

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

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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. To request an email subscription to this newsletter, or for more information, please contact us at barbaral@saintpetermn.gov www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter



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CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS – Action at the City Council meeting held on January 14, 2019 included adoption of the 2019-2020 budgets for the Water, Wastewater and Stormwater funds; adoption of an updated Transit drug and alcohol testing program; approval for Councilmembers Kvamme and Carlin to travel to Washington D.C. for the APPA Legislative Rally in February; approval of a new business license for Taco John's; approval of a request by the Nicollet County Sheriff to hold the Polar Bear Plunge at Hallett's Pond; Closed session and subsequent action to approve two-year union contracts with Streets, Utilities, Police Officers, Communications Technicians and a one year contract for the Parks union; approval for modification to the City Administrator's contract to include a wage increase and contract extension.

The next regular City Council meeting, will be Monday, January 28th beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Governors' Room of the Community Center.



MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE) – Service where???????

As some of our leaders come to the conclusion that serving is better than not serving, I am reminded of a J-term poly-sci class about service..... Here's how it goes.....

When I woke up this morning my cell phone had been charging and the alarm went off, I went to the bathroom, turned on the shower, brushed my teeth, got dressed, hit my car, and headed to work. All of those things were provided by the City. The electricity, the water, the wastewater treatment, the road way; well maybe not the toothpaste.

Anyway, my point here is so many people pay so much attention to the national political scene, and while I think that is cool, the thing that really impacts my life, day in and day out, are things that are provided locally, many things that I pay for

directly like my electric bill, my water bill, and my local property taxes for services that are provided locally. Not that the stuff that is provided by the Federal government isn't important, it sure is very important, but it just isn't the stuff that impacts me day in and day out where the rubber meets the road so to speak.

So my point isn't that one is more important than the other. Instead it's that they are both important and knowing more about what's going on locally should be a big part of what we all do.

There are so many ways to know more. Here are a few: read the HOT SHEET (our weekly newsletter), Like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/CityofSaintPeter>. Follow us as we tweet @CityofStPeter. Watch us on YouTube at

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWK7-GhXlmDfaSTNs7yvwqw>. Read the local paper, or better yet, participate on one of the many City Council advisory boards or commissions.

There are lots of ways to know more about what's going on. Will you want to learn more about how your local government serves you? It makes me wonder.....

LEARN TO CURL - Want to learn to curl? In conjunction with the City's Recreation and Leisure Services Department, the Mankato Curling Club offers just that! Friday,



January 18th beginning at 6:30 p.m. the Club will provide a class with basic instruction for beginners who have never curled before. All equipment is provided! Wear warm, comfortable clothing and carry in a pair of clean tennis shoes. Register with the Recreation and Leisure Services Department at www.saintpetermn.gov/recreation or stop by the office at the Community Center (600 South Fifth Street). The class is limited to 40 participants.

The Curling Club is located at 600 Hope Street in Mankato and the cost is \$22 per person.

WARMING HOUSE HOURS AT VET'S PARK RINKS –

The warming house and ice rinks are finally, and officially open! Here's what you need to know.

Mon.–Fri. from 4–9 p.m.,
Saturdays 10 a.m.–9 p.m.,
Sundays 1–9 p.m.

School Vacation Days from 1–9 p.m.

Leisure Skating only will be available at one of the Veteran's rinks during the following days/times:

Monday–Friday, 6–7 p.m.

Saturday/Sunday from 1–3 p.m.

Warming House/Rink Closure Guidelines: The rink/warming house will be closed if any of the following conditions exist:

Air temperature at -15 or colder,
Wind chill temperature at -20 or colder,
Temperatures that soften the ice,
More than 1" of snow accumulates on the ice and maintenance crews are not available (e.g. holidays, weekends).

The Warming House/Rinks may also close early due to lack of skaters.

