

# CITY OF SAINT PETER HOT SHEET



All the City news you need to know and a little bit more!  
City Info Line 507-934-0675 TDD #711  
The City of Saint Peter is an equal opportunity provider.



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) or visit our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter](http://www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter)



## ELECTION RESULTS

Detailed results are available on the City's website at [www.saintpetermn.gov/elections](http://www.saintpetermn.gov/elections)



### MAYOR

Timothy Strand	<b>716</b>
Joel Brinker	439

### COUNCILMEMBER WARD I – (ELECT 2)

Susan Carlin	<b>567</b>
Roger Parras	<b>' - &amp;</b>

### COUNCILMEMBER WARD II (ELECT 1)

Stephen C. Grams	<b>277</b>
Russell Nachreiner	55
David B. McGuire	81

### SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER (ELECT 3)

Jon Carlson	<b>640</b>
Keith Stelter	554
Drew Dixon	<b>735</b>
Charlie Potts	<b>758</b>
Christopher Harmes	424
Dan Bergeson	258

11/06/2013

**CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS** – Action taken by the City Council at the regular meeting of October 28, 2013 included a public hearing and subsequent action to modify the City Code to allow “birthing centers” as conditional uses in some areas of the community; approval for the sale of \$4,720,000 in general obligation municipal state aid bonds; approval for a contract with Gustavus for transportation for Gustavus students on weekend evenings during the school year; changes to the City's public hearing process and regulations; approval of the concept for construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Old Minnesota Avenue and St. Julien Street in 2014; purchase of a replacement excavating system for Public Works; and modification to the City's municipal state aid plan to remove two blocks of roadway and add two different blocks. The Council also met in closed session to discuss Utility, Park, and Streets union contract negotiations and negotiations for purchase of property associated with the Washington Avenue Link Improvement Project.

The next regular meeting of the City Council will be Tuesday, November 12th at 7:00 p.m. in the Governors' Room of the Community Center. (\*\*The meeting is being held on Tuesday due to the Veteran's Day holiday.) For more information on City Council meetings, please contact the City Administrator's office at 934-0663. A copy of the Council packet is also available on the City's website at <http://www.saintpetermn.gov/city-council-minutes-agendas-packets>.

### **MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE) – Democracy...**

You know this is one of the few places in the world where almost all the people plan for and can participate in a change in their leadership. Most of the time we think about this on the level of countries and national boundaries, but it also happens at our local level very year.



The people that do much of the work on Election Day are our Election Judges. The Judges are our friends and neighbors. We see them at the polls and they make it look pretty easy. Some of them just watch what's going on. Maybe they hand me a ballot...maybe they help me register to vote or make sure I am at the correct voting place. But their job is oh so much more than that.

The average Judge must go through two hours of training every couple of years and many have been doing this most important job for many years. They must know the rules, the application of the rules, the process and how it all fits together, and for that we should thank them.

They are really the protectors of our right to vote. The protectors of a very important part of the democratic process. They are the Stewards of Democracy. If you appreciate your right to vote, if you appreciate that your votes count and was counted, take a few moments to thank one of those Election Judges. How many other places in the world run elections so well?

It makes me wonder.....

**DISCOVER PICKLEBALL** - This fast growing sport gets its' name from a cocker spaniel named Pickles, who belonged to one of the co-founders.

Apparently Pickles became interested in this new game. Whenever a ball would come the dog's way, he would take the ball and run off with it, because of course, it was Pickle's ball. And that is how the game got its name.



Pickleball is played on a badminton court with the net lowered to 34 inches at the center. It is played

with a perforated plastic baseball (similar to a whiffle ball) and wood or composite paddles.

The Recreation Department is offering free opportunities to try Pickleball on several upcoming Wednesdays, November 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> and December 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:30 p.m. in the Community Center gym. Recreation staff will be available to help you get started and explain the rules. Come individually or with friends. See you on the court!

**2013 LED HOLIDAY LIGHTING REBATE PROGRAM** - With winter just around the corner, some folks are already thinking about holiday decorations.

This holiday season, the City is once again offering electric utility customers rebates of up to \$12 for each string or decoration of energy-efficient

LED holiday lighting purchased through the end of the year. We are promoting LED lighting because it uses up to 90% less electricity than regular holiday lighting and lasts up to 10 times longer which means a typical household can save up to \$50 during the holiday season.

While the financial savings are a big draw for consumers, LED holiday lights offer other benefits as well. The environmental benefits help make our community a little greener and LEDs are cool to the touch which reduces the risk of fire and personal injury.

Rebate coupons and additional information on this program are available at the Finance Department at City Hall (227 South Front Street) or online at [www.SaveEnergyInSaintPeter.com](http://www.SaveEnergyInSaintPeter.com).

### **HOLIDAY LIGHT RECYCLING COLLECTION**

The City is once again offering recycling of old holiday light strings. Residents can drop off their unwanted lights for free at City Hall, the Public Works building or the Community Center beginning November 15<sup>th</sup> through January 15<sup>th</sup>. The light strings will be recycled.



**VETERAN'S DAY CLOSURE** – All non-emergency offices, including the Public Library, will be closed on Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup> in recognition of the Veteran's Day legal holiday.

The City Council meeting that would normally take place on Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup> has been rescheduled to November 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Governors' Room of the Community Center.

Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>.

**CITY BOND RATING IMPROVEMENT** – The City's bond rating has been upgraded by rating agency Standard & Poor's. The rating was obtained as part of the preparation work for the issuance of a Municipal State Aid bond and staff is pleased to report the rating was upgraded to an "AA-(SPUR)/Stable" rating.

