

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



12/05/18

HOT SHEET HIATUS – This will be the last Hot Sheet of 2018. Normal publication dates will resume in early January. Until then, for any news you need about the City, please visit our website at www.saintpetermn.gov, our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/CityofSaintPeter>, or on Twitter (@CityofSaintPeter) or give us a call at City Hall at 934-4840.

HOLIDAY HOURS – The upcoming Christmas and New Year's holidays mean



lots of changes in hours of service provided by the City. Here's what you need to know....

- As always our Police and Fire Departments will be available 24-7 to help with any emergency needs.
- All non-emergency offices of the City will be closed on Monday, December 24th and Tuesday, December 25th. Offices will also be closed on Tuesday, January 1st.
- The Community Center will be closed on Monday, December 24th and Tuesday, December 25th; New Year's Eve hours are 6 a.m.–6 p.m.; closed on New Year's Day.
- The Library will be closed on Monday, December 24th, Tuesday, December 25th and Tuesday, January 1st. On New Year's Eve Day (December 31st), the Library will be open from 10 am – 5 pm.
- Minnesota River Valley Transit will be available on Christmas Eve day from 7 am – 4:30 p.m.; closed on Christmas Day; open from 7 am – 8 pm on New Year's Eve day and closed on New Year's Day.

CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS – Action at the City Council meeting held on November 26, 2018 included public hearings and subsequent action to approve assessment of unpaid utility and miscellaneous charges; adoption of the 2019-2020 Electric Fund budget; authorization to execute a financial

services agreement with Minnesota River Valley Transit; approval for purchase of a loader; sweeper and Toolcat all to be funded by the 2019 Equipment Certificate; authorization to modify certain wages and pay equity points to ensure compliance with pay equity regulations; designation of the 2019 polling places as required by Statute; award of bids for Phase I of the Minnesota Square Park Pavilion project; and closed sessions to discuss union contract negotiations with Law Enforcement Labor Services Locals #240 (Police Officers) and #241 (Communications Technicians).

The next regular City Council meeting, and the last one for the year 2018, will be Monday, December 10th beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Governors' Room of the Community Center.

ICE RINKS – City crews are prepping for flooding of the skating/hockey rinks at Veterans Memorial Park. If the weather continues the cold streak, flooding will begin in the next week or so.

The Public Works staff and our diligent overnight volunteers are going to give it a try. Please keep an eye on the City's Facebook page and website for more information as it becomes available.

WARMING HOUSE HOURS AT VET'S PARK RINKS – Once the rinks are officially open, the City will staff the warming house with an Attendant who will be on duty during the following scheduled hours:

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.

ELECTRIC RATES LOOKING STABLE - Recently the Saint Peter City Council took action on approving the 2019 Electric Utility budget where the impact of a 4% wholesale electric rate reduction was evaluated. Effective February 1, 2019, all power, transmission, and energy consumed by the City of Saint Peter will be reduced by an average of \$.0019 cents per kWh. If you calculate the savings per residential customer considering the average home in Saint Peter uses 650 kWh's per month, the savings would be \$1.25 per household per month.

The City's wholesale supplier is Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (SMMPA) and the outlook for the upcoming five years looks very good. A number of factors help with determining the forecast, they include: low, stable prices in the energy market, lower fuel and operating costs for the Sherco 3 plant for which SMMPA is a co-owner; increased operation of the agency's generation facilities located in Owatonna and Fairmont, and strong financial returns on the Agency's transmission assets. The last time electric rates were reduced occurred about 20-years ago in the late 1990's.

City staff proposed to use the cost savings realized by the energy cost reduction to continue implementing the City's Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) program and to build reserves which fund capital improvements. The City Council concurred and approved the Electric Utility Budget. The Saint Peter Electric Utility is a Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3) as designation by the American Public Power Agency (APPA) for proven proficiency in reliability, safety, workforce development and system improvement.

NO ICE IS SAFE ICE – If you've lived in Minnesota you probably know that even with our cold temps no ice is safe ice.

Children, adults including ice fishing folks, and even pets should stay off of the developing ice on ponds of water and that includes the Mill Pond, stormwater retention ponds, Hallett's Pond and the Minnesota River. Please be safe.



RV DUMP STATION CLOSED – The RV dump station located at the northern entrance to the Mill Pond has been closed for the season.

While the dump site at the City's wastewater plant on St. Julien Street is still open for dumping, the water source at that site has been shut down for the winter.

NO ICE FISHING – The City's Mill Pond is a popular place for fishing during the warmer months; however, it is not safe for ice fishing. The pond is spring fed and as such, the ice never gets thick enough to be considered safe. The recent warm weather has just exacerbated the thin ice problems and made the situation even more dangerous. The Pond is posted with thin ice danger signs and anyone who ventures on to the ice will be asked to vacate by Police.



CHRISTMAS TREE CURBSIDE COLLECTION - City crews will collect real Christmas trees curbside on January 7th and 8th. The trees are chipped and used for composting. Residents need to have all decorations removed from the trees and then place them curbside (not in the street). Trees should NOT be in bags. Please remember, no artificial trees, garlands or wreaths will be accepted.



And for those who need or want to dispose of their tree before this time, real trees may be taken to the City's compost site located at the southwest corner of the West St. Julien/North Swift Street intersection.

LEAF COLLECTION CONCLUDED – After many, many weeks, the City's curbside leaf collection process has officially ended for 2018. Residents who still have leaves to dispose of are encouraged to use the yard waste drop-off site located at the southwest corner of the St. Julien/North Swift Street

intersection. The site is open year-round for the convenience of residents. The curbside collection and the drop off site are funded by the environmental services charge on City utility bills.

ADOPT A FIRE HYDRANT

– Have you considered “adopting” your neighborhood fire hydrant?

As winter snows begins to deepen, residents can help out the Fire Department by keeping the area around the hydrant shoveled out as shown in the picture. In the event of a fire, this will save valuable time for the Firefighters who respond and may even save a life.



METER READERS/MAIL CARRIER HELP

- With only a small amount of snow on the ground, now is the perfect time to start a nice habit of clearing out a path to utility meters for the City’s Meter Readers and from house to house for the Mail Carriers. Having a clear path to travel when reading meters (and delivering mail), helps eliminate slipping and falling over toys and equipment left in the yard all winter and lets our staff do their



jobs in a safe manner. So, if you can do so, please help out by clearing at least a shovel wide path to your utility meter each time it snows. Doing so each time you shovel will make the job much easier. Thanks for your assistance!

UPCOMING HOLIDAY EVENTS

– The Recreation and Leisure Services Department is hosting several holiday related events. Although they are a ways

away, we wanted everyone to have a chance to include these fun family events on their calendars. Here’s what you have to look forward to...



- Library Holiday Open House - Thu., Dec. 6, 2–4 p.m., Saint Peter Public Library. Pie, hot beverages and live music. In the afternoon enjoy music performed by St. Peter High School madrigal singers!
- Holiday Family Event at the Library - Tue., Dec. 11, 6:00 p.m., Saint Peter Public Library. A reading of “Twas a Night Before Christmas” will be accompanied by the Armstrong Boulevard Brass Quintet! Holiday crafts will be available too. Stay and browse our great collections of holiday books, movies and cds!
- Tour of Holiday Lights - Meet at the Senior Center to enjoy holiday lights at Sibley Park and leave the driving to the bus service! Reservations taken AFTER Nov. 23 only. Call the Saint Peter Police Department at 931-1550. Hosted by Saint Peter Police Reserves and 4.0 Bus Services. Tue., Dec. 4, 6—8 p.m., Free.

HELP WANTED

– The City of Saint Peter is currently accepting applications for the following temporary part-time position:

- **WARMING HOUSE ATTENDANT** - Supervise and maintain Veteran’s Park warming house and ice rinks. Must be 16 or older. Position is responsible for light cleaning of warming house (including restrooms) and clearing light snow from rinks. Afternoon, evening and weekend hours, including holidays. \$10 per hour. City of Saint Peter application must be received by the City Administrator’s office, 227 South Front Street, by 5:00 pm on December 11, 2018. Faxed and/or late applications will not be accepted. AA/EEO

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.

Thursday Commission	December 6		5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning
Monday	December 10		7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Wednesday Meeting	December 19		12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Monday-Tuesday	December 24-December 25th			CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY – CITY OFFICES CLOSED

Thursday	December 27	12:00 p.m.	Economic Development Authority
Friday	December 28	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Tuesday	January 1		NEW YEAR'S DAY – City Offices Closed
Thursday	January 3	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	January 7	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	January 7	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	January 14	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Monday	January 21		MARTIN LUTHER KING JR HOLIDAY – CITY OFFICES CLOSED
Tuesday	January 22	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
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



****Please note.....due to the upcoming holidays, the schedule of meetings for City Council boards and commissions may be modified. To verify a meeting date/time, please contact the City Administrator's office at 507-934-0663.****