

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
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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. www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter



2/05/2014

CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS – Action taken by the City Council at the regular meeting of January 27, 2014 included award of the bid for a new five-year residential refuse hauling contract to LJP Enterprises; approval for execution of a contract with the City of Nicollet for the City of Saint Peter to provide building inspection services in Nicollet; approval for execution of contracts with Nicollet County for the County to provide part-time senior services to the City and the City to provide library services to County residents living outside of the City limits; and approval for purchase of a replacement street sweeper to be funded by the 2014 Equipment Certificate. The Council also held a closed session to discuss land sale negotiations.

The next regular meeting of the City Council will be Monday, February 10th 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 934-0663. Copies of the Council packet are also available on the City's website at www.saintpetermn.gov/city.

curbies can be placed and still be three feet apart. This allows the drivers to have a safe spot to collect the materials without posing a hazard to others on the road.

Thank you for your cooperation.

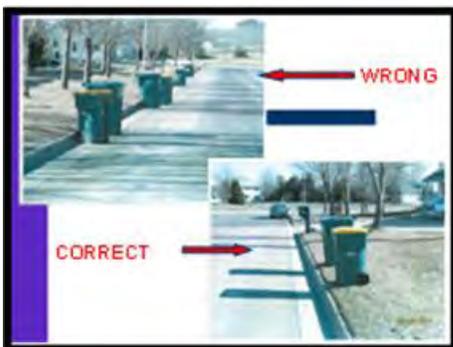


MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE – Pavilion....This is a topic I have not written about here for a number of months. Many may recall the Mayor's Task Force of

30 plus people who made the recommendation to the Council of how the new building should look. That recommendation was received by the Council and a plan, which includes looking for funding in the years 2014 and 2015, has been discussed. Much of my work over the next six months will be looking for, developing, and applying for financial resources that could help in building an enhanced pavilion.

So....keep listening and reading here and as the plan progresses I will provide updates in the *Hot Sheet*. The pavilion is an important asset in our community and it is vital to make that reinvestment so we can continue to see Minnesota Square Park as an event location, a community festival location, and a place where our community continues to come together.

Now the search for money really starts. Will we be able to find some for such an important project? It makes me wonder ...



CURBIE

PLACEMENT – Please help us help the refuse drivers and others who use the roadways by correctly placing your refuse and recycling curbies on collection day.

Curbies are to be placed **ON the boulevard (not in the street)**. In the winter that means some shoveling needs to be done so that there is a clear spot on the boulevard. Don't wheel the curbies up a hill of snow for collection. Instead, shovel out a nice spot where both the refuse and recycling

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING RESCHEDULED – Due to the state-wide precinct caucuses held on February 4th, the City's Planning and Zoning Commission meeting was rescheduled from that evening to Tuesday, February 11th at 5:30 p.m. in the Governors' Room of the Community Center. For more information on Planning Commission

meetings, please contact the Community Development Department at 934-0661.

WINTER HOME SAFETY TIPS - Here are some tips to keep you safe in your home during these continuously cold winter nights:

1. If you use a portable heating device make sure it is listed by UL, ETL or CSA so you know it is safe. Keep it clear of combustibles and make sure it is placed on a flat surface so the family pet can't knock it over. When leaving the room or going to sleep, be certain to turn it off or unplug it.
2. Perform routine inspections and maintenance such as changing furnace filters monthly, removing garden hoses from the outside connection to prevent pipes from freezing, clearing snow from outside vents, carefully removing snow build-up from around the gas meter (by hand!) and checking smoke and carbon monoxide detectors monthly to make sure they are working.
3. Keep an emergency kit stocked with flashlights, portable radio, extra batteries, and some nonperishable foods. Keep your kit in a place that is easy to find in the event of an emergency.
4. If you need or want to use a candle, make sure to keep it away from combustibles like paper, wood, and plastics and place it so that pets can't accidentally knock it over. Anything located above a candle should be at least two feet away from the flame and most importantly, never leave candles unattended!
5. If you have bedrooms in the basement or the lower level keep snow clear from the front of the window and from the window well so the window can be opened if you need to get out.

FIREPLACES - Home heating bills have gone through the roof for a lot of home owners. If you are one of them, you may be thinking of adding a fireplace of some type to your home. Here are some things to keep in mind when looking for a fireplace.



- Always look for a fireplace with a UL listing (Underwriters Laboratories Inc.). This listing will let you know that the fireplace has been tested to meet safety requirements.
- Follow the manufacturer's specifications for installation. Each manufacturer sets guidelines on how the equipment is to be installed. The installation manual must be available for the

Building Inspector to review during the rough-in inspection.

- A permanently mounted, gas, vent-free heater/fireplace cannot be legally installed in a home, but can be installed in a garage or shed. If you have any questions about installation of a fireplace please call the Building Department at 934-0662 before you buy.

REFUSE HAULING CHANGES – With the award of the bid for residential refuse hauling to LJP Enterprises, changes will be coming for City refuse customers.

Days of collection, what is collected, and how the process works will be identical. However, the green curbies that everyone has now will be switched out for new curbies from LJP Enterprises. The new curbies will be a different color, but the recycling curbie will still have the yellow/gold top. City staff and LJP staff will be meeting to discuss the transition in the next few days and customers will be notified through public access, the City's Facebook page and website, reports at Council meetings, and in the Hot Sheet. As the transition plan progresses, check all these sites for more information. We hope to make the transition as seamless as possible for our customers.

CONSTRUCTION VALUES - Depending on where you live or travel in Saint Peter, you might not see a lot of growth occurring. But did you know that a total of 20 single family homes were permitted for construction in 2013? The total value of the single family construction equaled \$3.7 million. That is more than double the number of single family home permits issued in 2012 (9 single family homes were permitted in 2012 for a total value of \$2.2 million) and just a taste of the growth that continues in our community.

Commercial/Industrial construction building permits totaled \$12.5 million in 2013 which is an increase from 2012 which saw a value of only \$7.8 million. So things are definitely moving in the growth direction.

What does this mean? One way to look at it is that Saint Peter's economy and that of our region continues to improve and a lot of people think Saint Peter is a fine place to build and grow.

SNOWSHOES FOR RENT - Bundle up, get outside (when the weather cooperates!), and experience nature. Enjoy the winter by taking a snowshoe stroll through the woods. The Saint Peter Recreation Department and Treaty Site



History Center provide adult and youth size snowshoes for rent. Rental fees: \$5 per pair per day, \$10 for the weekend, (Deposit of \$50 per pair due upon pick up). Adult and youth sizes are available. Please call ahead for larger groups. Call 934-0667 (Recreation) or 934-2160 (Treaty Site History Center) for more information.

LOOKING AHEAD TO SUMMER - It's not too early to plan for your spring or summer family reunion/event, company picnic, graduation party, or groom's dinner at one of our local park shelters. Shelters are available at Minnesota Square Park, Gorman Park, Gault Park, and Riverside Park (Mill Pond). If you are interested in reserving a shelter, please visit the City website at www.saintpetermn.gov and go to "Facility Availability". Follow the instructions to find out when the park shelter is available. (Note that if the month you are checking doesn't show up on the page then no reservations have been made.)

Once you select a date and time contact the Recreation and Leisure Services Department to finalize your reservation of the facility; call 934-0667 or email the office at heidis@saintpetermn.gov. The fees for use of the park shelter are \$40 for City of Saint Peter residents or \$52 for those that live outside of the City limits. A \$100 damage deposit is also required.

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	February 10	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	February 11	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	February 17		LEGAL HOLIDAY – PRESIDENT’S DAY City Offices Closed
Tuesday	February 18	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Tuesday	February 18	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Monday	February 24	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	February 25	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	February 26	12:00 noon	Hospital Commission
Thursday	February 27	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	February 28	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	March 3	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	March 3	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Tuesday	March 4	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	March 10	5:00 p.m.	Human Rights Commission
Monday	March 10	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	March 11	6:00 p.m.	Library Board
Monday	March 17	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	March 17	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
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