

August 2025



City Hall - 310 Mill Street, PO BOX 160, Van Meter, IA 50261
515-996-2644 info@vanmeteria.gov www.vanmeteria.gov

2025 City/School Election - Tuesday, November 4, 2025



There will be **3 City Council** seats on the upcoming City/School Election ballot. Each vacancy will be for a 4 year term. If you are interested in running for City Council, please see the information listed below or contact City Hall at 515-996-2644 or info@vanmeteria.gov.

- ✓ The candidate filing period begins **Monday, August 25, 2025**, and ends **Thursday, September 18, 2025, at 5 pm**.
- ✓ The signature minimum requirements for this election: **10** for City Council ---- **29** for School Board
- ✓ The Dallas County Auditor's office will serve as the filing officer for receiving nomination papers for elective city offices in the upcoming City Election. Please advise candidate's to submit paperwork to the Dallas County Auditor's office located at **210 N 10th St, Adel IA 50003**

There will be **3 School Board** seats on the upcoming City/School Election ballot. Each vacancy will be for a 4 year term. If you are interested in running for School Board, please see the information listed above or contact the School at 515-996-2221 or shonna.trudo@ymbulldogs.com.

What is a Hotel/Motel Tax?

A city may impose a hotel/motel tax at a rate not to exceed 7 percent after a successful election of a simple majority vote within the city. The hotel/motel tax is imposed on the gross receipts from rented sleeping rooms, apartments or sleeping quarters in any hotel, motel, inn, public lodging house, rooming house, tourist court, bed-and-breakfast, short-term rental or in any place where sleeping accommodations are furnished to transient guests. The actual amount collected is distributed to the city monthly by the Iowa Department of Revenue & at least 50% of the revenue must be utilized for Parks & Recreation improvements, programming, etc. While Van Meter does not have any hotels or motels nor are there any future plans for either, there have been a handful of short-term rentals that exist within city limits. The proposed hotel/motel tax DOES NOT impact property tax rates and will NOT impact tax rates for the residents of Van Meter.

MEETING SCHEDULE

- August 10, 2025 - City Council Meeting 7pm**
August 18, 2025 - Workshop 6:15pm
- Interviews related to the RFP for Legal Counsel

AUGUST RECYCLING SCHEDULE



Elected Officials:

MAYOR

Joe Herman

MAYOR PRO TEM

Travis Brott

COUNCILMAN

Joel Akers

COUNCILMAN

Blake Grolmus

COUNCILMAN

Quin Pelz

COUNCILWOMAN

Penny Westfall

City Staff:

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Liz Faust

CITY CLERK

Vacant

ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK

Larain Climer

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Drew McCombs

PUBLIC WORKS

Shane Luvaas

PUBLIC WORKS

Spencer Leonard

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Jonatha Basye

LIBRARY ASSISTANT

Joan Von Ruden Kruger

PARKS & REC DIRECTOR

Sam Chia

POLICE CHIEF

Mike Brown

FIRE CHIEF

Mark Schmitt

DALLAS COUNTY DISPATCH

515-993-4567

EMERGENCY

911



News from the Library

Thank you to everyone for making Summer Reading 2025 so successful! Ms. J and Ms. Joan will be taking a break during the month of August to get ready for Fall programming. Library events will resume in September! Get ready for exciting activities throughout the school year! See you soon!



Van Meter Life

August is always a fun month, with summer vacations, State Fair, and the ending brings a new school year, and what we are sure will be another fantastic year in Bulldog Athletics!

VMCDC is beginning another year as well. On **August 19th at 7:00pm**, the Law Shop we will be holding our annual election of officers. Along with the election of our executive board, we will be selecting who will lead our annual Sips N Snacks weekend and Raccoon River Days!

We need volunteers to help make all of these events and our annual flag fundraiser a success. Please consider joining us on the 19th to learn more and see what you may want to be a part of.

Visit our website www.vanmeterlife.com or send us an email at vmcdc1877@gmail.com to learn more. We hope to see you on the 19th.



Labor Day, Monday, September 1, 2025

- ★ City Hall - CLOSED
- ★ Public Works - CLOSED
- ★ Library - CLOSED
- ★ Trash pick up delayed by one day to Tuesday, September 2, 2025

BACK TO SCHOOL



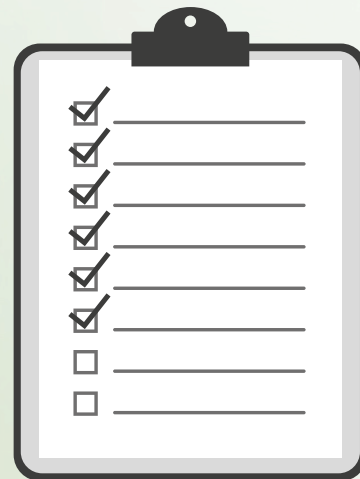
Students and staff will head back to school on August 25. VMPD encourage parents, students, staff and residents to allow extra time for travel, to be patient and pay close attention to their surroundings.

