CITY COUNCIL MEETING – The City Council meeting of January 24, 2022 included a public hearing and action to reassess costs to the property at 1420 North Third Street related to a public improvement project; adoption of a corrected resolution for USDA related to the fire station project debt; formal acceptance of an intersection control evaluation study for the intersection of Broadway Avenue and Sunrise Drive; acceptance of updated plans related to the American Water Infrastructure Act of 2018; approval for Councilmembers DeVos and Sharstrom to travel to Washington D.C. to participate in the American Public Power Association legislative rally; approval of requests for City assistance related to the All School Reunion and the St. Patrick’s Day parade; adoption of an ordinance establishing the one-half of one percent local option sales tax to begin July 1, 2022 (as approved by voters during the November 2021 general election); and a closed session and subsequent action to approve the 2022-2023 union contract with Law Enforcement Labor Services Local #240 (Police Officers).

The next regular City Council meeting will be Monday, February 14, 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).

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 or fence or anything else above ground to get it.
- Participants should 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!

RENTAL INSPECTIONS SUSPENDED – The increased community spread of the Coronavirus has impacted the City’s ability to complete rental inspections. With the need to protect our staff and the public, the City has temporarily suspended scheduling of rental inspections.

Inspections which are already scheduled will still take place if possible, but no further appointments will be accepted at this time. When the latest COVID surge eases and staff is able to inspect units without sick occupants, inspection appointments will once again be accepted.

Property owners with completely unoccupied rental properties may still call the Building Department (507-934-0662) to schedule an inspection, but units with occupants will not be inspected at this time.

No certificates of rental compliance will be issued until the inspections are completed.

For more information on rental housing requirements, please contact the Building Department.

SIDEWALK SHOVELING – If you love to shovel your sidewalk your sidewalk, please raise your hand!

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Just as we thought! Not a single person reading this raised their hand.

Yes, it can be back breaking work and when nuisance snowfalls happen every few days (or in
some cases even hours), it may seem like a never ending chore, but for those who must travel on foot in the winter time, it is important to have sidewalks that are safe to walk on and that’s why the regulations are in place.

Since the first snowfall last October, the Hot Sheet has included several stories about the rules related to clearance of sidewalks…within 24 hours of a snowfall, cleared the entire width and kept clear of all snow and ice. Even with all those reminders, there are too many property owners who haven’t yet complied with the regulations and complaints are coming in.

If you are one of the procrastinators, please dust off that shovel and clear your walk before City crews show up to do it for you. So what’s it to be? A slightly achey back along with a dose of fresh air, or a minimum bill of $70? The snowball is now in your court!

**FIRE DEPARTMENT YOUTH FISHING CONTEST** – Looking for something for the kids to do? Then why not join the St. Peter volunteer Fire Department for their annual Youth Ice Fishing Contest at Hallett’s Pond? Kids and fishing! What’s more Minnesotan than that?

This fun event for ages 15 and under will take place this Saturday, January 29th between 1-2:30 p.m. at Hallett’s Pond.

Kids should bring their own pole, but if they don’t have one, the Fire Department will have some available and bait will be provided. Hot dogs and hot chocolate will also be available and there will be prizes (1st, 2nd and 3rd) for the largest fish with other prizes also available.

Hats off to the local sponsors of this event for without their support this event wouldn’t be possible...Nielsen Blacktopping and Concrete, St. Peter Lawn and Sport, AmericInn by Wyndham, Hometown Bank, Arrow Hardware & Paint, Red Men Club, Scheels, Pioneer Bank, Family Fresh Market, Sign Pro of Mankato, Nelson Printing Company, and Nutter Clothing Company.

River’s Edge Hospital receives 2022 Women’s Choice Awards in three different categories.

**SALES TAX MOVING FORWARD** – As part of the January 24th regular meeting, the City Council took another step in the process to implement the one-half of one percent local option sales tax which was approved by voters during last fall’s general election. Tax proceeds will be used to fund the new fire station at the intersection of Broadway Avenue/Sunrise Drive.

The ordinance adopted by the Council establishes the sales tax with a July 1, 2022 implementation date. One of the next steps will be for the City to enter into an agreement with the Minnesota Department of Revenue (MDOR) for collection of the tax. That agreement would allow the MDOR to begin their process for notification to retailers who will need to collect and submit the tax.

As the implementation date draws closer, additional information will be provided not only by the MDOR, but through the City’s media pages and the Hot Sheet.

**RIVER’S EDGE HOSPITAL RECEIVES AWARDS** – River’s Edge Hospital has been named one of America’s Best Hospitals for Best Emergency Care, Best for Minimally Invasive Surgery and 100 Best Hospitals for Patient Experience by the Women’s Choice Award, America’s trusted referral source for the best in healthcare. The awards signify that River’s Edge Hospital is top in the nation for emergency care, robotic surgery and for patient experience.

“These awards are significant because they validate the work of our employees in all three of these areas,” said Paula Meskan, CEO at River’s Edge Hospital. “We are a team of people who take great pride in caring for the people in our community. We are honored to receive this recognition.”

The Emergency Care award recognizes River’s Edge Hospital’s performance in a patient’s total time spent in the emergency room and the percentage of those who leave the ER before being seen by a physician. The Minimally Invasive Surgery award honors River’s Edge as a hospital that uses robotic surgery which is shown to aid in faster recovery and reduced pain.

As one of America’s best 100 Hospitals for Patient Experience, River’s Edge Hospital is recognized for
effective communication with nurses and doctors, response for help, explanation about medications and side effects, room cleanliness, how quiet it is at night and the patient’s overall recommendation of the facility.

“The Women’s Choice Award provides consumers with an objective, uniform and fact-based trusted resource to find the best hospitals that excel in minimally invasive surgery,” said Delia Passi, Founder and CEO of the Women’s Choice Award. “Minimally invasive surgery is a great option for women as it requires less recovery time and reduces pain and complications, allowing her a quicker return to what matters most in life.”

Congratulations to the hard working staff and officials at River’s Edge on these prestigious awards!

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

- **INFRASTRUCTURE TECHNICIAN** - in the Stormwater Utility of the Department of Public Works. Candidates for this position will spend the majority of their time working outdoors. Major duties include locating water, sewer, and stormwater lines, cleaning stormwater collection systems, checking and repairing stormwater sump basins and downstream defenders, raising manholes and recording information on the City’s geographic information system (GIS). This position works closely with contractors and property owners in observing construction practices and work performed in the right-of-way and on private property. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: high school diploma or equivalent; Possession of a valid State of Minnesota Class A driver’s license with Air Brake Endorsement and Tanker Endorsement or to obtain within six months of the date of employment with the City; Possession of a Minnesota Department of Agriculture noncommercial pesticide applicators license with endorsements in Categories A – Core, E – Turf and Ornamentals, F – Aquatic, J - Forestry, Rights-of-Way, and Natural Areas, L - Mosquito, Black Fly, Tick Pest Control within six months of the date of employment with the City; Possession of or ability to obtain valid State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) tree inspector’s license within six months of the date of employment; Possession of or ability to obtain American Heart Association Certification as a Basic Rescuer for cardiopulmonary resuscitation and emergency cardiac care or obtain within six months of the date of employment with the City. 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. $22.90 to $35.36 per hour. Applicants are required to complete a City of Saint Peter application form available in the City Administrator’s Office (507) 934-0663 or www.saintpetermn.gov/356/Employment. Completed applications must be received by the City Administrator’s Office no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 16, 2022. Faxed or late applications will not be accepted. Interviews will be conducted on February 23, 2022. AA/EOE

- **FORESTER** - The City of Saint Peter is accepting applications for the position of Forester in the Department of Public Works. Minimum qualifications include: High school diploma or equivalent; One or more years of experience in a forestry or landscape related position; Possession of a valid State of Minnesota Class A Driver’s License with Air Brake Endorsement and Tanker Endorsement or to obtain within six months of the date of employment with the City; Knowledge of “as-built” records, ability to read blueprints, maps, specifications used by contractors in the field of construction; and Possession of an American Heart Association Certification as a Basic Rescuer for cardiac care or obtain within six months of the date of employment with the City. 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. $22.90 to $35.36 per hour. Applicants are required to complete a City of Saint Peter application form available in the City Administrator’s Office (507) 934-0663 or www.saintpetermn.gov/356/Employment. Completed applications must be received by the City Administrator’s Office no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 16, 2022. Faxed or late applications will not be accepted. Interviews will be conducted on February 23, 2022. AA/EOE
wheel loader, bucket truck, dump truck, wood chipper, snow plow truck, and chain saws; Demonstrated ability to read and interpret landscaping plans and specifications; AAS, BS or BA degree in arboriculture, forestry, landscaping or a related field from an accredited college or university; One or more years of supervisory experience of two or more employees; Demonstrated knowledge of OSHA regulations and safety precautions of the trade; Demonstrated knowledge of Urban Forestry principles and practices; Possession of an Arborist Certification from the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA); Demonstrated ability to speak conversational Spanish and Somali. 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. Wage is $26.52 – $27.63 per hour. Applicants are required to complete a City of Saint Peter application form available in the City Administrator’s Office, 227 South Front Street, Saint Peter, Minnesota 56082-2538, by calling (507) 934-0663; or online at https://www.saintpetermn.gov/365/Employment. First review of applications will begin February 9, 2022 and the position will remain open until filled. Interviews will be conducted beginning on February 14, 2022. AA/EEO

**BUILDING OFFICIAL - MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** High school GED or equivalent; Possession of a State of Minnesota Class II Building Official Certification; Two (2) years’ experience in any of the skilled construction trades; Ability to perform plan review for residential, commercial, and industrial building construction and alterations; Possession of a valid State of Minnesota Class C Drivers’ License; Two (2) years’ experience as a Building Inspector; Demonstrated knowledge of building codes inspection and enforcement principles; plumbing/mechanical inspection and enforcement principles; knowledge of principles and procedures of rental code enforcement; Demonstrated knowledge of OSHA regulations. DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS: Associate’s Degree in construction trades from an accredited post-secondary educational institution; Bachelor’s Degree from an accredited college or university in Construction Management or a related field; more than two (2) years’ experience as a Building Inspector; More than two years’ experience in performing plan review for commercial and industrial building construction and alterations; Currently possess State of Minnesota Full Delegation Agreement approval; Demonstrated knowledge of Minnesota State Building Code, current International Building Code, current Minnesota Plumbing Code, current Uniform Housing Code, and the Minnesota Uniform Fire Code, and other laws regulating building construction; Demonstrated knowledge of building construction methods and materials; Demonstrated knowledge of the principles and practices of plumbing and heating code enforcement; knowledge of the principles and procedures of rental code enforcement. Salary range $78,500 to $83,500 per year DOQ. Applicants are required to complete a City application form available online at https://www.saintpetermn.gov/365/Employment or from the City Administrator’s office at 227 South Front Street or by calling (507)934-0663. Completed applications must be received by the City Administrator’s office by 5:00 p.m. February 16, 2022. Faxed and/or late applications will not be accepted. AA/EEO

**APPRENTICE LINEMAN** - in the Department of Public Works. Minimum qualifications include a high school diploma and satisfactory completion of a technical school program for Lineman Electricians or 2 years of experience in the line work trade; possession of a valid driver’s license; Possession of a valid State of Minnesota Class A Drivers’ License with Air Brake Endorsement 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 obtain within six months of the date of employment with the City. Desirable qualifications include demonstrated knowledge of principles of electrical theory applicable to electrical circuits and wiring systems; demonstrated knowledge of OSHA regulations and safety precautions of the trade; demonstrated ability to operate bucket trucks, line trucks, trencher, backhoe, and locating equipment; demonstrated knowledge of materials and tools used in construction, operation, and maintenance of electrical distribution systems; demonstrated knowledge of work hazards involved in operation of an electrical system; demonstrated knowledge of computer. 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. Starting pay $29.65 per hour. Applicants are required to complete a City of Saint Peter application form available in the City Administrator's Office, 227 South Front Street, Saint Peter, Minnesota 56082-2538, by calling (507) 934-0663, or online at www.saintpetermn.gov.356/Employment. Completed applications must be received by the City Administrator's Office no later than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 16, 2022. Faxed and/or late applications will not be accepted. Interviews will be Thursday, March 10, 2022. AA/EEO

NOW HIRING POLICE OFFICERS! - Did you know there is a dearth of Police Officers in Minnesota? Departments across the state are reporting vacancies. What's more concerning is that many departments, Saint Peter included, are receiving no applications when vacancies are advertised.

Of course many employers are struggling to find employees these days, but when public safety is the focus of those employees, being short-staffed impacts the lives of each and every one of us. That's where we need your help. Saint Peter would love to hire experienced Officers to fill our ranks. If you know someone who is currently working as a Police Officer who would love to be part of a great department (just look at these smiling faces!) with a progressive management team in a position offering plenty of advancement and learning opportunities, please encourage them to consider applying with the Saint Peter Police Department. We offer very competitive wages, great benefits and a sign on bonus complete with banked vacation and sick leave from day one.

Information on this recruitment process is available on the City's website at www.saintpetermn.gov/365/employment

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>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Meeting Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>January 26</td>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Hospital Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>January 27</td>
<td>12:00 noon</td>
<td>Economic Development Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>January 28</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Tourism and Visitors Bureau</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>January 31</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Workshop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>February 3</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Planning and Zoning Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>February 7</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Workshop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>February 14</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Meeting (and Valentine’s Day!)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>February 21</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>PRESIDENT'S DAY LEGAL HOLIDAY</td>
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<td></td>
<td>City Offices Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>February 22</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>February 22</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Heritage Preservation Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>February 22</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Parks and Recreation Advisory Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>February 23</td>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Hospital Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Time</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>February 24</td>
<td>12:00 noon</td>
<td>Economic Development Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>February 25</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Tourism and Visitors Bureau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>February 28</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Meeting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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