

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 www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter



11/22/16

Happy Thanksgiving from the City Council and City staff!



This Thanksgiving, as you travel to your holiday festivities, please remember to buckle up and drive safely!



MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE) –

Whew.... it is over...Now that it has been over for more than a week I can proclaim I am happy it is over...the Election that is. Whether you consider yourself a winner or whether your candidate(s) did not win I bet for the most part you are happy it is over too. Now the real work of governing will re-start.

Governing is messy business, a really messy business. What is interesting to me is that the "application and interview process" that we use has very little to do with defining or measuring the skills that one needs to govern. It is in many ways like trying to hire a plumber, but the only skills we measure is their ability to type. So we hire a plumber with the best typing skills and then, according to many polls, some of us hope that the plumber does a bad job fixing our house so we can hire a different one next time the job is open for

applications. In the meantime the pipes leak and things get messy.

This gets me back to our local level and governance. Sure, some of governing is establishing new priorities, policies and changing the big direction of things like can we have chickens in town, where is the next roundabout, should we build a new fire hall, how much should we pay in taxes.... but frankly, most of governance at the local level is helping to make sure the basic stuff works pretty well. Making sure "the pipes don't leak".

That translates locally into things like the streets getting plowed well, the lights turning on when you hit the switch, the park getting mowed, the new house being inspected in a timely manner, the kids can play T Ball, the gym is open when the schedule says it will be open, the garbage gets picked up, when you need help the police arrive quickly, when your ear hurts urgent care is available for a visit, and when you flush the sewage doesn't end up in your front yard. So we come back to helping ensure the pipes don't leak.

I like to think that part of the reason these things work pretty well here is that you have elected officials that understand how to govern. They get that they have to work together even if they don't always agree on everything. That in order to keep the pipes from leaking they have to work together to plan well, maintain things well, and fit things together for the long term.

I understand that keeping the sewer pipe working so sewage doesn't end up in your front yard may not be as complicated as solving the problems related to nuclear testing by North Korea, but is it any less important to you as you walked out your front door this morning? It makes me wonder.....

CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS – Action taken by the City Council on November 14, 2016 included public hearings and subsequent actions to approve assessments of unpaid utility bills and miscellaneous improvement project charges; a public hearing on the Maplewood Apartments Small Cities Development Program Grant program; approval for modifications to revolving loan terms for Chabeans, Inc., Blaido, Inc. and Community Core Partners; adoption of the Comprehensive Plan update; adoption of an update to the Parks Master Plan; approval for execution of agreements with the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension for access to BCA records by the City Attorney's Office and the Police Department; approval of the 2017 Stormwater Fund budget; and a closed session to discuss negotiations for sale of City owned land (former wastewater treatment ponds).



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



CAMPAIGN SIGNS – If you are still sporting campaign signs in your yard, please note that they must be removed. State law allows campaign signage to be in place until 10 days after an election.

City regulations do not allow these signs outside of the period mandated in State law and they must now be removed. Signs which are in violation of the City's signage regulations may be removed by City staff without any further notification and they may be destroyed so if you want to save that little bit of election history, please remove the signs now.

CURBSIDE LEAF COLLECTION – Lots of residents have contacted the City to question whether leaf collection is still going on. It is...at least for the properties north of Broadway Avenue. (South of Broadway has already been done.)



If you may remember, this process is a lengthy one...in 2015 it took 5 weeks to complete. Some folks thought that when the City announced the start dates for the collection on each end of town, that meant the leaves would be picked up on that particular day. Obviously that's not the case as it can take 2-3 weeks to complete each end of town.

We ask that residents have their leaves at curbside by the start day so that no one is missed.

However, with that being said, this week's forecasted inclement weather may put a wrench in the curbside collection. If it snows and that snow is substantial, the leaf collection may end for the season. That's always a risk that we take when we try to outsmart Mother Nature. Most years we are able to get the leaf collection completed before snow falls, but sometimes it doesn't work out.

So please know that the work continues for properties north of Broadway and we will do so until every street has been visited....or.....the snowfall puts an early end to our efforts.



THANKSGIVING CLOSURES

– All non-emergency City offices (including the Library) will be closed on Thursday, November 24th and Friday, November 25th for the Thanksgiving holiday.

The Community Center will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, but the building will reopen on Friday. There is no transit service on Thanksgiving Day.

JOINT CITY COUNCIL/SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

– The full City Council and School Board will meet in a joint session on Wednesday, November 30th at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will take place in the Governors' Room of the Community Center and the meeting will be taped for rebroadcast on Public Access Channel 7. The agenda for the meeting will be posted on the City's website prior to the meeting.

RV DUMP STATIONS CLOSING – Another sign of oncoming winter is that the two RV dump stations

(located at the north entrance to the Mill Pond and at the City's wastewater treatment plant on St. Julien Street), will both be closed for the winter on Monday, November 21st. These two dump stations are provided at no cost to Saint Peter residents and those camping in the municipal campground behind City Hall.

SNOW PREPARATIONS – It's not too early to be planning for heavy snowfalls this winter, and residents who would like to be notified of snow emergency declarations should sign up now for the Nixle community notification system if you haven't already done so. It's a free service and easy to do.



Go to www.nixle.com and follow the prompts to create an account for City notices. You can choose whether you wish to have notices sent by e-mail, by text, or both!

If you don't have an off-street parking space available to you, make arrangements now to find a spot to park your vehicle before snow emergency declarations are in place.

Property owners with sidewalks are also reminded of the City of Saint Peter regulations that require sidewalks, including handicap ramps at intersections, to be cleared of all snow and ice within 24 hours after a snowfall. The walkway must be cleared the entire width and be kept clear of blowback and drifting snow. Property owners who don't clear their walks may face hefty fees from the City when City crews are dispatched to do the job. Minimum charge? \$75!

And for all those who plow snow for a living, or those who hire folks to plow for them, please remember that it is illegal to plow the snow out into the street or onto the City owned boulevard. This creates a danger for the public and sight line issues for other drivers.

Don't forget to get started on your winter preparations now and before the first snow falls!



WALKING TRACK - Now that it is getting colder again please remember that the Community Center has a walking/running track that is available for use by the public at no charge. The track is available Monday-Friday from 6am-10pm (excluding Tuesday from 7am-10am when the track is cleaned). Saturday

the track is available from 8am-8pm and Sunday from 12pm-8pm.

So don't let the cold weather take you away from your exercise routine. Come enjoy the indoor walking/running track at the Community Center!

VOLUNTEERS WANTED – The City Council will soon be considering appointments of City residents to advisory boards and commissions. The various boards are tasked with topics ranging from planning for streets, parks, recreation activities, hospital and library services to considering loan requests and other financial matters.



If you live within the corporate limits of the City and are able to volunteer 1-2 hours a month to help the City Council, please consider applying. Application cards are available from the City Administrator's office at 227 South Front Street. Many openings will be available starting January 1st and more information on the various boards, including the dates/times of the meetings, is available on the City's website. Most terms are three years although some are up to five year terms.

For more information, or to apply to serve on an advisory board, please contact the City Administrator's Office at 934-0663 or by email at barbaral@saintpetermn.gov.

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

- **FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME TRANSIT SUPPORT SPECIALISTS.** The part-time positions will work mostly nights and weekends. Transit Support Specialists assist transit users in scheduling use, directing drivers to stops and pick-ups, provide clerical support for Transit Operations and Compliance Managers, and operate dispatching software. **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** High school diploma or equivalent; demonstrated experience working with the public, demonstrated ability to operate a personal computer, ability to read, write, and speak the English language, ability to answer multi-line phone system. **DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS:** Experience operating a two-way radio/phone, 1+ year experience in an office setting, 1+ year of experience in a municipal or other transportation system providing logistical support for moving people or materials, demonstrated ability to read and navigate a map, 1+ year experience with dispatching or vehicle routing software and

hardware, 1+ year experience in using social media such as Facebook or Twitter. Wage range \$15.00 to \$17.49 per hour depending on experience and qualifications. Applicants are required to submit a City application form available from 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. December 2, 2016. Faxed, emailed, and/or late applications will not be accepted. AA/EEO

- **FULL AND PART-TIME BUS DRIVERS** - The City of Saint Peter is currently accepting applications for the positions of Full-time and Part-time Bus Drivers. **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** High school diploma or equivalent; possession of, or ability to obtain within 30 days of employment, a valid State of Minnesota CDL minimum of Class C Driver's License with passenger endorsement. **DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS:** Previous experience working with the public; training in vehicle mechanics; experience operating a two-way radio/phone; and prior bus driving experience. Starting wage \$14.93 per hour. 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. December 9, 2016. Faxed and/or late applications will not be accepted. ****NOTE:** The successful candidates for this position will be required to successfully complete and pass a pre-employment drug test. The position is also subject to post-accident, random, reasonable suspicion, return to duty, and follow-up drug and alcohol testing as required by USDOT 49 CFR Part 655 (Federal Transit Administration) and USDOT 49 CFR Part 40. In addition, successful candidates for this position must have a vehicle driving record which is clear of revocations, suspensions and cancellations for the past three (3) years. Applicants may be required to submit to a criminal background check and be clear of convictions for crimes or anticipatory crimes (as defined in M.S. 609.17 and 609.175) within the previous fifteen (15) years. 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 or visit the City's website at www.saintpetermn.gov.

Thursday- Friday	November 24 - November 25		THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – City Offices Closed
Monday	November 28	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	November 29	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	November 30	6:00 p.m.	Joint City Council/School Board Meeting
Thursday	December 1	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	December 5	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	December 5	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	December 12	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Monday	December 19	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Thursday	December 22	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	December 23	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	December 26		CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY – City Offices Closed
Tuesday	December 27	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission

Wednesday December 28 12:30 p.m. Hospital Commission

Monday January 2 NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY – City
Offices Closed



Please note that due to the upcoming holiday season, some meetings may be rescheduled or cancelled. Please contact the City Administrator's office (934-0663), check out our website (www.saintpetermn.gov) or the City's Facebook page at [FACEBOOK](#) for up-to-date meeting information.