MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE) – Democracy…
You know this is one of the few places in the world where almost all the people plan for and can participate in a change in their leadership. Most of the time we think about this on the level of countries and national boundaries, but it also happens at our local level very year. The people that do much of the work are our Election Judges. The Judges are our friends and neighbors. We see them at the polls and they make it look pretty easy. Some of them just watch what’s going on. Maybe they hand me a ballot….maybe they help me register to vote or make sure I am at the correct voting place, but their job is oh so much more than that. The average Judge must go through two hours of training and many have been doing this most important job for many years. They must know the rules, the application of the rules, the process and how it all fits together, and for that we should thank them. They are really the protectors of our right to vote. The protectors of the very important part of the democratic process, they are The Stewards of Democracy. If you appreciate your right to vote, if you appreciate that your votes counts and was counted take a few moments to thank one of those election judges. How many other places in the world run elections so well? It makes me wonder…..

VETERAN’S DAY CLOSURES – All non-emergency City offices, including the Library, will be closed on Friday, November 11th for the Veteran’s Day observance. And while the City’s Recreation and Leisure Services Department will be closed, the Community Center will be open regular hours on Veteran’s Day. The City’s transit system will operate normal hours.

ELECTIONS ARE OVER— It’s finally here - the day after the election! Whether your candidate(s) won or lost there probably aren’t many of us who wouldn’t agree that we are glad this election is over. Maybe you are overly tired from staying up too late watching election returns. Maybe you worked as an Election Judge. Maybe you volunteered for a local candidate and spent the wee hours celebrating a victory or bemoaning a defeat. Either way, we can all get back to some semblance of normalcy as we now wait to see if our newly elected representatives will carry through on their campaign promises.

Thanks go out to County Public Services Director Jaci Kopet and her staff for their hard work and efforts leading up to and culminating in Election Day. There is always a lot of stress and overtime involved in trying to administer a fair and impartial election, especially this year when so many people chose to vote by absentee ballot adding extra work to their already busy schedule. Our hats go off to you for your efforts on behalf of the voters of Saint Peter and Nicollet County.

Thanks also to the 70 or so City Election Judges. These folks work a very long day and assisted thousands of voters for very little in return other than the satisfaction of having participated in the democratic process.
Election results for Saint Peter and the entire State are available on the Secretary of State’s website at ELECTION RESULTS

METER TESTING – Chapman Metering will be in Saint Peter for the next two weeks or so doing some required testing on three-phase meters for commercial electric customers. This testing is done every five years and is paid for by the City. Customers may notice Chapman vehicles or employees in and around City utility equipment, but for the most part they will be working on the outside of commercial buildings. If they ask to enter your building to look at a meter, and you wish to verify they are working for the City, please contact the Public Works Department at 934-0670.

ADOPT A SENIOR CAT MONTH - Did you know that November has been designated “Adopt A Senior Cat” month? Shelters around the country have a hard time finding forever homes for older dogs and cats. And while there are currently no senior cats in the Saint Peter pound, we are no different than the rest and sometimes these wonderful pets can linger in the shelter for months and months. Senior cats are obviously much calmer than kittens but they are still playful, loving and wonderful pets. In most cases cats are considered senior when they are between 7-10 years old. But it’s important to note that cats, when kept indoors, can live 15 years or more and lead happy, healthy lives.

So, if you have room in your family for a wonderful senior cat, why not adopt during this special month? Many shelters are also offering discounted adoption fees during November.

For information on adoptable senior animals near you, check out the Saint Peter Pound located at Kind Veterinary Clinic (931-4700), Blue Earth Nicollet County Humane Society (BENCHS) shelter in Mankato (BENCHS), Mending Spirits rescue at MENDING SPIRITS or use Pet Finder at www.petfinder.com to expand your search.

FIREFIGHTERS NEEDED – The City of Saint Peter is currently accepting applications for the position of VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER in the Fire Department. Up to three (3) Firefighters will be hired. Minimum qualifications: High school diploma/GED; at least 18 years of age; reside within a six (6) minute response time from the Fire Station; possess a valid driver’s license; and ability to read and write the English language. Successful candidates must also pass pre-employment physical, drug and alcohol tests. An open house for interested candidates and their significant others will be held on Tuesday, November 15, 2016 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Fire Station (227 West Mulberry Street). This event will provide an opportunity for prospective candidates to learn what is involved in service as a Volunteer Firefighter and for family members to ask questions.

Successful candidates will begin service January 1, 2017 and will be required to successfully complete required Firefighter schooling within one year. Applicants are required to complete a City application form which is available in the City Administrator’s office or by calling (507)934-0663. Complete position descriptions for Firefighters are also available in the City Administrator’s office. Completed applications must be received by the City Administrator’s office by 5:00 p.m. on November 18, 2016. Faxed, emailed and/or late applications will not be accepted. AA/EEO

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

### CITY MEETING CALENDAR

- **Friday** November 11
  - VETERAN’S DAY HOLIDAY – City Offices Closed

- **Monday** November 14
  - 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting

- **Friday** November 18
  - 8:00 a.m. Rescheduled Tourism Bureau Meeting

- **Monday** November 21
  - 5:30 p.m. City Council Workshop Session

- **Monday** November 21
  - 7:00 p.m. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

- **Wednesday** November 23
  - 12:30 p.m. Hospital Commission

- **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

- **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

- **Tuesday** December 13
  - 5:30 p.m. Library 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

- **Tuesday** January 2
  - NEW YEAR’S HOLIDAY – City Offices Closed

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***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](http://www.saintpetermn.gov)) or the City’s Facebook page at [FACEBOOK](https://www.facebook.com) for up-to-date meeting information.***