



FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK



I would like to thank everyone for electing me as your Mayor. After 6 years on City Council, I am looking forward to leading our great community. My wife, Leslie, and I grew up in Van Meter and have raised 3 kids here. I feel very lucky and am very proud of our community and school system.

I am looking forward to working with staff and the City Council to grow and improve Van Meter while keeping our small-town feel. We have many projects already in the works and I will finish the work that Mayor Adams and the previous City Councils have started.

Our plans of updating infrastructure and streets are a passion of mine. The planned trail system is overdue and will add quality of life improvements to our community.

My contact information is on the city website. Feel free to reach out to me if you have any concerns or questions. Also feel free to let staff and council know if we are doing something right.

Thank you again for your vote of confidence and I look forward to this new year.

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

DEPUTY CITY CLERK

vacant

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Drew McCombs

PUBLIC WORKS

Shane Luvaas

PUBLIC WORKS

Bob Riederer

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Jonatha Basye

LIBRARY ASSISTANT

Spencer Cross

PARKS & REC COORDINATOR

Tyler Beving

POLICE CHIEF

Mike Brown

FIRE CHIEF

Mark Schmitt

DALLAS COUNTY DISPATCH

515-993-4567

EMERGENCY

911

NEWS FROM CITY HALL

MEETING LOCATION CHANGE

The City Council is no longer meeting at the Veterans Reception Center.

The City Council now meets at the United Methodist Church in the Fellowship Hall located at 100 S. Hazel Street, Van Meter, IA 50261.



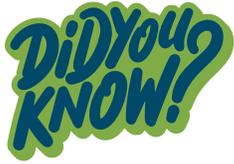
CITY BOARDS - APPLICANTS NEEDED

From time to time the City finds itself with vacancies on the various volunteer boards and commissions that assist with the carrying out of business of the City and direction of the City Council. Please use the form found on our city website under the 'Boards' section to apply to any board or commission that you would be interested in serving on. The City will maintain responses for up to a year and should vacancy exist, applicants will be contacted for consideration. Please visit the website below or contact City Hall with questions.

www.vanmeteria.gov/Applications.aspx

Current Vacancies: **Residency required for all open seats**

Board of Adjustment - 2 vacancies
5 year term



DID YOU KNOW??

You can have your water bill & newsletters emailed to you!
Just send a request to have your bill emailed to info@vanmeteria.gov.

NEWS FROM PUBLIC WORKS

**JANUARY
RECYCLING SCHEDULE**



CHRISTMAS TREE PICK UP

CHRISTMAS TREE PICK UP WILL BE TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024.



ORNAMENTS, LIGHTS AND ANY OTHER DECORATIONS NEED TO BE REMOVED PRIOR TO SETTING THE TREES ON THE CURB FOR PICK-UP.

NO SPECIAL STICKER OR TAG IS NEEDED.



LOOK OUT FOR LEAKS

THE AVERAGE AMERICAN FAMILY OF 4 USES 255 GALLONS OF WATER A DAY INSIDE THE HOME. ONLY A SMALL AMOUNT (LESS THAN 13 GALLONS) IS USED FOR COOKING AND DRINKING. **MOST OF THE LEAKS STEM FROM A WATER SOFTENER THAT MALFUNCTIONS. HOWEVER, A TOILET THAT CONTINUES TO RUN WATER AFTER FLUSHING IS ANOTHER WAY TO WATCH YOUR MONEY GO DOWN THE DRAIN!**

DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH WATER IS USED PER APPLIANCE?

- Shower:** 5-10 gallons/minute
- Bathroom Sink:** 5-10 gallons/minute
- Toilet:** 3-7 gallons/flush

- Dishwasher:** 5-25 gallons/load
- Kitchen Sink:** 4-5 gallons/minute
- Washing Machine:** 35 gallons/load



WORK IN THE CITY'S RIGHT OF WAY

You may notice more work like this popping up around the city. Several companies are installing communication lines (DSL, Fiber, etc) throughout the City of Van Meter. These companies will be digging up areas of the City right-of-way as part of the installation process. The right-of-way looks different from neighborhood to neighborhood but can be up to 15 feet from the curb.



The City of Van Meter is not conducting this work. However, Public Works does need to provide the locates for the City water & sewer lines. Any damage caused during installation will be repaired by the companies after work is complete.

If you have questions, please call 515-996-2644 ext #4 to reach Public Works.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Library Hours Monday 10:00am - 5:00pm Tuesday Noon - 7:00pm Wednesday 10:00am - 5:00pm Thursday Noon - 7:00pm Friday 10:00am - 5:00pm Saturday 10:00am - 3:00pm</p> <p>VMPL Amazon Wish List</p> 	1 CLOSED	2 CLOSED	3 GETTIN' CRAFTY AT THE LIBRARY WINTER HAT	4	5 Game On @ VMPL 1:30-3:30PM	6 CRAFT & CHAT 10AM
7 	8 GETTIN' CRAFTY AT THE LIBRARY HOT COCOA	9	10	11 OUTREACH 10:00AM	12 OUTREACH 9:15AM TRICKY TOWERS 2PM	13
14	15 CLOSED	16 STORIES, SONGS, & SNACKS 10AM GETTIN' CRAFTY AT THE LIBRARY SNOWFLAKE GNOME	17	18 OUTREACH 9:30AM STORIES, SONGS, & SNACKS 10:30AM	19 Game On @ VMPL 1:30-3:30PM	20 CRAFT & CHAT 10AM
21	22 GETTIN' CRAFTY AT THE LIBRARY Melted Snowman	23 Dallas County Conservation StoryTime 10AM	24	25	26 VMPL/VMUMC Game Night 5:30-8:30PM	27 
28	29 GETTIN' CRAFTY AT THE LIBRARY SNOWFLAKE LANTERN	30 STORIES, SONGS, & SNACKS 10AM	31 	WINTER READING January 8th-February 12th		

Gettin' Crafty at the Library--every week, the library will debut a new craft for everyone to enjoy! Materials will be available all week and registration will not be required.

Craft & Chat--Adults, do you have a craft you are currently working on? Bring your quilting, crocheting, stitching, etc. to the library, grab a snack/drink, and chat with your friends! We will also have crafts available if you aren't currently working on a project.

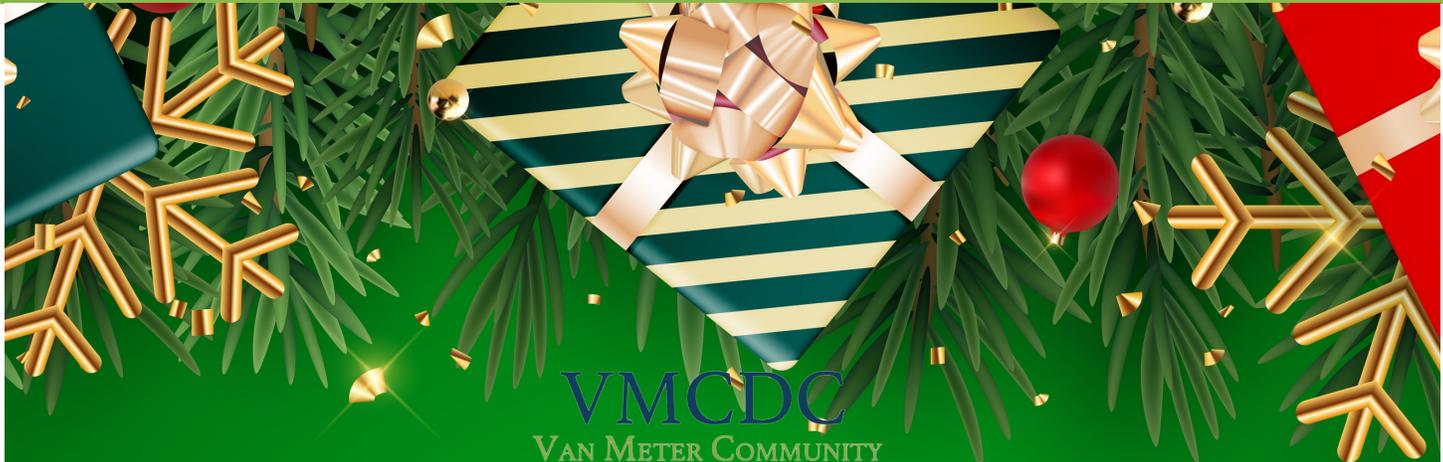
Tricky Towers--We are partnering with the Dallas County ISU Extension Office to bring you STEM programming! The program is limited to 12 participants, so please register early to secure your spot! This program is suitable for grades K-5.

VMPL/VMUMC Family Game Night--The library will be hosting a game night in partnership with the Van Meter United Methodist Church and The Dealt Hand! Our game night will be held inside the VMUMC Fellowship Hall. The event is limited to 40 participants and registration is required via the library web site. Pizza and dessert will be provided at the event! Perfect for a family night out!

Winter Reading--Our Winter Reading program kicks off on January 8th! Sign up via Beanstack and log your minutes to earn prizes!

Game On @ VMPL--Join us on early-out Fridays for Game On @ the library! We will have games, Legos, snacks, etc.! Suitable for grades 2-8! Registration is required and limited to 15 participants!

Dallas County Conservation StoryTime--Join Ms. Erica for stories and activities to learn more about animals! Created for ages 3+ and their caregivers!



VMCDC
VAN METER COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The Holidays are Sweeter in Van Meter

This event would not be possible without the help of the volunteers, sponsors and donors. We will see you next year during the first weekend in December!

Shane Bradley - Align Chiropractic
Ladies Auxiliary Post #403
Girl Scout Troop #27
VM Schools - Elementary Singers
Spike Benton
Shannon Payne Photography
Van Meter Cheer Squad
Casey's General Store
Beans & Beignets
Winterset Cidery
Tabitha Slaughter Hair
Jackie & Skylar Nall
Nick Harrison
Joel Akers
David's Fine Tobacco
Molly Ackelson
Get On Board
Rich & Jeri Hudnut - Remax
Wes & Rona Jacobs
Convergence
Mojo Vet
Danielle Burnight - Remax
Legacy Retirement Services, LLC
Dallas County Realty
5th Quarter
Van Meter City Hall
Becky Kinney
Salon Tec by Ro
The Law Shop
Susan & Bill Knapp
Inspired Kids Academy
DJ Tim Cox

Warrior Lanes
Ambro's Road House
Vicki & Lyn Lyon
Jorgenson Trucking
Beacon Hills Highland Ponies
Mel Poley Serendipity Spas
VM Athletics
Cari & John LaValle
Caitlyn Kinney
Jonatha Basye
Iowa Pork Producers
VM Public Library
Cindy Winchell
VM United Methodist Church
Plant Life Design
VMEMPC
Cody Tibbets
Allan Adams
Joe Herman
Sandy Van Ruden
Impressive Inflatables
Molly Maguire
Costco
Paul Scieszinski
RHO
Autumn Grolmus
Tracy Capps
Bill & Janice Miller
Iowa Wild
Events to Celebrate

VM Public Works
Fleet Farm
Paul Latare
Anna & Jamie Zuidema
Sara Heeley
Rhonda Baldwin
VM Community Market
Kris Christenson
Kris Koster
Jess Drake
Ann Allen
Heidi Myers
Meridith Hasten
Messina Haugen
S.W.A.G.
Ripke Family
Warren Family
Hess Family
Miller Family
DeHaan Family
Fischer Family
Bruins Family
Slaughter Family
Barney Family
Lane Family
Brienne Schildberg
Jarín Young
VM Police Department
VM Fire Department
Earlham Savings Bank



COMMUNITY NEWS

Just a reminder for everyone about the flag fundraiser Van Meter Community Development Corporation is doing again this year. Five holidays a year we will put a flag in your front yard. Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, and Veterans Day. This is a great way to show your pride in our community and our country! All profits stay in Van Meter and will be used to beautify our town. This is an annual fundraiser so even if you participated last year, you will need to sign up this year. **To sign up or to get more information please visit our website at www.vanmeterlife.com/flags.**

VMCDC is a 501c(3) non profit, so all donation will be tax deductible.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

THURSDAY NIGHT MEAL

Thursday, January 18, 2024 @ 5:30pm

FREE WILL DONATION

MEATLOAF & CHEESY POTATOES



BINGO

Saturday, January 20, 2024

ENJOY **DINNER** AND **BINGO** AT THE VAN METER VETERAN'S RECEPTION CENTER!



DINNER

SERVING STARTS AT 5:30PM

FREE WILL DONATION

DINNER: SOUP

BINGO

STARTS AT 7:00PM - COST \$1.00 PER CARD

10 REGULAR GAMES PLUS \$500 PROGRESSIVE BLACKOUT



VAN METER AFTER PROM

VAN METER BASKETBALL JAMBOREE

DATE: Saturday, February 3, 2024

ENTRY FEE: \$185.00 per team (Registration deadline: Friday, January 26, 2024)

GATE ADMISSION: \$5 Adult, \$3 Children 12 and under

AGES: 5TH - 8TH Grade Boys & Girls

WHERE: Van Meter High School, 520 1ST Avenue, Van Meter

For registration, reach out to Molly Maguire at magmolly@gmail.com or 515-975-1870. Projected schedule release date: Tuesday, January 30, 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.