

In the Middle

SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



City Council Meeting
September 12th, and
September 26th,
6:00pm
Peosta NICC
Dubuque County
Library

Planning and Zoning
September 11th
6:00pm
NICC Room 200G

**City-Wide Fall Garage
Sales**
September 21-23rd

**Centralia-Peosta Fire
& EMS**
Saturday, September
23rd
Peosta Fire Station

Trunk or Treat
Thursday, October
26th
6:00pm-7:30pm
Peosta Community
Parkway

Trick or Treating
Tuesday, October
31st
6:00pm-7:30pm

**City Wide Clean Up
Large Garbage Pick
Up**
Saturday, November
4th

Garbage/Recycling Information

The City of Peosta recently accepted bids for our garbage and recycling hauling and the following companies were asked to submit a bid; Allied Republic, Bi County Disposal, Dittmer, Kluesner, and R&R Sanitation. The successful bidder was Bi County Disposal. A few changes will occur, so we want to make sure that you all are aware of them and most importantly, the timing of the new 5-year contract that will start on **November 1, 2023**.

As you are aware of, Bi County currently hauls our solid waste and recycling, every Thursday and has only provided a recycle tote leaving the resident to furnish their own trash tote. Starting with the first pick-up in November, you will have a 65-gallon trash and recycle tote that will be picked up using their automated trucks. The new totes will be delivered to your house around the week of October 23. Additional totes can be purchased through Bi County, so if you are interested, you will need to contact them directly.

With the move to automated haulers, there are a couple of important things to keep in mind. Bi County will not pick up any trash or recycle that is not in their respective totes, and the totes need to be 2'-3' apart from one another to allow for the mechanical arm to pick it up correctly.

You're probably wondering, "what do I do with my current recycle bin"? Bi County does not need these back, so you can keep them or set them out and they will pick them up.

There is no charge for the totes, however, if you move and take one or both with you, a charge of \$90 (for each) will be added to your final water/sewer bill. The totes are the property of Bi County and not the city.



City of Peosta Government 101

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

I thought with the upcoming election for two City Council seats that an article on “Election and the Mayor and Council Roles”, would be fitting. If you should have any questions regarding the upcoming election and are interested in running for a seat, please contact our City Clerk, Marcie Winkelman at 563-556-8755.

The basics about taking office.

Term of office. In many cities, council terms are for four years and are staggered so that the entire council is never up for election at any single time. Some cities have two-year council terms. If not specified in your city code, the term of office is two years. Unless your city has an ordinance to the contrary, there is no limit on the number of terms an elected official can serve. Terms may be changed from two to four years, or from four to two years, by a process of petition and election (see Iowa Code Section 364.2 for petition requirement and Section 376.2 for changing council terms). If approved by a majority of the persons voting, the change becomes effective for terms beginning after the next regular city election. If defeated, the proposal cannot be resubmitted for four years. Regular terms of office usually begin at noon on the first day of January that is not a Sunday or legal holiday following a regular city election. Elected officials must take the oath of office before your term begins (even if you have been re-elected). Oaths of office can be given any time after the election results have been certified by the county, but they must be administered no later than noon on the first working day following January 1 that is not a Sunday. Persons elected or appointed to fill a vacancy must take the oath within ten days from the election or appointment. Oaths of office are usually given by the city clerk but may also be administered by a judge or magistrate, a clerk or deputy clerk of court, a notary public, (and this is a new one for me) or a certified shorthand reporter (see Iowa Code Section 63A.1). The mayor may also administer the oath of office to city council members (per Iowa Code Section 63A.2). The elected official must sign a written copy of the oath and have it certified by the person administering it. The wording of the oath of office is found in Iowa Code Section 63.10.

Ward versus At-Large Representation

The election to a city council can either be at-large or by ward. Peosta is an “At-Large Representation”, so our council members are chosen by the voters of the city as a whole, while ward council members are elected from specific districts. Some cities have a combination of at-large and ward representatives. Cities that elect officials by ward must comply with the “one-person, one-vote” requirement, which means that wards must be roughly equal in population. Ward boundaries usually need to be re-drawn every ten years after cities have received the official results of the federal decennial (every ten years) U.S. Census (see Iowa Code Section 372.13(7)).

I know in a past article we talked about the role of the Mayor, but since our upcoming election in November will be specifically for two at-large seats, I want to focus on the role of council. Section 364.2(1) of the Iowa Code provides that “the power of a city is vested in the city council, except as otherwise provided by state law”. By virtue of this and other statutory provisions, the city council has broad responsibilities and powers.

Summary of Duties and Responsibilities of City Councils

City councils **are the lawmakers of a city**. They pass ordinances, resolutions, amendments, and motions.

City councils establish city policies by:

- Setting goals and priorities.
- Approving programs and projects.
- Approving/amending budgets.

- Approving land use plans and zoning changes.
- Approving expenditures and payments.
- Approving contracts.

City councils oversee the administration of city government by:

- Making community decisions by systematically studying issues, reviewing alternatives, and choosing courses of action.
- Establishing a vision for the community.
- Sensing and transmitting community needs, desires, and comments.
- Arbitrating conflicting interests.

General Legislative Powers

Our city council exercise its powers when acting as a group (quorum) in official open session and by adopting legislation (ordinances, resolutions, motions). Individual council members have no authority of their own.

Council Appointment of Officials

The authority for appointing city officials overlaps between the mayor and council. Unless otherwise provided in state or local law, the council has the power to appoint city officials. The council by ordinance may delegate some of this power to the mayor or city administrator.

Setting Wages and Terms of Employment

The council is responsible for setting the wages of city officers and employees. It is required to fix by ordinance the terms of office of all appointed officials whose terms are not set by state law. City councils usually establish the powers and duties of municipal officers by ordinance. If responsibilities have been established by state statute, your council cannot take them away (but may add to them). The council may also remove city officers and employees it appointed.

Division of Powers

As previously discussed, powers may be divided between the city council, mayor, and city administrator. To avoid confusion, the powers and duties of the mayor, council and city administrator is established by ordinance and reviewed by all parties on a regular basis. City council members have the duty to responsibly govern their city. This duty generally includes attending meetings regularly and punctually, actively participating in debate, carefully reviewing materials prior to meetings, respecting fellow council members, citizens, and staff, and following democratic procedures. Outside of council meetings, council members' responsibilities usually involve meeting with constituents, keeping informed about the city and its activities, taking advantage of training opportunities, and conducting everyday affairs in a dignified and proper manner. It is important to remember that the business of government must take place in open session at official meetings of the city council.

Honestly, this is just the tip of the iceberg!

As an appointed public official, myself, I can tell you that it is an honor to serve the citizens of Peosta, Mayor, and City Council.

If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Annette Ernst, ICMA-CM
City Administrator



Please join us in welcoming **Dubuque Physical Therapy**, 7462 Thunder Valley Drive, on Monday, September 25 from 3:00pm-6:00pm for their Grand



Work along Thunder Hills Road and Cox Springs Road is expected to last through October. To ensure the safety of everyone, the Department of

Opening! There will be refreshments served and some giveaways. Ribbon-cutting is scheduled to take place at 4:30pm.

Transportation has prohibited left turns entirely at the Cox Springs Road intersection and we have closed the southbound left turns at Thunder Hills. This will be in affect during the entire duration of both projects.

PEOSTA CITY WIDE GARAGE SALES

SEPTEMBER 21-23



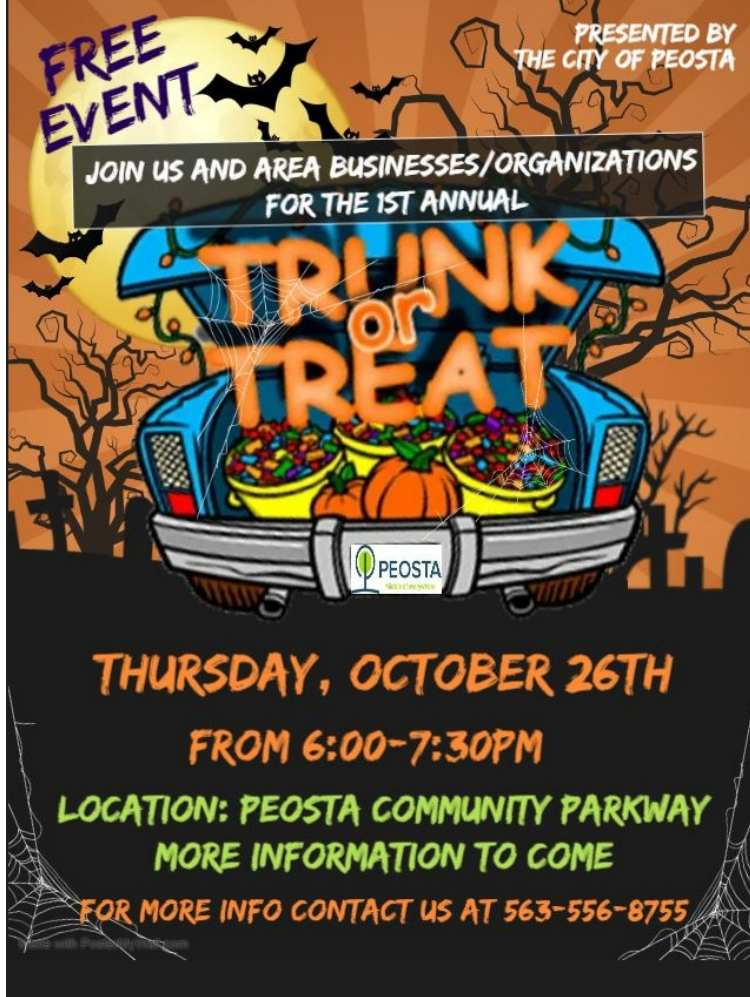
For more information, call 563.556.3002 or visit
www.bankfidelity.bank for online form.

FIDELITY
BANK & TRUST
Member FDIC

TRICK or TREAT



**Tuesday,
October
31st**



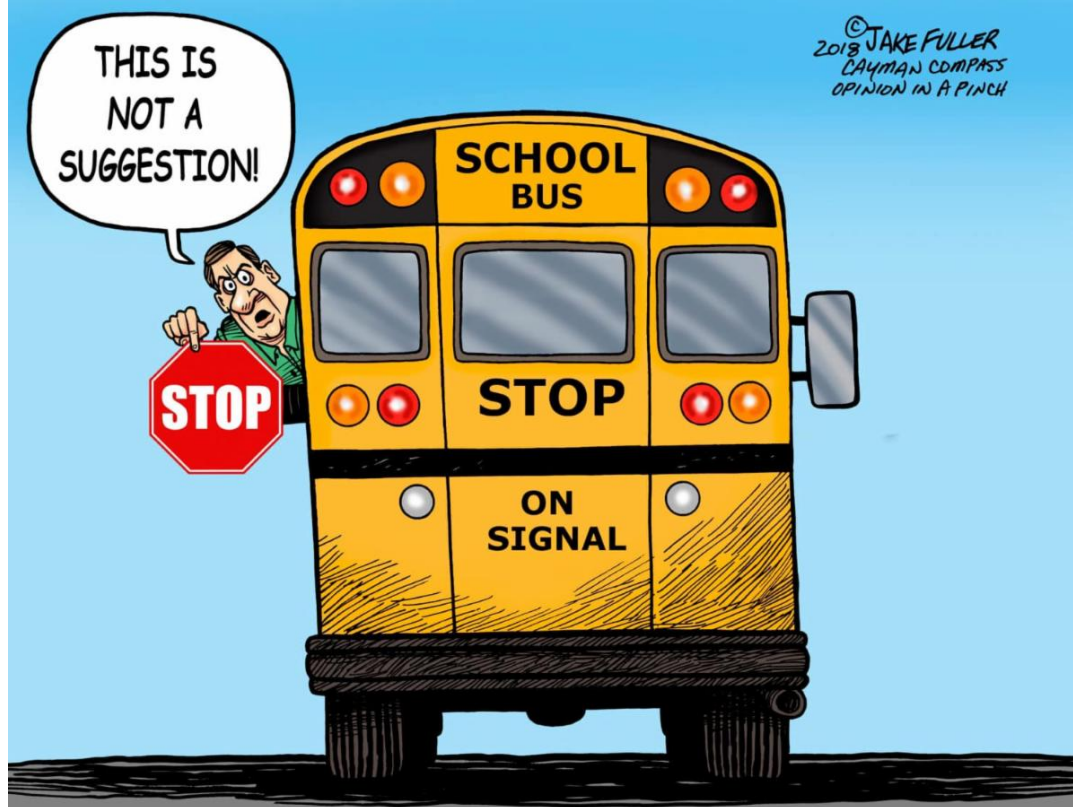
6:00pm -
7:30pm



Police Department

Back to School Reminders: With school in session, we want to remind everybody to obey the posted speed limits and pay special attention to the school speed zones. To help keep kids safe as they attend class for the new school year, we will be out conducting special traffic enforcement in school zones. Please slow down and stay alert! **#StaysafePeosta**
Peosta Police Chief

Mike Comer



AUCTION- FUNDRAISER

CENTRALIA-PEOSTA FIRE & EMS

Saturday, September 23, 2023

Location: Peosta Fire Station
Doors open at 6 pm



- Live Auction
- Great Food
- Loads of Fun!

- Admission \$5
- Cash Bar until close of Event
- Please no food or drink carry-in

Girls Volleyball

3rd/4th Grade

Wednesdays

November 1-29th

Games will be at 5pm, 6pm, 7pm, and 8pm

Due by October 27th
\$150 per team.



5th/6th, 7th, 8th Grade

Sunday Mornings starting November 5th

Dates:

November 5, 12, 19, December 3, and 10

- Games will be played every hour starting at 7:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings.
- We will take a maximum of 12 teams. (We will create a waiting list if there are more teams and see if we can accommodate.)
- You have to sign up as a team.
- We will play best of 3, 3rd game to 15 if needed.
- Teams will have to ref each other's games; it will be noted on the schedule.
- Please note that this league fee includes the league on Sunday mornings, no practices.
- If you have any questions, please contact Stacey at 563-556-8751 or sbauer@cityofpeosta.org

Due by October 27th
\$150 per team.



Dubuque County Library PEOSTA / NICC BRANCH

8342 NICC Drive
Peosta, IA 52068

Phone | 563-556-5110 ext.2224
Email | library@dubcolib.lib.i.a.us

PROGRAMS FOR KIDS & FAMILIES

Storytime

(For ages 2-5) Join Ms. Teresa for a half hour of reading, rhymes, and socialization. No registration required.

Peosta: Mondays @ 9:30 Starting 9/11

Makerspace Open House

Visit our Makerspace with activities for all ages, including 3-D pens, perler beads, picasso tiles, button maker, green screen, & more!

Peosta: Wednesday, September 13 @ 5:30

Snack on Science - September

(Kindergarten – 3rd Grade) Learn about a science topic and do an edible experiment to go along with it.

September's topic is cells.

Peosta: Wednesday, September 27 @ 4:30

Kids Craft Club - September

Join Miss Kayla for a craft club! September's craft is Emoji Paper Squishy.

Peosta: Wednesday, September 20 @ 4:30

Teen Pops (Grades 6th - 12th)

Tweens and teens can drop in to choose between two quick art, craft, or DIY projects

Peosta: Wednesday, September 27 @ 4:15

Craft Club (Ages 16+)

September's Craft is Maple Leaf Mason Jars. Drop-ins welcome as supplies last.

Peosta: Wednesday, September 20 @ 4:30



(563) 556-8755

[City of Peosta Website](#)



City of Peosta | 7896 Burds Road, P.O. Box 65, Peosta, IA 52068

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