

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 www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter



04/29/2015

CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS – Action taken by the City Council at the regular meeting of April 27, 2015 included approval to refinance two existing electric revenue bonds for a possible savings of \$500,000; adoption of the 2015 Water Fund budget; an increase in water rates (more information will be provided on the rate increase in a future Hot Sheet); authorization to receive bids for issuance of a \$245,000 equipment certificate; approval of a \$7,000 loan to Chelsie Salonek dba Generations Boutique at 326 South Minnesota Avenue; approval for a feasibility analysis of the City's facilities by Ameresco with a focus on finding energy and other cost reduction opportunities; and authorization for Geldner Underground and Jordan Drilling to provide for boring installation of electric distributions system conduit.

The next regular meeting of the City Council will be Monday, May 11th 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.



MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE) - *Working together...*

I think it is what our community expects. It has now been a few weeks since the referendum on the

School and we can get back to the work of making things happen. I think you expect that the City and School look at ways to continue to cooperate and collaborate on facilities that the entire community can use and enjoy.

This means all kinds of things for different folks, but for the City, the focus points will be additional ball fields of all types; passive play areas to throw the Frisbee, have a picnic, ride or walk a trail; playground equipment that can be used by all ages and abilities; and a gathering spot for smaller community events that can meet future needs for our ever progressive citizens.

Over the next few months the final planning will be completed on the property we call the "Lambert Farm and Hermel" properties. That planning will include all those things mentioned above and I am sure other things that we hope to build in a way that is useable by all. We are committed to doing it in ways that avoid redundancy and duplication, in ways that are effective and ways that demonstrate our collective commitment to being good stewards of the resources you provide.

I am excited for the new and different opportunities this planning will provide to our community. I hope you will be too. It makes me wonder.....

LAWN MOWING REMINDERS – How many times have you mowed your lawn already this spring? Once, twice, more? As residents get into the weekly mowing routine, it's important to remember a couple of things.



First of all.....the need to keep up with mowing. When properties aren't properly maintained, the City starts to receive complaints from neighbors about unsightly lawns. Weeds and grass longer than six inches in height are prohibited by the City Code and if property owners don't take care of their yards, the property own may receive a notice to comply or, in some cases, a citation. If the property owner still doesn't comply, the City will mow the

property and provide the property owner with a very expensive bill.

Secondly.....it is illegal to mow lawn clippings into the street. If someone inadvertently (or on purpose) spreads lawn clippings into the street, it is up to the property owner to make sure the clippings are swept up and properly disposed of.

Finally, residents are encouraged to leave the lawn clippings on their lawns or, if you absolutely can't bring yourself to do so, bag the clippings and dispose of the materials at the yard waste compost site at the corner of North Swift/St. Julien Street. Clippings that wind up in the street eventually find their way into the storm sewer system and travel, untreated, to the Minnesota River. This increases the phosphorus level in the river and endangers wildlife and plant life. For more information about this topic, please visit www.cleanwatermn.org.

BUILDING BETTER NEIGHBORHOODS - In a previous Hot Sheet article we identified the market value per acre of various residential subdivisions in Saint Peter. The analysis is necessary as the City Council makes future decisions regarding the development of a third residential subdivision similar to Nicollet Meadows and Washington Terrace.

At this time we want to analyze the actual tax dollars paid per acre in the public and privately developed neighborhoods. Again, given the density of the two Building Better Neighborhoods (Nicollet Meadows and Washington Terrace), the tax return on the investment is substantial as you can see from the chart below.

<u>Neighborhood</u>	<u>Tax \$ Paid/Acre*</u>
Windsor Pond	\$11,713
Nicollet Meadows	\$ 9,561
Washington Terrace	\$ 8,712
Standard Lumber	\$ 7,754
Lampert Addition	\$ 6,565
Union Street	\$ 6,191
Pine Pointe	\$ 5,578

*Includes solid waste assessment.

DOG LICENSE DEADLINE – The deadline for purchase of 2015-2016 dog licenses is 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 30th. All dogs old enough to receive rabies vaccinations must be licensed. Dog owners who fail to purchase their license by the deadline will be subject to a penalty in addition to the license fee and may also receive a citation from the Police Department. Cost for the two year license is only \$5.00 for spayed/neutered animals or \$25.00 for intact animals. A rabies certification from a licensed



veterinarian must be presented before the license will be issued. For more information on pet licensing, please contact the Community Development Department at 934-0670.



