

# 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)



07/23/2014

**CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS** – Action taken by the City Council at the regular meeting of July 14, 2014 included a presentation by the Veteran's Memorial Committee; approval of a request to purchase replacement Tasers for the Police Department; approval of modifications to the terms of a revolving loan for MS/GS Enterprises; approval for a façade renovation and a conventional revolving loan for Keith and Carrie Stelter for a new business to open at 213 South Minnesota Avenue; approval for City assistance for the MS TRAM ride; approval for City assistance for Rock Bend Folk Festival; acceptance of a wastewater main extension in Orchard Ridge Subdivision that was constructed by a private developer; approval of business license applications; and authorization for the unbudgeted purchase of a replacement underground electric switch.

The next regular meeting of the City Council will be Monday, July 28th 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).

**MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE –**  
*Bugs and more bugs.....* I don't remember a summer filled with as many gnats and mosquitos. I hate those things. Maybe the word "hate" is not strong enough.



There may be is a reason why "GNAT" is a four letter word!

Anyway, I have gotten a few calls and emails asking if the City sprays for bugs during the summer. The answer is "yes" but on a very, very limited basis. We spray for community events or

festivals located in City parks if requested by the organizers. So that means that over the 4th of July the Chamber of Commerce, the official 4th of July event organizer, requested we spray. So we did in Minnesota Square Park.

Our policy is that, if requested by the community event organizers, we will spray for the event. It must be a community event and we will only spray at the location of the event if the event is on City owned property. We do not spray the entire community. Gnats, flies and mosquitoes commute to work so even if we sprayed the entire City, it would likely be largely ineffective. That's why we target specific areas and hope that the results are better.

As with many things, Mom taught us "personal protection is always best." I think that's good advice with bugs too. Besides, I hear that real vanilla behind both ears keeps the gnats away from your face. (It has got to be the real stuff not extract I am told.)

Does that really work? It makes me wonder.....

**HIGHWAY 169 DETOUR INFO MEETING** – Area businesses and residents are encouraged to attend a public meeting regarding traffic and schedule changes to the Highway 169 Saint Peter to Le Sueur project.

The meeting will take place from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 28th in the Senior Room of the Saint Peter Community Center at 600 South Fifth Street.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) and the Highway 169 contractor have been working on ways to complete the flood mitigation project on Highway 169 during this construction season, after the project fell four weeks behind during the recent flooding.

The proposed changes include detouring Highway 169 traffic (excluding trucks) to Old

Minnesota Avenue from Union Street to the north junction with Highway 169 for three to four weeks beginning August 11th to reconstruct the north and southbound lanes of Highway 169. The speed limit would remain 30 mph on Old Minnesota Avenue and it will be re-stripped from Union Street to Center Street to accommodate a continuous left turn lane as well as increased traffic control at the intersections with Union Street, West St. Julien Street and Highway 22.

A separate detour for trucks includes Broadway Avenue, Nicollet County Road 20 and Sibley County Road 8. (Requiring large vehicles to use the county roads will help limit congestion and prevent further deterioration on Old Minnesota Avenue.)

The project includes raising the grade and reconstructing two miles of Highway 169 in flood prone areas so that the southbound lanes remain above a 100-year flood and can carry traffic during high water. It also includes resurfacing nine miles of southbound Highway 169 for a smoother ride and access revisions in Saint Peter for improved safety.

The Highway 169 project is being built in coordination with the City of Saint Peter's project on Old Minnesota Avenue. Hoffman Construction of Black River Falls, Wisconsin is the contractor on the \$10.7 million project.

Anyone with concerns about the construction is encouraged to call the MnDOT/Hoffmann Construction hotline at 855-931-5347.

**EDA MEETING CANCELLED** – The July 24th meeting of the Economic Development Authority (EDA) has been cancelled due to a lack of agenda items. The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, August 28th at 12:00 noon in the Governors' Room of the Community Center. For additional information on EDA meetings, please contact the Community Development Department at 934-0661.

**NO SWIMMING ALLOWED** – As the dog days of August creep closer, it's really tempting to find a body of water to dive into. However, residents are reminded that City Code regulations prohibit swimming in any body of water that is not a lawfully constructed swimming or diving pool.

That means that it is illegal to swim in Hallett's Pond or the Mill Pond, or even the Minnesota River. If you are one of the groups of folks who have taken to swimming in Hallett's Pond or the Mill Pond, please note that Police Officers may come calling on you as you do so. As tempting as it may be to hop into either of the Ponds, please check out the City's outdoor pool instead.

And if you use the area around Hallett's Pond for recreational activities, please pick up after yourself. Refuse containers are in place and the neighboring property owners would appreciate it if everyone properly disposed of their litter so it doesn't blow onto neighboring properties.

Questions about activities that are allowed in Hallett's Pond or the Mill Pond area of Riverside Park? Please contact the Public Works Department at 934-0670.



**ELECTION INFORMATION** – August 12th is primary Election Day in Minnesota. Here's some information for those who haven't voted in a while, those who have moved, or those who just need some reminders:

- Unable to go to the polls on Election Day? This year, for the first time ever, Minnesota is allowing "no excuses" absentee voting. (Previously you had to indicate one of four acceptable reasons for voting by absentee.) Anyone who wishes to cast an absentee ballot can now do so without having to give a reason. Absentee ballots are available from the Nicollet County Auditor/Treasurer's office until the day before the Election.
- Don't know where you vote? Check out the precinct finder available on the Secretary of State's website at <http://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/>. Not only will it tell you where your polling place is, but it will provide you with a sample ballot, a list of candidates on your ballot and even a map to the polling place.
- Not sure if you are registered to vote? Find out online at [www.mnvotes.org](http://www.mnvotes.org).

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

- **RECEPTIONIST/ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CLERK** - in the Building Department. Minimum qualifications: High School Diploma or equivalent; Knowledge of office procedures and practices; Knowledge of use of office machines exemplified by personal computer; Experience with MS Word or Excel; One year experience in any position that provides direct contact with and service to customers. Desired qualifications: Two plus years of experience working in an office setting with similar duties; Advanced training in office skills exemplified by a certificate or AAS degree in office procedures or Administrative Assistant through an accredited post-secondary educational institution; Advanced use and knowledge of MS

Word and Excel software exemplified by certification through an accredited post-secondary educational institution; Experience with a municipal accounting system; Knowledge of Use tax laws; Two or more years' experience working directly with municipal accounting, principles, practices and terminology; and Post-secondary education in Accounting or related field. \$11.00-\$12.32 per hour plus benefits including insurance and retirement. 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, August 8, 2014. Faxed, emailed and/or late applications will not be accepted. AA/EOE

- **ELECTION JUDGES** – for November general Election only. To be eligible for appointment as an Election Judge, a candidate must be:
  - eligible to vote in the State of Minnesota; and
  - affiliated with a major political party; and
  - able to read, write and speak English; and
  - appointed by the City Council; and
  - trained and currently certified as an Election Judge.

An Election Judge cannot be:

- a candidate in that election (i.e. be running for an office on the ballot used in that precinct); or
- the husband, wife, parent, step relative, child, brother, or sister of a candidate or another Judge in the same precinct; or
- a challenger.

All Judges must attend a mandatory training session before the election and are paid at the rate of \$8.75 per hour for their service. Most Judges work all day on Election Day and State law does allow individuals who serve as Judges to take time off from work. If you would like to be considered for appointment as an Election Judge for the November general election, or for more information on how you can serve your community in this way, please contact the City Administrator's office at 934-0663 or send an e-mail to [barbaral@saintpetermn.gov](mailto:barbaral@saintpetermn.gov).

**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).

Thursday	July 24	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority CANCELLED!
Friday	July 25	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitor's Bureau
Monday	July 28	4:30-6:00 p.m.	Highway 169 Detour Informational Meeting
Monday	July 28	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	July 29	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	July 30	12:00 noon	Hospital Commission
Monday	August 4	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	August 4	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Tuesday	August 5	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	August 11	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	August 12		PRIMARY ELECTION DAY
Monday	August 18	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop Session



Friday	August 22	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Tuesday	August 26	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	August 27	12:00 noon	Hospital Commission
Thursday	August 28	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority