

# 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.  
To request an email subscription to this newsletter, or for more information, please contact us at [barbaral@saintpetermn.gov](mailto:barbaral@saintpetermn.gov)  
[www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter](https://www.facebook.com/cityofsaintpeter)



7/21/2021

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING** – The City Council meeting of July 12, 2021 included a public hearing and subsequent action to approve a petition for an administrative lot split of the property at 1031 West Grace Street (former KRBI property); a presentation and formal acceptance of the 2020 audit; award of bid for the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) Project to Automatic Systems Inc.; and a closed session to discuss litigation covered under attorney-client privilege as authorized by State Statute.

The next regular City Council meeting will be Monday, July 26, 2021 beginning at 7:00 p.m. As a reminder, Council meetings are once again back to in-person only. No virtual participation will be available.

Agendas for all City Council meetings are available on the City's website ([www.saintpetermn.gov](http://www.saintpetermn.gov)) the Friday before the Council meeting.

**HOSPITAL APPRECIATION PICNIC** – River's Edge Hospital has extended an invitation to the Saint Peter community to join Hospital staff at a Community Appreciation Picnic on August 4<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. The picnic will be held in the south parking lot of the hospital which can be accessed from Klein Street.

The event notice (shown here) indicates the picnic is to thank the community for its' support during the COVID-19 pandemic, but doesn't it seem more fitting that the community

uses this opportunity to thank Hospital staff for being there for us during COVID?  
Hope you can attend!

**HOOPLA AT THE LIBRARY** – Have you used Hoopla yet? This is a Library program/app that makes thousands of movies, television shows, music albums and audiobooks, available through a partnership with hoopla digital. All you need to access the programming is a valid library card.

Start by downloading the free hoopla digital mobile app on your Android or IOS device (or visit [hoopladigital.com](http://hoopladigital.com)) to enjoy thousands of titles – from major Hollywood studios, record companies and publishers – for instant streaming or temporary downloading to smart phones, tablets and computers. It's simple to sign-up and easy to get to your listening and viewing experience. There's also no waiting to borrow popular movies, TV shows, albums or audiobooks and hoopla digital's automatic return feature eliminates late fees.



For more information or assistance please contact the Library at 934-7420.

**GOT JUNK?** – Do you still have a lot of junk you'd like to dispose of? Residents of Saint Peter now have another opportunity to recycle old electronics, appliances and bicycles at relatively low cost. The collection takes place on Saturday, July 31<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the City's wastewater treatment plant (400 West St. Julien Street). Enter the collection site from the North Swift Street (west) side of the property please.



No registration is necessary and payment can be made at the time of drop-off.

**ELECTRONICS/APPLIANCE/BIKE RECYCLING DAY**

**SATURDAY, JULY 31, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

**405 W. ST. JULIEN (WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT)**

NO registration necessary, payable at the time of drop off.

Monitors up to 20"	\$10	Large Printer/Copier	\$25
LCD Monitor	\$10	DVD/VCR/Cable Box	\$5
LCD/Plasma TV	\$20	Stereo System/Home Electronics	\$5
TV - 19 or 20 inch	\$15	Appliances	\$15
TV - 25 or 26 inch	\$20	Microwave	\$5
TV - 27 or 36 inch	\$25	Computer tower, components, keyboard, mouse, or laptop,	Free
Console/Big Screen TV	\$40	Cell phones, Small electronics, Batteries (excluding alkaline), Heaters	
Small Printer	\$5	Bicycles	

**ELECTION JUDGES NEEDED** – Remember the last time you went to vote and that nice man or woman who helped you through the process? That person was an Election Judge and the City of Saint Peter is currently seeking additional judges to work for the 2021 election.

To qualify as an election Judge, individuals must:

- Submit an Election Judge application available from the City Administrator's Office. (Note that not everyone who applies can be appointed.)
- Be available to work on Tuesday, November 2nd.
- State an affiliation with one of the major political parties.
- Attend a three hour mandatory training session that will take place in late September.
- Be eligible to vote in the State of Minnesota; and be able to read, write and speak English.
- Be able to understand sometimes complex regulations and procedures.
- Be able to sit for extended periods of time.
- Be dependable. We need people who will show up on Election Day, be on time, and not back out at the last minute.
- Be able to work with all types of people and in sometimes challenging situations.
- Obey election laws and be able to withstand complaints and criticisms from voters who may be upset about the procedures they must follow.
- Like a doctor's office, those who work with elections must be able to keep private information private.



An Election Judge cannot be a candidate in that election (i.e. be running for an office on the ballot used in that precinct); or the husband, wife, parent, step relative, child, brother, or sister of a candidate or another judge in the same precinct; or a challenger.

High school students ages 16 and 17 can also serve as Election Judges with permission from their parents and principal. Saint Peter has regularly hired students to serve as Trainee Judges and the program has been great for both the students and the adult Judges they work with. If you have a student in this age group who is interested in participating we would love to consider their application.

Judges are paid at the rate of \$10.25 per hour and will work on Election Day either from 6:00 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.; or 5:30 p.m. until counting is done which can sometimes be quite late. If you are employed, State law (M.S. 204B.195) allows individuals to be absent from work to serve as an Election Judge without penalty.

Being an Election Judge can be very challenging, but it is also very rewarding and if you think you meet the criteria outlined and wish to be considered for appointment as an Election Judge, please contact the City Administrator's office by email at [barbaral@saintpetermn.gov](mailto:barbaral@saintpetermn.gov) for an application. (If the applicant is a high school student, please let us know when requesting an application so we can provide the correct forms.)

**MINNESOTA SQUARE PLAZA UPDATE** – Have you driven by the north side of Minnesota Square Park recently? If so, you will have seen the construction work going on there.

The project is called "Minnesota Square Park Plaza" and when finished, it will include a concrete plaza in the middle of the north side of the park (at the intersection with South Third Street), that connects to the pavilion. This area will include large decorative planters and be a great spot for food trucks for the large community events that occur in the park.

Pember Construction was awarded the bid for this project which will also include construction of a smaller pavilion adjacent to the plaza. **The structure for the small pavilion was donated by the Saint Peter Mason's.**

The area was prepped by City crews before Pember took over construction. Pember is now hard at work forming the planters with a concrete pour to follow.

The week of July 19th City crews will be back in the park backfilling and completing the site

preparation work so the contractor can return to finish the remaining concrete work for the plaza.

The project is expected to be completed in plenty of time for Rock Bend in September.

For more information on public improvement projects within the community, please contact the Public Works Department at 507-934-0670.



**CHIEF OF POLICE OATH CEREMONY** – The City Council meeting on July 12<sup>th</sup> included a ceremonial “Oath of Office” for new Chief of Police Matt Grochow.

City Administrator Prafke administered the oath to Chief Grochow who was joined by his

family for photos to mark the occasion during a brief Council recess.

A long-time member of the Saint Peter Police Department and serving most recently as Detective, Chief Grochow officially began his duties on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**WATER SURCHARGE** – August utility bills will include the annual State mandated water surcharge. The \$9.72 per water connection charge will be reflected on the bill under the heading “WATER SURCHG”



As required by the State, the City collects this surcharge once a year and the proceeds are then remitted to the State of Minnesota Department of Health. The funds are used for activities the State was required to implement to

comply with the Federal State Water Act.

For questions on this surcharge, please contact the State of Minnesota Department of Health.

**PEDESTRIAN SAFETY CAMPAIGN** – The City of Saint Peter is a relatively safe place for pedestrians and drivers, but we can always improve.

That’s why the Saint Peter Police Department has partnered with MnDOT and many other law enforcement



agencies on their new campaign to enhance pedestrian safety.

To learn more about this initiative... <https://www.dot.state.mn.us/peds/safety-education.html>



**CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE FILING BEGINS SOON** – The filing period for City offices will open at 8:00 a.m., Tuesday, July 27, 2021 and will close at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 10, 2021.

The election will be held on Tuesday, November 2, 2021 to elect a Mayor, two Councilmembers from Ward I (North Ward) and one Councilmember from Ward II (South Ward). The following current member terms expire on December 31, 2021:

Charles Ziemann	Mayor	2 years
Ed Johnson	Council Ward I	4 years
Shanon Nowell	Council Ward I	4 years
Stephan Grams	Council Ward II	4 year

Any person wishing to file for City offices for the general election may do so at the City Administrator’s office in the Municipal Building, 227 South Front Street between the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. The filing fee is \$5.00. Persons with questions regarding filing for City Council positions or the upcoming general election are encouraged to call the City Administrator’s office at 934-0663.

**MINNESOTA RIVER VALLEY TRANSIT BOARD MEETING** – The regularly scheduled board meeting of the Minnesota River Valley Transit system, which was scheduled for July 13<sup>th</sup>, has been rescheduled for August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:30 p.m. after the Board was unable to assemble a quorum for the meeting.

Agendas for the Minnesota River Valley Transit meetings are available on the City’s website at [www.saintpetermn.gov/agendacenter](http://www.saintpetermn.gov/agendacenter).

**STORMWATER RATE INCREASE** – Effective July 1, 2021, for bills due August 16, 2021, stormwater rates will increase to \$24.75 per acre which is then applied using a formula with Residential Equivalency Rate x parcel area x rate.

For residential customers that equates to a rate of \$8.25 per month.

This is the first ever increase in stormwater fees and is required to eliminate an operational deficit.

For more information on utility rates, please contact the Finance Department at 507-934-0664.

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

- **PT BUS DRIVERS** - for the Minnesota River Valley Transit system. These positions will work day, evening and weekend shifts. Positions in Saint Peter. Successful candidates for this position must have, at a minimum, a High school diploma or equivalent and a valid State of Minnesota CDL minimum of Class C Driver's License with passenger endorsement. Candidates will have thirty (30) days from the date of employment to obtain the required driver's license and the City will help the new employee train for the license test. Candidates who possess the following desired experience or education will qualify for additional points towards an interview: previous experience working with the public; training in vehicle mechanics; experience operating a two-way radio/phone; and prior bus driving experience. Starting wage - \$17.05 per hour. Applicants are required to complete a City application form which is

available in the City Administrator's office at 227 South Front Street, 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. July 30, 2021. Faxed and/or late applications will not be accepted. **\*\*NOTE:** The successful candidates for this position will be required to successfully complete and pass a pre-employment drug test. The position is also subject to post-accident, random, reasonable suspicion, return to duty, and follow-up drug and alcohol testing required by **USDOT 49 CFR Part 655** (Federal Transit Administration) and **USDOT 49 CFR Part 40**. In addition, successful candidates for this position must have a vehicle driving record which is clear of revocations, suspensions and cancellations for the past three (3) years. Applicants may be required to submit to a criminal background check and be clear of convictions for crimes or anticipatory crimes (as defined in M.S. 609.17 and 609.175) within the previous fifteen (15) years. 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](http://www.saintpetermn.gov).*

Thursday	July 22	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	July 23	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	July 26	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday Tuesday	July 27 - August 10	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	City Council Candidate Filing Period
Tuesday	July 27	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	July 28	12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Monday	August 2	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Thursday	August 5	5:30 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	August 9	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	August 9	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Monday	August 16	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop

Monday	August 16	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Wednesday	August 25	12:30 p.m.	Hospital Commission
Thursday	August 26	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	August 27	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	August 30	3:00 p.m.	City Council Goal Session
Tuesday	August 31	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission