

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



3/12/2014



MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE

- Week two of the list... The next item on the list as the Council looks down from 30,000 feet is all about early childhood care opportunities

and educational opportunities. The City Council's thinking on these topics started in 2005 and was stimulated by a large community conversation. That conversation started with an assessment that was done by the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation. This effort included community meetings where friends and neighbors got together to talk about needs in Saint Peter. A number of possible solutions were evaluated and brought forward by this group and many have been implemented.

Day care is of particular interest to the City Council as a part of our efforts to enhance our community and maintain positive demographics. The Council hopes to show growth in young families, which has in turn stimulated the need for additional day care slots. The City Council has directed staff to work on a renewed effort that includes establishment of a new ad hoc study group that will look to acquire data, analyze that data, and make recommendation to the Council about the need for additional day care slots. And, if there is a need, the group will provide a recommendation on what the City can do to help stimulate the development of those slots.

This is all done in front of a backdrop that is an effort to continue to see young families move to our community. Those young families have a very positive impact on Saint Peter in so many ways including: they join churches, help teach softball, participate in Girl Scouts, and they often times eat and shop closer to home because of the many commitments they have in their very busy lives.

We have seen a very positive trend in the age range of 24 to 34 year olds. That positive growth has resulted in new businesses, additional students and an ongoing vibrancy in Saint Peter that is not shared by many greater Minnesota communities.

Do you see the connection in those issues? Would you like to participate in this new day care study group? It makes me wonder...

HOT SHEET HIATUS – There will be no Hot Sheet published the week of March 19th. Publication will resume on March 26th.

TRANSIT ANNIVERSARY – The City's transit service will celebrate 25 years of operation on March 25th!

During the first month of operation, hours were 6:00 AM until 9:00 PM and the fare was \$1.00. Transit records show that there were 29 rides provided the first day and the bus drove a total of 70 miles and the cost of fuel was \$1.00 per gallon. The service began with three drivers and provided just over 2,200 rides for the month.

By contrast, today's transit provides just fewer than 6,000 rides per month on average. The transit operates from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM with a route bus also operating from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Until July 31st of last year a transit ride only cost \$1.75 (discounted to \$1.25 with the purchase of prepaid tickets), even though the cost of gasoline had more than tripled. On August 1st the cost of a ride on the Dial-a-Ride bus increased to \$3.50 (discounted to \$2.50 with prepaid tickets), while the new route service cost remained at \$1.75 with the same discounts available.

The City currently employs two full-time drivers and 8 part-time drivers in addition to a full time Coordinator. The buses travelled just under 8,000 miles during January of 2014 and the service area is everything within the Saint Peter and Kasota city limits.

Join us to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the City's transit service on Tuesday, March 25th between the hours of 2-4 p.m. in the Community Center lobby. Transit Coordinator Wayne Albers will be available to answer questions and provide information about the transit service. The public is also invited to register for drawings for transit tickets and other prizes.

TRANSIT SURVEY – The City of Saint Peter is working with area partners, including the City of Le Sueur and VINE Faith in Action, to find efficiencies and opportunities for enhanced transportation services. To determine the transportation needs in our community, a survey has been developed and the City is seeking the public's participation in the survey to help in these efforts. The link to the survey is <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RW8C5NC>. Won't you please take a moment to fill out the short nine question survey before the end of March? Thank you for your consideration and participation.

ICE DAMS – Have you seen them....those houses with what may be the largest and/or longest icicles ever hanging off the edge of the roof? And behind those icicles are oftentimes huge ice dams that might be doing untold damage to the home. The recent warmer weather may have taken care of the problem for now, but until you solve the issues that cause the ice dams, they are guaranteed to come back next winter.



The main cause for ice dams is the leakage of warm air from the home into the attic. Other factors that can create ice damming include a roof with several gables or dormers and/or a very heavy snow fall, which leads to ice build-up.

Homeowners with this problem should not remove the ice by chopping which could cause serious damage to the roof. Instead, first try a sidewalk snow melt product, but if the ice dam has reached the level where it might damage the roof, it's best to call a professional roofer who can use steam to remove the ice from the roof.

In order to prevent ice dams it's important to stop the leakage of warm air from the home into the attic. The following steps may help.

1. Seal around light fixtures and attic access in the ceiling.
2. Adding insulation to the attic will help, but once you reach an R-44 level there may be little value in adding more. Pay close

attention to the small space where the roof trusses meet the wall plates.

3. If you are thinking of re-roofing your house in the near future, adding an ice and water membrane along the roof eaves and valleys will help.

More information on preventing and eliminating ice dams is available from the State of Minnesota at www.commerce.state.mn.us or from the Building Department at City Hall (934-0662).

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

- **WASTEWATER OPERATORS** - One entry level and one Class "C" or higher Wastewater Operator in the Department of Public Works. Both positions will have the opportunity to advance to an "A" license Wastewater Operator position. Minimum qualifications include a high school diploma or equivalent; possession of a State of Minnesota Class "D" Wastewater Treatment Facility Operator Certificate or ability to obtain within one year of the date of employment with the City OR Class "C" Wastewater Treatment Facility Operator Certificate; possession of a State of Minnesota Type IV Biosolids Operator or ability to obtain within one year of the date of employment with the City; possession of a valid driver's license - State of Minnesota Class A driver's license with Air Brake Endorsement and Tanker Endorsement or ability to obtain within six months of the date of employment with the City; possession of an American Heart Association Certification as a Basic Rescuer or ability to obtain within six months. Desirable qualifications: Satisfactory completion of a technical school program related to wastewater systems operations; up to six years of responsible experience as a wastewater system operator with at least two years' experience in the operation of a Class A, B, or C system or facility, or similar industrial facility; knowledge of the principles, practices, chemicals, and equipment used in wastewater treatment, biosolids treatment and disposal, and pumping operations; ability to perform a wide variety of tests on raw and treated wastewater, raw and treated bio-solids; knowledge of the principles of plumbing and hydraulics; knowledge of and ability to operate Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition (SCADA) system; knowledge of the



functions and service requirements of mechanical equipment and machinery; knowledge of OSHA regulations and safety precautions of the trade; demonstrated ability to operate a variety of wastewater plant pumping, treatment, and control equipment, biosolids treatment and disposal equipment; demonstrated ability to diagnose problems under emergency conditions and take corrective action; knowledge and experience in the operation of equipment including but not limited to backhoes, dump trucks, jet rodder machine, tanker trucks, main line TV cameras, and line locators. **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 range: Entry-Level Wastewater Operator \$18.44 - \$19.59 per hour. Starting pay range: Class "C" Wastewater Operator \$20.73 - \$24.41 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 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 **April 3, 2014**. Faxed, emailed, and/or late applications will not be accepted. Interviews will be conducted April 16 -17, 2014. AA/EEO

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.

Monday	March 17	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	March 17	7:00 p.m.	Parks Board CANCELLED!
Monday	March 24	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	March 25	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	March 26	12:00 noon	Hospital Commission
Thursday	March 27	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	March 28	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	March 31	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Tuesday	April 1	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	April 7	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	April 7	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	April 14	5:00 p.m.	Human Rights Commission
Monday	April 14	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	April 15	6:00 p.m.	Board of Appeals and Equalization
Monday	April 21	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	April 21	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Thursday	April 24	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	April 25	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau

Monday	April 28	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	April 29	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	April 30	12:00 noon	Hospital Commission