

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



10/11/17

CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS – Action taken by the City Council on October 9, 2017 included approving work to compile costs and proposed assessments for a possible project to improve North Third Street in the area north of St. Julien Street; retaining Damon Farber to provide landscape architectural services for Minnesota Square Park; approving purchase of replacement SCBA tanks for the Fire Department to be funded by the 2017 Equipment Certificate fund; authorized purchase of an ultrasound, spine surgery table and surgical table for the Hospital; approved City assistance for the Chamber's Halloween Fun Run; approved vacation of a portion of 10th Street lying under Nobel Hall at Gustavus; and approved a Tree Worker license.

The next City Council meeting is October 23, 2017 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 507-934-0663. Copies of the Council packet are also available on the City's website at www.saintpetermn.gov/city.



MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE) – *Minnesota Square Park Pavilion Project Update* – The City Council appointed a 33 member Task Force to

consider a project to reconstruct the iconic Minnesota Square Park Pavilion. The Task Force members, working with staff and architects from Oleson + Hobbie Architects of Mankato, spent many hours over numerous meetings considering the current and future uses of the pavilion and how best to replace the current structure with a new facility that would work for many varied interests. In November of 2012, the Task Force's recommended design (shown here) was adopted by the City Council.

Since that time, the project has sat in limbo due to a lack of funding for the project. However, in 2017, the City was awarded \$200,000 in Legacy Grant funding from the State of Minnesota to help with the cost of construction of a new Pavilion and the City Council has decided to move forward with the project for construction in 2018.

Additional park planning and more detailed plans and bidding documents are currently being developed by Oleson + Hobbie Architects, and once bids are received, staff will work with the selected contractor to



establish a timeline for the project that will have the least impact on the community events that take place in the park on an annual basis. And as the project moves forward, the Saint Peter community is encouraged to check out the City's website (www.saintpetermn.gov); Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/CityofSaintPeter>); and the weekly newsletter the "Hot Sheet", for updated information.

The City Council extends its' gratitude to the members of the Task Force for their hard work in recommending the new Pavilion design. It's through volunteer efforts such as this that Saint Peter has such fine public facilities.



PAWS WALK RESULTS – The 17th annual PAWS (Providing Animals With Shelter) walk is in the books and even though the weather was not very cooperative loyal supporters and volunteers came to make the walk a huge success! Thanks to all who walked or volunteered their time to support this year's walk which raised \$6,981. These funds are used to provide

housing and medical care to lost or abandoned animals like Orsen, (shown here) who was found living under a porch. He is being given lots of love and attention as he waits for his forever family. The pound also has litter of four adorable kittens that were found living in a shed. The kittens will be ready for homes in a few weeks. If you are interested in adopting these kittens or any of the pound animals, please contact CSO Ireland at the Police Department (931-1550) or Alaina at Kind Veterinary Clinic (931-4700) during regular business hours.

FIRE PREVENTION MONTH - Fire Chief Matt Ulman would like to remind all Saint Peter residents that October is "Fire Prevention Month". And because this is such a significant event for fire safety, Chief Ulman would like to encourage families to meet to discuss and practice their family escape plan in the event of a fire.



The plan should include having at least two (2) exits from each room (make sure that if you include windows that you will be able to actually fit your body through the window) and designating a "meeting place" where the whole family will gather once the home has been evacuated. That way you can ensure everyone made it out safely.

October is also a good time to have a professional look over your home heating system to ensure that everything is working properly. This could not only help prevent a fire, but also save you money on heating bills by keeping your system working efficiently. Also be sure to check any auxiliary heating equipment (like space heaters or electric fireplaces) for frayed electrical cords etc. to help eliminate the possibility of a fire.

Never use extension cords or power strips with auxiliary electric heating equipment. Instead plug the equipment directly into an outlet. According to the U.S. Fire Administration, heating was the second leading cause of all residential building fires following cooking. Let's make sure your home is not one of the over 50,100 heating fires in residential buildings that occur each year in the United States.

Daylight savings time will begin soon and we will all set our clocks back an hour. That's the perfect time to make sure your smoke detectors are working correctly by replacing the battery. And



remember.....smoke detectors and carbon

monoxide detectors need to be replaced every ten years even if they seem to be working correctly.

Let's all work extra hard to make this upcoming heating season the safest one yet!

COUNCIL MEETINGS NOW ON YOUTUBE – Regular meetings of the Saint Peter City Council are now available on the City's YouTube channel for public viewing. You can see all of the City's videos, including the Council meetings and City Administrator Prafke's "vlog", on our channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWK7-GhXImDfaSTNs7yvwqw>. And if you would, please "subscribe" to the City's channel and get notices when a new video is posted sent right to your inbox!

CAMPAIGNING – State law allows temporary campaign signs to be up until just a few days after the election. There are several regulations that must be followed for campaign signs.

- Signs are not allowed anywhere on public property. This includes City, County and State owned rights-of-way, structures in the City-owned boulevard and City parks. The rules of thumb we follow to determine what is City owned boulevard (or right-of-way) are as follows:
 - If a public sidewalk exists, signs may be placed behind the sidewalk; or
 - If no sidewalk exists, it is safe to assume that a sign placed twenty feet (20') behind the curb line will be on private property.
- Signs can only be put on private property with permission of the private property owner. When asking private property owners to place signs, candidates are encouraged to review the rules with the property owner. Oftentimes signs are initially placed correctly, only to have helpful home owners move the signs closer to the curb line in violation of the regulations or to move the sign when mowing and not return it to the legal location.
- Signs must not obstruct sightlines for drivers.
- Signs cannot be attached to City light poles, street signs, traffic control devices like stop signs, trees, shrubs, rocks, fences or other City owned structures.

If you have campaign materials on your vehicle (bumper stickers) or person (buttons), please remember that these materials are not allowed in the parking lots or buildings of City polling places on Election Day or at the site of an absentee polling

place. The Nicollet County Government Center property is currently an absentee polling place and as such, no campaign materials are allowed anywhere on the property, including the parking lot.

Voters will need to remove any visible campaign materials from their person before entering the polling place and anyone with a bumper sticker or other materials visible on their vehicle will not be allowed to park in the parking lot of the polling place.

For more information on campaign signs or election regulations, please contact the City Administrator's Office (934-0663).



ABSENTEE VOTING – Absentee ballots are now available from the Nicollet County Public Services Department at the

Nicollet County Government Center (501 South Minnesota Avenue, Second Floor).

Following a change in election law a couple of years ago, voters no longer need a reason to decide to vote by absentee ballot. It is now open to all registered voters.

Voters must first complete an absentee ballot application which is available at the Government Center, or online at [ONLINE ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION](#).

For questions about absentee voting, please contact Nicollet County.

FALL YARD WASTE PICKUP – The City's curbside leaf and grass clippings collection for properties north of Broadway Avenue will be starting at 7:00 A.M. Monday, October 23rd. Collection for properties located south of Broadway Avenue will begin at 7:00 A.M. Monday, November 6th.

To help speed up the collection process (which saves money for all of us), please keep the following tips in mind:

- Leaves must be placed within six feet (6') of the curb line and should be parallel to the curb. Please do not put the materials in the street or in bags and do not include animal wastes with the leaves. Do not place brush and grass clippings by trees, posts, etc. and please do not

park in front of the yard waste until pick-up is complete.

- The collection process takes a long time to complete, (it took five weeks in 2015), and in order to complete the process before it snows, crews sometimes have to start before all the leaves have fallen. To be fair to all, the crews rotate which end of the community they start on each year.
- For those living on a corner lot, please note that it is possible that one side of your property will be picked up before the other as the trucks run north to south and then east to west to be more efficient in the collection process. If you want your materials collected on the same day, make sure to place the materials on the same side.
- Crews only go through an area once; so if your yard waste is not out by the dates and times mentioned above it will not be picked up but can be taken to the City's yard waste drop-off site located at the intersection of North Swift Street and West St. Julien Street.

The collection process is quite lengthy, (it took five 5 weeks in 2016), and in order to complete the process before it snows, crews sometimes have to start the collection before all the leaves have fallen. Collection dates for the areas north and south of Broadway are rotated each year.

Should you miss the collection dates, yard waste can be taken to the City's yard waste drop-off site. (See more information on the drop off site in the next article.)

And finally, please note.....Snowfall may end the process prematurely but leaves, brush, and garden waste can still be taken to the drop-off site.

This service, along with the drop-off site, is provided and funded by the Environmental Services fee on City utility customer bills.

DROP-OFF SITE OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK - The brush and soft yard waste drop-off sites located at 1128 West Swift Street, (southwest intersection of St. Julien and Swift Streets) with access off West Swift Street are open year around for your convenience in dropping off brush and soft yard waste. Brush and tree trimmings need to be cut shorter than 6 feet. Separate bunker now provided for dropping off fill (rocks, dirt, etc.).

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	October 16	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	October 16	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Tuesday	October 17	until 1:30 p.m.	CITY OFFICES CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING
Monday	October 23	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Wednesday	October 25	12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday	October 26	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	October 27	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	October 30	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Tuesday	October 31	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Thursday	November 2	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	November 6	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	November 6	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Tuesday	November 7		ELECTION DAY – Polls open 7 am – 8 pm
			
Friday	November 10		VETERAN'S DAY HOLIDAY – City offices closed
			
Monday	November 13	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	November 14	6:00 p.m.	Library Board
Monday	November 20	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	November 20	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Wednesday	November 22	12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday- Friday	November 23- 24		THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – City offices closed
			
Friday	November 24	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau CANCELLED
			*The last Tourism meeting of the year will take place on December 8th
Monday	November 27	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	November 28	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission

*** Please contact the City Administrator's office (507-934-0663) for up-to-date meeting information.***