

How long have you been providing services in Van Meter?

Attorney AJ Skogerson first began providing legal services in Van Meter in 2007. Since then, she and her husband Erik acquired and remodeled two buildings in downtown Van Meter, which now serve as home of The Law Shop.

What services do you provide?

The Law Shop currently has eight lawyers providing services in the following practice areas: Adoption, Child Welfare, Criminal Defense, Estate Administration, Estate & Trust Planning, Divorce & Child Custody, Guardianship & Conservatorship, Personal Injury, Premarital Agreements, Residential Real Estate, and Workers' Compensation.

What is the best way for people to reach you?

Use the "Get Started" button on our website 24/7/365 at www.lawshop.net or call us at 515.996.4045. The office is open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 to 4:30.

Additional Information

In 2017, Attorneys AJ Skogerson and Andrea McGinn combined forces to co-found The Law Shop ("TLS") in Van Meter, which was Iowa's first private practice law firm providing unbundled legal services to nearly all clients. TLS quickly became an international leader in proving that offering high quality legal assistance on a limited scope basis increases access to justice for all while vastly improving the well-being of lawyers in a multitude of ways. In 2022, The Law Shop began serving more clients in rural SW Iowa through their opening of The Pop Up Law Shop in Creston.

AJ and Andrea also now have a secondary company called The Law Shop Library. The Library provides access for select firms in other states to have the opportunity to create Law Shops of their own while AJ and Andrea provide Library Cardholders with customized coaching on office systems, management, and basic marketing. In 2023, TLS Minnesota was launched in the St. Paul area and discussions are currently in process for a potential TLS Arkansas in the coming year.

The Law Shop has been featured in The Iowa Lawyer, the Illinois Bar Journal, and the American Bar Association (ABA) Journal among other publications. AJ and Andrea are contributing authors to the recently released ABA book "Design Your Law Practice: Using Design Thinking to Get Next Level Results."



THE LAW SHOP
I O W A

MEETING SCHEDULE

August 12, 2024 - Regular Council Meeting 7pm

- Public Hearing - Police Dept Fines
- Public Hearing - Dallas Co Emergency Services Mitigation Amendment
- Public Hearing - Urban Chickens

August 26, 2024 - Workshop 6pm

- Review Future Land Use Map and Comprehensive Plan

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

Jess Drake

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

FUTURE HOME OF THE



601 MAIN STREET, VAN METER, IA 50261

The City of Van Meter is excited to announce the purchase of the former Dahl building and adjacent parcels located at 601 Main Street. This is the future home of the Van Meter Public Library, Van Meter Fire Department and Van Meter Police Department.

There is a lot of work to do! The first step we are taking is to go out with a Request for Proposal for Architects. We are excited to get some initial, high level visuals for the community to see!

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

Library programming will be paused for the month of August. Ms. J and Ms. Joan have worked hard all summer to bring you great Summer Reading Programming. We will use August to get ready for Fall programming, which will return in September. As always, we have lots of materials for you to check out and will have some surprises within the next few weeks! Keep an eye on our Facebook page for details!



NEWS FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



Where: Van Meter Public Safety Building
505 Grant Street

When: Tuesday, August 6 - 6:00-8:00pm

VMPD & VMFD are hosting an open house.
Come meet the departments, take a tour &
and eat!

Food trucks will be on site.

Open to all ages!



NEWS FROM PUBLIC WORKS UTILITY RATE CHANGES

WATER

Effective July 1, the residential (inside the City of Van Meter) water rate will increase to \$27.09 for the first 2,000 gallons used per month and \$6.17 per 1,000 gallons over 2,000 gallons. The nonresident (outside the City of Van Meter) water rate will increase to \$90.42 for the first 2,000 gallons used per month and \$20.63 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 \$26.78 for the first 2,000 gallons used per month and \$7.87 per 1,000 gallons over 2,000 gallons. The nonresident (outside the City of Van Meter) sewer rate will increase to \$85.28 for the first 2,000 gallons used per month and \$25.06 per 1,000 gallons over 2,000 gallons.

THE RATE INCREASES WILL NOT REFLECT ON YOUR BILL UNTIL AUGUST 2024.



Thank you to the college boys for their seasonal help this summer! They were able to make a big dent in the clean up efforts along the creek & did a great job of upkeep on the mowing at the parks, rec complex and cemetery.

Thank you Mason & Tyler!

THANK YOU

Thank you to our Public Works Director Drew McCombs, City Engineer Bob Veenstra & the crew from Woodruff Construction for the completion of the Water Booster Station! This booster station (located on the East side of Richland Road) allows for greater pressure for the citizens & businesses of Van Meter located south of F90.



Suggested Lawn Watering

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 Monday*
- *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 5:00pm*

Youth Soccer Camp

Where: VMCS D High School Soccer Fields

When: August 5-7

Who: **1st-4th Grade**

1:00-2:30pm/daily

5th-8th Grade

3:00-4:30/daily

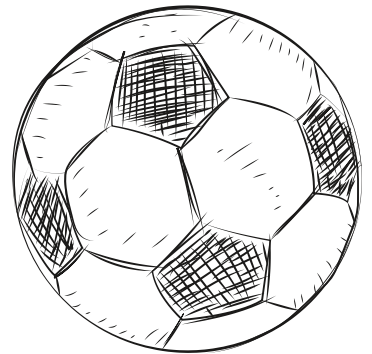
Cost: \$30 per player

Registration:

<https://vmbulldogs.revtrak.net/soccer/>



NEWS FROM PARKS & REC



Art in the Park

When: August 17th 10:00am - 12:00pm

Where: Van Meter Public Library

Free Will Donation

Add to Rosco the Painted Rock Snake!

Supplies will be provided.

Feel free to bring a rock of your own or

use one that Parks & Rec supply!

DO YOU

REMEMBER?

Recreation Complex
Grand Opening &
Ribbon Cutting
Ceremony happened

18 YEARS AGO!!



August 2024

Van Meter
tradition with a vision



The City of Van Meter is excited to announce being selected as a grant recipient from:

- Dallas County Foundation - **\$5,000** for Library Furniture & **\$10,000** for Design & Engineering Services for the Master Trails System
- Central Iowa Regional Transportation Planning Alliance - **\$676,748** Federal funding for Construction of the Phase 1 of the Master Trail (Richland Road from F90 to the Van Meter School)
- Prairie Meadows Community Betterment Grant - **\$10,000** for design/engineering/construction of the Master Trails System

The City is working with Bolton & Menk to get started on the engineering for the trails!!



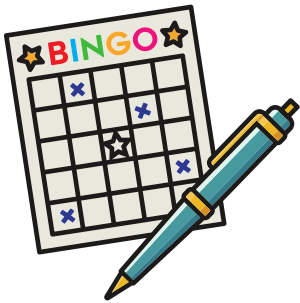
VAN METER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Van Meter United Methodist Church is no longer collecting cans and bottles for recycling. We want to express our deep appreciation to the community for supporting this ministry for the past 25 years, and our regret that we are not able to continue doing it.



Friday

August 23, 2024



Enjoy **DINNER** and **BINGO** at the Veteran's Reception Center in Van Meter, IA

10 Regular Games & Progressive Blackout

PROGRESSIVE BLACKOUT JACKPOT IS \$1100

SUB SANDWICHES

SERVING STARTS AT 5:30

FREE WILL DONATION

Saturday

August 17, 2024

7:00 p.m.

403 LOUNGE WILL BE OPEN



★ **Labor Day, Monday, September 2, 2024**
City Hall - **CLOSED**

★ **Public Works - CLOSED**

★ **Library - CLOSED**

★ **Trash pick up delayed by one day to Tuesday, September 3, 2024**



AGREEMENT FOR PREAUTHORIZED PAYMENTS

To sign up for AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWAL, please complete the form below and attach a copy of a **VOIDED CHECK** from your financial institution. Please mail or bring the completed form to City Hall, 310 Mill Street, PO BOX 160, Van Meter, IA 50261.

I (we) hereby authorize the CITY OF VAN METER to initiate debit entries to my (our) checking account indicated below and the depository name below, hereinafter called DEPOSITORY, to debit the same to such account.

DEPOSITORY NAME _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP CODE** _____

TRANSIT ABA # _____ **ACCOUNT #** _____

Transit ABA (Routing) Number is the first set of nine (9) numbers from the left bottom of your check.

This authority is to remain in full force and effect until the City of Van Meter and Depository have received written notification from me (us) of its termination in such time and in such a manner as to afford the City of Van Meter and Depository a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

I (we) hereby authorize the CITY OF VAN METER to provide billing statements electronically via email.

PREFERRED EMAIL _____

SERVICE ADDRESS _____

NAME(S) (PRINT) _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

You will receive your water bill on or near the first of the month. If you choose AutoPay, the amount due will be deducted from the above assigned account on the 15th of each month.