ELECTION DAY MASK REQUIREMENTS – Officials at the National Guard Armory have notified the City that due to continuing high community transmission rates of COVID-19 in Minnesota and, more specifically in Nicollet County, masks are required of everyone entering the Armory. The City also requires masks in City buildings including the Community Center.

This means that anyone who votes in person on Election Day (November 2nd), must be masked regardless of vaccination status. Masks will be available for those who forget and we appreciate your cooperation.

WE’RE IN THE HOME STRETCH! – It’s less than a week to go before election day in Saint Peter and candidates are sure to ramp up their campaigning while this week’s edition of the Hot Sheet provides one final reminder of what you need to know to vote.

• Absentee Voting - Don’t feel like going to the polls on Election Day but still want to vote? It’s not too late to cast an absentee ballot, but with mail service taking a little longer these you’re your best bet is to head straight to the Nicollet County Public Services Department at the Government Center (501 South Minnesota Avenue). They are open for absentee voting during regular business hours through Friday, October 29th; will have special hours for absentee voting on Saturday, October 30th from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; and then one last chance to vote absentee until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 1st. Voters will need to fill out an absentee ballot application which can be obtained either from the Public Services Office or online at https://www.sos.state.mn.us/media/2444/english-regular-absentee-ballot-application.pdf. All absentee ballots must be received by the Public Services Office by 3:00 p.m. on Election Day or the ballots won’t be counted. (Note... Election Judges are not allowed to accept absentee ballots at the polling place. To be counted all absentee ballots must be returned to Nicollet County by the deadline.

• Where do I vote? - Ward 1 voters (both precincts) will cast ballots at the National Guard Armory at 1120 North Swift Street; Ward 2 voters (both precincts) will cast their ballots at the Community Center on the 600 block of South Washington Avenue (Precinct 1 enters through Door “A” and Precinct 2 enters through Door “B”). School District #508 residents outside of the Saint Peter City limits in Nicollet County vote at the MVED building at 801 Davis Street and for those outside the City limits in Le Sueur County, your polling place is the Kasota Community Center/City Hall. If you are unsure which ward/precinct you live in check out the Secretary of State’s polling place finder at https://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/. Not only will it provide info on the ward and precinct a voter resides in, but it provides maps to the polling place as well as information on what is on your particular ballot.

• Voting Hours – Polls open at 7:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 2nd and will close at 8:00 p.m.

• Campaign Materials – Campaign materials like buttons, flyers, t-shirts and the like are not allowed in the polling place on Election Day. Under State law, the parking lots of the two City polling places (Community
Center and Armory), are considered part of the polling place and anyone with visible campaign materials on or in their vehicles are not allowed to park in the parking lot. Feel free to park on the street however.

- How do I register to vote? In Minnesota voters are allowed to register at the polls on Election Day. You will be required to provide one or more of the acceptable proofs of residence. To find out what types of proof is acceptable, check out the Secretary of State’s website at https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote/register-on-election-day/. Election Judges will be standing by in each polling place to help you register.

If you still have questions about the voting process, please contact the City Administrator’s Office at 934-0663.

FIRE STATION/LOCAL OPTIONS SALES TAX – The City Council continues to move forward with construction of a new Fire Station. The land has been purchased and the City’s Architect and Construction Management team are well into final plan design. The remaining question is how the station will be funded – by property taxes or by implementation of a local option sales tax.

The answer will be provided after the November 2nd general election when eligible Saint Peter voters will cast their ballot on this question...

"Shall the City of Saint Peter, Minnesota (the "City"), be authorized to impose a sales and use tax of one-half of one percent to pay the costs of collecting and administering the tax and paying up to $9,121,000 for the construction of a new fire station in the City plus an amount needed for securing and paying debt service on bonds issued to finance the project?"

That's the language, but it doesn't tell the whole story so here are some frequently asked questions, that will help you as a voter make a decision.

- If approved by voters how much of a sales tax increase can I expect?
  o The current sales tax in Saint Peter is 7.375%. If approved, that amount would increase to 7.875%.

- What would the money be used for?
  o All money generated by the sales tax, if approved, can only be used for repayment of the debt on the new Fire Station.

- Will sales tax cover all of the debt or will I have to pay more in property tax also?
  o Current data indicates sales tax proceeds should cover the entire debt and there should be no use of property tax dollars.

- What will the new Fire Station cost and how long will I need to pay sales tax?
  o The project budget, based on a needs study, is $9.4 million with approximately $358,000 in annual debt service.

- Why is the City building a new fire station?
  o The current building, which was built in the late 1920's, has a square footage of 8,100. Modern fire trucks won't fit in the building and there is no space for needed equipment, Firefighter training, and decontamination facilities that are needed to address firefighter health and safety needs. The proposed building is approximately 27,000 square feet.

- Where is the new fire station being constructed?
  o The new location - at the northwest corner of Sunrise Drive/Broadway Avenue - encompasses approximately 4.5 acres.

- What's the timeline for the project?
  o Bidding will occur in February/March 2022 and construction is expected to be completed in late 2022 or early 2023.