BEFORE YOU HIRE A CONTRACTOR...

do your homework! Contractors need a license from the State of Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) and before you hire someone, the DLI suggests you ask for the

contractor's license number and contact the Residential Building Contractors division at the DLI to verify the builder is currently licensed.

Other information on the contractor is also available from the State including any history of State disciplinary action against the contractor. And before you sign a contract, make sure the document includes a detailed summary of the work to be done; a description of materials to be used; the total contract price or how the price will be calculated; and specific timelines and provisions that address what will happen if the contractor fails to meet the contractual deadlines. If you have a problem or complaint with a residential building contractor, contact the DLI Residential Building Contractors unit at (651)284-5065, by fax at (651)284-5749; or by e-mail at DLI.Contractor@state.mn.us to discuss your situation with an investigator who may offer suggestions about how to resolve the dispute.

COMMUNITY CENTER ADVERTISING – The Community Center gym hosts hundreds of events each year including volleyball games, basketball games and tournaments, soccer programs for young children, fitness classes, and even walkers on the track. It's a great place to advertise local businesses and a relatively inexpensive way to get your business information out to thousands and thousands of people. A limited number of advertising panels are available for lease in the Community Center gymnasium. If your business is interested in advertising in the gym of the Community Center, please contact Recreation and Leisure Services Directory Jane Timmerman at 934-0667 for more information.



"ICE" YOUR CELL PHONE (In Case of Emergency) – There's a nifty idea that's been going around for many years, yet some people don't know it could save your life! Just program your cell phone's contact list with the code word **"ICE"** (In Case of

Emergency). Being able to contact someone close to you in the event you are injured or otherwise incapacitated might be really important. It also helps emergency responders identify you. Here's how to do it....

- Open your cell phone contact list to create a new entry.
- Enter the word **ICE** with the name and number of the person you would like contacted in an emergency.
- To list multiple contacts name the entries **ICE 1, ICE 2, ICE 3**, or like this....
 - **ICE 1**-Husband-Tom
 - **ICE 2**-Mother-Mary
 - **ICE 3**-Son-Joe

If you are in an accident or suffered a medical condition and you can't answer questions about your medical history, having **ICE** in your cell phone will allow emergency responders to contact those closest to you and learn more about any significant medical information they need to know. It also will allow emergency personnel to identify you if no other information is available and to notify your loved ones about your situation. It's great to see the technology put to a really beneficial use!

POUND ANIMALS LOOKING FOR HOMES – The Saint Peter animal pound has a full house of cats and kittens all looking for wonderful forever homes. If you have room in your heart and home for a new pet, please check out these beauties:

- Macy is a 1 year old domestic short hair female tabby. She was found wandering around Saint Peter on Chatham Street. She is very friendly and is available for adoption for \$60.
- Cassidy is a domestic long hair dilute Torte female. She was found in Kasota with bite wounds on her back. Her injuries were treated and she is ready for a loving home. Her adoption fee is \$60.



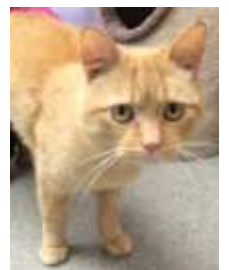
female and the mother of six week old male kittens

Butterscotch and Fluffykins. They could no longer stay in their original



home so they are in need of a new forever home. Flower is available for adoption for \$60 and the kittens are \$130 each.

- Butch is a 3 year old male cat found in Saint Peter. As you can see by his picture, he has a very serious look, but is just a lover who would love to go home with you and warm your lap for only \$60!



P.A.W.S. is covering some of the expenses for these adult cats so they can be adopted at a reduced fee of \$60. All animals have current vaccinations and have been spayed/neutered before adoption. For more information on these animals, please contact CSO Thompson at the Police Department (931-1550) or Alaina at Kind Veterinary Clinic (931-4700) during regular business hours.

COMMUNITY CENTER HOURS CHANGE – The Community Center will have some changes to the building hours. Beginning Friday, May 1st through Sunday, June 7th the building hours will be as follows:

- Fridays 6 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Saturdays 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Sundays closed (except for previously scheduled room reservations).
- Weekday hours, Monday-Thursday, are 6 a.m.-10 p.m.

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

GARAGE SALE SIGN REMINDER - It's that time of year again....garage sale season! The season comes with the usual collection of complaints and questions regarding garage sale signs, so here are the important facts to remember:

- No signs may be attached in any manner to a sign post, regulatory sign, street light, tree or any other City or State owned post or facility.



