

# CITY OF SAINT PETER HOT SHEET



All the City news you need to know and a little bit more!  
City Info Line 507-934-0675 TDD #711  
The City of Saint Peter is an equal opportunity provider.



The following information is a publication of the City of Saint Peter, City Administrator's Office, 934-0663, 227 South Front Street. Please contact us at [barbaral@saintpetermn.gov](mailto:barbaral@saintpetermn.gov) [www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter](http://www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter)



02/03/16

**SIDEWALK CLEARANCE REMINDER** – Well, the blizzard came and went and several inches of snow were dumped on Saint Peter. Time to get out those shovels and clear paths along sidewalks and at handicap accesses.

If you are new to Saint Peter, have recently relocated to a home with a public sidewalk, or just need a reminder, this snowfall is a good time to learn the laws related to sidewalk snow and ice clearance. Most cities in Minnesota have these regulations.



All property owners are required to remove snow and ice from sidewalks within 24 hours of a snowfall. The clearance has to be the

entire width of the walk (not just a shovel's path down the middle), and the walk must be kept clear of blowback and drifting snow and ice formation.

City crews will work hard to follow the same rules on City owned sidewalks around parks, on the trails that are kept open year-round, and around City buildings. But when they are done with those chores, they will turn their attention to the private properties that are not in compliance with the regulations. This work is usually done based on complaints received and there are a lot of them after big snowfalls!

And it is expensive to have City crews do the work for you. Minimum charge is \$75 and then its \$75 per hour in additional fees if it takes longer.

So please plan on scheduling time to get that walk and handicap access shoveled out within that 24 hour period. Your wallet will thank you later!

**SNOW EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS** – Did yesterday's snowfall leave you wondering if there was going to be a snow emergency declared? You might not be the only one. So, exactly how do you find out about a snow emergency?

The simplest answer is to sign up for the **free** Nixle community notification system at [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com). The system allows you to determine how you want notices provided (text alert, email, or both), and what numbers you would like the notices sent to. Don't want to be woken in the middle of the night with a notice? You can limit the times notices are received. Don't live in Saint Peter, but need to know about snow emergencies because you park on the street while at work? Not a problem. Just sign up for Nixle and indicate you want notices for Saint Peter.

You can also call the City information line at 934-0675 and press 1 for snow emergency information. Please note that notices are always declared before 5:00



p.m. and will take effect starting at midnight. So, if you call earlier in the day, the snow emergency might not have been declared yet. Calling after 5:00 p.m. provides the best information.

(We also provide snow emergency notifications to local media in Mankato, but they might not report on that declaration until after you have parked your car for the night.)

Snow emergency regulations, including which streets are snow emergency routes, can be found on the City's website at <http://www.saintpetermn.gov/city-snow-emergency-rules>.

**CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS** – Action taken by the City Council on January 25, 2016 included decertification of two tax increment districts; approval of an updated contract with Minnesota Waste Processing Company; approval of a resolution supporting increased local government aid levels; approval for Mayor Zieman to travel to Petatlan, Mexico in March as part of the Sister City program; authorization for Bolton and Menk, Inc. to provide preliminary engineering work for a proposed housing subdivision along Traverse Road; approval of an updated contract for the City Administrator; approval of business licenses for Smoker's Choice; approval for a modification to the City's fee schedule; authorization for purchase of software related to the first phase of an automated metering system; approval of the 2016 budgets for the Stormwater and Environmental (refuse) funds; approval for submission of the pay equity report to the State of Minnesota; and a closed session and subsequent action to approve the 2016-2017 union contracts with the Police Officers and Communications Technicians.

The Council also welcomed three students from Petatlan Mexico who were visiting as part of the Sister City Program. The students were accompanied by their program coordinator who was previously a student at Gustavus.

The next City Council meeting is February 8, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Governors' Room of the Community Center. For more information on City Council meetings, please contact the City Administrator's office at 507-934-0663. Copies of the Council packet are also available on the City's website at [www.saintpetermn.gov/city](http://www.saintpetermn.gov/city).

**INTRODUCING....*Books in a Bag*** - If you belong to a book club, come to the Saint Peter Public Library and check out *Books in a Bag*, a new project sponsored by the Friends of the Saint Peter Public Library. Each bag contains eight copies of the same title along with a folder containing book discussion questions and other information. Bags may be checked out for six weeks. The initial five *Books in a Bag* are:

- *The Dressmaker of Khair Khana*, by Gayle Tzemach Lemmon

- *Just Like Us*, by Helen Thorpe
- *The Life We Bury*, by Allen Eskens
- *The Rent Collector*, by Camron Wright
- *Still Life*, by Louise Penny

The Friends of the Library welcomes members and patrons to contribute to the growth of the *Books in a Bag* program through donations made to the Friends of the Library. For information on Friends of the Library visit [www.saintpetermn.gov/library](http://www.saintpetermn.gov/library).

**BUILDING BETTER NEIGHBORHOODS** – (*This is the second in a three-part series on this topic.*)

The first article in a series of three outlined some of the ideas behind why the City may undertake the development and sale of residential lots within a neighborhood designed utilizing the principles of the Building Better Neighborhoods program developed by the Greater Minnesota Housing Fund.

An analysis of the Nicollet Meadows and Washington Terrace Subdivisions suggest that those neighborhoods pay more than many other subdivisions when property values per acre and property taxes per acre are calculated. Additionally, the two neighborhoods generate municipal utility billings per acre above the per acre billings of traditionally developed subdivisions.

To better know and understand the local housing market, the City previously contracted with Community Partners Research (CPR) to undertake an analysis of the housing market in the Saint Peter area. The most recent work on this was completed in October, 2014. Previous housing studies were completed in 1999, 2002, 2005 and 2012. (The most recent of the studies can be found on the City's website under the Community Development tab.)

After the 2010 U.S. Census, Blue Earth and Nicollet counties were designated as a new Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). That change allowed, CPR to present new data regarding the demographics and growth of the multi-county area.

Between 2013 and 2014, Saint Peter grew in population by 0.78% annually. While still healthy, this rate reflects about one-half of the population increase experienced between 2000 and 2010.

Census data indicates that the population of Saint Peter grew by 249 persons between 2010 and 2013. This equates to about 120 new households over the same time period.

The analysis done by CPR suggests that there will be up to 1,423 new households established in Nicollet County between 2010 and 2020. Of those, the study indicates that up to 459 of those new households would be located within Saint Peter.

When Le Sueur County is added to the mixture the numbers increase. It is projected that 1,745 new households will be added between 2010 and 2020 within Blue Earth, Nicollet and Le Sueur counties with householders between the ages of 25-44.

According to the 2014 study, "In general terms, St. Peter and the three-county area have been able to consistently add population and households for more than thirty-three years". The best available data suggests that the three-county area will grow by approximately 8-9% annually over the next decade.

If the City of Saint Peter is to add up to 45 new households per year over the next decade, approximately 65%, or 30 of those, would be expected to be single family households while the others would be developed in multi-family residential structures. Of those 30 households, approximately 10-14 would have incomes within our target range of first time, entry-level home buyers.

With the expected and continued growth in the employment sector, there appears to be a housing market supportive of a third "workforce housing" neighborhood developed utilizing the Building Better Neighborhoods program. With the industrial sector growing (Walmart Distribution, Fed-Ex, Cambria, Verizon, Creation Technologies, E.I. Microcircuits, Le Sueur, Inc.) it may be the right time to move forward. The City Council will continue to work on this over the next few months.

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

- **PART-TIME HOUSEKEEPER** - in the Recreation and Leisure Services Department. **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** High school diploma or equivalent; Knowledge of cleaning methods and procedures; knowledge of the materials, supplies and equipment utilized in cleaning activities; Experience working with the public. **DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS:** One or more years of housekeeping experience; Knowledge of OSHA safety regulations; Experience operating restroom cleaning machines. Beginning wage \$10.03 per hour. Approximately 20-25 hours per week, daytime, Monday-Friday. Applicants are required to complete City application form available in the City Administrator's office at 227 South Front Street between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon and 1-5 p.m. or by calling (507) 934-0663. Completed applications must be received by the City Administrator's office by 5:00 pm February 25, 2016.

Faxed/emailed/late applications will not be accepted.

- **TEMPORARY TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLANNER** - in the City Administrator's Office. This position has a strong possibility of moving into a regular, full-time position should the Regional Transit system be developed. This position will report to the City Administrator while working with current transit personnel. The main duties of the position will be to accomplish the work, organize meetings, do research and provide reporting needed to facilitate development of a regional transit system. Development of a regional system is currently in the initial phases with partners including the City of Le Sueur, the Counties of Blue Earth, Nicollet and Le Sueur, and VINE Faith in Action. **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** High school diploma or equivalent; possession of a valid State of Minnesota Class D driver's license; working with the public. **DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS:** Two years of post-secondary education in transit planning, logistics, business administration or closely related fields or 4 + years' experience in one of these fields; Bachelor's Degree in transportation, logistics, business or public administration, planning or a related field or six + years of full time experience in one of these fields; Demonstrated knowledge of public transportation systems, policies and procedures including Federal Transportation Authority and MnDOT Transit rules; 1+ years' experience in a supervisory position managing a minimum of two full time subordinates; 1+ years' experience working for a governing board or board of directors in either private or public sector; Ability to use Personal Computer including MS Word, Excel, Power Point, Outlook or equivalents; Demonstrated use of transit dispatching software; Demonstrated writing and public speaking skills. This position is temporary in nature (expected end date of December, 2016) but there is a strong possibility of the position moving into a regular, full-time position with the Regional Transit System if developed. \$20.00-\$25.00 per hour. Applicants are required to complete a City application form available in the City Administrator's office at 227 South Front Street between the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon and 1-5 p.m. or by calling (507)934-0663. Completed applications must be received by the City Administrator's office by 5:00 p.m. February 18, 2016. Interviews for this position will take place on February 25th and 26th.

Faxed, emailed, and/or late applications will not be accepted. AA/EEO

- P-T PAYROLL CLERK - in the Finance Department. 20 hours per week. Hours of work will be flexible. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: High School Diploma or equivalent; One year payroll experience or Associates degree in Accounting; Demonstrated experience working with the public; Demonstrated experience working with benefits provided to employees; Knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel software. DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS: Previous municipal accounting experience;

Knowledge of fund accounting principles, practices, and terminology; 2 or more years' experience working with employee benefits. Starting wage \$13.75 per hour. Applicants are required to complete City application form available in 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. on February 19, 2016. Faxed, emailed, and/or late applications will not be accepted.

**CITY MEETING CALENDAR** - This calendar is subject to change. Should you have a question on a meeting date/time, please contact the City Administrator's Office at 934-0663 or visit the City's website at [www.saintpetermn.gov](http://www.saintpetermn.gov).

Thursday	February 4th	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	February 8th	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Monday	February 15th		LEGAL HOLIDAY – President's Day City Offices Closed
Tuesday	February 16th	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop Session
Tuesday	February 16th	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Monday	February 22nd	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	February 23rd	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	February 24th	12:20 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday	February 25th	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	February 26th	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	February 29th	3:00 p.m.	City Council Goal Session