

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.
To request an email subscription to this newsletter, or for more information, please contact us at barbaral@saintpetermn.gov
www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter



1/13/2021

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – The City Council meeting of January 11, 2021 included approval for purchase of a Police squad car to be funded by the 2020 Equipment Certificate; updates to the title for the property at 100 Dodd Avenue; action to authorize preliminary engineering work including receipt of bids for restroom/concession facilities at Community Spirit Park; authorization for receipt of bids for a project to improve Center Street, McLeod Street and the portion of North Third Street from St. Julien to a point 1,000' north; approval for purchase of a specialized surgical table for River's Edge Hospital; authorization to establish a temporary extended leave bank for employees for COVID-19 illnesses; and closed sessions to discuss offers to purchase City owned properties at 101 North Front Street and 2100 North Sunrise Drive.

The next regular City Council meeting will be Monday, January 25, 2021 beginning at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held electronically as authorized under Minnesota Statutes 13.021. For log-in information, please visit the City's website. The log-in information will be at the bottom of the meeting agenda page which will be available under the "meetings and minutes" section of the homepage the Friday before the Council meeting.

reopen on Thursday, January 14th. While the doors will once again be open, we ask that everyone coming into our buildings wear a mask, and practice appropriate social distancing and proper hand washing to help keep our employees and visitors safe. If you feel ill or have one of the many common symptoms of COVID-19, we ask that you either delay your visit until you are feeling better, or call/email with your question. Numbers for all departments can be found on the City's website at <https://www.saintpetermn.gov/Directory.aspx>.

Some offices have sneeze shields in place; some do not. Those that do not have sneeze shields installed, due to small office sizes, may restrict visitors to that particular office.

We appreciate the public's patience and willingness to work with us while our doors were closed and we are happy to be back.

NICOLLET COUNTY COVID PRESS RELEASE – The following is a press release issued by Nicollet County Health and Human Services related to the COVID-19 vaccine.....

"Nicollet County Health and Human Services has received their first shipment of COVID-19 vaccine and is working with community partners and the state health department to start vaccinating priority populations.

COVID-19 vaccine is rolling out in a phased approach due to a limited number of doses available. More doses will continuously be made and distributed, but we caution that it will take time and be a fluid situation. Timing of vaccination administration will vary from county to county due to a differing number of individuals requiring vaccines in each community.

The first people who are receiving the COVID-19 vaccine are those with the highest risk of getting infected: front-line health care workers and adults in long-term care facilities. As more COVID-19 vaccines become available, more people will be



MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY CLOSURES – All non-emergency City offices, including the Library, will be closed for the January 18th Martin Luther King, Jr. Day legal holiday. However, the Community Center will be open from 6 am – 9 pm and

Minnesota River Valley Transit buses will operate under their normal schedule including delivery of Meals on Wheels.

COVID-19 UPDATES – City buildings that were previously closed to the public are tentatively set to

offered vaccinations. The next priority group includes individuals who are 75 and older and essential workers. Our agency is testing clinic formats including in-person and drive-through options, keeping in mind community safety, privacy and efficiency.

More details about the plans for vaccination priority groups and the model of delivery will be shared as they become available. Please refer to Nicollet County's Facebook page and website, as well as local newspapers for regular updates.

Studies show that the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine and the Moderna vaccine are 95% and 94.5% effective, respectively, in preventing COVID-19. With these two vaccines, people will need two doses about a month apart for full protection. After the second dose, it will take about two weeks for your body to build up protection. Initially, these vaccines will be for adults only because we need more data on the use in children. Additional trials are coming to determine how the vaccines may work for those younger age groups.

Ultimately, all Minnesotans will have an opportunity to be vaccinated.

Although the increasing availability of effective coronavirus vaccines suggests there may finally be a light at the end of the pandemic tunnel, this is no time to let down your guard. While COVID-19 vaccines are effective in preventing COVID-19, you should continue to follow other prevention protocols already in place:

- Wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth.
- Stay at least 6 feet apart from other people.
- Wash your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer with at least 70% alcohol."

In addition to that great information from Nicollet County, River's Edge Hospital has offered some basic information about the vaccines from the Centers for Disease Control:

- FACT: The COVID-19 vaccine will NOT give you COVID-19. None of the vaccines in the United States use a live virus. The goal is to teach our immune systems to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19.
- FACT: The COVID-19 vaccine will NOT cause you to test positive on a COVID-19 viral test. The viral tests are designed to detect a current infection. If your body develops an immune response, you may test positive on an antibody test. Antibody tests show if there was a previous infection.

- FACT: People who have gotten sick with COVID-19 may still benefit from getting vaccinated. At this time medical experts do not know how long someone is protected from getting sick again after recovering from COVID-19. Because re-infection is possible, it is recommended that people who have had COVID-19 receive the vaccine.
- FACT: Receiving an mRNA vaccine will NOT alter your DNA. mRNA stands for messenger Riboneucleic Acid and most easily is described as instructions for how to make a protein or a piece of a protein. mRNA does not alter your genetic make-up.

COVID-19 UPDATE – The information above from Nicollet County and River's Edge Hospital is terrific, but here is some additional St. Peter specific information you may need/want to know:

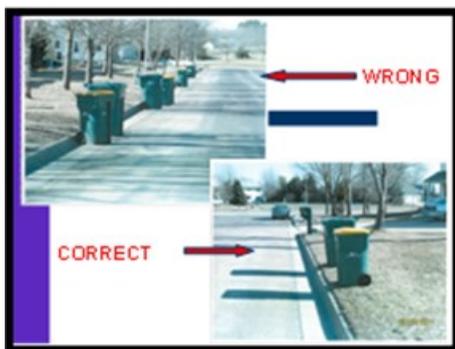
- Community Center and Library Open to Public - Both the Community Center and Library re-opened to the public on Monday, January 4th. Please visit the City of Saint Peter website for facility hours and availability. Masks and social distancing requirements are still in effect. Please call the Recreation Office with questions at 507-934-0667.
- Are you a St. Peter business owner negatively impacted by COVID-19 restrictions? Help may be available. As part of a special City Council meeting on December 7th, the Council took action to create a financial assistance program for St. Peter hospitality businesses (cocktail lounge, fitness/health clubs, restaurants, club/lodge, and public assembly) which have been hard hit by COVID-19 restrictions. As part of this program, businesses may be eligible for up to \$10,000 in loan funds of which 65% will ultimately become a grant with no need for repayment. In another action at the same special meeting, the COVID-19 Micro Loan program, which ended in August, was re-established. Fifty-seven businesses took advantage of that loan program earlier this year and benefited when the loans of up to \$10,000 were converted to grants using a large portion of the City's Federal CARES Act allocation. With the conversion \$450,000 was returned to the City's revolving loan fund leading to the Economic Development Authority and City Council both agreeing to reopen the micro loan program and once again offer up to \$10,000 in loans for eligible businesses. (Please note, these will strictly be loans with repayment required

beginning in January, 2022 at the rate of \$100 per month.) If you are a St. Peter business owner interested in this assistance, please contact the Community Development Director by calling 507-934-0661 or by email at russw@saintpetermn.gov.

IT'S WINTER IN MINNESOTA – Winter is here to stay and while the snow is beautiful and Minnesota is home to all kinds of winter fun, snow can also create a bit of nuisance if we're not paying attention.

Now that the snow is piling up at the curb you might have noticed a bit more of a challenge to put your refuse/recycling containers out. While it's tempting to just wheel the curbies into the street, please don't. Curbies should be on the curb (hence the name "curbies") and not placed in the street

where snow plows, other drivers and pedestrians have to navigate around them. Several curbies that were placed on the street prior to one of the recent



storms are now plowed in leaving the property owner with a lot of shoveling to do before they can get the curbies off the streets.

The answer to this problem is to shovel out a space on the boulevard for your containers each time you shovel your walk. This will allow the curbies to be placed at the curb line but out of the roadway.

Another pesky winter problem is people/contractors who remove snow from private property and pile it out into the roadway. Not only is this not allowed in St. Peter, but it's also against Minnesota law. So if you have gotten in the habit of pushing all the snow from your sidewalk or driveway into the road with the hope that City crews will take it away for you, please find other ways to store the snow before your actions lead to an accident.

And speaking of shoveling snow from sidewalks, have you been keeping up with it? Like most communities, St. Peter has many people who must walk even in the winter and the sidewalk clearance regulations are designed to ensure that sidewalks are accessible for everyone. City regulations require sidewalks to be cleared of snow and ice within 24 hours of a snowfall and the Parks crew is responsible for clearing 10-11 MILES of City sidewalk and trails after each snowfall. While the crews work diligently to get these areas cleared

within the 24 hours, sometimes it is simply not possible.

It can be the same for private property owners, but those who choose not to clear their walks face the possibility of the City doing the work at a hefty cost (minimum of \$75). For the most part these sidewalks are cleared by the City only after a complaint has been made and once the snow starts falling, a lot of complaints are called in to the City about sidewalks. Please help us avoid those calls and the extra work by ensuring the entire width of your walkways are cleared of snow and ice.

SKATING RINK UPDATE - Did you get a shiny new pair of skates for Christmas and are anxious for the City's rinks at Veteran's Memorial Park to open up? Sorry to disappoint, but this week's higher than normal temps have put a wrench in the flooding of the skating rinks and it will be at least a week or more before they are ready for skaters.



If you haven't been down to the rinks, you might not know that the rinks receive full sun throughout the day. While the temps at night might be cold enough to freeze the ice, the thawing that occurs during the day does not allow for development of an ice sheet strong enough to withstand skaters. Hopefully Mother Nature will help out by sending some cooler temps our way soon.

When the rinks are opened, notice will be provided on the City's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/CityofSaintPeter>.

One final note...when the rinks do open, COVID-19 restrictions will keep the warming house closed.

WINTER/SPRING ACTIVITY BROCHURE -The joint Recreation and Leisure Services Department and Saint Peter Community and Family Education Winter/Spring Activity Brochure is now available but it won't be showing up in your mailbox. For the first time, the brochure is only available online through the City of Saint Peter and Community Ed websites ([https://www.saintpetermn.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1219/Final-Brochure-3?bidId=.](https://www.saintpetermn.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1219/Final-Brochure-3?bidId=))

The offerings include a variety of fun, unique, and fulfilling classes and activities the whole family will be sure to enjoy.

For more information please contact the Recreation and Leisure Services Department at 507-934-0667.

HELP WANTED – The City of Saint Peter is now taking applications for the following position:

- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES SPECIALIST (NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR) -**
 The City of Saint Peter is currently accepting applications for the position of IT Specialist (Network Administrator). **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Associates degree in Computer Science or related field; Two years of experience in data processing systems and software applications; Experience with LANS (Local Area Networks); Experience in installation, configuration, management and use of servers; Knowledge of Microsoft Word, Outlook and Excel software including installing and configuring Microsoft software; Experience working with the public; Valid Minnesota Class D driver's license. **DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS:** Demonstrated minimum two years of experience in integration of

SCADA, AMI or other data acquisition and control systems back-up and security; Demonstrated minimum of two years of experience in network design, support, back-up, security and documentation; Demonstrated two years of experience in deploying hardware including pc's, VoIP phones, multifunction devices, smartphone and other peripheral devices; Demonstrated experience in wire pulling, termination and testing. Salary \$64,500 - \$71,500 per year. 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 1-5 p.m., by calling (507)934-0663 or online at <https://www.saintpetermn.gov/365/Employment>. Completed applications must be received by the City Administrator's office by 5:00 p.m. February 3, 2021. Online interviews will be scheduled February 10-11, 2021. Faxed and/or late applications will not be accepted. AA/EEO

CITY MEETING CALENDAR –***PLEASE NOTE...Until further notice, City meetings may be conducted electronically as authorized under Minnesota Statutes 13D.021. Log-in information for meetings being held either virtually or as a hybrid virtual/in-person will be included at the bottom of the agenda page. Agendas are all posted on the City's website at www.saintpetermn.gov.

Monday	January 18			LEGAL HOLIDAY – DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY – City offices closed
Tuesday	January 18	5:30 p.m.		City Council Workshop
Tuesday	January 18	7:00 p.m.		Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Friday	January 22	8:00 a.m.		Tourism and Visitor's Bureau
Monday	January 25	7:00 p.m.		City Council Meeting
Tuesday	January 26	5:30 p.m.		Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	January 27	12:30 p.m.		Hospital Commission
Thursday	January 28	12:00 noon		Economic Development Authority
Monday	February 1	5:30 p.m.		City Council Workshop
Thursday	February 4	5:30 p.m.		Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	February 8	3:30 p.m.		Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	February 8	7:00 p.m.		City Council Meeting
Monday	February 15			LEGAL HOLIDAY – President's Day –

City offices closed

Tuesday	February 16	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Monday	February 22	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	February 23	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	February 24	12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday	February 25	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	February 26	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau