

# 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)



05/10/16

**CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS** – Action taken by the City Council on May 9, 2016 included a public hearing and subsequent action to consider annexation of a portion of the Gustavus Adolphus College arboretum and the road right-of-way of Gardner Road; approval of a façade renovation revolving loan for Mary Cammack dba Playing Possum; modification to the Hospital Policies; approval of the process for registering the title to lots in Traverse Green Subdivision; adoption of lot prices for Traverse Green Subdivision; establishment of a funding source for speculative home development in Traverse Green Subdivision; approval of a request to vacate a portion of an alley in Skaro and Evenson's Subdivision; authorization to initiate the process for recruitment of a new Fire Chief; and a closed session to discuss negotiations related to the sale of City owned land (wastewater treatment ponds).

The next City Council meeting is May 23, 2016 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](http://www.saintpetermn.gov/city).



**MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE)** – *Facebook is not the same as Facetime....* So here is what I have been thinking about. I think it is great

that we are putting things on Facebook that are more immediate in nature. I think that generally it is a good thing and lets people know things in a familiar and, maybe fun, format. We want to have

things on there that are more immediate and time sensitive. We also see some questions which I like, that oftentimes we answer on Facebook.

However, questions are sometimes not well answered on Facebook. So our goal is oftentimes to contact you, the questioner, directly. So, although Facebook works for some things, it does not work for everything.

If you have a question, please give us a ring, or have one of us come out and speak to your group. Check out our website too. Will you? It makes me wonder.....

**SMMPA ADDS LARGE-SCALE SOLAR** - Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency, (of which the



City of Saint Peter is a member), has signed an agreement with Lemond Solar Center, LLC, a subsidiary of Coronal Development Services, to buy all electricity generated over 20 years from a 5 MW solar photovoltaic array that will be built, owned and operated by Lemond Solar Center, LLC. The project will be sited on approximately 40 acres near Owatonna, one of SMMPA's Member communities. Electricity from the Lemond Solar Center, planned to be operational by late June 2017 will be used by SMMPA as a general power resource.

"SMMPA and our Members have been looking forward to having a large stake in solar to expand our already significant renewable energy portfolio, and we thank everyone who worked hard on this project to get us to this point," said Dave Geschwind, SMMPA's Executive Director and CEO.

"Coronal is thrilled to partner with SMMPA and the Owatonna community on this exciting project," added Ben J. Alingh, Senior Project Developer for

Coronal Development Services. "We commend SMMPA for taking a leadership role on an energy procurement strategy that is both environmentally and economically sound."

According to Coronal, once operational the Lemond Solar Center will produce enough electricity to meet the needs of approximately 775 homes per year.

SMMPA provides electricity and related services to 18 municipally operated utilities, mostly in south-central and southeastern Minnesota. For more information about SMMPA, please visit [www.smmpa.com](http://www.smmpa.com).



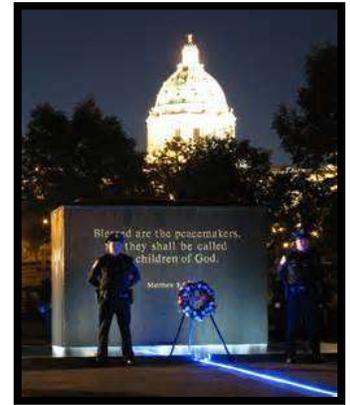
**POLICE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY** – May 15<sup>th</sup> was "POLICE OFFICER MEMORIAL DAY" in Minnesota and the entire week is celebrated as Police

Week. This special time is an observance in the United States that pays tribute to the local, state, and Federal peace officers who have died in the line of duty. The Memorial Day takes place on May 15th each year, and Police Week is the calendar week in which the Memorial Day occurs.

The holiday was created on October 1, 1961, when Congress asked the President to designate May 15th to honor peace officers. John F. Kennedy signed the bill into law on October 1, 1962. The Proclamation signed by President John F. Kennedy stated in part..."To pay tribute to the law enforcement officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country and to voice our appreciation for all those who currently serve on the front lines of the battle against crime, the Congress, by a joint resolution approved October 1, 1962 (75 Stat.676), has authorized and requested the President to designate May 15 of each year as "Peace Officers Memorial Day," and the week in which it falls as "National Police Week" and by Public Law 103-322 (36 U.S.C. 175) has requested that the flag be flown at half-staff on Peace Officers' Memorial Day."