*Please pay attention to the parking regulations during school drop off and pick up. *Please watch for children at cross walks. *Watch for additional information from the school.

Code Enforcement

The City of Van Meter contracted with Iowa Code Enforcement to perform the duties of the Code Enforcement Office for the City.

Cities must manage nuisance properties in their community. Nuisance properties can be hazardous to others, cause property values to decline and/or create a poor image of the community. The City of Van Meter Code of Ordinances provides more detail about what is considered a nuisance. Code Enforcement applies to all properties: residential, non-residential & commercial properties. The Code Enforcement Officer will inspect and take pictures of properties in violation of the City Code through pro-active inspections and follow-up with local complaints.



Do you Remember?

The recreation complex grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony happened

19 years ago!

UTILITY RATE CHANGES - RATE INCREASES REFLECTED ON YOUR AUGUST 2025 BILL

WATER

Effective July 1, the residential (inside the City of Van Meter) water rate will increase to \$28.44 for the first 2,000 gallons used per month and \$6.48 per 1,000 gallons over 2,000 gallons. The non-resident (outside the City of Van Meter) water rate will increase to \$94.94 for the first 2,000 gallons used per month and \$21.66 per 1,000 gallons over 2,000 gallons.

SEWER

Effective July 1, the residential (inside the City of Van Meter) sewer rate will increase to \$28.12 for the first 2,000 gallons used per month and \$8.26 per 1,000 gallons over 2,000 gallons. The non-resident (outside the City of Van Meter) sewer rate will increase to \$89.55 for the first 2,000 gallons used per month and \$26.31 per 1,000 gallons over 2,000 gallons.

Yard Maintenance Reminders

Summer months means our trees, yards, shrubs and other vegetation is growing rapidly. Please keep this in mind and be aware of what your vegetation is doing in relation to our sidewalks, streets and alleyways.

If you have property that abuts a street or alleyway, ensure your vegetation is not growing in a way that impedes line-of-sight or the flow of traffic. All trees must be trimmed to 15 feet above the street and 8 feet above the sidewalk. Please reference Chapter 150 of the City Code of Ordinances for more information regarding this requirement.

If you have a sidewalk running across your property, you are responsible for maintaining it and keeping it in a hazard-free condition. This goes beyond shoveling and salting in the winter. If you have vegetation that is growing over the sidewalk and impeding the flow of foot traffic, please do some trimming to ensure the walkway is clear. Please reference Chapter 136 of the City Code of Ordinances for more information regarding sidewalk maintenance requirements.

**GRASS
CLIPPINGS DO
NOT BELONG
ON THE
SIDEWALK OR
IN THE
STREET.**

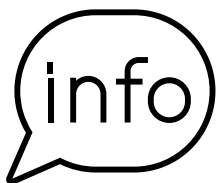
Cut grass can be a safety hazard, clog storm drains and have environmental consequences.



LAWN WATERING

Van Meter Public Works reminds residents to use water wisely. By improving the efficiency of irrigation practices, businesses and homeowners can reduce consumption, save money and reduce the peak load on water facilities.

- Watering is not recommended on Mondays.
- Even-numbered addresses are encouraged to water on Sundays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, before 10:00am or after 5:00pm.
- Odd-numbered addresses are encouraged to water on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, before 10:00am or after 5:00pm.
- Watering is not recommended during the hottest part of the day, between 10:00am and 5:00pm.



Bill Pay

City Hall has been receiving a lot of questions regarding bill pay recently. Bill pay is when you set up an automatic payment to be withdrawn from your bank account for your bills. Often times, this automatic payment is sent as a check through the mail. Depending on when the bank sends the check, City Hall may not receive the check prior to the due date of the utility bills. This can result in late fees or disconnect notices being sent out. If you have been experiencing issues with your bill pay, you can request for your bank to send the payment earlier or you may sign up for an online account through our Front Desk portal. If interested in an online account, please see the last page of the newsletter for more details.

2025 VIC OLSON MEMORIAL
GOLF
Tournament



**SUNDAY
AUGUST 3, 2025**
8:00am Shotgun Start

\$100
Hole Sponsorship

\$80
Entry Fee Per Golfer

**2 PERSON SCRAMBLE
18 HOLES
GOLF CART INCLUDED**

**AWARDS, PRIZES & STEAK
DINNER TO FOLLOW AT
THE VAN METER LEGION**

**PROCEEDS BENEFIT:
Van Meter American Legion Post 403**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
Travis Brott (515) 208-4321
travis.brott@gmail.com
Nick Olson (515) 371-9137
nnolson84@gmail.com

GOLF: RIVER VALLEY GOLF COURSE
22927 Valley View Trail, Adel, IA 50003

AWARDS, PRIZES & STEAK DINNER:
AMERICAN LEGION POST 403
910 Main Street, Van Meter, IA 50261

Summer Park & Rec Sponsored Events

Yoga in the Park
at the Legion Shelter
Saturday Mornings - 8:30am
🌸 August 9 🌸 August 23 🌸
Concert on the Corner
at Memorial Park - 5:00pm
Sunday 🎵 August 17, 2025 🎵

BINGO
Saturday
August 16, 2025
Dinner at 5:30
Loose meat sandwiches
or chili dogs
BINGO at 7:00

JACKPOT
\$400
**AMERICAN
LEGION**
AUXILIARY

SAVE THE DATE

FAN FEST 2025 - FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 2025

ALL proceeds raised through this event will support Van Meter Student Athletes! We also love new members in the Van Meter Athletic Booster Club! Become a member by visiting this link:
<https://vmbulldogs.revtrak.net/athletic-boosters/#/list>

VAN METER SCHOOL

4:30pm - High School Football Scrimmage
5:00pm - Introduction of Cross Country Team
5:00pm - High School Volleyball Scrimmage
6:15pm - Parade of Athletes (grades 7-12)

VAN METER BASEBALL/SOFTBALL FIELDS

6:00-10:00pm - Fan Fest
6:00-9:00pm - Silent Auction
6:30pm-9:30pm - Food Trucks
6:00pm-10:00pm - DJ Select Entertainment



National Night Out

Join the VMPD and VMFD for National Night Out on August 5th from 5pm-7pm.

The Police Department and Fire Department will host an open house at the public safety building located at 505 Grant Street.

It is the perfect opportunity to come out and meet your local Officers and Firefighters. You can take a tour of the station, participate in various activities, and stop by one of the food trucks that will be in attendance.

Come show your support for the men and women of our public safety team.



Online Bill Pay

The City's original online portal was disabled in late 2024 and was replaced with a new utility account portal. The user access information did not carry over from portal to portal.

If you previously had online access or you would like to set up online access, the steps below detail how to create a user account in the new portal. Account holders are NOT required to set up online access. Please contact info@vanmeteria.gov with questions.

How to Create a Public User Account in the new Utility Portal

Step 1: Go to <https://vanmeteria.frontdeskworks.com/> and click "Create New"

Step 2: Select **YES** to "Are you already receiving utility bills from us?"

Step 3: Enter your account number & utility service address

Step 4: Confirm your account number & utility service address

Step 5: Enter your name, email address, cell phone & set password

You must check ☒ the acknowledgement box to proceed.

Step 6: Select "Create Account"

Step 7: After clicking "Create Account", you will receive an email from FrontDesk to confirm your email. Upon confirmation, you can log in.

The confirmation email does time out within 30 minutes.

Log In: FrontDesk

Email Address

Password

☐ Remember Me [Forgot Password?](#)

Login

Don't have an account? [Create Now](#)

Account Status Account Info Finish Sign-up

Are you already receiving utility bills from us?
☒ Yes ☐ No

Enter your Account Number from your most recent Utility Bill
Account Number Re-type Account Number

Current Physical Address where Service is located
Address 1

☒ Have more than one utility account with us? That's ok. You can add the rest of them after signing up for your FrontDesk Account

Next

Account Status Account Info Finish Sign-up

Account Type
Citizen

Name
First Name Middle Name Last Name

Email
Email Address Confirm Email Address

Phone
Cell Phone Number

Password
Password Confirm Password

☐ By clicking here, you acknowledge you will be receiving electronic bills with your FrontDesk account. By default, you will no longer receive paper bills from the Vincent Clorbo Public Utilities. You may opt in to receiving paper bills in addition to electronic bills by updating your Notification Preferences on the My Account tab.

☒ Click "Create Account" to finish this step!

Create Account

FrontDesk Confirm Email

frontdesk-1630@frontdeskworks.com

Hi

You're almost there! To complete your g|Works FrontDesk account verification, please confirm your email by pressing the button below.

Verify Email Address

If you did not create an account using this address, please ignore this email.

Best Regards,
g|Works Product Team

If you are experiencing problems with the button, please copy and paste this link into your browser

<https://vanmeteria.frontdeskworks.com/confirm-email.html?token=205000MocviesLEmGSc8BktmbdQdvUcOABLvuGut>

(c) g|Works