By Krystle Taylor

Staff Writer

BOSWELL — Boswell's old city hall crumbled Tuesday evening, leaving residents within 10 miles without power and a pile of rubble in the middle of town.

Chief of Police Bryan Gordon said he was sitting at his desk at 7:30 p.m. when the lights flickered and he felt what he described as "what might happen during an earthquake." The brick building on the corner of Sixth and Hunter Street was "very old" and the roof was in disrepair, according to Gordon. The spot had once served as the city hall and possibly a gymnasium at one time.

City employees began clean up at the scene, which shut down a portion of Highway 70 throughout the night and a side street remained closed Wednesday morning. The building was also attached to the senior center. Gordon said they met with an architect who said the front and back of the structure appears to be stable.

Police said no one was inside the building when the walls collapsed, and no injuries were reported.

Residents expressed frustration that a large portion of town was out of power until 5:30 a.m. When the building fell, it damaged power lines.