CITYCOUNCILMEETING—theCityCouncilmeeting of August 9, 2021 included approval for a local option sales tax question (to create a one-half of one percent sales tax in St. Peter) on the November 2, 2021 election ballot; calling for a public hearing on creation of Tax Increment Financing District No. 1-23; approving City assistance for Rock Bend Folk Festival and A Day of Hope community events; authorization for Bolton and Menk, Inc. to prepare an intersection traffic evaluation at the intersection of Sunrise Drive and Broadway Avenue; authorization for Bolton and Menk, Inc. to provide engineering related to development of a right-of-way Plat for 361st Avenue west of the High School; and award of grant funds for ADA accessibility improvements for several downtown businesses.

The next regular City Council meeting will be Monday, August 23, 2021 beginning at 7:00 p.m. As a reminder, Council meetings are once again back to in-person only. No virtual participation will be available.

Agendas for all City Council meetings are available on the City’s website (www.saintpetermn.gov) the Friday before the Council meeting.

OUTDOOR POOL CLOSING—Enjoy the last days of summer before the outdoor pool closes at the end of the day on Sunday, August 22nd. To view the Open Swim schedule please visit https://www.saintpetermn.gov/368/Outdoor-Pool or call the Recreation and Leisure Services Department at 507-934-0667 for more information. Thank you for joining us at the pool this summer.

FALL ACTIVITIES AND CLASSES—By now residents should have received the 2021 Fall City of Saint Peter Recreation and Leisure Services Department and School District 508 Community and Family Education brochure. If you didn’t get a brochure, extras are available at the Community Center and the Library. Check it out for all sorts of new and exciting programming!

BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY—Schools starts soon for Saint Peter students and it’s time to review back to school safety tips for drivers and pedestrians alike.

This information is a compilation of materials put out by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety and the Minnesota Crime Prevention Association.

If your child is going to ride the bus to school you probably already know that buses are safer than cars. However, that doesn’t mean the bus won’t pose a danger for your child. To help prevent injuries involving school buses, here are some tips to pass on to your children:

- Have a safe place to wait for your bus, away from traffic and the street.
- Stay away from the bus until it comes to a complete stop and the driver signals you to enter.
- When being dropped off, exit the bus and walk ten giant steps away. Remember that the bus...
driver can see you best when you are back away from the bus.

- Use the handrail to enter and exit the bus. Backpacks are heavy and can throw a child off balance when climbing steps. Using the handrail provides an extra measure of safety.

- Be aware of street traffic around you. Drivers must follow certain rules concerning school buses, however, not everyone does and it’s better to wait until you see cars come to a complete stop before you try and cross the street.

- Only cross the street at corners in the crosswalk. Not all children will be bused to school and if your child lives close enough to walk or bike to school, here’s some tips to help limit their danger:
  - Instruct your child to follow traffic signals and instructions from the crossing guard and never cross the street against the light.
  - Know your child’s route to and from school and the time it takes. Ask them to not deviate from the established path or timeline. If your child rides a bike to school or home, practice the route before the start of school and know where any crossing guards or help might be.
  - Instruct your child to walk their bike through intersections.
  - Instruct the child to walk with a buddy.
  - Outfit your child with reflective material to make them more visible to traffic. Putting this material on their backpacks is also helpful. Remember that once daylight savings changes in the fall it might be dark in the mornings when they go to school or when they are coming home.
  - Teach your children to lock up their bikes when they get to their destination, including when they get home. Bikes are often stolen from yards and unlocked garages.
  - Get your child in the habit of always wearing a helmet when they get on their bike. Make yourself an example by wearing your helmet too.
  - Ride with your child! Parents can probably use the extra exercise, and a bicycle ride creates a great opportunity for parent-child involvement and good quality conversation time.

- Have a safety contingency plan...just in case! Does your child know a certain neighbor whose home can be considered a "safe house" in the event of a bike or safety issue? Could your youngster carry a walkie-talkie or, if an older child, a cell phone (even if it's only for emergencies)? Parents should provide their kids with "what if" scenarios they can think through...just in case the unthinkable happens. When it comes to your child's well-being, there is no such thing as being over-prepared.

As the driver of a vehicle, whether you are taking a child to school or not, it’s important to be even more alert and aware because once school begins there will be significantly more traffic in and around school zones. Here are some tips to help everyone be safer:

- Wear your seat belt! Seat belts are the best form of protection in the event of a crash. And everyone needs to be buckled up properly. That means older kids in seat belts, younger kids in booster seats and little kids in child safety seats. And you, the driver? Set an example for your children and remember to buckle up yourself.

- Remember that in Minnesota it's illegal to pass a school bus with flashing red lights. And don't think you can get away with violating this rule just because there aren’t any Police Officer's around! Bus drivers can and will pass on the license number of a driver violating this rule to the Police.

- Reduce your speed in a school zone. Legal speed limits in these areas will be posted, but you can make it safer by slowing down even further.

- Be alert for children who might dart out between parked cars. Remember they are smaller than most vehicles and you might not see them until it is too late. And parents, teach your child to always cross at the crosswalk so that this situation doesn’t happen.

That’s a lot of things to think about, but parents and children also need to be aware of personal safety. Here are a few more tips to keep your child safe:

- Never label or print your child’s name on the outside of backpacks, lunches or clothing. Doing so will make it possible for criminals to learn your child’s name and trick them.

- Establish a “SECRET CODE WORD” with your child. Explain to your kids never to go with
anyone that does not know the “code word” regardless of the circumstances.

- Explain to your children to:
  - Never talk to strangers.
  - Never get in a car with strangers.
  - Never let a stranger into their home.
  - Never let a stranger touch them.
- Never allow your child to play in a dimly lit or unsupervised place.
- Remind your child to play and walk in a group. There is safety in numbers.
- Take a current photo of your child. Should the child go missing, having a current photo will help the Police.

This is just a sampling of ideas that you can use to keep your children safe as they go back to school. Talking to your children before school starts, and giving them gentle reminders throughout the year, is a good start to ensuring everyone has a safe and enjoyable school year!

**STREET PAINTING** — Public Works crews will be painting roadway stripes, crosswalks, parking stalls and intersections during the next few weeks. Please be extra careful in and around these areas as traffic may be restricted to one lane and intersections may be a little more difficult to traverse until the paint dries and the safety cones removed. If you have questions on this work, please call the Public Works Department at 507-934-0670.

**CAMPAIGN SIGN RULES** - State law allows temporary campaign signs to be up until just a few days after the election. There are several regulations that must be followed for campaign signs.

- Signs are not allowed anywhere on public property. This includes City, County and State owned rights-of-way, structures in the City-owned boulevard and City parks. The rules of thumb we follow to determine what is City owned boulevard (or right-of-way) are as follows:
  - If a public sidewalk exists, signs may be placed behind the sidewalk; or
  - If no sidewalk exists, it is safe to assume that a sign placed sixteen feet (16’) behind the curb line will be on private property.
  - If the sign is on a corner lot, the rules for placement include BOTH sides of the property as right-of-way’s exist next to all City roadways.
- Signs can only be put on private property with permission of the private property owner. When asking private property owners to place signs, candidates are encouraged to review the rules with the property owner. Oftentimes signs are initially placed correctly, only to have home owners move the signs closer to the curb line in violation of the regulations or to move the sign when mowing and not return it to the legal location. If you are a property owner with a campaign sign in your yard, please remember that illegal placement of the sign gets the candidate in trouble so please make sure campaign signs are NOT in the right-of-way.
- Signs must not obstruct sightlines for drivers. On corner lots, signs are asked to be 25’ behind both curb lines to ensure vehicular traffic is not impeded.
- Signs cannot be attached to City light poles, street signs, traffic control devices like stop signs, trees, shrubs, rocks, fences or other City owned structures.

For more information on campaign signs or election regulations, please contact the City Administrator’s Office (934-0663).

**PARKS AND RECREATION SURVEY** — To better evaluate the community’s parks and recreation needs and current facilities, the City is asking for residents to participate in an online survey.

If you are willing to participate, please access the survey by visiting the City’s website at [https://www.saintpetermn.gov/155/Recreation](https://www.saintpetermn.gov/155/Recreation). No access to the internet? You can also contact the Recreation and Leisure Services Department by calling 507-934-0667 to have the survey sent directly to you.

It’s a short survey that should only take a few minutes so we hope that you will participate as your feedback is much appreciated.

**HELP WANTED** – The City of Saint Peter is currently accepting applications for the following positions:

- **POLICE PATROL OFFICER** - Applicants must have a minimum of a two year degree in Law
Enforcement from a P.O.S.T. accredited college or vocational school; or three years’ experience as a police officer or working in a related field such as Probation or Corrections. Possession of a valid Minnesota P.O.S.T. board license or eligibility to immediately receive a P.O.S.T. board license; possession of, or eligible for a Minnesota Class D Drivers’ license within 30 days of employment. Desired qualifications include: four year Bachelor’s Degree in law enforcement or related field from an accredited college or university; Four or more years of experience as a law enforcement officer; Demonstrated specialized training or certificates in a law enforcement related subjects such as Emergency Management, Crime Scene Processing, Tactical Response, Mental Health Response, and/or Law Enforcement De-escalation Training; and ability to speak conversational Spanish or Somali. Wage range $28.97-$36.21/hr. depending on qualifications. The City of Saint Peter offers competitive health benefits. Applicants are required to complete a City application form which is available from the Saint Peter Police Department at 207 South Front Street, by calling (507) 931-1550, or the City’s website at https://www.saintpetermn.gov/365/Employment. Applications must include a cover letter and résumé, and be received by the Saint Peter Police Civil Service Commission, c/o Saint Peter Police Department, 207 South Front Street, Saint Peter, MN 56082, (507)931-1550, by 5:00 p.m., Friday, August 20, 2021. Oral Interviews are scheduled to occur on September 1, 2021. Late applications will not be accepted. AA/EOE

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.

**Labor Day**

Wednesday August 25 12:30 p.m. Hospital Commission
Thursday August 26 12:00 noon Economic Development Authority
Friday August 27 8:00 a.m. Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday August 30 3:00 p.m. City Council Goal Session
Tuesday August 31 5:30 p.m. Heritage Preservation Commission
Thursday September 2 5:30 p.m. Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday September 6 LABOR DAY HOLIDAY – City offices closed
Tuesday September 7 City Council Workshop
Monday September 13 3:30 p.m. Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday September 13 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting
Tuesday September 14 5:30 p.m. Library Advisory Board
Monday September 20 5:30 p.m. City Council Workshop
Monday September 20 7:00 p.m. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board – cancelled!
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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>September 22</td>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Hospital Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>September 23</td>
<td>12:00 noon</td>
<td>Economic Development Authority</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>September 24</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Tourism and Visitors Bureau</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>September 27</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Meetings</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>September 28</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Heritage Preservation Commission</td>
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