- Gus is a large 1 year old adult male with a flame point (colors on ears). He was found wandering around Summit Park. Gus is available for adoption for \$60.
- Flower is a 1 year old

- No signs may be posted on any City owned property including rights-of-way and/or City parks.
- Signs must not impede the sightlines of drivers.
- The person who puts the sign up is responsible for taking the sign down immediately following a garage sale and for removing signs which become tattered or loose.
- Any signs which violate these guidelines will be taken down by City employees and disposed of without notice.

And as you are scouting out locations of garage sales, please remember to pull over to the curb before writing down addresses for sales. Don't stop at a yellow painted curb, don't stop in the middle of traffic lanes, and be aware of and prevent traffic safety issues. Johnson Park, located at the intersection of Broadway Avenue and Washington Avenue, is a particularly dangerous area for vehicles and pedestrians alike when drivers stop or slow down for a look at the garage sale signs. Thanks for your cooperation!

RECREATIONAL FIRES - As the temps get warmer more residents become interested in spending time outdoors during the evening hours and for many of



you that means having recreational fires on private property. But before you put match to firewood please note that fires are only allowed if they comply with the City's

guidelines:

- There must be a fireproof fire ring separating the fire from the surrounding area.
- The fire ring cannot be larger than 36 inches in diameter.
- Only dry kindling wood can be burned in the fire ring. This prohibits the use of wood cut or designed for construction or from construction, including furniture, wood with any finish or foreign substance on it, twigs, leaves, green (wet) wood and anything other than wood cut from trees.
- The wood must be entirely within the fire ring.
- Flames cannot be allowed to reach higher than three (3) feet.
- There must be a garden hose connected to a water source within reach of the fire.
- The fire must be tended at all times.
- The fire must be for recreation only.
- The fire cannot be deemed careless in any manner due to strong winds or other

circumstances and if the fire is found to be careless in nature, violators will be prosecuted.

By following these guidelines, you and your guests should be able to safely enjoy a recreational fire. This information is also available on the City's website (<http://www.saintpetermn.gov/recreational-fire-standards>) should you need it at a later date. And remember.....in the event of a fire emergency, please dial 911.

MAKE THE RIGHT CALL! - All calls to the Police Department are important, but not every call is life threatening. Call 9-1-1 for emergency situations. Emergencies are defined as:

- Any crime in progress (damage to property, burglary, robbery, etc.)
- Any situation where people or property are at risk (fire, children on ice, etc.)
- Any medical emergency (heart attack, accidental poisoning, etc.)



When dialing 9-1-1...

- Stay on the line, stay calm and explain the emergency, as well as the full address where the emergency is occurring. The address and telephone number from which you are calling is automatically displayed to the 9-1-1 operator unless you are using a cell phone. If you are calling 9-1-1 from a cell phone, you will need to be prepared to provide as much detail on your location as possible so that emergency responders can find you. With so many people now removing their land line phones from residences and even some businesses, this becomes even more important.
- Through appropriate questioning, the 9-1-1 operator will determine what you are reporting and before dispatching the appropriate emergency service.
- Let the operator control the conversation and stay on the line until you are told to hang up.
- If you are unsure if something that is happening is actually an emergency, dial 9-1-1 and report what is happening to the operator. If they decide it is not an emergency, they will simply ask you to hang up and call the Saint Peter Police at 507-931-1550.

People reporting incidents that are NOT real emergencies often tie up the 9-1-1 emergency lines. This can prevent people with real emergencies from reaching the help they require.

Here are some tips on how you can minimize your family's chances of inadvertently dialing 9-1-1, and how to handle it if they do:

- If you accidentally dial 9-1-1, **do not hang up**. If you hang up, a ring-back will occur and this wastes valuable time. Stay on the line to advise the operator that you have dialed by accident, and answer any questions they may have.
- Teach your children that the telephone is not a toy. Teach them the importance of keeping the 9-1-1 line available for real emergencies.
- Do not preprogram 9-1-1 into your home, business or cellular telephone memory. Cell phones on belts or in purses generate many false calls every day without the owner's knowledge. If your cellular phone has a keypad lock option, this is an excellent way to ensure you won't accidentally dial 9-1-1 and other telephone numbers without your knowledge.
- Do not allow children to have access to deactivated cell phones because although deactivated, these phones can still dial 9-1-1 and can be used to generate false or prank calls.

