

SEYMOUR

chronicle



TOWN OF SEYMOUR
6500 TOWER DRIVE
EAU CLAIRE, WI

Phone: (715) 834-4999 || Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM ||

www.townofseymour.org

From your **TOWN CHAIR**

Greetings Residents!

What a lovely fall season we have had so far! I don't mind a little extra sun and warmth after such a rainy start to summer.

Thank you to everyone who joined us at the annual town picnic in August. It has been a fun addition to our summer festivities and a great kick off to the annual FeverFest for the Seymour Ball Club. It was extra special this year as we celebrated a long-time resident's birthday, Ardith Kelly with a birthday cake! Mark your calendars now for next summer - August 20, 2025.

A big thank you to Jessica Jackson with Jackson Family Farms for keeping our Seymour Farmer's Market going this summer! She was able to secure several new vendors this year to keep this new tradition going. We appreciate her efforts and all of those who came down to either buy or sell items. We will keep growing this each year! You can reach out to Jessica if you want to be involved.

GFL asked us to remind residents to watch for their street sweepers and trash collectors on Highway Q. They are out there almost daily (weather permitting), but sometimes there are some close calls when we buzz by at high speeds. Also, as a reminder, all truck loads are required to be covered and to please report uncovered loads to GFL directly. This helps keep excess trash off our roads and maintain safety.

The town is planning to do some bathroom remodeling in 2025 in the town hall, expanding the men's bathroom and creating a women's bathroom across the hall, along with storage. This was something we had hoped to start in 2024, but funds were re-allocated for the 140th Ave. project for additional engineering. Unfortunately, at this point, the 140th Ave. project will be on hold at year end and will not be completed in 2025, as previously intended. As with most major road projects, we ran into a series of challenges, mostly in land acquisitions, driving the cost of the project up significantly to a point where we needed to pause the project. All the engineering is completed, and it is "shelf ready" as we like to call it, but we will be waiting to see if federal funds will be available in the near future. We felt it was simply too much burden on our taxpayers at this time without getting additional state or federal grant money. We have some state funding from the LRIP program that is still good through 2026, if we are able to pick this project back up and complete it by then.

Speaking of taxes, it was certainly a bit of a shock to receive our updated assessment this year from Bowmar! These assessments are mandated by law and our last one was completed nine years ago. Covid slowed things down a bit, but we are still in line with the surrounding townships on the frequency of these re-assessments. As a board, we would like to see them perhaps a few years sooner. We think a happier balance is closer to seven years. The average home in Seymour went up about 76% in value, but this does not automatically equate to an increase in your town taxes. We cannot levy more than our net new construction (around \$5,000 this year,) so the mill rate will decrease to account for increased values. You may see a small change in your town taxes, but it should not be drastic. One increase you should be prepared for is if you are in the Eau Claire Area School District. The district is proposing a third referendum this fall, as we are currently paying for one that passed in 2016 and another that passed in 2022. If this one passes, the yearly property impact of the referendum is estimated to be \$99 per \$100,000 of property value, according to ECASD literature. This will increase your taxes based on your new assessment.

Early voting has already begun ahead of November 5th. Jean and Sarah have been incredibly busy, as close to 250 residents have already cast their votes. We were a bit lucky last year with less snow to plow, but rumor has it, we will probably be making up for it this season! Be easy on our road crew as they plow and keep our roads clear for us. We are incredibly thankful for them and our office staff! Sarah has been with us almost a year and has worked very hard to learn her role and is an incredible asset to our town! Please take a moment to thank her and Jean if you ever stop in or call our office. These ladies put in an incredible amount of time and effort to ensure things run smoothly, including our upcoming elections.

Have a fall season and blessings to you!

Jessica Janssen

From Your Board Supervisor

Hello. I hope you've had a wonderful summer. I'm ok with these temps sticking around until say..... April.

I'm sure the residents of Oak Knoll Dr & S. 140th Ave are glad the road construction is almost finished. Thank you for your patience. They should be good for 25 years now.

Our bridge replacement project on S 140th Ave is speeding along at a snail's pace. Every time we think we're getting somewhere; another issue pops up. It's mind boggling some of the things we've encountered.

Speaking of mind boggling, I hope everyone's heart rate and blood pressure have returned to normal after their re-evaluation assessments. Ours went up 76% since the last re-evaluation in 2015. No, our taxes are not going up 79%. Levies are capped by State mandate well below that. Please review your tax statements. For 2023, my tax statement showed 9% of my bill went to the Town of Seymour.

In June of this year, I attended a meeting to discuss a planned multi-use path along McKinley Rd. West Central Wis. Regional Planning, Eau Claire Co, and the City of Eau Claire have applied for, and were granted, \$1 million from the WIS D.O.T. to build a multi-use path from Birch St/River Prairie to Hwy 312 (North Crossing). A design for the project was not done at that time. There have been no updates since. The Town is not part of this project but has been asked to contribute 1% of the cost.

I hope you enjoy the autumn colors and have an enjoyable winter.

Kerry Parker, Board Supervisor



A Huge Thank You to Our Family Picnic Sponsors and Everyone Who Made the Event a Success!

Thank you to all the amazing sponsors who helped make this year's Family Picnic a truly unforgettable event. Your generous support made it possible for us to offer delicious food, fun activities, and fantastic entertainment for families of all ages!

Thank you too: GFL, Culvers, Eau Claire Rod & Gun Club, Seymour Ball Club, Babes In Toyland Childcare, Northland Excavating, Chippewa Paws Unleashed, and The Brown Hut.

TOWN OFFICIALS

Jessica Janssen, Chair	(715) 577.3840
Ken Schick, Supervisor	(715) 832.0017
Kerry Parker	(715) 577.2010
Jean Eisold, Clerk Treasurer	(715) 834.4999
Sarah Smith, Deputy Clerk	(715) 834.4999
Fred Hankel, Building Inspector	(715) 577.7983

OFFICE CLOSED

Thanksgiving- Thursday, October 28th
Christmas Eve- Tuesday, December 24th
Christmas Day- Wednesday, December 25th
New Year's Day- Wednesday, January 1st



General Election Tuesday November 5th

We want to extend our gratitude to all our incredible election workers! Your hard work, dedication, and commitment are truly appreciated.

Thank you for your service and for all you do to make our elections a success!

2024 Tax Bills- Payable in 2025

Taxes bills will be mailed in December. First payment must be post marked by January 31st. To avoid late mail delivery a drop box is located at the Town Hall for your convenience. Make sure to include your payment stub from the tax bill so the correct property is credited. Receipts will only be mailed if you enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope along with your payment.

Dog Licenses

A courtesy letter will be sent in December with your Tax statement to those who licensed their dog in 2024. Dog owners that are new to the Town of Seymour will need to license their dog for the upcoming year. Applications are available on our website or at the Town office. If you no longer have a dog in the Town, let us know so we can remove them from our list.

2025 Dog License Fee
Spayed/Neutered \$15
Unaltered- \$25



TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

Well, another summer has come and gone, and fall has been a dry one for us so far, so please continue to monitor weather conditions if you need to burn.

If you missed the spring newsletter, I just wanted to reintroduce myself, I am Michael Rudd and I am the new Battalion Chief of Station 1 in Seymour. I have served at Station 1 for 20 years and look forward to serving this great community. Additionally, I just want to remind you that we no longer have our own department dispatcher, so should you have an emergency please dial 9-1-1.

When the temperatures do begin to drop and we start to use our furnaces and fireplaces, please remember to get them checked out so they are functioning properly for the winter months. Remember with the time change to check your batteries in your smoke detectors and that is also a good time to check your carbon monoxide (CO) detectors as well to make sure they are still in date and change the batteries in those as needed as well. You should check the manufacture date on both items and if they are more than 10 years old, they should be replaced.

I would like to thank everyone that attended our annual Pancake Breakfast on Father's Day this year. We had our most profitable year ever and raised over \$9500. We have used that money so far to purchase three new Milwaukee scene lights to carry on our apparatus. These will work well for easy scene lighting at calls during the night. Again, thank you to everyone that attended and contributed!

Thank you for a slow fire season this past summer! Enjoy the mild fall so far and stay safe and warm this winter! See you again in 2025!

Michael Rudd, Seymour Battalion Chief

From the Town Roads, Buildings & Grounds staff,

This year your town road staff, myself and Dakota Nichols, followed the same path as former Roads Supervisor Kerry Parker established. To keep our town roads in good condition, we reconstructed just under 2 miles of road this year, as well as seal coated, crack sealed, and patched as needed. Our yearly average of around 2 miles reconstruction keeps us on track to maintain a road rating average of 6 (a 1 being no better than dirt and a 10 being brand new) that the State of WI DOT recommends. The couple miles of roads that we rebuild to keep our average up is that largest single expense in our town's budget each year. While we do have some "problem spots", our roads are above state average. We will be looking at next year's potential projects which tentatively include some road reconstruction in the west end of our town in a few heavily travelled areas. Budgeting will dictate what we can accomplish.

This year has been a challenge with other budget aspects. Thefts of road signs and street name signs have been the most I've seen in my sixteen years working for the town. Each instance is around \$100-\$150 depending on sign type and size. This year alone we've lost eight stop signs, fifteen warning/regulation signs (yellow arrows, speed limits, etc.), and eight sets of green road name signs!!! Please keep an eye out for odd activity and report to the Sheriff's Dept or to our town office.

With winter approaching, please take a minute to look over the condition of your mailboxes and posts. Mailboxes are forgotten until we go by with a snowplow in the winter. While it's never our intention to cause any damage, sometimes the old mailbox post or board it's been on for years just finally gives up when the snow hits it. If US Postal Service recommendations are followed (41-45" clearance under the box/arm), our snowplow wings can clear under your mailbox out at the shoulder of the road. Also, please make sure that your address numbers are CLEARLY VISIBLE on BOTH SIDES OF YOUR MAILBOX. This helps to aid our Fire, EMS and Law Enforcement personnel to find you when you need help.

John Oxley, Roads and Buildings & Grounds Supervisor



Preventing Stormwater Run Off



**TOWN OF SEYMOUR
6500 TOWER DRIVE
EAU CLAIRE, WI 54703**

**Presorted Standard
US Postage Paid
Eau Claire, WI
Permit 1557**

Seymour Ball Club News

We had another great year at the ball club! Our spring league and travel programs had around 500 kids that participated. We held four tournaments that were all very successful. The club has also made some major investments to the park this year, starting with new windows and siding in the concessions stand. We also invested in a POS system for the stand so we can now take cards and are able to track inventory. We were able to mount TVs on the front of the stand to put our menu on and got a 150 lb. propane tank set and hooked up to all of our grills thanks to Chippewa Valley Energy. Lastly the club was able to get field 7 started and is now in and seeded in hopes we can begin utilizing the new field in the spring. This year was the fourth annual Fever Fest, and it did not disappoint with our highest attendance ever. It was a great weekend, and the club appreciates all the support from the community. The year then wrapped up with fall ball where we had over 600 children playing a 5-week season. The ball club is now 50 years old, and we are very proud to be part of the Seymour community, we look forward to serving the youth of the area for another 50 years! Mark your calendars next year's Fever Fest is August 22-23. It will be our 5-year milestone and are looking to make it the biggest one ever!

Thanks for all the support,

Jason Woodford, President Seymour Ball Club

TOWN BOARD MEETINGS

SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH AT
7:00 P.M.

Agendas Posted at:

Town Hall Bulletin Board

Fire Station

www.townofseymour.org

PHONE: 715-834-4999

FAX: 715-834-3687

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Monday – Friday

Visit our website:

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