

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



5/27/2020

CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS – The City Council held a regular meeting on May 26, 2020 to consider the following actions: approval of a request for City assistance for a parade to recognize and honor the senior class of St. Peter High School; adoption of an updated snow and ice removal policy; establishment of a fee to haul snow removed from private parking lots in the Central Business District; authorization for purchase of a used bucket truck to replace an older vehicle with persistent breakdowns.

The next regular City Council meeting will be Monday, June 8th beginning at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will only be held electronically as authorized under Minnesota Statutes 13.021. For log-in information, please visit the City's website. The log-in information will be at the bottom of the meeting agenda page which will be available under the "meetings and minutes" section of the homepage the Friday before the Council meeting.

COVID-19 UPDATED INFORMATION – Each week the Hot Sheet will include updated information pertaining to the City's response to the COVID-19 emergency. With few exceptions, this will be limited to new information only. If there is something we have previously published in this column that you need to access, please go to the City's website at www.saintpetermn.gov and check out the Hot Sheet archives. Here is the latest information as of May 27, 2020:

- The peacetime emergency continues; however the Governor's Stay at Home order has been turned into a Stay Safe order. For more information on what the ever changing rules are, go to the Governor's Office website at <https://mn.gov/governor/>.
- June 1st is a big day in Minnesota – Bars, restaurants, salons, and spas are allowed to open up again under specific conditions. To find

out more on these conditions, check out the Governor's Executive Order at <https://mn.gov/governor/news/executiveorders.jsp>.

- By order of the Governor, all U.S. and State flags will now be lowered to half-staff on the 19th of each month through the end of 2020. This is being done to honor and remember those who have died or been otherwise impacted by COVID-19.
- City buildings remain closed to the public tentatively until June 15th. Those needing assistance are asked to contact the specific department they need for additional direction or assistance. Numbers for all departments are listed on the front door of City Hall and on the City's website at <https://www.saintpetermn.gov/Directory.aspx>.
- The verdict is still out on whether or not the City's outdoor pool will open this season. CDC and Minnesota Department of Health recommendations will play a major role in making that decision and updates will be provided as soon as they are available.
- Restrooms in City parks will be opened beginning June 1st.



MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE) - Can I get there

from here? We continue to move forward in promoting opportunities to make our Central Business District businesses handicap accessible. In 2019, the City Council established the CBD/ADA Accessibility Enhancement Grant Program as an incentive to encourage Central Business District (CBD) owners to make renovations or alterations to access their

properties in a manner that enhances the accessibility to those with mobility impairments.

Under the terms of the loan program, the City will finance improvements in the form of a forgivable loan available at zero percent (0%) interest. The loan agreement would obligate the building owner to maintain and repair the improvements to maintain accessibility. The loan proceeds would be “forgiven” at a rate of 1/15th per year.

Applications for the program are due once a year and the following three applications were submitted for 2020 consideration: Kind Vet Clinic, Swedish Kontour and Riley-Tanis and Associates. All of the applicants wish to install an automatic door system. How cool is that! They see the value of making their business accessible to all. Each is getting about \$4,000 to make this happen and I bet they will see immediate impact. Census data shows us that at any time about ten percent (10%) of our population has a physical disability that hampers them from entering non-accessible buildings. That is 10% of a customer base.

So let’s celebrate those business that are accessible and welcome these business to the many that already are. Are you getting there? It makes me wonder....

ABSENTEE VOTING - Voters concerned about casting their ballot in person on election day have another option....absentee voting. It's a secure way to cast your ballot when you can't or don't want to go to the polling place. But before a ballot can be mailed to you, you'll need to apply and you can do so online at <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/other-ways-to-vote>.

You'll need to provide some identifying information and once received, the election officials at Nicollet County will verify that information. Then when the time comes, the County will mail a ballot direct to you. The ballot can be completed, witnessed and sent back to be counted all without leaving the safety of your house.

Absentee ballot applications for both the primary election in August and the general election in November are being accepted now so if you want to avoid what is expected to be substantially long lines during this year's elections please apply today.

LICENSE, LEASH AND LOOK AFTER – What does it take for humans and dogs and cats to live in harmony? It takes people to be responsible pet owners who license their companion animals, have them on a leash when off the owner’s property; and who



look after that pet and pick up waste when the need arises.

The City of Saint Peter, and most communities in Minnesota, requires companion animals that are old enough to be vaccinated for rabies to be licensed. To license your dog or cat with the City of Saint Peter, pet owners have to provide proof of that rabies vaccination and then keep that information up to date. Should your dog or cat bite someone, the City can quickly check the vaccination records and possibly save the bite victim from having to undergo rabies vaccination shots.

Likewise if your pet escapes from the confines of your yard and goes missing, having the license tag will help the Community Service Officer quickly find the owner and help get that pooch back home with its’ family without having to be impounded and the owner having to pay expensive charges. Of course the only way that all works is if the animal is licensed, and wearing that license on its’ collar at all times.

Having a dog or cat on a leash and under control of the owner when it is off the owner’s property is the law in our community. Dogs running at large generate a lot of calls to the Police Department. Is that dog a stray? Is it dangerous? Will it harm my kids or my own dog? And what if the animal darts into traffic and becomes not only a danger to the dog, but also to drivers? Unless you are at one of the official dog parks (Highway 99 and the soon to be opened new park along North Swift Street), pet owners must make sure their animal is on a leash when it is off the owner’s property.

And we all know that dogs and cats will relieve themselves whenever and wherever the mood strikes. If that place is on someone else’s yard or on public property the pet owner is required to pick up the waste material and properly dispose of it.

The City also allows leashed dogs and cats in additional recreation areas. Dogs and cats which are on leashes and under control of the owner are allowed in:

- Riverside Park
- Riverside Park Extension
- Traverse des Sioux Park
- McGill Park



- Hallett's Pond (on the trail only)
- Public Conservancy Area in Nicollet Meadows 2 Subdivision (directly west of Jefferson Park)

The animals are allowed if the owner is in compliance with all additional animal regulations contained in the City Code including licensing, rabies vaccinations, and waste cleanup.

We all love our pets, but not everyone else does. Being a responsible pet owner helps bridge that gap and ensures we can live in harmony.

For more information on animal licensing or animal control regulations, please feel free to contact the City Administrator's office at 934-0663 or by email at barbaral@saintpetermn.gov.

2020 RAIN BARREL REBATES - Beginning May 15 – July 15, City utility customers may purchase a 45 – 50 gallon rain barrel or rain barrel diverter and parts kit from Arrow Ace Hardware. At the time of purchase, a rebate form will be filled out at the store and the form will be provided to the City for processing. Purchase of one of the qualifying barrels entitles the utility customer to either a \$25 rebate on their utility bill or a \$10 rebate on the utility bill for the purchase of a rain barrel diverter and parts kit. Rebates are available to the first 50 qualified purchasers and there is a limit of two rebates per household.



Why does the City offer this program? Here's some reasons:

- Rainwater is great for gardens, houseplants, auto cleaning, window washing, and other household chores.
- Stores water away for a sunny day.
- Stops storm water from polluting neighboring waters by keeping it where it falls.
- Recycling rain water reduces personal energy consumption by using less treated water.
- Reduces erosion and increases water quality.
- It reduces stress on the municipal storm drain and sewer systems.

It's that easy to have a positive impact on the environment. If you have questions about this

program, please contact the City's Public Works Department at 934-0670. (Please note...the rain barrel available from Arrow Ace may not look like the one pictured in the photo.)

HELP WANTED – The City of Saint Peter is now accepting applications for the following full-time position:

- **LIBRARY SUPERVISOR** - in the Recreation and Leisure Services Department. This position supervises the operation of the library and is responsible for assisting in the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all Library programs and activities. Minimum qualifications: Bachelor's Degree in Library Media Science, Education or related field; Two years demonstrated programming experience in libraries, recreation, educational or related areas, or equivalent; Demonstrated personal computer experience; valid driver's license; Experience working with the public. **DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS** include: Demonstrated experience of two or more years provision of library operations; Two or more years of demonstrated employee supervisory experience; Demonstrated experience in preparation and implementation of budgets; Two or more years' demonstrated experience in provision of literacy enhancing programming, library program management, or delivery; Previous demonstrated experience with inventory or library materials circulation software; Demonstrated experience in the purchase of Library materials including books, periodicals, and digital materials. Starting wage \$22.60-\$25.24 per hour. Applicants must complete a City application form available from the City Administrator's Office, 227 South Front Street, Saint Peter, Minnesota 56082-2538; by calling (507)931-0663; or on the City's website at <https://www.saintpetermn.gov/365/Employment>. Completed applications will be accepted until 5:00 pm, June 12, 2020. Faxed or late applications will not be accepted. AAEOE

CITY MEETING CALENDAR –***PLEASE NOTE...Until further notice, all City meetings are being conducted electronically as authorized under Minnesota Statutes 13D.021. Log-in information for each meeting is included at the bottom of the agenda page. Agendas are all posted on the City's website at www.saintpetermn.gov.

Wednesday	May 27	12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
-----------	--------	------------	---------------------

Thursday	May 28	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Monday	June 1	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	June 1	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop Session
Thursday	June 4	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	June 8	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Monday	June 15	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop Session
Monday	June 15	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Monday	June 22	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Wednesday	June 24	12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday	June 25	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	June 26	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	June 29	3:00 p.m.	City Council Goal Session
Tuesday	June 30	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission