

In the Middle

November 2023



Elections

Tuesday, November 7th
Peosta Community Centre
Banquet Room
7:00am-8:00pm

City Council Meetings

November 14 and November 28
Peosta Community Centre
City Council Room Chambers
6:00pm

City Wide Clean Up

Saturday, November 4th

Garbage/Recycling Pickup

Saturday, November 25th

Compost Site

Closes December 1st



Mayors Message

"Showing gratitude is one of the simplest yet most powerful things humans can do for each other."

Randy Pausch – The Last Lecture

As we enter into November the calendar tells us it will soon be Thanksgiving. Let me tell you a few of the things I am thankful for: My beautiful and supportive wife Brenda. She makes the balance of work, leisure, and serving as mayor work for me. Our seven children. Especially when 4 of them decide to get married within 13 months of each other! Our seven grandchildren. To see the world through their eyes reminds me of how simple life can be. Our parents and siblings. We do not always agree with each other, but we agree that we are indeed family and will stick together. Looks like I've got quite a theme going here – Family. That's what's most important to me.

The work on the new City Hall and Peosta Community Center will be wrapping up this month. Looks like the first City Council meeting will be held in the new council chamber November 14th. Look for an open house this spring! The new turn lanes are scheduled to be finished around Thanksgiving as well. We as a city have a lot to be thankful for in having the capability to achieve these projects to improve the way our city operates on both a civic level and a transportation level.

Kelly Oaks Park is continuing to get its facelift worked on and will hopefully (weather permitting) have a parking lot for the future trail head for the trail system throughout the city. This multi-year vision will come together in stages and will be a true amenity for the citizens of Peosta!

I hope you can find many things to be thankful this November!

Peosta is truly the Middle of Everywhere and always a hub of activity!

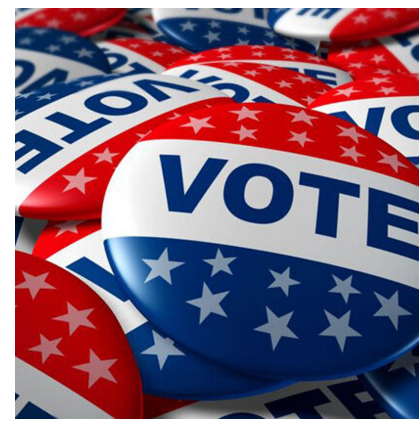
Russ Pfab
City of Peosta Mayor

Election for Council

Peosta City Council Election

The City of Peosta will have two open Council seats on the ballot for City Council.

Tuesday, November 7th,
Peosta Community Centre Banquet Room
7:00am-8:00pm



City of Peosta Government 101

Series of articles to educate and inform the citizen and businesses of Peosta

What is Public Right of Ways and Easements?

Public Right of Way. The public right-of-way (ROW) generally are considered public spaces or public access areas that are necessary to provide infrastructure, such as public streets, parking area, sidewalks, trails, vegetation cover and strips of land between the sidewalk and roadway. The width of the ROW can vary significantly based on the width of the street needed for transportation purposes. Generally, the ROW on a common city street is 50 to 60 feet wide. For the sake of conversation, the City of Peosta, by ordinance, requires all new streets to be 60 feet wide.

Typically, the maintenance of the area between the sidewalk and the street is the responsibility of the abutting property owner as designated by the city ordinance. Also, the city has the right to determine what takes place in the ROW through its code of ordinances and related policies.

Easement. An easement provides a means for access within the ROW's. this allows for vehicle and pedestrian travel. In addition to transportation access, an easement allows utilities to the strip of land between sidewalk infrastructure and the street/curb. Cities manage this area and allow permission through easements for utilities such as water, sewer, storm sewer, gas, electrical and telecommunications to access the ROW to maintain existing utilities, make repairs and allow for new utility installation. You may ask, "What are the City's requirements for ROW management?"

The Code of Iowa does not have many specific requirements on how cities regulate its ROW. In addition, Iowa is a home rule state which grants cities and their elected officials the ability to exercise authority in the best interests of their citizens. Section 364.12 of the state code establishes responsibilities for public access and states that cities are responsible for keeping all public grounds "in repair, and free of nuisance." This includes streets, sidewalks, alleys, bridges, culverts, overpasses, underpasses, grade crossing separations and approaches, public ways, squares, and common areas. That section of the state code also permits cities, by ordinance, to make abutting property owners for maintaining the portion of the ROW between the sidewalk and street. It is a good idea for cities and property owners to understand who is responsible for maintaining the various elements of ROW. Because of this, city ordinances define the right to occupy, and have permits to perform work and have in place, the general regulations of the ROW.

What are some of the most common regulations? Some of the most common regulations defined in our ordinance include excavation, drainage, placement of signs, maintenance (including grass) and the maintenance of sidewalks, which include the removal of snow and limiting debris (grass) into the ROW. **When in doubt, call the City.**

Our City ordinance defines what time period is considered reasonable for responsibilities related to mowing and clearing snow/ice accumulations, as well as how failure to perform such responsibilities will be handled. Ordinances may permit the city to perform, or hire out,

the necessary work and assess a reasonable cost to the property owner in the same manner as a property tax.

The state code also addresses sidewalk maintenance and responsibilities, allowing cities to create ordinances requiring abutting property owners to maintain and repair sidewalks. State code also allows cities to require installation of sidewalks with proper notice. There are many types of easements, and not to bore anyone, but here is a list of the different types.

Utility easements: for public utilities to install and maintain lines, pipes, wires, etc.

Private easements: for private parties to use a portion of another's property, such as a driveway or a path.

Easements by necessity: for landlocked owners to access a public road through a neighboring property.

Prescriptive easements: for someone who has used another's property openly, continuously, and without permission for a certain period of time.

Easement appurtenant: for a property owner to use an adjacent property that benefits their own property, such as a shared well or a fence.

How can an easement be removed? The time it takes to remove an easement can vary depending on the circumstances and the method used. The duration of each method can also vary on factors such as legal requirements, negotiations with other parties involved, and possibly court proceedings.

The important take away from this article is to contact us before you think about doing anything in the ROW.

In closing, please let me know if you have any topics of interest regarding the City that you would like to learn about, and I would be happy to write about it!

Best regards,

Annette Ernst, ICMA-CM
City Administrator

Police Department

I know it's a four-letter word we never want to hear....SNOW! It's coming soon and we need to prepare for the possibility for snow. As a reminder, don't push snow from your driveway on to the streets, please remove snow from sidewalks and driveways withing 24-hours of snowfall, and keep vehicles off the streets during snow emergency declarations.

3-12-2 SNOW EMERGENCY DECLARATION. A snow emergency is defined as any amount of snow. Snow combined with ice, rain and/or wind may also constitute a snow emergency. The Mayor and/or his/her designee may declare a snow emergency. A snow emergency may be declared in advance of an anticipated storm, during a storm or after a storm.

A snow emergency will normally not last more than 24 hours past the end of the last snowfall; but may be extended or shortened when conditions warrant. The public will be informed of a snow emergency through mass media outlets as deemed necessary by the Mayor.

3-12-4 DRIVEWAYS AND SNOW FROM PRIVATE PROPERTY. City snowplows will not clear private driveways. The snow placed in driveways by the city plows is an unavoidable consequence of removing snow from the streets and it is the responsibility of the property owner to remove. Snow from private driveways, private parking lots and sidewalks may not be placed on city streets.

3-12-5 REMOVAL OF SNOW AND ICE ACCUMULATIONS ON SIDEWALKS. It is the responsibility of the abutting property owners to remove snow and ice accumulations from sidewalks. If a property owner does not remove snow and ice accumulations within twenty-four

(24) hours after deposit of accumulation, the City will attempt to notify the resident and give an additional twenty-four (24) hours to clear or the City may do so and assess the costs against the property owner for collection in the same manner as a property tax, as provided in Section 6-8-3 of the Peosta Code.

3-12-6 VEHICLE PARKING DURING A SNOW EMERGENCY. No person shall park, abandon or leave unattended any vehicle on any public street, alley or City-owned off-street parking area during a snow emergency proclaimed by the Mayor unless the snow has been removed or plowed from said street, alley or parking area and the snow has ceased to fall. Vehicles parked on the street during a snow emergency are subject to tow without notice to the owners at the owner's expense. A snow emergency parking ban shall continue from its proclamation through the duration of the snow or ice storm and the twenty-four (24) hour period after cessation of the storm except as above provided upon streets that have been fully opened.

The ban shall be of uniform application and the Police Chief is directed to publicize the requirements, using all available news media, in early November each year. The emergency may be extended or shortened when conditions warrant.

3-12-7 PUSHING SNOW INTO STREETS. A person or entity shall not push, plow or place any snow into, onto or across any public street. Penalty per violation in twelve (12) month period:

First offense Warning

Second offense Warning

Third offense \$25.00 civil penalty plus court costs

Fourth offense \$50.00 civil penalty plus court costs

Fifth offense \$100.00 civil penalty plus court costs



Gym/Volleyball/Tennis Court Closures for November

November 4th, 11th, and 18th

Save the Date

Milk and Cookies with Santa: December 21st from 6:00pm-7:00pm
(More details to come)

City Wide-Clean Up

Please have all items to be picked up at the curb before 7:00am on Saturday, November 4th. Bi-County Disposal will make one trip through town.

Items that won't be picked up

Yard waste, stockpiled daily garbage,

Garbage/Recycling Reminders

Holiday Garbage/ Recycling Pick Up

Bi-County will be picking up on **Saturday, November 25th** during Thanksgiving week.

rocks, concrete, large amounts of building and construction materials, railroad ties, paint (unless the can is completely dried out and open, chemicals, motor oil, shingles, fencing, fluorescent bulb

Please be sure to have everything out before 7:00am.

The compost site will be closing December 1st.



Trunk or Treat

HUGE THANK YOU to all the participants who helped make Peosta's Trunk or Treat Event a success. It was great to see all the friendly faces and fantastic costumes. The businesses and organizations really made this event a huge success and we appreciate everyone making adjustments with the location change to inside the PCC gym.



Peosta Optimist Club Avenue of Flags subscription details

[Subscription Registration](#)

Optimist Clubs nationwide participate in the "Salute To America/Avenue of Flags" program. For an annual \$50 donation per flag, our Peosta Club members along with our partners, Western DBQ High School Band and Peosta Scout Troop 5, currently serve our community by placing over (600) flags in Peosta neighborhoods and businesses on (5) holidays: Memorial Day, Flag Day (June), 4th of July, Labor Day and Veteran's Day



Tom Hancock Memorial Fire and EMS Grant Program

On Monday, October 2, the Dubuque County Board of Supervisors approved FY2024 awards for the annual Tom Hancock Memorial Fire and EMS Grant Program. A total of \$141,000 was awarded to eleven (11) fire and EMS departments around Dubuque County.

The Centralia-Peosta Fire Department was awarded \$15,000.00 for a Fire Engine.

The Board of Supervisors established the Tom Hancock Memorial Fire and EMS Grant Program in 2019 to recognize the lifelong commitment to fire

(Nov).

and EMS services by County Supervisor Tom Hancock who passed away suddenly in January 2016 during his first term in office. Hancock served on the Epworth volunteer fire department for 45 years of which he was chief for 16 years. He also served two terms in the Iowa Senate from 2005-2013. Since 2019, \$641,000 has been awarded through the Tom Hancock Memorial Grant by the Dubuque County Board of Supervisors.

DES MOINES REGISTER NAMES PROPULSE, A SCHIEFFER COMPANY A WINNER OF THE IOWA TOP WORKPLACES 2023 AWARD

ProPulse, a Schieffer Company has been awarded a Top Workplaces 2023 honor by Iowa Top Workplaces. The list is based solely on **employee feedback** gathered through a third-party survey administered by employee engagement technology partner **Energage** LLC. The confidential survey uniquely measures 15 culture drivers that are critical to the success of any organization: including alignment, execution, and connection, just to name a few.

"Earning a Top Workplaces award is a badge of honor for companies, especially because it comes authentically from their employees," said Eric Rubino, Energage CEO. "That's something to be proud of. In today's market, leaders must ensure they're allowing employees to have a voice and be heard. That's paramount. Top Workplaces do this, and it pays dividends."

"Culture cannot be mandated by a series of rules and laws. ProPulse is a great place to work because our employees make it so. Their level of engagement is evidence of our commitment to each other and our customers!" - Jeff Theis, President/CEO, ProPulse, A Schieffer Company

ProPulse, A Schieffer Company is a hose manufacturer located in Peosta, IA. We are dedicated to customer communication, innovation, 100% on-time delivery and superior quality. As one of the largest high-pressure hose manufacturers in North America, we manufacture over 45 million feet of thermoplastic hose and assemble over 2.5 million custom high-pressure hose assemblies every year. Our core values of integrity, flexibility, safety, growth and service inform the way we treat both our customers and our employees.

Company Contact

ProPulse, A Schieffer Company
llaumer@powermovingforward.com, 563-583-4758
<https://www.powermovingforward.com/>



PEOSTA / NICC BRANCH INFORMATION

Storytime

(For ages 2-5) Join Ms. Teresa for a half hour of reading, rhymes, and socialization.

Mondays @ 9:30am



Culture Club - Madagascar

Learn about countries all over the world! Try a snack, do a craft, learn a little language, and play games. For kids in K – 5th Grade. November's country is

Baby & Toddler Storytime

Songs, stories and socializing for babies, toddlers, and their caregivers.

Tuesdays @ 9:00am

Holiday Spa Day

Make a special spa gift for yourself or a loved one, including bath bombs, sugar scrubs, and more with favorite holiday scents like peppermint and cocoa. For all ages.

Tuesday, November 28 @ 5:30pm

Madagascar.

Monday, November 20 @ 1:00pm

Snack on Science: Ocean Zones

For kids K - 3rd grade. We'll learn about a science topic and do an experiment we can eat to go along with it. November's topic is ocean zones.

Tuesday, November 14 @ 4:30pm

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Email library@dubcolib.org

(563) 556-8755
info@cityofpeosta.org

[City of Peosta Website](#)



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