Manager Kaila Donnell and a dedicated team of lifeguards continue to operate the facility effectively and efficiently while providing a safe recreational environment for residents.

Following administrative reports, the Council conducted seven public hearings. The Council held a public hearing concerning a Specific Use Permit request for property located at 901 N Donald for the placement of a new manufactured home intended to serve as a permanent residence. Additional public hearings included consideration of Ordinance 2026-03 related to updates to Salt Fork Recreational Complex fees and regulations, including establishment of a Mini-Membership option, removal of public swim due to facility reclassification, clarification of guest privileges, and updates to youth membership provisions. The Council also held public hearings concerning substandard structures located at 301 N Donald, 401 S East, 409 N Tackitt, 1101 E Nevada, and 707 E Nevada as part of the City's continued commitment to improving neighborhoods and encouraging property maintenance.

Following public hearings, the Council addressed multiple action items. Council considered matters involving property actions at 301 N Cedar and several substandard structure properties previously discussed during public hearings. The Council approved authorizing staff to move forward with soliciting bids related to the rotor replacement project at the wastewater treatment plant. The current rotor system has experienced increasing maintenance demands and recurring repair costs, making evaluation of replacement options necessary for long-term operational efficiency. Additionally, Council approved authorizing staff to solicit qualifications and proposals for professional engineering services related to the design of a wastewater line replacement project serving the City's wastewater treatment plant. The project addresses an existing wastewater line that crosses a creek and has become potentially compromised during flooding events. Engineering evaluation will allow the City to determine project feasibility and identify long-term solutions. Council also considered Ordinance 2026-03 repealing Ordinance 2024-07 and replacing it with updated fees, rules, and regulations governing operations at the Salt Fork Recreational Complex. Additional discussion included staff swim opportunities and establishing designated swim times that would allow employees access while minimizing conflicts with work schedules and maintaining safe operation of the facility.

Following completion of all agenda items and discussion, the Seymour City Council adjourned at approximately 9:09 PM. The meeting reflected continued efforts by City leadership to maintain financial responsibility, invest in infrastructure, improve quality of life, and position Seymour for future growth while continuing to provide quality services to residents.

From Streets to Services: Seymour's Weekly Department Highlights



Pictured above left is Aaron Wilden, who has been nominated as Lifeguard of the Week by Pool Manager Kaila Donnell, in recognition of his outstanding performance and dedication. Pictured right is the City Council, Mayor, and City Administrator recognizing Life Guard Mitchell Fredrickson for lifeguard of the month with Kaila Donnell, Pool Manager.

The City of Seymour is proud to recognize Aaron Willden as this week's recipient of the Lifeguard Excellence Award for his outstanding commitment to safety, service, and creating a positive experience for everyone who visits the City Pool. Aaron has become known not only for his attentiveness and professionalism as a lifeguard, but also for the genuine care and enthusiasm he brings to the pool each day. Patrons and staff alike have noticed his ability to connect with children and help create an environment that is safe, welcoming, and enjoyable for families. What makes Aaron's dedication especially noteworthy is that even on his days off, he can often be found spending time at the pool interacting with and entertaining the kids. His willingness to invest in the community and build positive relationships reflects the type of culture and service the City strives to provide. Aaron has also earned a reputation as the team's unofficial first aid professional. Whether responding to a scraped knee, minor injury, or helping calm a nervous child, Aaron never hesitates to step in, bring a child into the pool house, and provide care and reassurance with confidence and compassion. The City of Seymour is grateful for employees like Aaron who go above and beyond their assigned duties to serve others. His positive attitude, dependability, and dedication to the safety and enjoyment of our residents make him highly deserving of this recognition. Congratulations, Aaron, and thank you for representing the City of Seymour with excellence.

Additionally, the City Pool continues to see strong community participation and engagement, serving a total of 341 patrons this week, reflecting another successful week of providing safe and enjoyable recreational opportunities for Seymour residents and visitors.

Under the direction of Chase Hoyt, the **Water Department** completed a series of field operations and maintenance activities focused on system reliability, infrastructure support, and customer service.

Crews successfully installed a new sewer tap on Odom Street, expanding service connectivity and supporting ongoing development within the area. Routine maintenance and repair work was also performed on several water meter cans throughout the city where leaks were identified, helping to reduce water loss and maintain accurate metering and service integrity.

Staff located and verified a previously unaccounted-for customer water meter, ensuring proper service documentation and restoring accurate account tracking. In coordination with ongoing construction activity, the department completed utility locates for upcoming city projects and provided field marking support for multiple boring contractors to ensure safe excavation and protection of underground infrastructure.

Preventive maintenance was conducted along the Rod sewer line south of Main Street, including mowing and right-of-way upkeep to maintain access and system visibility. Additionally, department personnel assisted Lane Plumbing with a sewer issue at the hospital, providing timely field support to help resolve the matter and maintain uninterrupted service to a critical facility.

Under the direction of Ronnie Kolacek, the City of Seymour **Street Department** completed a series of maintenance and beautification activities this week aimed at improving roadway conditions, drainage infrastructure, and overall city appearance. On Monday, crews conducted targeted pothole patching across multiple locations to improve driving conditions and extend the service life of existing pavement. Additional pothole repairs were performed throughout the week as part of ongoing maintenance efforts in response to field observations and citizen reports. The department also carried out routine mowing of city-owned properties, maintaining visibility, safety, and aesthetic standards across public spaces. In support of citizen service requests, crews mulched brush generated from submitted work orders, helping to clear debris and maintain orderly residential and public right-of-ways. Drainage maintenance was addressed with the cleaning of a drainage ditch near the city park, improving water flow capacity and reducing the risk of localized flooding during rainfall events. In addition, crews completed weed control spraying around the Chamber of Commerce building, contributing to a cleaner and more presentable downtown corridor. These coordinated activities reflect the Street Department's ongoing commitment to infrastructure upkeep, responsive service, and maintaining the overall appearance and functionality of the City's public spaces.

This week's **Animal Control operations**, led by Officer Rick Shumate, reflected a consistent commitment to public safety, animal welfare, and responsive service to the citizens of Seymour. The week began with three dogs housed at the city pound. Through continued care and management efforts, the department worked toward placement opportunities, and by week's end two dogs remain available and in need of adoption. Ongoing outreach and adoption efforts remain a priority to ensure these animals are placed into safe and suitable homes. Officer Shumate also responded to a variety of field calls involving deceased animal removal, including three raccoons, two cats, one snake, and one squirrel. These removals were completed in a timely and sanitary manner to help maintain public health standards and community cleanliness. In addition to routine response work, Officer Shumate successfully captured two raccoons located on TxDOT property, along with an additional three raccoons in other areas of the city. These actions helped mitigate potential wildlife-related risks in both public and developed spaces. Administrative enforcement efforts were also completed during the week, including the issuance of five weed violation notices to property owners in non-compliance with city ordinance requirements. These efforts support community appearance standards and help ensure safe, well-maintained neighborhoods. Throughout the week, the Animal Control office received and responded to eleven service calls from residents, addressing concerns ranging from stray animals to nuisance wildlife issues. Each call was handled with professionalism, urgency, and care. Officer Shumate's work continues to demonstrate a strong balance of enforcement, service, and compassion—supporting both public safety and animal welfare across the City of Seymour.

The **Seymour Police Department**, under the leadership of Chief Bryce Sawyer, continues to demonstrate steady professionalism and unwavering commitment to public safety and community service.

This week, while Chief Sawyer was on scheduled vacation, operational command and oversight were effectively managed by Sergeant Felipe DeAnda, who ensured continuity of service and maintained department readiness across all shifts. Under this temporary leadership structure, officers continued to respond promptly and professionally to the needs of the community.

Throughout the week, the department handled approximately 50 calls for service, reflecting a consistent level of public engagement and response activity. These calls ranged across multiple service categories, highlighting the department's broad role in maintaining safety and order throughout the city.

Officers conducted numerous welfare checks, ensuring the well-being of residents and providing assistance when concerns were raised regarding vulnerable individuals. These proactive responses remain a key component of the department's community-oriented policing approach.

Traffic enforcement efforts were also conducted throughout the week, supporting roadway safety and encouraging compliance with state and local traffic laws. In addition, officers responded to several civil matters, assisting citizens with disputes and situations requiring calm, professional intervention.

Other service activity included response to a suspicious vehicle investigation, multiple motorist assists for stranded or impaired vehicles, and support for a funeral escort detail, ensuring a safe and respectful passage for a community family during a time of loss.

The week's operations reflect a department that remains steady, responsive, and community-focused regardless of leadership transitions. The coordination between Chief Sawyer's command structure and Sergeant DeAnda's interim oversight ensured uninterrupted public safety services and reinforced the department's ongoing commitment to professionalism, accountability, and service to the citizens of Seymour.

The City of **Seymour's Reverse Osmosis (RO) Plant**, under the supervision of John Davis, continued reliable and consistent production this week, supporting the region's drinking water supply with high-quality treated water and disciplined operational oversight. Over the past week, the RO Plant produced approximately 4.6 million gallons of treated water, which was distributed to both the City of Seymour and the Baylor Water Supply Corporation. This production level reflects steady system performance and ongoing coordination to meet community and regional water demands. Throughout the week, plant operators maintained continuous monitoring of chlorine residuals across the distribution system within the city to ensure water quality remained within safe and compliant standards. Staff also tracked and documented wastewater discharge volumes from the treatment process, supporting regulatory reporting requirements and operational efficiency analysis. Daily operational checks were conducted on the primary RO units, ensuring system pressures, flows, and performance indicators remained within optimal ranges. In addition to technical oversight, routine site maintenance was performed, including mowing and grounds upkeep around the RO facility to maintain a safe, clean, and professional operating environment. Preventive maintenance activities were also completed during the week, including the replacement of pre-filters in one of the primary RO trains. This maintenance step is essential to protecting membrane integrity, sustaining production efficiency, and extending equipment lifespan. The week's performance reflects a well-managed operation grounded in consistency, preventive maintenance, and careful attention to water quality standards. Under the leadership of Supervisor John Davis, the RO Plant continues to serve as a critical component of the City's water infrastructure, delivering reliable service to both local residents and regional partners.

The **Seymour Electric Department**, under the supervision of John Joyce, continued its strong commitment to system reliability, infrastructure maintenance, and responsive service throughout the week. Department personnel carried out a wide range of field operations focused on ensuring safe, continuous electrical service to residents and businesses across the city. Routine operational readiness was maintained through weekly vehicle maintenance checks on all departmental units, ensuring that service trucks and equipment remain dependable and ready for emergency response. In addition, staff completed weekly readings of reclosers across the distribution system, supporting system monitoring, fault detection, and overall grid reliability. Field crews completed multiple utility locate requests throughout the week, assisting contractors and residents while protecting underground infrastructure during excavation activities. Infrastructure improvements included the installation of a new utility pole on North Browning Street, strengthening system stability in the area. Preventive maintenance and system improvements also included mowing around the electric shop facility, maintaining a safe and orderly operational environment. At the City Park, crews completed repairs to underground electrical infrastructure, restoring proper function and ensuring continued service reliability in a high-use public area. Meter services were also performed at multiple locations, including the installation of new electric meters on North Main Street and North Cedar Street, improving service accuracy and system tracking for customers in those areas. System restoration efforts were a key focus during the week. Crews successfully drove out Circuit 1 as part of operational checks and troubleshooting procedures, ensuring system performance and identifying potential issues. Additionally, power was restored on North Browning Street following field operations, minimizing downtime for affected customers. Further restoration work included the replacement of an old service line on North Tackitt Street, followed by successful power restoration to the affected property. This work improved service reliability and reduced the risk of future outages in the area. Overall, the week's operations reflect a highly responsive and technically proficient electric department. Under the leadership of John Joyce, the department continues to demonstrate professionalism, efficiency, and a strong commitment to maintaining a safe and reliable electrical distribution system for the City of Seymour.

CITY OF SEYMOUR
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Account Number	Amount Due	Convenience Fees	Due Date		Reply PAY to pay quickly and easily!

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City of Seymour
 Account #: 123456-01
 Amount Due: \$87.42
 Convenience Fee: \$2.25
 Due Date: 06/25/2026

Total if you text PAY: \$89.67
 Reply PAY to pay now.

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DEALING WITH BROWN WATER?
We're here to help!

CALL THE UTILITIES DESK 940-889-3148
 and let us know. We'll take care of it!

We contact the Water Department and flush the closest hydrant to your area.

Flushing creates turbulence that scours the inside of the pipes, pulling out sediment.

It can also stir up sediment in your service line, causing brown water at your tap.

Run cold water at a tap until all the water runs clear. This may seem wasteful, but uses less than a single load of laundry.

Avoid using hot water to prevent sediment from settling in your water heater.

Flushing is an important part of maintaining our water system and delivering the best quality water to you. *Thank you!*

SEYMOUR TEXAS

City of Seymour Encourages Residents to Enroll in Text-to-Pay Service and Provides Guidance on Water System Maintenance

The City of Seymour is encouraging all utility customers to take advantage of its convenient Text-to-Pay billing service, designed to improve communication, enhance payment flexibility, and help residents avoid late fees.

Residents may enroll in the program by calling 1-866-290-8883. To complete registration, customers will need to provide their account number, a valid cell phone number, and a debit or credit card. Once enrolled, customers will begin receiving text notifications when their utility bill is ready.

Each text notification will include important billing details such as the account number, amount due, applicable convenience fees, and the payment due date. Customers will also have the option to conveniently pay their bill by replying "PAY" to the text message. Participation is optional, and customers may also use the service simply as a reminder tool to stay informed about billing dates and avoid late charges.

The Text-to-Pay program is offered at no additional cost through the City's utility software provider and serves as a valuable tool to improve customer convenience and communication. In addition, residents may also choose to enroll in bank draft automatic payments, which draft utility payments on the 10th of each month. This service is also provided at no cost and helps customers avoid both convenience fees and late payment penalties.

In addition to billing services, the City is also providing guidance to residents regarding occasional water quality concerns, including instances of "brown water." If customers experience discolored water, they are encouraged to contact the Utilities Department at 940-889-3148 so staff can evaluate the issue and coordinate flushing of nearby hydrants if necessary.

Hydrant flushing is a routine and necessary maintenance practice used to improve water quality by removing sediment buildup within the distribution system. While flushing may temporarily disturb sediment in service lines, resulting in short-term discoloration, residents are advised to run cold water from a tap until it clears. In most cases, this process uses less water than a single load of laundry.

Residents are also encouraged to avoid using hot water during these events to prevent sediment from settling in water heaters. The City emphasizes that routine flushing is an important part of maintaining system reliability and delivering safe, high-quality drinking water to the community.

For additional questions or assistance, residents are encouraged to contact City Hall or the Utilities Department for support.