LABOR DAY CLOSURES – Monday, September 7th is the Labor Day holiday. All non-emergency City offices will be closed on Labor Day. In addition, the following facilities and services will be impacted:

- Community Center: Friday 6am-8pm, Closed Saturday – Monday
- Public Library: Friday 9am-5pm, Closed Saturday – Monday
- Minnesota River Valley Transit – will be closed on Labor Day. Regular operational hours will resume on Tuesday, September 8th.

COVID-19 HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – Has COVID-19 impacted your ability to pay your rent or mortgage or make utility payments? If so, you may be eligible for the COVID-19 Housing Assistance Program through the State of Minnesota. The program provides housing assistance payments to help prevent eviction, homelessness and maintain housing stability for eligible renters and homeowners.

To qualify for the program, Minnesota households must meet all of the following criteria:

- Have income at or below 300% of federal poverty guidelines, with a preference for those at or below 200% of the guidelines.
- Have an eligible expense that was incurred after March 1, 2020 that is past due. Housing assistance funds can only be used for eligible expenses incurred during the period March 1-December 30, 2020.
- Be unable to make one or more payments owed because of the public health emergency due to unemployment, illness, or another COVID-19 related issue.

The program funds can be used to cover past due housing expenses such as rent payments, mortgage payments, contract for deed payments, manufactured home park lot rents and payments, utility payments and homeowner’s association fees.

To apply call 211 or 1-800-543-7709; visit 211unitedway.org; or text “MNRENT” or “MNHOME” to 898-211. The 211 helpline has multilingual staff available to answer questions about the program from 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. Monday through Friday.

COVID-19 TESTING – The Minnesota Department of Health has scheduled free COVID-19 testing at Myers Field House on the campus of Minnesota State University Mankato this Wednesday (September 2nd) and Thursday (September 3rd). Testing both days will take place between noon and 7:00 p.m. The testing is...
free (no insurance needed) and open to even those without symptoms.

Appointments are recommended to keep wait times short and to ensure social distancing is maintained. See the poster for registration information.

**TEMP ELECTION HELP NEEDED** - Our friends and election co-workers at Nicollet County will be extra busy before the November election and they need help. The County will be hiring four temporary workers to assist with the upcoming General Election. (Note, these are NOT Election Judges working in local polling places.)

Candidates must be non-partisan and be able to provide excellent customer service, use technical and analytical skills, and perform a variety of clerical and administrative functions (preparing mailings, sorting and filing applications, processing incoming mail, assisting with accepting ballots, assisting with in-person absentee voting, etc.). Candidates must be at least 18 years of age, pass a background check, and preferably be available to work Monday thru Friday, 8am-4:30pm, from September 16, 2020 until November 3, 2020. If you are interested in these temporary positions, please contact Nicollet County’s Human Resources office by email at Human.Resources@co.nicollet.mn.us or by phone at (507)934-7894.

**FALL HOURS BEGIN** – Effective September 8th, hours at the Community Center and Library will revert to the non-summer schedule as follows:

**Community Center**
- Monday-Fridays – 6:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
- Saturdays – 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- Sundays – Closed

**Open Gym Hours**
- Monday-Thursday - 5:00-7:00 p.m.
- Fridays - 5:00-8:00 p.m.
- Saturdays – 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Library Hours**
- Monday-Thursday – 10 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- Fridays – 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Saturdays – 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- Sundays – Closed

**CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS** – The City Council meeting of August 24, 2020 included

- award of bids for two improvement projects at the Broadway Electric Generation Plant; approval of all changes orders related to the River's Edge Hospital Expansion Project; adoption of an order to remove the hazardous building at 1671 South Third Street; authorization for preparation of a feasibility study for a project to make drainage, stormwater, curb, gutter and roadway improvements along North Third Street (north 1,000’ from the St. Julien Street intersection), Center Street and McLeod Street; approval for a modification to vacation accumulation rates for City employees with over 35 years of service; and authorization for issuance of a tree worker license.

The next regular City Council meeting will be Monday, September 14th beginning at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will 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.

**ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS** – Are you planning on voting by absentee for the November 3rd general election? Thousands of Nicollet County voters are expected to do so in order to avoid the expected long lines in the polling place and possible exposure to COVID-19. If you are one of those who will be voting by absentee, please submit your ballot application now. Ballots won’t be available for a couple of weeks, but submitting an application now provides extra time for the Nicollet County elections staff to process that application so your ballot can be sent out as soon as they are available.

Ballots are mailed out to voters who requested them and the envelope will come with an instruction sheet, a brown ballot envelope to seal your voted ballot in, a white envelope the brown envelope goes in and on which the voter will sign and repeat the
identification number used to request the ballot, and a larger envelope already addressed for return of your voted ballot to Nicollet County. The ballot return envelope will also have return postage already affixed.

If you are an unregistered voter (including anyone who has moved since they last voted), the materials will also include a voter registration form that must be returned for the ballot to be counted. Not registered or not sure if you are? Visit the Secretary of State’s website to find out and get registered now at https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote.

Absentee ballots must be postmarked by election day, but with hundreds of thousands of people expected to vote by absentee this November, the Postal service recommends voted ballots be mailed back as early as possible. If you’re not comfortable popping your voted ballot in the mail, you can also drop it off in person at the Nicollet County Government Center (501 South Minnesota Avenue).

(Please note…..absentee ballots will not be accepted by Election Judges in the polling place.)

Absentee voting has been used in Minnesota for decades. It’s safe, easy, and a great way to participate in the most important part of our democracy.

UPCOMING LIFE LEARNING IS FOREVER CLASSES – Learning is a lifelong process and those interested in continuing their education might be interested in the following programs:

- Grandparents and the Power of Play - The Power of Play will highlight one of the most successful children’s museums in Minnesota. Play is essential in all human lives. Unfortunately, today children’s play is constrained by technology, structured activities, and “stranger danger,” among other impacts. This presentation will shed light on how the Children’s Museum of Southern Minnesota is positively impacting children and how the museum can also benefit grandparents and their own opportunity to play. Join Louise Dickmeyer, Chief Executive Officer of Children’s Museum of Southern Minnesota for this program on Wednesday, September 9th at 11 a.m. in the Community Center Room 219. Registration fee is just $5 per registrant.

- Understand the Issue: Black Lives Matter - Recent news has brought the term Black Lives Matter into regular vernacular, and many Minnesotans are struggling to put this phrase, its meaning, and its goals into context. Understand current on-goings for racial justice and the history of Black Lives Matter, as well as how this present moment is tied to the larger narrative of civil rights history. Gustavus visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of History, Misti Harper, will help participants understand this timely issue. Class begins at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 16th in Room 219 at the Community Center. Cost is $5 per person.

Life Learning is Forever is a joint program of the City’s Recreation and Leisure Services Department and School District #508’s Community Education Department. Registration for these programs is done through Community Education either in person (at the Community Center), by phone (934–3048) or online at www.stpetercommunityedonline.com.

DROP OFF SITE TEMPORARY CLOSURE – The North Swift Street drop off site will be temporarily closed starting August 31st. During this time there will be no access for residents to drop off brush, garden waste or grass clippings so anyone doing yard work is encouraged to schedule accordingly if you wish to dispose of those materials.

During the period the site is closed, the recycling bins will be relocated to North Swift Street so the public can continue to drop off recycling. However, the brush, tree and grass dumping areas will be closed and NOT available for use by residents.

And as a reminder, due to the continued violation by a limited number of individuals, this site is now under 24-7 video surveillance. Those who dump illegally will be prosecuted. Thank you to those who use the site judiciously and within the rules.

ELECTION JUDGE APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED – COVID-19 has taken a toll on the country in many different ways, not the least of which is the election process. This year’s general election on November 3rd will be impacted by COVID-19 with limitations on the number of voters allowed in the polling place at any one time to ensure social distancing can be maintained.

One of the other important impacts has to do with Election Judges. The City always supplements our usual roster of 44-46 election judges for each election with almost double that amount during a presidential election year and this year will be no different. What is different is that many of those who have served as Election Judges in years past have chosen to sit out this year’s election due to COVID-19 concerns. Because of that, the City is now accepting applications for individuals to serve as Election Judges for the November 3rd general election.
To qualify for appointment as an Election Judge, individuals must be:

- eligible to vote in the State of Minnesota; and
- affiliated with a major political party; and
- able to read, write and speak English; and
- appointed by the City Council; and
- trained and currently certified as an Election Judge.

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.

All Judges must complete mandatory Election Judge training. This three hour virtual training will only be available through GoToMeeting software so before submitting an application, please ensure you have the capability of using GoToMeeting software on your computer and that you can see and be heard by the trainer while doing so.

To apply please contact the City Administrator’s office at barbaral@saintpetermn.gov to request an application. Completed applications must be returned by no later than September 15th. Please note that as with any City recruitment process, not everyone who applies will be hired.

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

- **VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER** - 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 September 23rd from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at the Fire Station (227 West Mulberry Street). This event provides an opportunity for prospective candidates and their family members to ask questions and learn more about what is involved in service as a Volunteer Firefighter. Successful candidates will begin service December 1, 2020 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 at 227 South Front Street, or online at https://www.saintpetermn.gov/365/Employment, 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 October 2, 2020. Faxed and/or late applications will not be accepted. AA/EEO

- **PART-TIME BUS DRIVERS** - The City of Saint Peter is currently accepting applications for the position of Part-time Bus Drivers for the Minnesota River Valley Transit system. This position will work varied shifts including day, nights and occasional weekends. Positions in Saint Peter. Successful candidates for this position must have, at a minimum, a High school diploma or equivalent and a valid State of Minnesota CDL minimum of Class C Driver’s License with passenger endorsement. Candidates will have thirty (30) days from the date of employment to obtain the required driver’s license and the City will help the new employee train for the license test. Candidates who possess the following desired experience or education will qualify for additional points towards an interview: previous experience working with the public; training in vehicle mechanics; experience operating a two-way radio/phone; and prior bus driving experience. Starting wage $16.72 per hour. Applicants are required to complete a City application form which is available in the City Administrator’s office at 227 South Front Street, by calling (507) 934-0663 or online at https://www.saintpetermn.gov/365/Employment. Completed applications must be received by the City Administrator’s office by 5:00 p.m. September 24, 2020. 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 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/EOE

**PART-TIME RECREATION LEADER** – in the Recreation and Leisure Services Department of the City of Saint Peter. This position will assist, lead, and evaluate recreational program and activities including special events, projects, and facilities. Must be 16 or older, able to lift up to 30 pounds and able to communicate effectively with the public. Afternoon, evening and weekend hours, including holidays. $10.00 per hour. Applicants must complete a City application available from the City Administrator’s Office at 227 South Front Street, Saint Peter, Minnesota 56082, by calling the Office at (507)934-0663, by email to barbaral@saintpetermn.gov, or online https://www.saintpetermn.gov/365/Employment. Applicants must also review/return the supplemental information provided along with the job application. Completed applications must be received by City Administrator’s office by 5:00 p.m. on September 4, 2020. Faxed and/or late applications will not be accepted. AA/EOE.

**PART-TIME BUILDING SUPERVISOR** – in the Recreation and Leisure Services Department working at the Community Center. Nights and weekends. Minimum qualifications include: High school diploma or equivalent; CPR and First Aid training or ability to be certified within six months of employment; and previous experience working with the public. Desirable qualifications include: Experience in building maintenance functions. $11.21 per hour. Applicants must complete a City application available from the City Administrator’s Office at 227 South Front Street, Saint Peter, Minnesota 56082, by calling the Office at (507)934-0663, by email to barbaral@saintpetermn.gov, or online at https://www.saintpetermn.gov/365/Employment. Applicants must also review/return the supplemental information provided along with the job application. Completed applications must be received by City Administrator’s office by 5:00 p.m. on September 4, 2020. Faxed and/or late applications will not be accepted. AA/EOE.

**ASSISTANT LIBRARY SUPERVISOR** – in the Recreation and Leisure Services Department. Minimum qualifications: two or more years post-secondary education in areas such as child care, youth development, marketing, education, library sciences, media or similar fields; two years demonstrated experience in activity programming, activity or event planning or a combination of education and experience that provides equivalent knowledge, skills and abilities; personal computer knowledge and experience; valid driver’s license; experience working with the public. DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelor’s degree in Education, Media or Library Sciences or equivalent; two or more years demonstrated public library experience in a patron service related or youth related position; demonstrated experience in library operations, media resources or related field; demonstrated ability to provide youth programming and services; demonstrated grant writing and grant administration experience; public library experience in patron service related or youth related position; advanced education in library operations, media resources or related field; and demonstrated ability to provide children’s programming and services. Wage range $17.04-$18.08 per hour. Applicants must complete a City application available from the City Administrator’s Office at 227 South Front Street, Saint Peter, Minnesota 56082, by calling the Office at (507)934-0663, by email to barbaral@saintpetermn.gov, or online at https://www.saintpetermn.gov/365/Employment. Applicants must also review/return the supplemental information provided along with the job application. Completed applications must be received by City Administrator’s office by 5:00 p.m. on September 4, 2020. Faxed and/or late applications will not be accepted. AA/EOE.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Meeting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>September 3</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Planning and Zoning Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>September 7</td>
<td></td>
<td>LABOR DAY HOLIDAY – City offices closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>September 8</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>September 14</td>
<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Housing and Redevelopment Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>September 14</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Meeting</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>September 15</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Library Board (rescheduled due to Council Workshop conflict)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>September 21</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>September 23</td>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Hospital Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>September 24</td>
<td>12:00 noon</td>
<td>Economic Development Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>September 25</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Tourism and Visitors Bureau</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>September 28</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>September 29</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Heritage Preservation Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>October 1</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Planning and Zoning Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>October 5</td>
<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Housing and Redevelopment Authority</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
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<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Workshop</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>October 12</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>October 19</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>October 19</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Parks and Recreation Advisory Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>October 22</td>
<td>12:00 noon</td>
<td>Economic Development Authority</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>October 23</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Tourism and Visitors Bureau</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>October 26</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>October 27</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Heritage Preservation Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>October 28</td>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Hospital Commission</td>
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