According to the Standard and Poor's report, the rating is a reflection of their assessment of the St. Peter area having an adequate economy which benefits from the Mankato-North Mankato metropolitan statistical area and the stabilizing institutions of Gustavus and the Regional Treatment Center; a very strong budgetary flexibility with general fund reserves projected to remain higher than 30% of expenditures; strong budgetary performance, including projections of

close-to-break-even operations in fiscal years 2013 and 2014; very strong liquidity providing very strong cash levels to cover both debt service and expenditures; strong management with good financial management practices; and very weak debt and contingent liability position, mostly as a result of the City's high net direct debt.

This is good news for the most recent bond sale as the net interest rate on the bonds was substantially below projections, in part due to the upgraded bond rating for the City.

**HELP WANTED** – The City of Saint Peter is accepting applications for the following positions:

- **PART-TIME UTILITY METER READER** - The City of Saint Peter is accepting applications for the position of UTILITY METER READER in the Finance Department. Minimum qualifications: high school diploma or equivalent; experience working with the public; and valid Class D driver's license. Desired qualifications: record keeping experience and previous meter reading experience. Position works over the first two weeks of each month. Meter Readers must work in all weather conditions. \$12.41 per hour. Applicants are required to complete a City application form available in the City Administrator's office at 227 South Front Street between the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. or by calling (507)934-0663. Completed applications must be returned no later than 5:00 pm, November 15, 2013. Faxed, emailed and/or late applications will not be accepted. AA/EOE

- **VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER** - The City of Saint Peter is currently accepting applications for the position of VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER in the Fire Department. Minimum qualifications: High school diploma/GED; at least 18 years of age; reside within a six (6) minute response time from the Fire Station; possess a valid driver's license; and ability to read and write the English language. Successful candidates must also pass pre-employment physical, drug and alcohol tests. Successful candidates will begin service January 1, 2014 and will be required to successfully complete required Firefighter schooling within one year. Applicants are



required to complete a City application form which is available in the City Administrator's office at 227 South Front Street or by calling (507)934-0663. Complete position descriptions for Firefighters are also available in the City Administrator's office. Completed applications must be received by the City Administrator's office by 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2013. Faxed, emailed and/or late applications will not be accepted. AA/EEO

- **FIRE CHIEF** - The City of Saint Peter is now accepting applications for the position of FIRE CHIEF in the Fire Department. Minimum qualifications: any combination of education and experience equivalent to a high school degree and additional training received through regional and state fire schools and five years of experience with fire prevention and protection; current training from regional and state fire schools is preferred; and possession of a valid State of Minnesota Class B driver's license within six months of appointment. Desired qualifications: knowledge of modern firefighting methods and techniques; knowledge of the operations of a municipal fire department; ability to supervise volunteer firefighters; knowledge of budgetary principles; knowledge of OSHA regulations and safety precautions of firefighting; and aptitude for Fire Chief work. Applicants are required to complete City application form available in the City Administrator's office at 227 South Front Street or by calling (507)934-0663. Completed applications must be received by the City Administrator's office by 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2013. Faxed and/or late applications will not be accepted. More information on this position is available on the City's website at <http://www.saintpetermn.gov/employment>. AA/EEO
- **FIRE DEPARTMENT SAFETY OFFICER** – The City of Saint Peter is now accepting applications for the position of Fire Department Safety Officer. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS include: High School diploma or equivalent; Possession of valid Minnesota Class D driver's license or equivalent; Possession of Minnesota Firefighter 1001 certification or equivalent; Experience working with the public; Successful completion of training through specialized fire service related schools including four National Fire Academy (NFA) accredited or Minnesota State College and University (MNSCU) Officer Leadership equivalent courses and Incident

Safety officer or equivalent courses; Current St. Peter Fire Department member in good standing with seven (7) years of firefighting experience. Applicants must complete City application form available from City Administrator's office at 227 South Front Street or by calling (507)934-0663. Completed applications must be received by the City Administrator's office by 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2013. Faxed and/or late applications will not be accepted. More information on this position is available on the City's website at <http://www.saintpetermn.gov/employment>.

AA/EEO

- **PART-TIME BUILDING SUPERVISOR** – in the Recreation and Leisure Services Department. The Building Supervisor supervises the

Community Center and performs light custodial duties. Minimum qualifications: High School diploma or equivalent; formal CPR and First Aid training or ability to be certified within six months of employment; experience working with the public. Desired qualifications: Experience in building maintenance functions; formal CPR and First Aid certification. This position requires night and weekend work. Beginning wage \$8.25/hour. Applicants are required to complete a City application form available in the City Administrator's office at 227 South Front Street between the hours of 8 a.m. - 12 noon and 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. or by calling (507)934-0663. Completed applications must be returned no later than 5 pm, November 27, 2013. Faxed, emailed and/or late applications will not be accepted. AA/EOE

**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	November 11		VETERAN'S DAY – Legal Holiday City offices closed	
<del>Monday</del>	<del>November 11</del>	<del>5:00 p.m.</del>	<del>Human Rights Commission</del>	<del>CANCELLED!</del>
Tuesday	November 12	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting	
Tuesday	November 12	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission	
Tuesday	November 12	6:00 p.m.	Library Board Meeting	
Monday	November 18	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop	
Monday	November 18	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board	
Friday	November 22	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau Meeting	
Monday	November 25	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting	
Tuesday	November 26	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission	
Wednesday	November 27	12:00 noon	Hospital Commission	
Thursday- Friday	November 28- November 29		THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – City offices closed	