If you are reporting something to the Saint Peter Police Department that does NOT meet the definition of an emergency (listed above), then dial the Saint Peter Police Department telephone number at (507)931-1550. This can include circumstances that you feel are suspicious or crimes that have occurred and the offender has left and is not returning.

If you are reporting a property crime and it does NOT meet the definition of an emergency (listed above), then dial the Saint Peter Police Department telephone number, (507)931-1550. This can include circumstances that you feel are suspicious or property crimes that have occurred and the offender has left.

If you see something that you feel is suspicious please take action and dial the Saint Peter Police Department at (507)931-1550, to report the suspicious circumstances. Without endangering yourself, obtain as much of the following information as possible and pass it on the Police Dispatcher.

SUSPECT	VEHICLE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sex • Race • Age • Height/Weight • Build • Complexion • Color of Hair/Eyes • Description of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • License Plate Number • Make • Model • Color • The direction the vehicle was going when it was last

Clothing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marks, tattoos, scars 	seen.
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Officers would much rather go out on a call that turns out to be nothing, than to have to respond to something serious that could have been prevented with just one call.

FLIP YOUR FRIDGE - Why not recycle that old energy wasting refrigerator and replace it with a new ENERGY STAR® certified model? You'll save energy and even more with a utility rebate. The City offers rebates of \$25 on the purchase of new ENERGY STAR refrigerators, plus an additional rebate up to \$50 to pay for recycling your old working refrigerator. Rebate forms are available from area retailers and on the website at www.SaveEnergyInSaintPeter.com.



Refrigerators that are 15 years or older use twice as much energy as a new ENERGY STAR certified refrigerator. Replacing an old energy-wasting refrigerator with a new ENERGY STAR certified refrigerator could save as much as \$260 in energy costs over the next five years.

SPRING YARD WASTE COLLECTION - The City will be collecting brush, garden waste, and grass clippings at curbside the week of May 4th. Please note – leaves will not be picked up but can be taken to the yard waste drop-off site.

Brush and garden waste must be separated and placed parallel and adjacent to the curb (do not put it on the street or in bags) by 7:00 A.M. Monday, May 4th. Brush and tree trimmings should be less than 8' in length.

It takes more than one day to pick everything up in town, but the City will only go through an area once. Yard waste that is not out by 7:00 A.M. Monday, May 4th, will not be picked up, but can be taken to the brush drop-off site. There will be no alley pick up.

Please help us make the process go smoother by not placing brush and grass clippings by trees, posts, utility pedestals or boxes, etc. and please do not park in front of the yard waste until pick-up is complete. Also, please do not put animal waste (dog, cat, rabbit, etc.) in soft yard waste piles. If animal waste is included in the pile the materials will NOT be picked up.

The brush and soft yard waste drop-off sites located across the street from the Department of Public Works facility, (405 West St. Julien Street), at the southwest intersection of West St. Julien and

Swift Streets, are open year around for the convenience of City utility customers in dropping off brush and soft yard waste.

FREE woodchips and sifted compost material, when available, will be at the site for City utility customers to pick up. The material is free to City utility customers, but you will have to bring your own shovels, bags or containers. Please refrain from placing foreign material in this area.

These services are provided and funded by the Environmental Service fee on City utility bills.

Again, remember that when the City crews start the spring brush, garden waste and grass collection, **LEAVES WILL NOT BE PICKED UP!**

Please call the Department of Public Works at 934-0670 if you have any questions.

JUNK COLLECTION BEING PLANNED – Judging by the number of phone calls that have started to come in to City Hall, residents of Saint Peter are already spring cleaning and looking to get rid of junk that has piled up in basements, attics, and garages.

A curbside appliance pickup has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 27th. Cost will be \$15 for each appliance and customers must register and pay for the collection by Monday, May 25th in the Finance Department at City Hall (227 S. Front Street). Appliances must be curbside by 8:00 am on the collection date or the fee will be forfeited.

A curbside furniture collection is also planned for Saturday, May 30th. As with the appliance collection, the item must be registered and paid for in the Finance Department at City Hall by no later than Wednesday, May 27th. The item must be placed curbside (not in the street) by 8:00 a.m. on May 30th or the fee will be forfeited. Cost for the furniture collection is as follows:

Sofa	\$20
Mattress/Box spring	\$18
Chairs	\$15
Recliners	\$20
Hide-a-Bed	\$33
Desk	\$20
Miscellaneous	\$10
Cabinet	\$20
Chest and Mirror	\$23
Headboard	\$13
Footboard	\$13
Carpet rolls	\$18 a roll

And for those of you with electronics to dispose of, an electronics collection will take place on Saturday, May 30th, from 9:00 am-1:00 pm at the City's wastewater treatment plant located at 400

West St. Julien Street. No registration is necessary for this collection and the collection company will accept payment at the time of drop off. Costs are:

Monitors up to 20"	\$10	Large Printer/Copier	\$25
LCD monitor	\$5	DVD/VCR/cable box	\$5
LCD/Plasma TV	\$15	Stereo system/home electronics	\$5
TV - 19 or 20 inch	\$10	Appliances	\$15
TV - 25 or 26 inch	\$15	Microwave	\$5
TV - 27 or 36 inch	\$20	Computer tower, computer components, keyboard, mouse, laptop, cell phones, small electronics, batteries (excluding alkaline), heaters	Free
Console/big screen TV	\$30		
Small Printer	\$5		

And finally, if you have a bike to recycle, Saturday, May 30th, from 9 am-1 pm is the date you will want to mark on your calendar. Bicycle recycling will take place along with the electronics recycling at 400 West St. Julien. All bicycles and bike parts will be accepted. Bikes will be refurbished or recycled by an area non-profit organization.

HELP WANTED – The City is now accepting applications for the following position(s):

- **WATER RESOURCES SUPERINTENDENT** - in the Department of Public Works. Essential job functions include planning, coordinating, directing, and monitoring operation of Water Utility, Wastewater Utility, and Stormwater Utility; plan and supervise construction, operation, and maintenance of water wells, water distribution system, and water treatment facilities; plan and supervise construction of lift stations, wastewater collection system, and wastewater treatment facilities; plan and supervise construction of stormwater collection system, stormwater structures and treatment facilities; set priorities to deal with emergencies and unanticipated costs; coordinate activities with other divisions, departments, and organizations; assist with planning, design, and construction of joint projects; evaluate the need and prepare specifications for materials and equipment; maintain operating records; prepare

bid specifications for service, equipment, and materials; prepare reports as requested; assist in presentation of annual budgets; set priorities. Minimum qualifications include high school diploma and satisfactory completion of technical school program for water and/or wastewater operators and eight years of responsible experience in operation of Class A, B, or C systems facility or similar industrial facility or 64 semester credits college courses related to chemical, civil, environmental, mechanical, or sanitary engineering or in business or public administration and six years' experience as a licensed water or wastewater operator; possession of a State of Minnesota Class B Water Supply System Operator Certificate within six months of date of employment with City; State of Minnesota Class B Wastewater Treatment Facility Operator Certificate within six months of date of employment with City; possession of State of Minnesota Type IV Waste Disposal Certification within six months of date of employment with City; possession of a valid State of Minnesota Class D driver's license within one month. Desirable qualifications: knowledge of methods, materials, and tools use in construction, operation, and maintenance of water wells, distribution, and treatment systems, wastewater collection and treatment

systems, stormwater collection systems, detention, and treatment; principles, practices, equipment, and chemicals used in testing water, wastewater, and stormwater; knowledge of Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system; knowledge of applicable regulatory codes; ability to read and interpret engineering plans and specifications; knowledge of OSHA regulations and safety policy; knowledge of computer operations; knowledge of laboratory certification procedures; B.S. degree in engineering, public administration or related field. 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. \$72,800 per year. 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 or by calling (507)934-0663. Completed applications must be received by the City Administrator's Office no later than 5:00 p.m. Friday, May 1, 2015. Interviews to be conducted Thursday, May 14, 2015. Faxed, e-mailed, and/or late applications will not be accepted. 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.

Wednesday	April 29	12:00 noon	Hospital Commission
Monday	May 4	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	May 4	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop Session
Thursday	May 7	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	May 11	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	May 12	6:00 p.m.	Library Board
Friday	May 15		POLICE OFFICER MEMORIAL DAY
Monday	May 18	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	May 18	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Friday	May 22	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitor's Bureau
Monday	May 25		MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY – CITY OFFICES CLOSED
Tuesday	May 26	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting



Tuesday	May 26	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	May 27	12:00 noon	Hospital Commission
Thursday	May 28	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority