

# CITY OF SAINT PETER HOT SHEET



All the City news you need to know and a little bit more!  
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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)



01/27/16

**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.

**WINTER RECREATION PROGRAMS** – The winter brochures listing programs sponsored by the City's Recreation and Leisure Services Department and the School District #508 Community Education department have been mailed out. If you didn't receive a brochure, the info is available online on the City's website ([www.saintpetermn.gov](http://www.saintpetermn.gov)) and additional copies of the brochure are available at City Hall (227 South Front Street) and the Recreation and Leisure Services Department located in the Community Center at 600 South Fifth Street.

**SKATING RINKS/WARMING HOUSE HOURS** - The rinks are officially open!

The Veteran's Park warming house hours are: Monday-Friday from 4-9 pm., School's Out Days from 1-9 p.m., Saturdays 10 am-9 pm, and Sundays from 1-9 pm.

The warming house will close and skaters are encouraged to stay inside when the temperature is -15° or colder or when the wind chill factor is -20° or below according to the National Weather Service. The warming house will also close if more than 1" of snow accumulates on the ice when maintenance crews are not available. If there are temperatures that soften the ice the warming house is closed and skaters are asked to stay off the ice until the ice refreezes.



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

- **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).

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| Wednesday | January 27th  | 12:20 p.m.  | Hospital Commission                                    |
| Thursday  | January 28th  | 12:00 noon  | Economic Development Authority                         |
| Monday    | February 1st  | 3:30 p.m.   | Housing and Redevelopment Authority                    |
| Monday    | February 1st  | 5:30 p.m.   | City Council Workshop Session                          |
| 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<br>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                       |

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| 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      |