President Obama honored Police Officers in 2013 by stating, in part... "The 143 fallen officers we honor today put themselves on the front lines of that fight, to preserve that quality of community, and to protect the roots of our greatness. They exemplified the very idea of citizenship -- that with our God-given rights come responsibilities and obligations to ourselves and to others. They embodied that idea. That's the way they died. That's how we must remember them. And that's

*how we must live. We can never repay our debt to these officers and their families, but we must do what we can, with all that we have, to live our lives in a way that pays tribute to their memory. That begins, but does not end, by gathering here -- with heavy hearts, to carve their names in stone, so that all will know them, and that their legacy will endure. We are grateful to them and we are grateful to you."*



Saint Peter residents are encouraged to recognize and thank our local Police Officers for their commitment to keeping us all safe as we honor their sacrifices on Police Officer Memorial Day

**Hospital 5 Star Rating** – River's Edge Hospital recently has been given a 5-star rating for patient experience from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Hospital Compare Initiative. The rating is based on survey data on patient experience collected by CMS from all hospitals.

"This recognition is the result of focused effort by the entire staff who has worked hard to make patient experience world class," said George Rohrich, Chief Executive Officer at River's Edge Hospital and Clinic. "It validates the success of



their work and gives us more energy and enthusiasm."

Star rankings for patient experience were first released in 2014. In 2015 River's Edge Hospital and Clinic received four stars for both reporting periods. The report released on May 4 states that 3,544 hospitals in the U.S. were rated and 168 of those received 5 stars. In April 2015, 251 hospitals received 5-stars.

Data is gathered from the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers Survey (HCAHPS) that is sent out to patients following their discharge from River's Edge. The survey consists of 32 questions and the Hospital Compare rankings are comprised of 11 measures that include communication with nurses, communication with doctors, pain management, discharge information, cleanliness of the hospital and overall rating of the hospital.

River's Edge Hospital was above the Minnesota average for all 11 measures. For more information on the Hospital Compare rankings, please visit [www.medicare.gov/hospitalcompare](http://www.medicare.gov/hospitalcompare).

River's Edge Hospital and Clinic provides a wide range of healthcare services, combining state-of-the-art technology with compassionate care, collaboration, integrity and stewardship. Find more information on the Hospital's website at [www.rehc.org](http://www.rehc.org).



**ELECTION JUDGES NEEDED –**

Remember the last time you went to vote? Remember that nice man or woman who helped you through the process? That person was an Election Judge and the City of Saint Peter is currently seeking additional

judges to work for the 2016 elections in August and November.

To qualify as an election Judge, individuals must:

- Submit an Election Judge application available from the City Administrator's Office. (Note that not everyone who applies can be appointed.)
- Be available to work on Tuesday, August 9th and Tuesday, November 8th.
- State an affiliation with one of the major political parties (Republic or Democrat).
- Attend a three hour mandatory training session.
- Be eligible to vote in the State of Minnesota; and be able to read, write and speak English
- Be able to understand sometimes complex regulations and procedures
- Be able to sit for extended periods of time. Election days are very long and this year's general election day will be super hectic with few breaks.
- Be dependable. We need people who will show up on Election Day, be on time, and not back out at the last minute.
- Be able to work with all types of people and in sometimes challenging situations.
- Obey election laws and be able to withstand complaints and criticisms from voters who may be upset about the procedures they must follow.
- Like a doctor's office, those who work with elections must be able to keep private information private.

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.

Judges are paid at the rate of \$10 per hour and will work on each election day either from 6:00 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.; or 5:30 p.m. until counting is done which can be as late as 1-2 am! And, if you are

employed, State law (M.S. 204B.195) allows individuals to be absent from work to serve as an Election Judge without penalty.

Being an Election Judge can be very challenging, but it is also very rewarding and if you think you meet the criteria outlined and wish to be considered for appointment as an Election Judge, please contact the City Administrator's office for an application.

**BICYCLE SAFETY** - Summer's almost here and that means an increased number of bicycles on the roads and sidewalks. For many of us who haven't been on a bike in a while, a few safety tips might be helpful. These tips are provided by McGruff.org

Riding a bike can be fun, if you know how to stay safe. But if you don't follow the rules, it can be dangerous. To be safe on your bike, follow these tips:



- Always wear a helmet and fasten it. Helmets protect your head, and in many states it's illegal not to wear one!
- Wear bright clothing so drivers and other bikers can see you.
- If you want to ride after dark, ask an adult and remember to put reflectors on your clothes, helmet, and bike. Adults should wear the reflectors also!
- Obey the rules of the road. Bikers must stop at all stop signs and traffic lights and use turning signals, just like cars.
- Ride on the right hand side of the road, in the same direction as traffic.
- Look both ways. Most crashes happen at intersections or driveways so be on the lookout for people who may not see you.
- Ride on bike trails, roads with little traffic or in parks. If you do come to a busy road, walk your bike across intersections at a crosswalk.
- Keep your bike tuned up. You don't want to get a flat tire far away from your house!
- Protect your bike. Lock it up or keep it in a safe place



when you're not using it. Don't leave your bike out in your yard because someone just might come along and ride away with it. Also, don't leave your bike in an open or unlocked garage.

