

# CITY OF SAINT PETER HOT SHEET



All the City news you need to know and a little bit more!  
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The following information is a publication of the City of Saint Peter, City Administrator's Office, 934-0663, 227 South Front Street. Please contact us at [barbaral@saintpetermn.gov](mailto:barbaral@saintpetermn.gov). [www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter](http://www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter)



1/15/2014



**MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE – Listen to the music....**”Downtown, things will be great when you're downtown, no finer place for sure; downtown everything is

waiting for you.”

Do those words ring a bell? Do you see the white go-go boots? If you are older than I am, you might remember the song by Petula Clark. (Now that you have read this, you can hear it in your head I bet. If not, here is a link to hear and see her sing. <http://www.bing.com/videos/results.aspx?q=petula+clark+downtown&form=MSNNWS&mkt=en-us&scope=&pq=petula+clark+downtown&sc=8-21&sp=-1&q=petula+clark+downtown&sk=#view=detail&mid=DF803C8C3B42B64FFB8CDF803C8C3B42B64FFB8C>)

I hear her singing every time the Council visits about its priorities for the downtown. Here is the list that they established a few years ago which I think outlines their hopes and thoughts and what they support in the downtown.

#### **DOWNTOWN PRIORITIES\*:**

- Promote projects that improve or are sympathetic to the historic scale and nature of the downtown.
- Business development that promotes a mix of niche retail, food/beverage and entertainment. Promotion of office uses in upper floors is valuable to retail trade in the downtown.
- Building enhancements that are not only historically sympathetic. This should be done while promoting upper floor housing or living in the downtown. This will enhance use of businesses by creating density. This should be done while striving to maintain retail or service businesses on the lower floors of buildings.

- Promote uses, events, activities that set the downtown as a place of destination.
- Use arts and cultural activities to promote the use of downtown as a destination.
- Continue to provide EDA dollars to build and upgrade buildings in the downtown.

\*This statement was last discussed in December but was last modified in July of 2007.

This will be a set of priorities they will review, discuss and maybe reaffirm or make changes to, but regardless of this list, I think it is important to know that the Council actively thinks about and discusses the downtown. It is a place where we have all made a tremendous investment and a place that is important to the fabric of a community like Saint Peter and its small town feel.

Downtown, no finer place for sure...can you hear Petula sing it? Do any of you still own a pair of those white boots? It makes me wonder.....



#### **NEW COUNCILMEMBERS –**

Councilmember-elects Stephen Grams and Roger Parras took the oath of office at the beginning of the January 9<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting. The meeting was recessed for a short period to allow the new Councilmembers to take photos with their families. After the oath of office was administered by City Administrator Prafke, Mayor Strand welcomed each of the new Councilmembers.

**CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS –** Action taken by the City Council at the regular meeting of January 9, 2014 included approval for a revolving loan to JAEL Properties, LLC (River Valley Birth Center); acceptance of a quote from Cummins for a five

year maintenance contract on the City's emergency generators; designating certain trails and sidewalks as "no winter maintenance"; approving a request for use of Hallett's Pond for the Special Olympics Polar Bear Plunge; approval for out of state travel by Councilmember Kvamme and Mayor Strand to attend the American Public Power Association legislative rally in Washington, D.C.; authorization for the City to act as purchasing agent for the River Valley Tactical Team for purchase of an armored vehicle and robot; and approval of a taxi license application for Kato Cab.

The next regular meeting of the City Council will be Monday, January 27th at 7:00 p.m. in the Governors' Room of the Community Center. For more information on City Council meetings, please contact the City Administrator's office at 934-0663. Copies of the Council packet are also available on the City's website at [www.saintpetermn.gov/city](http://www.saintpetermn.gov/city).



**DEER FEEDING** - Numerous residents have reported seeing deer in the City limits, mostly on the south end of town. While it is really exciting to see these beautiful animals up close, feeding deer can have detrimental effects and cause more harm to the animals than if they were left alone and

allowed to draw on their natural survival instincts.

The following information is provided by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

Supplemental feeding creates problems in three major ways.

- **Behavior changes:**
  - Supplemental feeding can make wild animals less fearful of humans, delay winter migration and even result in starvation if animals have not migrated to wintering areas and feeding ceases.
  - Supplemental feeding can result in enterotoxaemia – a fatal disease commonly called grain overload.
- **Animal concentration:**
  - Tight concentrations of deer feeding in the same area dramatically increases the odds of disease spreading through a herd by nose-to-nose contact or eating feed contaminated by another animal's disease-carrying saliva.
  - Unnaturally concentrating deer can also attract their predators in larger numbers.

- Deer that congregate in unnaturally high numbers can retard forest regeneration and change plant species composition through over-browsing, and cause garden and crop damage.
- **Human conflict** - Drawing animals into closer contact with people and homes can increase rates of collision with vehicles, and cause conflict between neighbors when gardens and ornamental plants are destroyed by habituated deer.

Please help us protect the public and prevent property damage by limiting the food sources for these deer. When their in-town food sources dry up, they will naturally wander back to the forest, find other food to eat and be safe.

**UPCOMING HOLIDAY CLOSURES** – All non-emergency City offices will be closed on Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup> for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day holiday. This includes the Library.

The Community Center will be open regular hours on January 20<sup>th</sup> (6 a.m. – 10 p.m.), however the Recreation and Leisure Services Department and the Senior Center will be closed

In February, the same closures will be in effect on President's Day, Monday, February 17, 2014.

Due to these holidays, the City Council workshops that are normally scheduled on Monday evening, will be rescheduled to the next evening at 5:30 p.m. in the Library meeting room.

**PETS OF THE WEEK – THE SAINT PETER POLICE DEPARTMENT ARE** seeking adoptive families for Midnight the cat and Emily the dog.

Midnight, was found on the 600 block of South Front Street. She is a female, long haired, black and white cat who is very friendly and loves to be pet and held.



The dog, Emily is about an 8 year old Rat Terrier. We believe she is spayed due to a scar on her belly. Emily also has allergies and will need antihistamines/medicated baths. She was found near Kwik Trip in St. Peter. She is a very happy girl and loves attention. She is also very smart! The adoption fee of \$155.00 includes a dental cleaning.

And good news for those of you following the Ava saga (the little brown puppy with the spinal deformity)...she has been adopted into a forever home!

If you can help any of the animals in the pound find a forever home, please contact Community Service Officer Malinda Meyer at the Police Department (931-1550), or Alaina at Kind Veterinary Clinic at 931-4700. All animals are spayed/neutered and up-to-date on vaccinations before being adopted out.

**TELEPHONE SOLICITATION WARNING** – The Saint Peter Police Department has received numerous complaints from citizens who are receiving calls seeking donations. The calls apparently come in on a line that has “POLICE DEPARTMENT” as the caller ID. (City lines all say “SAINT PETER CITY..” as the caller ID.)

We aren't sure who these solicitors are, or whether it is a scam or not, but the Saint Peter Police Department does not hire anyone to solicit funds on our behalf. Please do not donate to anyone purporting to represent the Saint Peter Police Department or "your local police

department". These calls are being made by telemarketer's seeking donations for other types of organizations, usually unions.

And never feel obligated to provide your credit card number to someone calling over the phone. If it is a legitimate charity, they will be happy to provide you with mailed information through which you can make your donation.

**HOUSE FOR SALE** - The City of Saint Peter is selling the residential structure located at 1724 North Fifth Street on the State of Minnesota Department of Administration surplus property website. The home needs to be removed from the site to allow for the construction of a new City street being built to connect North Fifth Street to the extended North Washington Avenue which will be under construction in 2014. The terms of sale and a description of the home are available at [www.minnbid.org](http://www.minnbid.org). Bidding closes on the house on January 31<sup>st</sup>.

**CITY MEETING CALENDAR**

This calendar is subject to change. Should you have a question on a meeting date/time, please contact the City Administrator's Office at 934-0663 or visit the City's website at [www.saintpetermn.gov](http://www.saintpetermn.gov).

Monday	January 20		LEGAL HOLIDAY – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day City Offices Closed
Tuesday	January 21	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Thursday	January 23	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	January 24	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	January 27	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	January 28	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	January 29	12:00 noon	Hospital Commission
Monday	February 3	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	February 3	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop Session
Tuesday	February 4	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	February 10	5:00 p.m.	Human Rights Commission
Monday	February 10	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Monday	February 17		LEGAL HOLIDAY – PRESIDENT'S DAY City Offices Closed

Tuesday	February 18	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Tuesday	February 18	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Monday	February 24	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	February 25	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	February 26	12:00 noon	Hospital Commission
Thursday	February 27	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	February 28	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau