

CITY OF SAINT PETER HOT SHEET



All the City news you need to know and a little bit more!
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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

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CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS – Action taken by the City Council at the regular meeting of January 23, 2012 included authorization to enter into a joint powers agreement with the State of Minnesota Materials Management Division so the City can purchase items from the State bid contract and adoption of a resolution of support for a grant funding request to the Area Transportation Partnership for funding to rehabilitate/improve the Union Street/Highway 169 intersection. Mayor Strand also proclaimed February 7-14, 2012 as "Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week".

The next regular meeting of the City Council will be Monday, February 13, 2012 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 agenda and Council packet are also available on the City's website at www.saintpetermn.gov/city.



MAKES ME WONDER (BY CITY ADMINISTRATOR TODD PRAFKE) - Now that we are about a month into the New Year, I wanted to take stock of one of my New Year resolutions.

One resolution was to use the technology that I have at my disposal to make my work and my life better

and maybe, a bit easier. Well, as with many things, technology sometimes leads to a bit of a learning curve. While I have made a few improvements I surely have a long way to go to really have an impact, but I still need to make time to invest. I need to take some time to invest in the learning that is needed to really reap the profits of the technology.

It is a lot like many things. You have to invest in order to make things better. I may spend some time in upcoming *Hot Sheets* talking about the investment that we make in order to have a better City. Do you see those investments pay off? It makes me wonder.....



CITY RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS AWARD – The City of Saint Peter, City Engineer Bolton & Menk, Inc., and Contractor Rice Lake Construction received a Grand Award from the American Council of Engineering Companies of Minnesota (ACEC/MN) in recognition of the City's Water Improvement Project (the new water treatment plant and water wells). The Grand Award was presented in recognition of the engineering and technology

applications used in the plant. Representatives from the City and Bolton & Menk, Inc. were in attendance at the ACEC State awards banquet which was held on Friday, January 27, 2012 in Golden Valley. The award recognizes the overall improvements that have been made to the City's water quality

upon completion of the plant and other improvements. Receipt of the Grand Award qualifies the project to compete in the national Engineering Excellence Competition in Washington, DC.

AMERICAN HEART MONTH - "Experience a Change of Heart," is the theme for National Cardiac Rehabilitation Week being observed February 12-18, 2012. This year's theme reflects the dedication of cardiac rehabilitation professionals and the patients they serve by emphasizing the goal of reducing the devastating effects of heart disease.



River's Edge Hospital & Clinic Cardiac Rehabilitation, bridges injury with recovery by improving the health, physical performance and mindset of individuals diagnosed with heart disease or dysfunction through education, understanding, support and the assistance of family members. River's Edge Hospital & Clinic offers Phase II Cardiac Rehabilitation sessions on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday each week.

For more information please visit River's Edge Hospital & Clinic (1900 North Sunrise Drive) during National Cardiac Rehabilitation Week and observe their displays just past the main information desk or contact Don Lowe, RN, Cardiac Rehab Department, at 934-7310.

YOUTH FISHING CONTEST RELOCATED – The warm temperatures have not helped the Saint Peter Fire Department plan for this year's Youth Fishing Contest.

If you were planning on participating in the contest, please note **the event is being relocated to the Fire Station at 227 West Mulberry Street.** While there won't be fishing at this year's event, the refreshments will still be served and prizes will still be given away. The fun starts at 1:00 p.m. and goes on until 2:30 p.m.



LED RESIDENTIAL STREETLIGHTS – Have you noticed the new streetlights on a portion of Broadway Avenue?

The City standard for residential streetlights is a lantern style head, called a Traditionaire, which is mounted on an aluminum pole. These are installed in all new developments and are slowly replacing the wood poles in the older sections of the City at a rate of about ten poles per year. In the late 1980's and early 1990's, the City replaced all the standard bulbs with 100 watt high pressure sodium (HPS) bulbs to reduce energy costs. The HPS bulbs need to be replaced, on average, every five years which requires approximately 140 man hours a year to change residential street light bulbs. The new bulbs also change the look of the residential areas at night by emitting a



distinctive orange light, which replaces the yellow glow of the standard bulbs.

New Light Emitting Diode (LED) bulbs are now available for the residential lantern style, street lights. They produce a white light and have a projected life of at least twenty years with a reduction in brightness of twenty percent. That means the bulbs will last more than twenty years if the slight reduction in brightness is acceptable. The LED lantern style head costs twice as much as the existing lantern style head however, two companies have offered the City the opportunity to try these lights.

The companies are providing eight 100 watt, LED lantern style heads at the same price as the 100 watt, HPS lantern style heads. (If all of the HPS residential street lights were converted to LED street lights, the City could reduce the man hours in just replacing bulbs by 105 hours per year.)

The City has accepted the offers and installed sixteen LED lantern style heads on Broadway Avenue from just west of the Third Street intersection, to just west of the High School. The eight LED heads located on Broadway Avenue east of Seventh Street, are lights from one company. Those located west of Seventh Street are from the second company.

If you stop at the intersection of Washington Avenue/Broadway Avenue and look to either the north or south, you will see the distinctive orange glow of the HPS lights. If you then look east or west from this intersection, you will see the white light of the new LED fixtures.

What is your perception of the new LED lights? We would really like to know and hope you will provide your feedback to the Public Works Department at 934-0670 or valeriet@saintpetermn.gov.

DEMOGRAPHICS - The 2010 U.S. Census established Saint Peter's population at 11,196 persons. Of those persons, 2,665 (23.8%) are reported as living in "group quarters". The Census Bureau defines "group quarters" as those confined by law (Regional Treatment Center) or those living within college residence halls, nursing homes or hospitals. The balance of Saint Peter's population, or 76.2%, resides within traditional households. Source: U.S. Census Bureau

BUILDING PERMITS - A couple weeks back the *Hot Sheet* included information about the number of building permits issued in 2011. Here, in part, is what that said:

"As of December 31, 2011, the City issued 725 building permits with a total valuation of \$8,490,885.27. The building permits issued included:

- 8 new commercial buildings*
- 40 commercial remodel projects*
- 6 new homes*
- 671 for remodel, roofing, siding, garages, decks, replacement windows, doors, water heaters, furnace and a/c units, and rentals."*

While we were doing a report to the Council about this, one of the Councilmembers asked for a review of the numbers because it just did not seem quite right.

Reviewing the numbers showed that all of the information is correct based to how we are required to classify them according to the building code, but it is worded in a way that

leads the reader to believe that there were eight new separate Commercial Buildings constructed and that is incorrect. However, there were eight separate Commercial Permits for new structures. Here is the breakdown.

- Two permits were issued for solar panels on two separate Gustavus buildings. One permit was issued for an auxiliary commercial building near the tennis bubble.
- One permit was issued for the new office building at 1301 Marshall Street.
- Two permits were issued for a big garage or storage building on a commercial property at 1305 Marshall Street. Why two permits? The builder requested one for footings and one for the superstructure.
- One permit was issued for an office building at 1306 Marshall Street.
- One permit issued for a commercial location was a storage tank enclosure at our Public Works facility.

That equals eight commercial building permits. But if you were counting new buildings that people will occupy or things get made or sold out of, the number is two new Commercial Building Permits. Sorry for the confusion.

CITY FEE SCHEDULE – Have you ever wondered what it costs for a permit or a fee from the City? Have you ever wondered if a particular service is available or if you can rent facilities from the City? Well wonder no more!

The City's 2012 municipal fee schedule is now available online at <http://www.saintpetermn.gov/city/FeeSchedule.pdf>. If you have any questions about the fees, please contact the City Administrator's office at 934-0663.

WINTERFEST MEDALLION HUNT – A word of caution for all of you soon to be Winterfest medallion hunters.....please don't damage City property! The medallion will not be in a location that requires anyone to be in a restricted area, climb on structures, or dig up the earth.

During the last hunt, the tennis court backstops at Minnesota Square Park were damaged by over eager hunters and we hope to forestall anything like that happening again.

Have a good time during the hunt and good luck to all!

(Winterfest is a program sponsored by the Saint Peter Area Chamber of Commerce. All questions related to Winterfest and the medallion hunt should be directed to the Chamber at 934-3400.)

PRECINCT CAUCUSES – Precinct caucuses will be held in Minnesota on Tuesday, February 7th.

M.S. 202A.19 prohibits City meetings from being held after 6:00 p.m. on the day of a major political party precinct caucus. This restriction also applies to School Boards, County Boards, Township Boards and any public school events. Therefore, the February 7th Planning and Zoning Commission meeting will be rescheduled for Wednesday, February 8th at 7:00 p.m.

To find the location of your precinct caucuses, please visit <http://caucusfinder.sos.state.mn.us>.

CALENDAR

Monday	February 6	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	February 6	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop Session
Tuesday	February 7		MN PRECINCT CAUCUS DAY – No public meetings allowed
Wednesday	February 8	7:00 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission CANCELLED!
Monday	February 13	5:00 p.m.	Human Rights Commission

Monday	February 13	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Monday	February 20		LEGAL HOLIDAY – PRESIDENT’S DAY – City offices closed
Tuesday	February 21	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop Session (Moved to Tuesday because of the legal holiday.)
Tuesday	February 21	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (Moved to Tuesday because of the legal holiday.)
Thursday	February 23	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	February 24	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	February 27	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	February 28	5:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	February 29	12:00 noon	Hospital Commission
Monday	March 5	3:30 p.m.	Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Monday	March 5	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop
Tuesday	March 6	7:00 p.m.	Planning and Zoning Commission
Monday	March 12	5:00 p.m.	Human Rights Commission
Monday	March 12	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	March 13	6:00 p.m.	Library Board
Monday	March 19	5:30 p.m.	City Council Workshop Session
Monday	March 19	7:00 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Thursday	March 22	12:00 noon	Economic Development Authority
Friday	March 23	8:00 a.m.	Tourism and Visitors Bureau
Monday	March 26	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting
Tuesday	March 27	6:30 p.m.	Heritage Preservation Commission
Wednesday	March 28	12:00 noon	Hospital Commission