

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 or visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter



10/23/2013

CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS – Action taken by the City Council at the regular meeting of October 14, 2013 included a public hearing and subsequent action to approve the vacation of a portion of east-west alley located in Block 104 in Patch's Addition; approval of a modified lease with TMobile for cell phone equipment on the City's water tower; approval of an easement near the Broadway Water Tower for AT&T; scheduling public hearings on assessment of unpaid utility charges, miscellaneous charges and project charges; approval of updated policies for the Hospital Commission; approval of a job description for Volunteer Firefighters; approval of the plan for construction of a multi-use recreational trail system at Traverse des Sioux park; approval to receive bids for installation of equipment at the electric generation plant; and a closed session to discuss Police Officer and Communication Technician union contract negotiations.

The next regular meeting of the City Council will be Monday, October 28th 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. A copy of the Council packet is also available on the City's website at <http://www.saintpetermn.gov/city-council-minutes-agendas-packets>.



MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE – WWW.... The Hospital has recently launched an updated website that has lots of cool features and which gives great

information about the type of service you can get at our community Hospital. It may be worth a quick looksee. I think it looks and works great and allows a lot of interaction which continues to be important

in web design and use. Here is the website address: <http://riversedgehealth.org/>. Will you take a few minutes to check it out? It makes me wonder....

HOSPITAL CEO RECEPTION – The public is invited to join the Hospital Commission and staff of River's Edge Hospital and Clinic for a reception honoring retiring CEO Colleen Spike and welcoming incoming CEO George Rohrich.

The reception will take place on October 31, 2013 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Coffee and cake will be served at this open house event in the Medical Office Building Atrium at River's Edge Hospital and Clinic at 1900 North Sunrise Drive.

Please join us as we thank Colleen for her many years of service and welcome George to his new position!

PARK RESTROOM CLOSURES - Due to the below freezing temps the last two nights, the Public Works staff has been forced to close the restroom facility at Gault Park to prevent additional damage to the pipes. The restroom facility will not reopen until spring.



In addition, all parks, and the restroom facilities in the remaining City parks, will officially close for the season on Wednesday, October 30th. Closure of parks facilities prior to Halloween helps prevent vandalism in these facilities and closure before the cold weather arrives allows the Public Works staff to winterize the facilities and prevent costly damage.

CAMPAIGN SIGNS - It is definitely election season as campaign signs have begun to spring up in Saint Peter. State law allows signs to be put up prior to

an election, but there are some rules that need to be followed.

First of all, candidates and their campaign workers should remember that no campaign signs are allowed on City owned property. This includes highway and street rights-of-way, park property or on the lawns of any City facilities.

Secondly, campaign signs must not be attached to any street lights, street signs, directional signs, or other informational signage.

Next, campaign signs should not be placed in a manner that restricts sight lines for drivers.

And finally, campaign signs are only allowed on private property with the property owner's permission. To avoid placing the sign in the City owned right-of-way, signs should be placed as follows:

- Behind the public sidewalk, or
- If there is no sidewalk, behind the boulevard tree line, or
- If there is neither sidewalk nor a tree line, at least 15' behind the back of the curb.

Some homeowners, in an effort to promote their favorite candidate a bit more, move the sign closer to the curb after it has been placed by the campaign. Or they might have mowed the lawn and when they put the sign back up, it wasn't placed in the same spot. While trying to be helpful to their candidate, they are actually getting the candidate and their campaign staff in a bit of hot water for violating the rules. If you are one of those helpful home owners, please make sure the sign is kept back from the City owned right-of-way and realize that along some roadways, the sign will need to be well back of the road.

Signs that violate the regulations may be removed by City staff. Thanks to everyone for following the rules!



BLOOD DRIVE - River's Edge Hospital and Clinic is hosting a blood drive on Friday, November 1st, from 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Appointments are recommended.

To schedule an appointment to donate, please contact Shannon at 934-7601 or go online to www.redcrossblood.org.

HIGHWAY 169 WARRANTY WORK - The contractor for the Highway 169 project (the one done in 2009) is back in town and will be doing some warranty work on the project. This work is being coordinated by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (not the City) as they were the original contract holders for the Highway project.

The contract (Schaffer) will set up their equipment and use the old Library lot across the street from City Hall as their staging area.

During the warranty work, drivers might encounter some short term roadway closures and/or detours in the downtown area as Schaffer makes repairs to sidewalks and other parts of the project. Everyone is encouraged to be patient with this work and to use extra caution in and around areas where work is being performed.



BIKE TRAIL DEVELOPMENT -

The City Council recently approved a plan to construct multi-use (bike/hike/snowshoe) trails in Traverse des Sioux Park. The trails will be one-direction to prevent mishaps and will be

approximately 11-15 miles long and about two feet wide. The trails will also be constructed with minimal impact to the park and no trees will be removed during the construction. Area residents who wish to be involved in the construction efforts are asked to contact TraverseTrails@gustavus.edu or to give the volunteers a call at 933-0881.

BUILDING ACTIVITY - Dean Busse, the City's Building Official, was recently asked the question "Is there any building going on in the Saint Peter?"

The answer is a resounding "Yes!"

As of October 21st the Building Department has issued five permits for new commercial construction. This number includes the two twenty-unit apartments being built on Park Row. Permits have also been issued for fourteen new single family homes, three duplexes, and two four-plexes. The Building Department is now reviewing plans for three more four-plexes and two more duplexes.

When contrasted with 2012 when permits were issued for nine single family homes, three four-plexes and four new commercial buildings, 2013 is a great year for building in Saint Peter.

LIBRARY REMINDER -

At the Public Library Saint Peter residents will find more than books! There are ten public internet computers, a wide



variety of movies for children and adults, over 140 magazines and newspapers, the electronic law library, meeting/study rooms, a special Minnesota Collection, and themed Storytime Bags. For families with young children, Storytime Bags are a

great resource. Included in each large plastic bag tote are books, puzzles or puppets, activity ideas, hands on manipulatives, and song and poem sheets all centered on a common theme (e.g. trains, birthdays, cats, math, transportation, etc.).

Staff can also help access eBooks and set up personal accounts with Zinio Digital Magazines.

Wireless internet service is available throughout the Library and it's a great place to spend time. For more information on what the Library has to offer, please check out the City's website at www.saintpetermn.gov.

HALLOWEEN SAFETY – In just two weeks Saint Peter children will engage in one of the most treasured traditions of childhood....Trick of Treating! And while this wholesome, family activity brings back memories of our own childhoods, things have gotten a bit more risky for kids these days and children have be wiser and more aware of their surroundings to avoid getting injured on Halloween. Here are some McGruff safety tips everyone in the family should be reminded of....



- Never, ever go into a stranger's house while trick or treating.
- Only ring the door of those homes with lights on.
- Only cross streets at designated intersections.
- Never cross the street from between two parked cars. Drivers can't see little ones when they dart out from between a car. Only cross at designated intersections.
- Wear makeup instead of masks which can obstruct a child's vision. That will make it easier for the children to cross intersections and go up and down stairs.
- Keep costumes short to prevent trips, falls and other bumps in the night.
- Carry a flashlight or glow-stick with you. It will help prevent the little ones from tripping over unseen obstacles in lawns and gives drivers a chance to see everyone from further away.
- Costumes may be highly flammable. Make sure to keep dresses or capes far away from any lit jack-o-lanterns on the steps of the homes you visit.
- Teach children not to sample their treats until they are home and Mom and Dad can look through the candy first. Unopened candies or



other treats that are in original wrappers are the best bet.

- If you are an older kid or young teen, and going out with friends, make sure that your parents know where you are going and who you are going with.
- Homeowners can prepare for their trick or treaters by turning on exterior lights, removing objects from yards that might present a hazard and making sure that pumpkins are lit with glow-sticks or other non-flammable sources.

Using a little common sense on Halloween night will help make the evening fun for all.

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



- **PART-TIME UTILITY METER READER** - The City of Saint Peter is accepting applications for the position of UTILITY METER READER in the Finance Department. Minimum qualifications: high school diploma or equivalent; experience working with the public; and valid Class D driver's license. Desired qualifications: record keeping experience and previous meter reading experience. Position works over the first two weeks of each month. Meter Readers must work in all weather conditions. \$12.41 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 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. or by calling (507)934-0663. Completed applications must be returned no later than 5:00 pm, November 15, 2013. Faxed, emailed and/or late applications will not be accepted. AA/EOE
- **VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER** - The City of Saint Peter is currently accepting applications for the position of VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER in the Fire Department. Minimum qualifications: High school diploma/GED; at least 18 years of age; reside within a six (6) minute response time from the Fire Station; possess a valid driver's license; and ability to read and write the English language. Successful candidates must also pass pre-employment physical, drug and alcohol tests. An open meeting for interested candidates and their significant others will be held on Saturday, November 2, 2013 from 9-11:30 a.m. at the

Fire Station (227 West Mulberry Street). Successful candidates will begin service January 1, 2014 and will be required to successfully complete required Firefighter schooling within one year. Applicants are required to complete a City application form which is available in the City Administrator's office at 227 South Front Street or by calling (507)934-0663. Complete position descriptions for Firefighters are also available in the City Administrator's office. Completed applications must be received by the City Administrator's office by 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2013. Faxed, emailed and/or late applications will not be accepted. AA/EEO

- **FIRE CHIEF** - The City of Saint Peter is now accepting applications for the position of FIRE CHIEF in the Fire Department. Minimum qualifications: any combination of education and experience equivalent to a high school degree and additional training received through regional and state fire schools and five years of experience with fire prevention and protection; current training from regional and state fire schools is preferred; and possession of a valid State of Minnesota Class B driver's license within six months of appointment. Desired qualifications: knowledge of modern firefighting methods and techniques; knowledge of the operations of a municipal fire department; ability to supervise volunteer firefighters; knowledge of budgetary principles; knowledge of OSHA regulations and safety precautions of firefighting; and aptitude for Fire Chief work. 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 November 15, 2013. Faxed and/or late applications will not be accepted. More information on this position is available on the City's website at <http://www.saintpetermn.gov/employment>. AA/EEO

- **FIRE DEPARTMENT SAFETY OFFICER** – The City of Saint Peter is now accepting applications for the position of Fire Department Safety Officer. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS include: High School diploma or equivalent; Possession of valid Minnesota Class D driver's license or equivalent; Possession of Minnesota Firefighter 1001 certification or equivalent; Experience working with the public; Successful completion of training through specialized fire service related schools including four National Fire Academy (NFA) accredited or Minnesota State College and University (MNSCU) Officer Leadership equivalent courses and Incident Safety officer or equivalent courses; Current St. Peter Fire Department member in good standing with seven (7) years of firefighting experience. Applicants must complete City application form available from 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 November 15, 2013. Faxed and/or late applications will not be accepted. More information on this position is available on the City's website at <http://www.saintpetermn.gov/employment>. 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.

Thursday	October 24	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	October 25	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	October 28	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	October 29	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	October 30	12:00 noon	Hospital Commission
Monday	November 4	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	November 4	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop Session

Tuesday	November 5		ELECTION DAY
Monday	November 11		VETERAN'S DAY – Legal Holiday City offices closed
Monday	November 11	5:00 p.m.	Human Rights Commission – CANCELLED!
Tuesday	November 12	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	November 12	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Tuesday	November 12	6:00 p.m.	Library Board Meeting
Monday	November 18	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	November 18	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Friday	November 22	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau Meeting
Monday	November 25	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	November 26	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	November 27	12:00 noon	Hospital Commission
Thursday- Friday	November 28- November 29		THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – City offices closed