- Ride with friends. It's more fun and you have someone to help you if you need it.

And don't forget to register your bike at the Police Department. The cost is only \$1.00 and it may help get your bike back if lost or stolen. The information from the bike is entered into a nationwide database and if your bike is stolen and recovered somewhere else, the Saint Peter Police Department will be contacted for information on the owner. What a deal for only \$1!

And for some hands on experience with bike safety, join the Saint Peter Police Department and River's Edge Hospital and Clinic for a Bike Safety Rodeo, this Saturday, May 14th from 11:00 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the parking lot of the Hospital at 1900 North Sunrise Drive. There will be FREE bike licensing; FREE bike helmets for kids up to 17 years of age (limited supply available); FREE lunch; and a chance to ride on a bike safety course, learn bike maintenance, and ride around on the bike trails. You can also register to win fun prizes. Hope to see you there!

**HOOPLA AT THE LIBRARY –**

The Library is excited to announce the public availability to thousands of movies, television shows, music albums and audiobooks, all available for mobile and online access through a new partnership with **hoopla digital**. All you need to access is a valid library card! Start by downloading the free **hoopla digital** mobile app on your Android or IOS device (or visit [hoopladigital.com](http://hoopladigital.com)) to start enjoying thousands of titles – from major Hollywood studios, record companies and publishers – available to borrow for instant streaming or temporary downloading to smart phones, tablets and computers. It's simple to sign-up and easy to get to your listening and viewing experience. There's also no waiting to borrow popular movies, TV shows, albums or audiobooks. And **hoopla digital's** automatic return feature eliminates late fees.



For more information, or assistance please contact the Library at 934-7420.

**JUNK COLLECTION REMINDER –** It's not too late to sign up to dispose of appliances and furniture curbside, but time is running short! The deadline to sign up for the May 25th **curbside appliance pickup** is Monday, May 23rd. Cost is \$15 for each appliance. Sign-up takes place in the Finance Department at City Hall (227 South Front Street) and payment must be made at the time of sign-up. Appliances must be curbside by 8:00 am on the collection date or the fee will be forfeited.

The curbside furniture collection deadline is May 25th for the Friday, May 27th collection. As with the appliance collection, the item must be registered and paid for in the Finance Department at City Hall by no later than Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. The item must be placed curbside (not in the street) by 8:00 a.m. on May 27th or the fee will be forfeited. Cost is:

- Hide-a-Bed \$35
- Chest and Mirror \$25
- Recliners \$22
- Desk \$22
- Sofa \$22
- Cabinet \$22
- Carpet rolls \$20 a roll
- Mattress/Box spring \$20
- Chairs \$18
- Headboard \$15
- Footboard \$15
- Miscellaneous \$12

For those with electronics to dispose of, an electronics collection will take place on Saturday, May 21st, from 9:00 am-2:00 pm at the City's wastewater treatment plant located at 400 West St. Julien Street. No registration is necessary for this collection and the collection company will accept payment at the time of drop off. Costs are:

Monitors up to 20"	\$10	Large Printer/Copier	\$25
LCD monitor	\$5	DVD/VCR/cable box	\$5
LCD/Plasma TV	\$15	Stereo system/home electronics	\$5
TV - 19 or 20 inch	\$10	Appliances	\$15
TV - 25 or 26 inch	\$15	Microwave	\$5
TV - 27 or 36 inch	\$20	Computer tower, computer	Free

Console/big screen TV	\$30	components, keyboard, mouse, laptop, cell phones, small electronics, batteries (excluding alkaline), heaters	
Small Printer	\$5		

St. Julien. All bicycles and bike parts will be accepted. Bikes will be refurbished or recycled by an area non-profit organization.

**COMMUNITY CENTER GYM CLOSURE** – The Community Center gym will be closed for annual maintenance from May 16-21, 2016. The gym will re-open on May 23rd. We apologize for the inconvenience.

And finally, if you have a bike to recycle, Saturday, May 21st, from 9 am-2 pm is the date you will want to mark on your calendar. Bicycle recycling will take place along with the electronics recycling at the City's wastewater treatment plant at 400 West

**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).

Monday	May 16	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	May 16	6:30 p.m.	Tree Advisory Board
Monday	May 16	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Monday	May 23	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Wednesday	May 25	12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday	May 26	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	May 27	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	May 30		MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY – LEGAL HOLIDAY - City offices closed
Tuesday	May 31	3:00 p.m.	City Council Goal Session
Thursday	June 2	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	June 6	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	June 6	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	June 13	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Monday	June 20	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	June 20	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Wednesday	June 22	12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday	June 23	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	June 24	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	June 27	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	June 28	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission