5/25/2021

MEET THE CHIEF OF POLICE CANDIDATES — Lots of folks are interested in meeting the Chief of Police candidates and if you are one of them, please join us on Wednesday, May 26th at 8:30 a.m. in the Senior Center of the Community Center (an online option is available through the log-in information provided below).

CHIEF OF POLICE CANDIDATE MEET AND GREET EVENT
Wednesday, May 26, 2021 - 8:30 AM
Join from your computer, tablet or smartphone at https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/380979285
Join from your phone at (Toll Free): 1 877 309 2073
Access Code: 380-979-285
The online portion of this event is being provided using GoToMeeting software.

Our candidates include the following individuals:
- Dmitri Ikonitski — Chief of Police Henderson, Minnesota since January 2020, B.S. Metropolitan State University St. Paul
- Paul Hagen — Saint Peter Patrol Sergeant (Officer) since May 1992 — B.A. Concordia College, St. Paul; M.A. MSU Mankato
- Victor Siebeneck III — Division Commander, Salt Lake City, Utah Police Department since September 2001 — B.S. University of Utah; M.A. Arizona State University
- Keith Ruffing — Saint Peter Police Officer since December 1999 — B.S. MSU Mankato
- Matt Grochow — Saint Peter Detective (Officer) since April 1991 - B.S. MSU Mankato

Each of the five candidates will introduce themselves and provide a short presentation on a topic which was provided to them. When the presentations are done, all candidates will sit panel style to answer a series of questions and from approximately 10-10:30 a.m. the group will be available for the public to meet. Coffee and cookies will be served.

Those who participate will be encouraged to provide their thoughts on the candidates at the conclusion of the event. Forms will be available in the Senior Center the morning of the event and will also be available on the City’s website for those who participate virtually.

Can’t make the event? The presentations and panel discussions will be recorded and replayed on the City’s YouTube channel at a later date.

MEMORIAL DAY CLOSURES —
The following offices/services will be closed for the Memorial Day holiday:
- All non-emergency City offices will be closed on Monday, May 31, 2021.
- Minnesota River Valley Transit system will also be closed.
- The public library will be closed May 30th-31st.
- The Community Center building will be closed May 29th-31st.
- Residential refuse collection will be delayed by one day due to the Memorial Day holiday. (i.e. if you normally have Monday collection, put your curbside out on Tuesday; if you normally have Tuesday collection, it will be picked up on Wednesday, etc.)
- There will be no City Council workshop the week of Memorial Day.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING — The City Council meeting of May 24, 2021 included public hearings and subsequent action on a petition to rezone property at 1445 and 1473 North Third Street, a petition to
vacate an alley and a petition to annex property owned by Gustavus/Weelborg/Calvary Cemetery; adoption of stormwater rate increases for 2021 and 2022; approval of a request for City assistance for the St. Peter Ambassador’s Bluesfest; and closed sessions to discuss requests to lease/buy the former wastewater treatment ponds and a request to purchase Municipal Parking Lot #5 (southwest corner of the Highway 169/West Grace Street intersection).

The Council also returned to open session to take action to allow execution of an agreement that would provide Old Town Development LLC a six month exclusive window for purchase of the Municipal Parking Lot #5 property.

The next regular City Council meeting will be Monday, June 7, 2021 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.

**OUTDOOR POOL IS OPENING** - Pool season officially begins this Saturday, May 29th at the Roy T. Lindberg Memorial Pool located at 300 North Fourth Street on the east side of Veteran’s Memorial Park. Some of the pool features you can expect to enjoy are a lap pool with an inflatable Wibit play structure and basketball hoop, a diving well with a low and high board and a drop slide, and a free wading pool open to ages 6 and under that are accompanied by a responsible supervisor 18 years of age or older. So when is all this available?

**Open Swim** - $3.00 per time for ages 5 and up. Children must be at least 10 years old in order to be admitted to the main pool without an adult or a responsible supervisor. Ages 0—9 must have an adult or supervisor (age 18 or older) in the water and within an arms’ reach of the child at all times with or without an approved lifejacket. FREE for ages four or younger when accompanied by a paying adult or responsible supervisor age 18 or older.

Mon - Thurs 12:00 - 4:15 p.m.  
Tues and Thurs 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.  
Fridays 12:00 - 7:30 p.m.  
(Unless make-up swim lessons)  
Sat and Sun 12:00 - 7:30 p.m

**Wading Pool**  
Mon – Thurs 12:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
Sat and Sun 12:00 - 7:30 p.m

*Please note – hours of operation are subject to change based on swim lesson schedules. Please check the City’s website for the most up to date open swim schedules.  
[https://www.saintpetermn.gov/368/Outdoor-Pool](https://www.saintpetermn.gov/368/Outdoor-Pool)*

There are so many different affordable opportunities to cool off with us this summer whether it be open swim, swim lessons, lap swim, or a private pool rental. The most affordable and best value for the summer is the Family Pool Pass that covers up to six family members for only $40.

Additional season pass options and the Family Pool Pass are available to purchase by visiting the City of Saint Peter website at [https://www.saintpetermn.gov/368/Outdoor-Pool](https://www.saintpetermn.gov/368/Outdoor-Pool). Make sure to get your pass today.

The City’s pool is an outdoor facility and as such, there are times when weather and other factors force us to close for a period at a time or sometimes even the day. The pool will close….

- When the outdoor temperature falls below 65 degrees Fahrenheit.
- When lightning is sighted or the weather is threatening.
  - When the pool closes for weather, staff will re-assess conditions at two hour intervals and if weather permits, the pool will re-open. Please check back at 2:00, 4:00 and 6:00 p.m.
- The Pool may close for the remainder of a scheduled open swim when there are fewer than 15 people in the pool.
- And finally, the Pool may close when there is need for maintenance or emergency action or repairs.

For information on cancellations and/or pool closings, please call the Recreation Hotline at 507-934-0070, visit the City’s Facebook page [https://www.facebook.com/CityofSaintPeter](https://www.facebook.com/CityofSaintPeter) or call the Recreation Office at 507-934-0667.

**BATTLE OF THE BADGES BLOOD DRIVE** - On Tuesday, May 18, 2021, the Saint Peter Police Department sponsored a Battle of the Badges blood drive at the St. Peter Community Center. It was a very successful drive with 57 presenting donors, collecting 54 total units of blood. This was 11 units over the goal! Twenty people donated in honor of the St. Peter Police Department, 13
for the Nicollet County Sheriff’s Office, 12 for the St. Peter Fire Department, and 8 for the Minnesota State Patrol.

On behalf of the St. Peter Police Department and the American Red Cross, thank you so much to everyone that came out to donate and/or volunteer their time to make this drive a success!

**SOLAR CHOICE** - Community solar is a way to benefit from solar without installing it on individual rooftops or properties and the City has developed a program called “Solar Choice” that can help residents participate. It’s an easy way to join the solar movement at a level of price certainty by locking in the cost of a portion of future energy usage. While only 25% of rooftops are suitable for solar installations, Solarchoice community solar provides an equitable way to allow those who want solar to get it without impacting those who do not.

The Solarchoice Community Solar Program is ideal for any Saint Peter residential electric customer who does not want to install their own solar array, but still wants to support solar energy. Instead of putting panels on individual roofs, utility customers can “buy” a share of a larger community solar garden with thousands of panels. Residential utility customers can subscribe to a portion of the energy produced by one or more panels in the community solar garden along with many other residents who share a commitment to renewable energy.

Subscribers receive a credit on their monthly bills for the solar electricity generated based on the number of panel subscriptions they purchased. Residential customers can purchase one-half of a panel, a full panel, or multiple panels of solar power in an amount up to 50% of their average monthly electric usage.

The average residential solar system offsets about 100,000 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO2) in 20 years. That is the equivalent of driving a car for 100,000 miles. The generation of one kWh of electricity emits 1.588 pounds of CO2 based on a Minnesota average. If we use 10,000 kWh/year, that's 15,888 pounds of CO2.

Solar panels convert sunlight into direct current (DC) electricity throughout the day, then convert the DC electricity generated into alternating current (AC) electricity. Solar is one step in the right direction.

For more information on how you can participate in SolarChoice, check out this link: [https://www.saintpetermn.gov/212/Community-Solar-Program](https://www.saintpetermn.gov/212/Community-Solar-Program).

**LICENSED TREE WORKERS** - Do you need a professional to trim or remove a tree in your yard? Before you hire someone, please ensure they are licensed by the City of Saint Peter.

Tree workers are not allowed to work in the City limits without a license. Hiring a licensed tree worker means the City has done the background check for you and verified the company is fully insured in the event they cause damage at your property. Hiring a licensed Tree Worker protects you as a property owner if things go wrong.


**MASKS IN CITY BUILDINGS** - Pursuant to the most recent CDC guidelines and as directed by Governor Walz, individuals who have been fully vaccinated for COVID-19 are no longer required to wear masks in City buildings.

Those who are not fully vaccinated, defined as “two weeks after the second Pfizer/Moderna shot or two weeks after the one shot Johnson and Johnson vaccine”, must still wear a mask under the same guidelines as previously directed.

**VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING ON STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN** - The City’s annual Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan meeting will be held virtually in 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions. Information normally provided as part of the in-person open house is available at [https://www.saintpetermn.gov/251/Stormwater](https://www.saintpetermn.gov/251/Stormwater) during the period May 10th - June 13th. The website offers links to the actual Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, a presentation based on that plan, and a comment sheet for public input on the City’s plan.

Those who wish copies of these documents, should please contact the Public Works Department at 507-934-0670 or email amyk@saintpetermn.gov.

**HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE** - Are you in the process of cleaning out your garage or basement? If so, please remember when certain household chemicals are not used up, they can become household hazardous waste (HHW). Many household products contain the same chemicals as
strictly regulated industrial wastes and pose similar environmental and health problems. Although the quantities of chemicals disposed of by individual households may be small, the number of households in Minnesota are many, and the amount of waste adds up.

Some of the products used in your home, garage, workshop, yard and garden can be considered hazardous. These products can contain components which have corrosive/caustic, explosive/reactive, flammable, irritant, toxic or radioactive properties. These products include: paint and decorating supplies; solvents and cleaning products; herbicides and pesticides, lawn care products, and automotive products. Household hazardous waste (HHW) is that portion of a household product which is no longer usable, leftover, or not wanted and has to be discarded or disposed.

The best way to learn what is hazardous is to read the product label. The labels contain signal words, which tell how hazardous the product is. (Signal words represent the hazard of a product, not its proper disposal.) Signal words and what they mean:

- Caution: mildly/moderately hazardous
- Warning: moderately hazardous
- Danger: extremely hazardous
- Poison: highly toxic
- No signal word: The product is probably not hazardous; however, the product may be too old; if produced before 1987 to have a signal word even if it is hazardous.

For everyday tasks, try household products that are less harmful. Remember to follow the same rules about storing these products and never mix these products together.

- Glass Cleaner: Mix 1 tablespoon of vinegar or lemon juice in 1 quart of water.
- Toilet Bowl Cleaner: Use a toilet brush and baking soda or vinegar. Note: these clean but do not disinfect.
- Furniture Polish: Mix 1 teaspoon of lemon juice in 1 pint of vegetable oil.
- Rug Deodorizer: Sprinkle liberally with baking soda and vacuum after 15 minutes.
- Plant Spray: Wipe leaves with mild soap and water and rinse.
- Mothballs: Use cedar chips, lavender flowers, rosemary, mint, or white peppercorns.

Did you know, the average home can have as much as 100 pounds of environmentally harmful products in the basement, garage and other storage areas? Make sure yours is safe.

If this information has got you ready to safely dispose of HHW, there is an upcoming collection sponsored by Tri-County Solid Waste on Thursday, May 27th from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Le Sueur County Highway Shop in Cleveland. Nicollet County is part of Tri-County so anyone in St. Peter is eligible to drop off residential household hazardous waste at this collection.

For information on household hazardous waste disposal please contact Tri-County Solid Waste at 507-237-4321 or visit their website at https://www.co.nicollet.mn.us/180/Tri-County-Solid-Waste

LEVEE PARK TRAIL – Public Works crews have started construction on a trail in Levee Park that will run along the river bank from Broadway Avenue to the ring road surrounding the Mill Pond. The trail will be behind the Pearly Gates. This trail was included in the Parks Master Plan which was previously adopted by the City Council.

DOG LICENSES NOW PAST DUE – The deadline for renewal of dog licenses is now past. For those pet owners who still have not renewed their dog’s license, the fee has now increased to $10 for spayed/neutered or $30 for unaltered dogs.

If you have not yet licensed your dog please contact the Community Development Department (507-934-0661) at City Hall to apply now. A current rabies certificate must be presented before the license renewal is issued.

The clock is ticking to avoid a citation and those who have not purchased the license by June 1, 2021 may receive a Police citation.

APPLIANCE CURBSIDE COLLECTION – If you have unwanted appliances to dispose of the City has a relatively inexpensive curbside collection:

- Appliances - Wednesday, June 2nd - $25.00 per appliance. As with the furniture collection, residents must pre-register and pre-pay at City Hall in the Finance Department (227 South Front Street) by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 28th. The registered appliances must be at curbside by 8 a.m. on June 2nd or the fee will be forfeited.

For questions about this collection, please contact the Finance Department at 507-934-0664.

Nicollet County also has some other options for St. Peter
residents to dispose of things they no longer need. Here is a list provided by them that might help:
- Mobile collections are posted on the recycling & solid waste page (toward the bottom) - [https://www.co.nicollet.mn.us/338/Recycling-Solid-Waste](https://www.co.nicollet.mn.us/338/Recycling-Solid-Waste)
- The hours for the household hazardous waste facility can be found here: [https://www.blueearthcountymn.gov/373/Household-Hazardous-Waste-HHW-Facility](https://www.blueearthcountymn.gov/373/Household-Hazardous-Waste-HHW-Facility)
- Tri-County’s webpage has information on collections in the other two counties - [https://www.co.nicollet.mn.us/180/Tri-County-Solid-Waste](https://www.co.nicollet.mn.us/180/Tri-County-Solid-Waste)
- Green Tech coupon (posted on Tri-County’s page – link above) - $5 per item coupon that is good through Dec. 31, 2021

HELP WANTED – The City of Saint Peter is currently accepting applications for the following positions:
- **WASTEWATER OPERATOR** - in the Department of Public Works. Minimum qualifications include a high school diploma or equivalent; possession of a State of Minnesota Wastewater Treatment Facility Operator Certificate or ability to obtain within one year of the date of employment with the City; possession of a State of Minnesota Type IV Biosolids Operator or ability to obtain within one year of the date of employment with the City; possession of a valid State of Minnesota Class A driver’s license with Air Brake Endorsement and Tanker Endorsement or ability to obtain within six months of the date of employment with the City; possession of an American Heart Association Certification as a Basic Rescuer for cardiopulmonary resuscitation and emergency cardiac care or ability to obtain within six months. Desirable qualifications: Satisfactory completion of a technical school program related to wastewater systems operations; up to six years of responsible experience as a wastewater system operator with at least two years’ experience in the operation of a Class A, B, or C system or facility, or similar industrial facility; knowledge of the principles, practices, chemicals, and equipment used in wastewater treatment; biosolids treatment and disposal, and pumping operations; ability to perform a wide variety of tests on raw and treated wastewater, raw and treated bio-solids; knowledge of the principles of plumbing and hydraulics; knowledge of and ability to operate Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition (SCADA) system; knowledge of the functions and service requirements of mechanical equipment and machinery; knowledge of OSHA regulations and safety precautions of the trade; demonstrated ability to operate a variety of wastewater plant pumping, treatment, and control equipment, biosolids treatment and disposal equipment; demonstrated ability to diagnose problems under emergency conditions and take corrective action; knowledge and experience in the operation of equipment including but not limited to backhoes, dump trucks, jet rodder machine, tanker trucks, main line TV cameras, and line locators. NOTICE: The successful candidate must complete and pass a pre-employment physical and drug test and is subject to post-accident, random, reasonable suspicion, return to duty, and follow-up drug and alcohol testing required by federal regulations. Pay range $21.34 - $23.60 per hour. Applicants are required to complete a City of Saint Peter application form available online at [https://www.saintpetermn.gov/365/Employment](https://www.saintpetermn.gov/365/Employment) or from the City Administrator’s Office, 227 South Front Street, Saint Peter, Minnesota 56082-2538 or by calling (507) 934-0663. Completed applications must be received by the City Administrator’s Office no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 27, 2021. Faxed and/or late applications will not be accepted. Interviews will be conducted Thursday, June 10, 2021. AA/EOE

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**CITY MEETING CALENDAR**

***PLEASE NOTE...Until further notice, City meetings may be conducted electronically as authorized under Minnesota Statutes 13D.021. Log-in information for meetings being held either virtually or as a hybrid virtual/in-person will be included at the bottom of the agenda page. Agendas are all posted on the City’s website at [www.saintpetermn.gov](http://www.saintpetermn.gov).

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Hospital Commission</td>
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<td>Economic Development Authority</td>
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<td>Tourism and Visitors Bureau</td>
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