

# 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)



10/14/15

**CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS** – Action taken by the City Council at the regular meeting of October 12, 2015 included award of the bid for installation of a watermain on Gardner Road to Chard Tiling and Excavating; approval for modification to the repayment terms for revolving loans provided to Greg/Neysa Schettler; approval for Bolton and Menk, Inc. to provide preliminary engineering and receipt of bids for a project to extend utilities along Traverse Road; approval for City assistance for a haunted hayride fundraising event for the Nicollet County Trails Association Snowmobile Club; authorization for submission of a grant application to the Department of Transportation for promotion of the City's transit system; approval of a Tree Worker license; and closed sessions to discuss negotiations related to land purchase, land sale and a land easement.

The next regular meeting of the City Council will be Monday, October 26th 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).



**PET OF THE WEEK** – This week's Pet of the Week is Trump (no political comment intended!).

Trump is an approximately 2 year old male lab cross dog. He was found at Dodd/Sunrise in Saint Peter. He is very tiny for a Lab but is an adorable dog. Trump is very loving and full of energy. He does need

some training since he thinks it's a fun game to jump and play bite at arms so this pup may be best suited for adult only families or those without small children. Trump is available for adoption for \$155, which includes neuter and vaccinations.

To meet Trump, or for more information on any of the pets in the pound, please contact CSO Thompson at the St. Peter Police Department (931-1550) or Alaina at Kind Veterinary Clinic (931-4700) during regular business hours. All animals are spayed/neutered and up-to-date on vaccinations before being adopted out.



**HALLOWEEN FUN RUN** – Join us for the 12th Annual Halloween Fun Run and Walk and Lil' Monster Dash presented by the Mankato Clinic and the Orthopaedic and Fracture Clinic on Saturday, October 31st!

Celebrate Halloween by participating in the Recreation Department's Annual Halloween Fun Run. Register for the Individual 5K, Team 5K or the Lil' Monster Dash (celebrating its' 5th year!). Early Bird

Registration ends this Friday, October 16th so there's still time to take advantage of the lower Individual fee of \$25, One Lil' Monster & One Adult 5K for \$35, and Team Challenge for \$23/member and \$14 for 3-10 year olds running in the Lil' Monster Dash.

After Friday, October 16th, participants can still register through October 23rd, but will not be guaranteed a long sleeve t-shirt. Registration fees after October 16th are: Individual-\$35, one Lil' Monster and one adult 5K-\$45, and Team Challenge member for \$45. Lil' Monsters still pay only \$14.

Great prizes will be awarded for costume categories, the top three male and female finishers, and the top individual in each age group.

Come to run, view great costumes, play in Spookyville, get your face painted, and cheer on the participants!

For more information or to register, go to [www.stpeterfunrun.com](http://www.stpeterfunrun.com), stop in at the Recreation and Leisure Services Department located at 600 South 5th Street Suite 200 or call 934-0667.

**COLD WEATHER RULE NOTICE** - The Minnesota Cold Weather Rule provides that from October 15th through April 15th, the City of Saint Peter, the utility provider for Saint Peter residents, cannot disconnect a residential utility customer for nonpayment if **all** of the following four requirements are met:

- 1) The account is current for the billing period immediately prior to October 15<sup>th</sup>.
- 2) The electric disconnection would affect the customer's primary heat source.
- 3) The customer's household income is less than 185% of the federal poverty level, as documented by the customer to the City.
- 4) The customer has filed a "declaration of inability to pay" form with the City.

For the cold weather period October 15<sup>th</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup> of each year the City of Saint Peter will install a limiting meter rather than disconnect service for a customer whose account has become delinquent.

The limiting meter will only allow customers to run their furnace, refrigerator and one or two lights. Customer's whose service is limited must pay all past due amounts plus a reconnection charge of \$70.00 plus tax prior to reconnection. The charge for reconnection after 3:30 pm or when the Finance Department is otherwise closed is \$300 plus tax.

What should a customer do if they can't pay their utility bill? A customer with a delinquent account may request a payment arrangement. The payment arrangement will require the customer to pay the current bill each month and make payments on the unpaid portion on a payment schedule limited to six (6) months. If payment is not made on the date agreed to by the customer and the current utility bill is not paid by the fifteenth of each month, service will be immediately disconnected. During the cold weather period, a limiting meter will be installed.

Customers needing help paying utility bills may qualify for state or federal fuel assistance. For complete qualifications and application information, please contact the Nicollet County Social Services office (934-8559) or the Minnesota Valley Action Council (934-5224). The Salvation Army Heat



Share program may also be able to help and can be reached at 326-5017.



**FIRE PREVENTION MONTH** - Saint Peter Fire Chief Ron Quade would like to remind all Saint Peter residents that October is "Fire Prevention Month". And because this is such a significant event for fire safety, Chief Quade would like to encourage families to meet to discuss and practice their family escape plan in the event of a fire.

The plan should include having at least two (2) exits from each room (make sure that if you include windows that you will be able to actually fit your body through the window) and designating a "meeting place" where the whole family will gather once the home has been evacuated. That way you can ensure everyone made it out safely.

October is also a good time to have a professional look over your home heating system to ensure that everything is working properly. This could not only help prevent a fire, but also save you money on heating bills by keeping your system working efficiently. Also be sure to check any auxiliary heating equipment (like space heaters or electric fireplaces) for frayed electrical cords etc. to help eliminate the possibility of a fire.

Never use extension cords or power strips with auxiliary electric heating equipment. Instead plug the equipment directly into an outlet. According to the U.S. Fire Administration, heating was the second leading cause of all residential building fires following cooking. Let's make sure your home is not one of the over 50,100 heating fires in residential buildings that occur each year in the United States.

Daylight savings time will begin soon and we will all set our clocks back an hour. That's the perfect time to make sure your smoke detectors are working correctly by replacing the battery. And remember.....smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors need to be replaced every ten years even if they seem to be working correctly.



For additional heating fire safety tips please visit <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/index.shtm>. Let's all work extra hard to make this upcoming heating season the safest one yet!

**ABSENTEE VOTING CONTINUES** - Don't feel like going to the polls on Election Day but still want to vote? Voters in Minnesota now have the



option of voting by absentee without having to give a reason. (Previously voters had to state one of several reasons allowed under Statute for voting by absentee.)

Absentee ballots are available from the Nicollet County Public Services Department (formerly known as the County Auditor's Office), at 501 South Minnesota Avenue during regular business hours and on Saturday, October 31st from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Absentee voting will continue until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 2nd. Voters will need to fill out an absentee ballot application which can be obtained either from the Public Services Department or online at <https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/ABRegistration/ABRegistrationStep1.aspx>. All absentee ballots must be received by the Public Services Department by Election Day or the ballots won't be counted.

 **PARKS CLOSING SOON** - All of the City's parks facilities will close for the season on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. This includes closing and winterizing the bathrooms and drinking fountains.

This work is done to prevent damage to pipes and fixtures that occur when the weather is colder. The facilities are also closed before Halloween to prevent vandalism. Please note that closing of these facilities could occur sooner should the weather become much colder.

Should you have any questions about closing the parks facilities, please contact the Public Works Department at 934-0670.

**COMMUNITY CENTER ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES –** Looking for new ways to advertise your business? Why not check out the Community Center?

The City has opportunities for business to advertise on panels in the Community Center gym where hundreds of people gather each week to spend time in the gym or on the walking/running track. Activities in the gym include school volleyball and basketball practices and games for middle school and 9<sup>th</sup> grade teams; noon hour basketball; adult volleyball; open gym; fencing; senior exercise classes; Pickleball; Creative Play Place Fitness Days; special events; and much more including the upcoming General Election. In addition, the walking/running track attracts all ages throughout the day.

The gym has thirty (30) advertising panels and several spaces are now available for rent. Businesses will need to purchase and have a panel installed and then the yearly rent is only \$400.

For information on securing an advertising space, please contact Recreation Director Jane Timmerman at 507-934-0667 or by email at [jane@saintpetermn.gov](mailto:jane@saintpetermn.gov).



**P.A.W.S. WALK** - Are you ready for the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual P.A.W.S. Walk on October 24<sup>th</sup>? Registration begins at 10 am in the Mill Pond area of Riverside Park.

As usual the walk will be a trick or treat walk through the downtown area with stops at participating businesses. Both

pets and owners are encouraged to come in costume! (Prizes will be awarded!)

Concessions will be available at the Mill Pond with all funds going to Providing Animals With Shelter (P.A.W.S.) Top donors and costume winners will be announced at 11:45 a.m.

Please help impounded animals by raising money for their care. Pledge forms are available at City Hall (227 South Front Street), the Police Department (207 South Front Street) or from the Kind Veterinary Clinic at 101 West Grace Street.

**OPEN GYM** - Each month during the fall/winter season "open gym" is offered to area youth at the Community Center. Enjoy time with friends shooting hoops and socializing. Clean non-marking shoes are required. Please note that children 7 years and younger must be accompanied by a responsible supervisor 16 years old or older. Monthly open gym schedules can be found at the Community Center or online through the City's website at [www.saintpetermn.gov/recreation](http://www.saintpetermn.gov/recreation). The weekly schedule is also recorded on the Recreation Hotline, 934-0070.



Some basketballs are available for use, but participants are encouraged to bring their own. There is no charge; however donations are welcome.

**HYDRANT FLUSHING** - The Public Works Department will be flushing hydrants beginning October 12<sup>th</sup> through approximately October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Flushing will take place between 8:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. to minimize inconvenience to residents. Flushing could make water cloudy or discolored for a short time, so please check your water clarity before doing laundry.

There are numerous benefits from hydrant flushing including:

- Improved water quality. Hydrants are flushed at least twice yearly to remove residue from the main pipe system which helps keep City water clear.
- Fire safety and fire rating – The Water crew tests the flow at hydrants to ensure it is adequate to pump to the City’s fire tanker truck. Hydrant flow is also important in helping control fire insurance costs.
- Economic development – Accurate flow information is made available to prospective businesses and industries that may consider locating in Saint Peter.

If you have any questions about this process, please contact the Public Works Department at 934-0670.

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

- **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

Erosion/Sediment Control Inspector/Installer Certificate or the ability to obtain within six months of the date of employment with the City; Possession of the Erosion/Sediment Control Site Management Certificate or the ability 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 cardiopulmonary resuscitation and emergency cardiac care or obtain within six months of the date of employment with the City. The desirable candidate will also possess many other skills, have additional experience and/or will have completed advanced education courses that will make the individual successful in this position. More information on these qualifications is identified in the job description that will be provided to prospective candidates along with the required job application. **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. \$18.06 to \$27.96 per hour. Applicants are required to complete a City of Saint Peter application form available in the City Administrator’s Office or by calling (507) 934-0663. Completed applications must be received by the City Administrator’s Office no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 18, 2015. Faxed, e-mailed, or late applications will not be accepted. Interviews will be conducted on December 2, 2015. AA/EOE

**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).

Monday	October 19	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	October 19	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Friday	October 23	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Saturday	October 24	10:00 a.m.	P.A.W.S. Walk
Monday	October 26	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting



Tuesday	October 27	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	October 28	12:20 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Saturday	October 31		HALLOWEEN FUN RUN
Monday	November 2	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	November 2	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Tuesday	November 3		ELECTION DAY
Thursday	November 5	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	November 9	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	November 10	5:30 p.m.	Library Board
Wednesday	November 11		LEGAL HOLIDAY – VETERAN’S DAY City Offices Closed
Monday	November 16	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	November 16	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Thursday	November 19	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	November 20	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	November 23	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	November 24	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	November 25	12:20 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday- Friday	November 26- November 27		LEGAL HOLIDAY - THANKSGIVING City Offices Closed