For more information on warming house/rink closures please call the Rec Hotline at 934-0070. We also encourage parents to call the Rec Hotline prior to dropping kids off or sending them to the rink to make sure the warming house is open.

And finally, for more questions please talk with the Warming House Attendant or contact the Recreation Department at 507-934-0667 or by email at jenh@saintpetermn.gov.

COUNCIL OATH OF OFFICE – Newly appointed Councilmember Roger Parras has taken the office of office and officially began his one year term at the regular Council meeting on January 14th.

RIVER'S EDGE HOSPITAL AND CLINIC HOSPITAL/BLUE CROSS MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PROGRAM - River's Edge Hospital was not invited by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota to participate in the Medicare Blue Plus Southern MN Network Advantage plan for 2019. Despite attempts by River's Edge Hospital administrators to reach out to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota, the insurer has denied a request to allow River's Edge Hospital to be an in-network facility. Also excluded from the network are The Orthopaedic and Fracture Clinic (OFC) in Mankato, River's Edge Hospital's partner in the OrthoEdge joint replacement program.

Although River's Edge Hospital is an out-of-network facility for the BCBS Medicare Advantage PPO program for Southern Minnesota, people who

wish to continue to use River's Edge Hospital for services can still do so with the understanding that out-of-pocket costs may be higher with this Advantage plan. Those Medicare enrollees who still choose to utilize River's Edge Hospital in-network, would need to choose a different insurance company that offers a Medicare Advantage plan. These individuals can still make changes to their plan through March 31, 2019.

Both River's Edge Hospital and The Orthopaedic and Fracture Clinic work hard to provide high-quality, cost-effective care that patients are looking for. River's Edge is a nationally certified Hip and Knee Replacement Center of Excellence and ranks in the top five percent (5%) in the nation for patient experience as reported by Press Ganey. OFC consistently scores better than others in Southern Minnesota for outcomes as reported by MN Community Measurement.

While not an in-network provider for this Blue Cross Blue Shield Medicare Advantage Plan, River's Edge Hospital is an in-network provider for all other Blue Cross Blue Shield Medicare supplement plans and Blue Cross Blue Shield commercial plans. To find out if your plan is in-network, contact your insurance provider or River's Edge Patient Financial Services at 507-934-7605.

RECREATION WINTER BROCHURE IS OUT – The 2019 Winter Brochure has been mailed out to households in Saint Peter and this year's edition is packed full with all kinds of recreation offerings for all ages.

The brochure is published three times a year in conjunction with the School District #508 Community Education office.

Extra copies of the brochure are available in the City's Recreation and Leisure Services Department at the Community Center and in the Finance Department at City Hall.

Some classes fill up quickly so register early!



HOLIDAY CLOSURES –

Monday, January 21st is the Martin Luther King, Jr. legal holiday. All non-emergency City offices will be closed for this holiday.

- The City Council workshop that would normally take place that evening has been rescheduled for Tuesday, January 22nd. The workshop will take place at the St. Peter Room beginning at 5:30 p.m.

- City transit services will continue to operate as usual.
- The Library is closed.
- The Community Center will be open as usual; however the Recreation and Leisure Services Department will be closed.

Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, January 22nd.

RENTAL PROPERTY REGISTRATION - It is that time of year again! Time to renew rental property registrations. Property owners with last names beginning with M-Z will need to complete the rental application and return it to the Building Department at City Hall as soon as possible since the December 31st deadline has come and gone. Inspections must be completed by March 31st.

Cost of the rental license is \$44 per unit plus a late fee of \$36.

Rental application forms are available on the City's website at <http://www.saintpetermn.gov/sites/default/files/images/RentalApplication.pdf> and can be printed out and returned to the Building Department with the payment or staff can mail an application to you. For an application, or for those with questions, please contact the Building Department at 934-0662.

SIDEWALK CLEARANCE REMINDERS – It's January and winter is official here. What do winter and sidewalks have in common? The need to clear those sidewalks of winter snow of course!

City regulations require sidewalks to be cleared the entire width within 24 hours of snow ending. This also includes keeping the sidewalk clear of blowing snow and ice. With the thawing this past week and the colder temps the last two days, many sidewalks are now covered with ice which must be removed.



It's a hefty charge (minimum of \$75) if City crews come out and do the work for you so, and certainly the Public Works crews have other things to take care of than shoveling sidewalks, so please make arrangements to get those walkways and handicap sidewalk corners shoveled!

TREE TRIMMING – (Not the Christmas tree kind of trimming!) Why is it important to keep trimming our boulevard



trees? The City's Parks crews trim trees to raise the tree canopy over sidewalks to a height of 8 feet and over roadways to a height of 14 feet. Not only is it required by City Code regulations, but this allows larger trucks, (garbage, snow plows, etc.), to travel next to the curb without hitting and breaking off lower limbs. This also helps with intersection visibility and street light obstructions. In January City crews will begin tree trimming of boulevard trees on Elm, Pine, Jefferson, Wabasha, and Jackson streets.

Of course this work is weather dependent and may be put on hold if the crew spends lots of time in snowplow trucks!

Property owners are reminded to remove Christmas lights from all boulevard trees when the holidays are over so the lights aren't damaged by this work.

Anyone with questions on the tree trimming work should contact the Public Works Department at 934-0670.



SNOWSHOES FOR RENT - Bundle up, get outside (when the weather cooperates!), and experience nature. Enjoy the winter by taking a snowshoe stroll through

the woods. The Saint Peter Recreation Department and Treaty Site History Center provide adult and youth size snowshoes for rent. Rental fees: \$5 per pair per day, \$10 for the weekend, (Deposit of \$50 per pair due upon pick up). Adult and youth sizes are available. Please call ahead for larger groups. Call 934-0667 (Recreation) or 934-2160 (Treaty Site History Center) for more information.

HELP WANTED – The City of Saint Peter is currently accepting applications as follows:

- **POLICE PATROL OFFICER** - The City of Saint Peter Police Civil Service Commission is currently accepting applications to establish an eligibility ranking for the position of Police Patrol Officer. Applicants must have a minimum of two year degree in Law Enforcement from P.O.S.T. accredited college or vocational school or five years experience as a police officer; Possession of a *valid* current Minnesota P.O.S.T. board license or eligibility to *immediately* receive a P.O.S.T. board license; possession of, or eligible for a Minnesota Class D Drivers license; and satisfactory results on recruitment instruments designated by the Police Civil Service Commission, such as oral examinations, written examinations, physical

examinations and psychological examinations. Desired qualifications include: four year Bachelor's Degree in law enforcement or related field; experience in working with a law enforcement agency; and specialized training or certificate in a law enforcement related field; customer service oriented employment history. Probationary pay rate has been established at \$27.57/hour. Applications may be obtained at,

and must be submitted, along with a cover letter and résumé, to the Saint Peter Police Civil Service Commission, c/o Saint Peter Police Department, 207 South Front Street, Saint Peter, MN 56082, (507)931-1550, by 5:00 p.m. February 15, 2018. Faxed, emailed, and/or late applications will *not* be accepted. Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

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.

Monday	January 21		MARTIN LUTHER KING JR HOLIDAY – CITY OFFICES CLOSED
Tuesday	January 22	3:00 p.m.	City Council Goal Session
Wednesday	January 23	12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday	January 24	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	January 25	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	January 28	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	January 29	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Monday	February 4	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	February 4	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Thursday	February 7	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	February 11	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	February 12	6:00 p.m.	Library Board
Monday	February 18		LEGAL HOLIDAY – PRESIDENT'S DAY All City offices closed
Tuesday	February 19	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Friday	February 22	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	February 25	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	February 26	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	February 27	12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday	February 28	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority

The full calendar of City meetings is available through the calendar section of the homepage of the City's website at www.saintpetermn.gov.