- What will happen to the current Fire Hall built in 1929?
  o The tentative plan is to sell it. It would likely be available for sale in later 2022.

PARKS FACILITY WINTERIZATION – City staff have begun winterization efforts for City park facilities including drinking fountains, restrooms and shelters. This involves flushing lines to prevent frozen pipes that may burst during winter. Once the lines are flushed, the service is turned off for the winter. These activities will be completed by Thursday, October 28th, but some facilities may already be closed to the public.

The public is encouraged to continue to enjoy the outdoor park spaces but remember to make other arrangements for restroom use.

FALL LEAF COLLECTION CONTINUES - Curbside leaf and grass collection continues in the community with the focus shifting to properties south of Broadway Avenue on Monday, November 1st. If you live in this
area, please have materials at curbside by 7:00 a.m. Monday morning.
You’ve read this before, but remember the process is extensive and to help City crews work more efficiently (which saves all of us money), please follow the tips below.

1. Place leaves parallel and adjacent to the curb on the lawn within six-feet (6') of the curb line.
2. Don’t put leaves in the street, on a tarp, in bags or cover with tarps or branches.
3. Do not include animal waste with the leaves. If you do, the materials may not be collected.
4. Place your piles away from refuse curbies, light poles, mailboxes, signs, trees, posts, utility boxes/pedestals, etc. If crews can’t get to it they may have to leave it.
5. Do not park on the street in front of the yard waste until pick-up is complete. If possible, allow fifty feet (50') on either side of the pile so the equipment, a tractor pulling a trailer with vacuum hose, has enough room to collect the materials.
6. If you live on a dead-end street, place materials on the curb in front of the house, not on the dead-end.
7. If you live on a corner lot it is possible that one side will be picked up before the other as the trucks run north to south and then east to west to be more efficient in the collection process. If you want all of your leaves picked up at the same time, make sure your piles are on the same side of your property.
8. If you have a lawn service that rakes leaves or mows your lawn, please make them aware of the dates and these tips.

This is a great service that people take full advantage of, but the process takes several weeks (five in 2020) and that means crews must start before all trees have dropped their leaves and, depending on when the first snowfall arrives, sometimes must end prematurely. In order to be fair to all property owners, crews rotate which end of the community they begin with. This year the north end is the starting point.

If you miss the collection date in your area, yard waste can be taken to the City’s yard waste drop-off site at 1128 North Swift Street, (southwest intersection of St. Julien and Swift Streets) with access off West Swift Street. Remember you must have the orange pass to utilize the site which is open all day year round. Please make sure the branches are no more than six feet in length. There is also a separate bunker for dropping off fill (rocks, dirt, etc.).

The curbside collection and the drop-off site are both funded by the Environmental Service Fee on City utility bills.

HALLOWEEN SAFETY – In the next couple of weeks Saint Peter children will engage in one of the most treasured traditions of childhood - Trick of Treating! This wholesome family activity brings back memories of our own childhoods, but things have gotten a bit more risky for kids these days. Children need to be wiser and more aware of their surroundings to be safe on Halloween. Here are some McGruff safety tips everyone in the family should be reminded of:

• Never, ever go into a stranger’s house while trick or treating.
• Only ring the door of homes with lights on.
• Only cross streets at designated intersections. Never cross from between two parked cars. Drivers can’t see little ones when they dart out from between a car.
• Covid may put lots of kids in masks this year, but even if they aren’t wearing protective masks, children should wear makeup instead of bigger bulkier costume masks which can obstruct a child’s vision. That will make it easier for the children to cross intersections and go up and down stairs.
• Keep costumes short to prevent trips, falls and other bumps in the night.
• Have you child carry a flashlight or glow-stick to help prevent the little ones from tripping over unseen obstacles in lawns. It also allows drivers a chance to see everyone from further away.
• Costumes may be highly flammable. Make sure to keep dresses or capes far away from any lit jack-o-lanterns on the steps of the homes you visit.
• Teach children not to sample their treats until they are home and mom and dad can look through the candy first. Unopened candies or other treats that are in original wrappers are the best bet.
• Older children who may be going out with friends should let parents know where they are going and who they are going with.
- Homeowners can prepare for trick or treaters by turning on exterior lights, removing objects from yards that might present a hazard and making sure that pumpkins are lit with glow sticks or other non-flammable sources. Using a little common sense on Halloween night will help make the evening fun for all.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Meeting Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>October 27</td>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Hospital Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>October 28</td>
<td>12:00 noon</td>
<td>Economic Development Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>November 1</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>November 2</td>
<td></td>
<td>GENERAL ELECTION DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>November 4</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Planning and Zoning Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>November 8</td>
<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Housing and Redevelopment Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>November 8</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>November 9</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Library Board</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>November 11</td>
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<td>VETERAN'S DAY LEGAL HOLIDAY – City offices closed</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Parks and Recreation Advisory Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>November 22</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>November 24</td>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Hospital Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday-Friday</td>
<td>November 25-November 26</td>
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<td>THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – City offices closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>November 26</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Tourism and Visitors Bureau</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>November 29</td>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Goal Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>November 30</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Heritage Preservation Commission</td>
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