



A very cold edition of Van Meter News

JANUARY 2022 | CITY OF VAN METER

from the Mayor's Desk

Another year passed and 2021 continued to have challenges with the COVID pandemic. The City continued to operate pretty much as normal. Most folks are more cautious and are aware there are still challenges out there and that we must remain vigilant and ensure we continue to help those in need and care for each other.

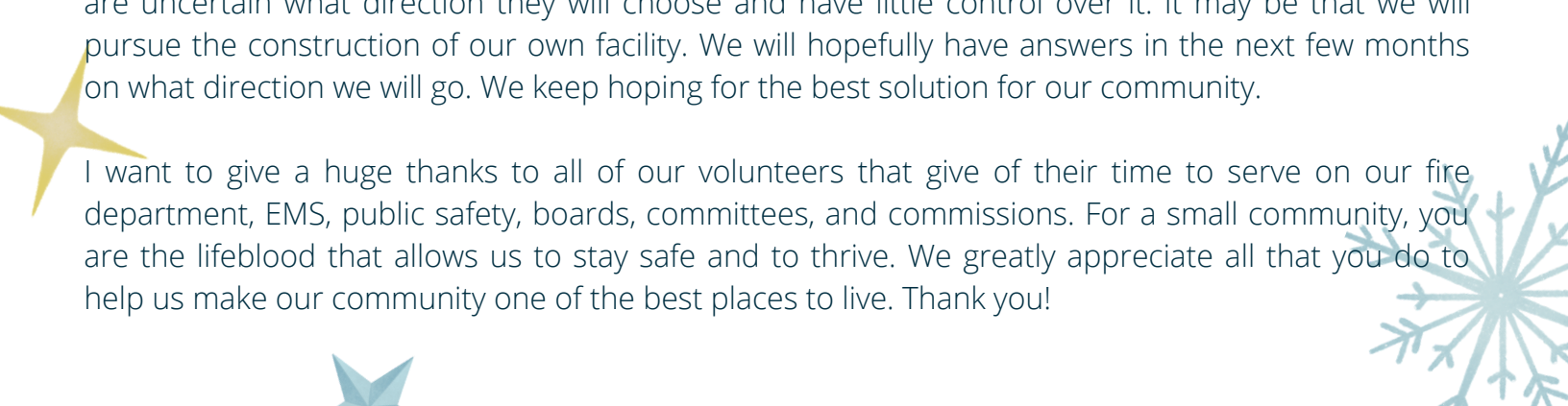
It was a busy year for the City of Van Meter. Our community continues to grow. We will do our best to ensure this is a controlled growth, so that we can maintain our small town feel and appeal, even though we are getting bigger.

We have three residential developments currently underway. 1) Grand Ridge Estates, at the Southwest corner of F-90 and R-16 saw a lot of progress this year. Dirt was moved around and Phase 1 streets were put in. They are continuing work to get ready for folks to start building. 2) Trindle Ridge west of Trindle Park off of R-16 is making progress. They have moved dirt, put in a street, and are installing sewer as part of that project. Much more progress will be made in 2022. 3) Hudson Heights, west of Hazel Street at the southwest edge of town, is the latest development that we expect to see things moving along in 2022.

We finalized the purchase of the ground for the new Van Meter Library on the Anderson property located south of the bridge/crane business ground on the west side of R-16.

We have been working on a water treatment plant for the City over a number of years. We were at a point several years ago where we were ready to get the project started. It was then brought to our attention that West Des Moines and Waukee were also looking to pursue a water treatment facility. They were looking north and east of Van Meter, which prompted us to pursue the possibility of a joint facility with them. It was a process bogged down with issues for our partners to work through. Recently, a new entity, Central Iowa Water Works, was proposed. West Des Moines Water Works will vote in January to either continue with Waukee and Van Meter or join Central Iowa Water Works. We are uncertain what direction they will choose and have little control over it. It may be that we will pursue the construction of our own facility. We will hopefully have answers in the next few months on what direction we will go. We keep hoping for the best solution for our community.

I want to give a huge thanks to all of our volunteers that give of their time to serve on our fire department, EMS, public safety, boards, committees, and commissions. For a small community, you are the lifeblood that allows us to stay safe and to thrive. We greatly appreciate all that you do to help us make our community one of the best places to live. Thank you!



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I would also like to thank all of the city staff for everything you have done this year to keep the City running. It is always a challenge and as we grow, it will continue to be a challenge for us. We have a great staff that will continue to meet all challenges and serve our citizens as best we can. Thank you!

Again, it is my pleasure to serve the Citizens of Van Meter, and I am looking forward to a better and brighter 2022.

Allan Adams, Mayor

Vacancies on the Board of Adjustment

Interested in learning more about city government? Want to be involved in the process? Then consider applying to serve on a board or commission. The City is currently looking to fill three vacancies on the Board of Adjustment. The Board of Adjustment is an independent body charged with reviewing applications seeking a variance or exception to the City's zoning code or seeking an appeal to a zoning or building related decision made by the City's building officials.

To apply for these vacancies, use the application form found on our website at www.vanmeteria.gov. Additional information regarding the Board of Adjustment can be found in Chapter 165, Section 25, of the Van Meter Code of Ordinances available online.



Apply Online!

Snow Ordinances

Snow Removal

- No person shall park or allow a vehicle to remain parked on a public street in the city from curb to curb (or from the time all traveled portion of the roadway for those streets which do not have curbs) or 48 hours, whichever time is shorter. Vehicles shall be removed immediately once it begins to snow. The Director of Public Works and Utilities is also empowered to end the prohibition on parking prior to the expiration of the 48-hour period if the Director determines that the streets have been cleared. The Director of Public Works and Utilities shall notify the Police Chief when the parking prohibition has ended.

Dumping of Snow

- It is unlawful for any persons to throw, push, place or cause to be thrown, pushed or placed, any ice or snow from private property, sidewalks, or driveways onto the traveled way of a street or alley so as to obstruct gutters, or impede the passage of vehicles upon the street or alley or to create a hazardous condition therein; except where, in the cleaning of large commercial drives in the business district it is absolutely necessary to move the snow onto the street or alley temporarily, such accumulation shall be removed promptly by the property owner or agent. Arrangements for the prompt removal of such accumulations shall be made prior to moving the snow.

Removal of Snow, Ice and Accumulations

- It is the responsibility of the abutting property owners to remove snow, ice, and accumulations promptly from sidewalks. If a property owner does not remove snow, ice, or accumulations within 48-hours after such accumulations, the City may do so and assess the costs against the property owner for collection in the same manner as a property tax.

Please visit our website for the complete Code of Ordinances for the city of Van Meter. They can be found at: www.vanmeteria.gov; under the section titled Ordinances.

Recycling Schedule January 2022

Monday, January 3

Monday, January 17

Monday, January 31

Christmas Tree Pickup

- Christmas trees within the city limits will be picked up on January 3rd.

- Will come back on January 10th by scheduling only at 515-265-7374.

GET ACTIVE VAN METER!



Starting January 18th, the American Legion Event Complex will be open from 7:30am - 8:30am for free exercise sessions every Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Get out of the house, burn some calories, and meet new friends! No registration required, just show up with a clean pair of exercise shoes!

Please Join Us!



2022-2023 School Year

Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten

- Planning for the 2022-2023 Kindergarten/Transitional Kindergarten school year has started. Please Contact Kris Koster at kris.koster@vmbulldogs.com or 515-996-2221 for the link to sign your child up! You can also find the link on the Van Meter School Facebook page or at www.vmbulldogs.com.

Four Year Old Preschool

- For students who turn 4 by September 15, 2022.
- First come first serve for the AM/PM sessions.
- Maximum of 20 students in each section (per morning and afternoon session)
- Monday-Thursday (A.M. : 8:15 - 11:15 / P.M. : 12:15 - 3:30)
- No school on Fridays
- Tuition-free program
- Will follow the same calendar as our TK-12 students, besides Fridays
- Openings will be filled by resident students, before non-resident students.
- Buses available for arrival to the A.M. session and dismissal of the P.M. session. (no bus service mid day)
- No before school or after school daycare available at the school
- Breakfast and hallway supervision begins at 7:50 A.M.
- Non-resident students that are not enrolled in preschool are not guaranteed a spot in transitional kindergarten or kindergarten at Van Meter the following school year (school's open enrollment policy will be followed)
- The link to apply can be found at www.vmbulldogs.com or email Kris.Koster@vmbulldogs.com and she will send you the link.



Library


LAUGH AND LEARN

- First Wednesdays at 5:30pm
- Take home a full month of learning activities for grades K-4

PARENT AND TWEEN BOOK CLUB

- Second Tuesdays at 7:00pm
- Enjoy reading and discussing a different book together each month.

TODDLER TIME

- Mondays at 5:30pm and Tuesdays at 9:30am
 - Watch your children learn as you explore new things together!
 - For ages 2-5
- 



The morning and afternoon preschool class learned a lot about water wells and pumps from Mr. Herman during their water tower study!

Pay Online & Agreement for Pre-Authorized Payments

Pay Online:

<https://ubi.gworks.com/vanmeteria/>

ACH Authorization Agreement:

<https://vanmeteria.gov/Assets/Files/Applications/ACH-AuthorizationAgreement.pdf>

(IF VIEWING ONLINE: COPY AND PASTE FOR DIRECT NAVIGATION)

