2022-2023 City Council – Newly elected members of the City Council (Mayor Shanon Nowell, Councilmember Darrell Pettis, Councilmember Dustin Sharstrom and Councilmember Ben Ranft) took the oath of office as part of the regular City Council meeting on January 10th. These members join Councilmembers Emily Bruflat, Brad DeVos and Keri Johnson to comprise the 2022-2023 City Council. For contact information for each of the Councilmembers, please visit the City’s website at www.saintpetermn.gov.

Show Us Your Masks! – Planning to visit a City building? If so, please remember that everyone (staff and visitors) is required to wear masks that cover the nose and mouth.

This restriction was put in place many weeks ago when Nicollet County was put in the high risk of community spread classification. That risk level is still “high” and the mask requirement is still in place for everyone regardless of your vaccination status.

If you are going to enter a City building (including the Library and Community Center), please remember to mask up and help us keep our employees and the people we assist every day safe and healthy! Thank you for your cooperation.

Holiday Closures – Monday, January 17th is the Martin Luther King, Jr. legal holiday. All non-emergency City offices will be closed for this holiday.
- The City Council workshop that would normally take place that evening has been rescheduled for Tuesday, January 18th in the Senior Center beginning at 5:30 p.m.
- City transit services will continue to operate as usual.
- The Library is closed.
- The Community Center will be open as usual; however the Recreation and Leisure Services Department will be closed. Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, January 18th.

City Council Meeting – The City Council meeting of January 10, 2022 included administration of the oath of office to incoming members; acceptance of the 2021 North Third Street Improvement (Livermore to Union) Project; authorization for purchase of surgical saws for River’s Edge Hospital; adoption of an “incurrence of indebtedness” resolution for USDA related to Fire Station funding; adoption of a resolution opting into the State’s Opioid settlement; formal acceptance of the updated Spill Prevention and Countermeasures Plan; adoption of updated position descriptions for Apprentice Lineman and Facilities Maintenance.
Lead; authorization for submission of the pay equity report; authorization for assistance for the Special Olympics Polar Bear Plunge event at Hallett’s Pond on February 5th; and a closed session to discuss union contract negotiations with the Police Officer and Street unions. The next regular City Council meeting will be Monday, January 24, 2022 beginning at 7:00 p.m. Copies of the meeting agendas can be found on the City’s website (https://www.saintpetermn.gov/AgendaCenter) the Friday before the meetings.

**Boulevard Tree Trimming** - City crews will begin winter tree pruning of boulevard trees the week of January 10th. This work will continue through the winter as time permits.

Crews will focus on the area shown on the map below which is generally North Washington Avenue f from Broadway Avenue to Upper Johnson Circle and then to the west.

For questions about this work, please contact the Public Works Department at 507-934-0670.

To gain access leading to the skating area please use trails with access from West Saint Julien Street across from Skrove Automotive or the south side of the Wastewater Plant located at 400 West Saint Julien Street.

Word of caution….the property on the south side of the Pond (off North Third Street) is privately owned and no one should be driving vehicles across this property. Unlike the rinks at Veteran’s Memorial Park, Hallett's Pond skating comes with a different set of “rules”:

- Patrons skate at their own risk and within their comfort zone.
- Use of the outdoor skating area is self-monitored. Please be mindful of your time on the rinks so everyone can enjoy skating.
- Organized practices and games are not currently allowed. Future use of this type will require a facility use permit issued by the City.
- It is illegal to drive or park on park paths without proper authorization.
- Please allow for adequate time following snowfalls for the skating area to be cleared. City crews must complete other snow removal activities before tackling the Pond.
- Not a fan of skating on pond ice? The rinks at Veteran’s Park will be open seven days a week with the warming house staffed for several hours each day.

Please contact the Recreation Office with any questions at 507-934-0667.

**Snowshoes for Rent**

- Bundle up, get outside (when the weather cooperates!), and experience nature. Enjoy the winter by taking a snowshoe stroll through the woods. The Saint Peter Recreation Department offers rental of adult and youth size snowshoes for $5 per pair per day, $10 for the weekend, (Deposit of $50 per pair due upon pick up). Please call ahead for larger groups (934-0667).

**Saint Peter Police Reserves Need You!** - The Police Reserves are an integral part of Police Department operations. This all-volunteer group provides thousands of hours of service to the community each year and provides support to the Police Department with duties like:
• Assisting with patrol activities
• Emergency Management Response and Support, e.g. floods, etc.
• Assisting with missing persons searches
• Securing and guarding crime scenes
• Organizing community events and special activities

The Police Reserve Unit has evolved over time into a true community service unit with an authorized strength of 24 volunteer members. Each member is trained in various areas of police response and members undergo various application and screening processes to become members of the organization.

Without the service of the Police Reserves it would be extremely difficult for the Department to maintain order and provide for the safety of the community during large-scale community events such as the Fourth of July. Reserves provide in excess of 3,000 volunteer hours during the course of a year and without their efforts, the cost for large-scale events would be substantial.

This important group is in need of new members. If you or someone you know is seeking a highly rewarding volunteer opportunity in Saint Peter, please contact the Police Department (931-1550 or at 207 South Front Street) to request an application.

WINTERFEST MEDALLION HUNT – The Chamber of Commerce’s annual winter celebration called “Winterfest” will get underway on January 28th. One of the most popular activities during Winterfest is the search for the elusive medallion.

As the medallion is usually hidden on City owned property, we would like to extend our annual words of caution to protect City property.

• The medallion will only be located in an area that is entirely accessible by the public. It won’t be behind locked doors, gates, or fences.
• No digging is allowed. The medallion is hidden above ground and no digging anywhere on City property is allowed or necessary. Likewise, you won’t have to climb a tree to get it.
• Be respectful of public property and be careful not to damage any facilities or structures as you search for the medallion.

The medallion hunt is a fun event for everyone so please be careful as you search and good luck!

WELCOME TO WINTER – Winter is here and it affects us in many different ways, but one of the most critical impacts is to those who must walk to work or school or church or the store. Trying to traverse snow or ice covered sidewalks is difficult at best.

That’s why it is so important to help our friends and neighbors by keeping sidewalks clear of snow and ice, and why the City has actually passed an ordinance requiring it.

Property owners are required to clear snow and ice from sidewalks within twenty-four (24) hours after a snow or ice event or whenever the sidewalk is covered by blowing or drifting snow. As property owners work on clearing their sidewalks, City crews will be out clearing miles of public sidewalks along City owned property, parks and trails.

After City crews are done, they will turn their attention to sidewalks the property owner didn’t clear. The cost for the City to clear the walk will be charged to the property owner at the City’s charge out rates which currently are a $75.00 per hour minimum.

To avoid that expensive bill, please make arrangements for snow and ice removal from sidewalks including corners and/or handicapped ramps before the City shows up to do it for you!

In a related matter, please note that Minnesota Statute 160.27 prohibits the plowing, blowing, or shoveling of snow onto public roadways.

THE GOOD... – You don’t have to be an Olympic caliber skater to enjoy one of the best things about winter - ice skating! The City’s ice rinks at Veteran’s Park at 311 North Fifth Street are officially open for the season.

The warming house will be staffed with a rink attendant Monday-Friday 5-9pm, Saturdays 10am-9pm, and Sundays 1-9pm. The rinks may be used during off hours with the understanding that no warming house/restroom will be available for use.

During periods of extreme cold (actual temps or wind chill or a combo), or if temperatures warm to a point where the ice condition deteriorates, the rinks will close. Parents are encouraged to ensure the warming house is open before sending kids to the rink. You can do so by checking the Recreation and Leisure Services Department Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/SaintPeterRecreation or calling the Rec hotline at (507)934-0070.
CITY EXPANDS FACEBOOK PRESENCE – Most folks know the City has a general Facebook page as well as a Police Department Facebook page, but if you are looking for the latest updates on recreation and leisure programs, activities, events, facility openings and more we have the solution. The City’s Recreation and Leisure Services Department now has its very own Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/SaintPeterRecreation. Check it out and give it a like so you don’t miss out on the fun and exciting things going on in our community.

CITY ADVISORY BOARDS – Have you ever wondered how cool it would be to give the City Council advice on topics like the Hospital, Library, parks, civil service issues, heritage preservation, tourism or planning and zoning? The City Council has numerous advisory boards and commissions that frequently need members.

Vacancies currently exist on the Parks Board, Heritage Preservation Commission and Tourism Bureau.

Terms on these boards are three years in length and the boards meet once a month.

To qualify for appointment, a candidate must live within the corporate limits of the City of Saint Peter, commit to completing the full term and making the regularly scheduled meetings.

So how do you apply? Applications are available on the City’s website or you can contact the City Administrator’s office at barbaral@saintpetermn.gov or call 507-934-0663.

To find out more about the various advisory boards, please check out the City’s website at https://www.saintpetermn.gov/325/Commissions-Boards.

CITY MEETING CALENDAR –***PLEASE NOTE…Meeting dates and times may change due to unforeseen circumstances. For up to date information on meetings please visit the City’s website at www.saintpetermn.gov or call the City at 507-934-0663.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Meeting/Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>January 17&lt;br&gt;MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY&lt;br&gt;Legal Holiday – City offices closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>January 17&lt;br&gt;PARKS BOARD MEETING CANCELLED!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>January 18&lt;br&gt;City Council Workshop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>January 24&lt;br&gt;City Council Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>January 25&lt;br&gt;Heritage Preservation Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>January 26&lt;br&gt;Hospital Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>January 27&lt;br&gt;Economic Development Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>January 28&lt;br&gt;Tourism and Visitors Bureau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>January 31&lt;br&gt;City Council Workshop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>February 3&lt;br&gt;Planning and Zoning Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>February 7&lt;br&gt;City Council Workshop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>February 14&lt;br&gt;City Council Meeting (and Valentine’s Day!)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>February 21&lt;br&gt;PRESIDENT’S DAY LEGAL HOLIDAY&lt;br&gt;City Offices Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>February 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>February 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>February 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>February 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>February 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>February 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>February 28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>