

# Van Meter News



## City of Van Meter

### POSITION AVAILABLE

Jolena Welker resigned her position as Director of the Van Meter Public Library without notice on February 12. Since then, the Library has been closed, so the collection of books could be organized in preparation of reopening. The Library will be opened on a limited basis starting on Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> and the hours of operation will be 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday, Wednesday and Friday. We expect this schedule to remain in effect until such a time as a new Library Director has been hired and is ready to start. A hiring committee has been formed and is currently reviewing the candidates. We ask for your patience as we work through this process to bring in a new Library Director for our community.

Please know that the City's leadership team views the Public Library as a vital part of our community, now and in the future. Should you be engaged in a conversation with someone and they are telling you something different, they are misinformed, so please help us by providing them with accurate information.

We are still taking applications, so if you or someone you know may be interested in applying for the Library Director position there is a full position profile on the City's website at [www.vanmeteria.gov](http://www.vanmeteria.gov) Qualified applicants should possess, at a minimum, a bachelor degree in Library Science, Education, Public Administration, or a closely related field. The successful candidate must be a self-starter, collegial, and able to demonstrate strong leadership skills. Public Library Director Certification through the State Library of Iowa is preferred at the time of hire and is required within the first year of service. Starting salary is \$30,000-\$40,000 per year plus generous benefits including IPERS. Those qualified are encouraged to submit a cover letter and resume to [publicservicerecruiting@consultant.com](mailto:publicservicerecruiting@consultant.com).

#### **Elected Officials:**

-Allan Adams, Mayor

#### **Council Members—**

-Bob Lacy,  
Mayor Pro Tem

-Mike Peterson

-Kim Sacker

-Owen Stump

-Beth Tweed



#### **City Staff:**

Jake Anderson-  
City Administrator  
515-954-6094

Liz Thompson-  
Clerk  
515-669-6396

David Herman-  
Public Works  
515-240-9280

Chad Gillespie-  
Public Works  
515-371-9933

Bill Daggett-  
Police Chief  
515-202-4154  
Dispatch: 515-993-4567

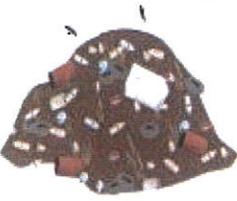
Jon Bruen-  
Fire Chief  
515-371-8515



## CERTIFICATE OF SUSTAINABILITY

awarded to  
**CITY OF VAN METER**  
**VAN METER, IA**

FOR RECYCLING 13,731 POUNDS OF TEXTILES IN 2014 WITH THE FOLLOWING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

<p>Water</p>  <p>SAVED ENOUGH WATER TO SUPPLY 132 HOMES FOR A YEAR</p>	<p>Carbon Emissions</p>  <p>PREVENTED CARBON EMISSIONS EQUIVALENT TO A CAR DRIVING 117,071 MILES</p>	<p>Landfill Waste</p>  <p>AVOIDED 79 CUBIC YARDS OF LANDFILL WASTE</p>
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Mattias Wallander, CEO

♻️ Printed on 100% recycled paper.



In 2014 the city was contacted by a representative of the USAgain company about placing a recycle bin in our city. The bin has been in place for less than one year and in that time we recycled 13,731 pounds of textiles! I am so proud of our community and our commitment to sustainability. Thank You!

USAgain also announced the second annual Spring Greening Challenge. It is a month-long recycling contest starting May 1st. The top 40 recycling sites that collect the most pounds of clothes and shoes per bin win prizes. As a customer of the city you have a chance to win too!! Complete a short online survey on their website for your chance to win an iPad mini. Details and contest rules can be found at [www.usagain.com/spring-greening.com](http://www.usagain.com/spring-greening.com)

Thank you to all of you for your continued support in diverting textile waste from landfills. Get ready for your **Spring—Greening!!!**

## LIBRARY NEWS—CHECK IT OUT!!

Kill Shot by Vince Flynn is a fast pace action adventure about a CIA agent's mission to bring the men responsible for the Pan Am Lockerbie terrorist attack to justice. It keeps you going until the last page with surprises around every corner. It's no wonder everyone likes this book about a spy and his quest for revenge. This book takes place in the present with the mass majority of the book taking place in Paris or D.C. This has to be one of the greatest books Vince Flynn has ever wrote. I love this book because of the suspense and the thrilling betrayal story line. Flynn puts in all the details he could without making it boring. I recommend this book to thriller or action adventure readers. This is the second book in the series so don't get ahead of yourselves.



*Kill Shot* book review submitted by Tyler Coffie, avid reader and 7th grader at VM Community School.

### Liz's Random Thoughts about Reading:

-I used to believe that books could never be replaced by a Kindle. I use both. I've convinced my daughter, but not my son.

-I will skip to the end of a book if I can't wait to find out what happens. One of my many flaws :)

-I have a bachelor's degree in English literature and a minor in journalism. I like to write, but have never shared any of my personal stories.

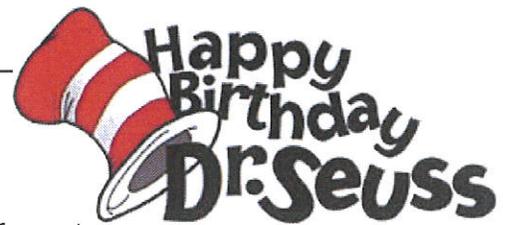
-Here is a personal story:

I have tried to encourage my kids to love reading. It has stuck with 2 out of 3.

I went to dinner the other night and asked my oldest if he wanted me to bring him back something. He said, "Yes. I want a book." I told him that I was going to a restaurant not a book store. He whined that he had nothing to read which is funny because I buy him books all of the time and he is taking an English class with assigned reading. However, how do you tell your kid that you won't buy him books?! I said, "Fine. I'll get you a book. What do you want?"

He replied, "Something for fun. How about Dante's Inferno volume 1 of the Divine Comedy? I haven't read that yet."

That is what my oldest is reading for FUN! I hope that whatever you are reading right now that you too are having FUN!



Monday, March 2nd the birthday of Dr. Seuss is celebrated as the Read Across American Day.

The library has several of the authors children's books in circulation. So in March when the sun does not shine, and it's too wet to play. It's a perfect time to read all day!!

## Temporary Library Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

2pm to 4pm



505 GRANT STREET  
PO BOX 160  
VAN METER IA  
50261

Phone: 515-996-2644  
Fax: 515-996-2207  
E-mail:  
info@vanmeteria.gov

## March Recycling—

**Monday, March 9**

**Monday, March 23**



## SPRING FORWARD!!

**Sunday, March 8**

**Daylight Savings**

**Time—**

**Set your clocks one  
hour ahead!**



**“LIKE” City of  
Van Meter  
on Facebook!**

## SPRING CLEANING

Spring is around the corner. You might be getting in the cleaning mood or noticing that your yard needs some tending to... broken branches, trash, junk that was hidden by snow.

The City has codes in place that regulate “nuisances.” Definition of Nuisance: Whatever is injurious to health, indecent, or unreasonably offensive to the senses, or an obstruction to the free use of property so as essentially to interfere unreasonably with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property is a nuisance.

Nuisance Abatement: Whenever the Mayor or other authorized municipal officer finds that a nuisance exists, such officer shall cause to be served upon the property owner a written notice to abate the nuisance within a reasonable time after notice.

A nuisance can be “junk” and/or the accumulation of “junk.”

“Junk” means all old or scrap copper, brass, lead, or any other non-ferrous metal; old or discarded rope, rags, batteries, paper, trash, rubber, debris, waste or used lumber, or salvaged wood; dismantled vehicles, machinery and appliances or parts of such vehicles, machinery or appliances; iron, steel or other old or scrap ferrous materials; old or discarded glass, tinware, plastic or old or discarded household goods or hardware. Neatly stacked firewood located on a side yard or a rear yard is not considered junk.

The City contracts garbage service with Waste Connections and they will haul away most items with your regular trash pickup on Mondays if you have purchased the appropriate sticker. Special arrangements need to be made for the removal of appliances.

Also addressed in the nuisance section of the code are junk vehicles, noise control, animal protection and control, and dangerous and illegal animals.

In part, the dog ordinance prohibits an owner to allow a dog to run at large within the corporate limits of the City. It is unlawful for the owner of an animal to allow or permit such animal to pass upon the premises of another thereby causing damage to, or interference with, the premises.

It is unlawful for the owner or custodian of a dog to permit barking or any other noise excessively, continuously, or intermittently, for any unreasonable period of time so as to create an annoyance or disturbance of any person at any time of day or night.

Copies of the code can be obtained at City Hall or find them online. If you have questions or concerns call 996-2644.

**We are on the WEB!! [www.vanmeteria.gov](http://www.vanmeteria.gov)**



Items		Unit Price	x	Quantity Ordered	Item Total
<b>Potted Plants</b>					
<b>Geraniums</b> 4 1/2" Pots	Red	\$3.00	x		
	White	\$3.00	x		
	Pink	\$3.00	x		
	Salmon	\$3.00	x		
	Violet	\$3.00	x		
7 1/2" Pots	Red	\$10.00	x		
	White	\$10.00	x		
<b>Hybrid Impatiens</b> 4 1/2" Pots	Pink	\$3.00	x		
	Red	\$3.00	x		
	White	\$3.00	x		
	Orchid	\$3.00	x		
	Orange	\$3.00	x		
10" Terra Cotta Pot w/Saucer	Red	\$16.00	x		
	White	\$16.00	x		
	Pink	\$16.00	x		
	Orchid	\$16.00	x		
	Orange	\$16.00	x		
<b>Hostas, 6" Pot</b>	Assorted Varieties	\$5.75	x		
<b>Grass</b>	Purple Plume	\$5.75	x		
<b>Mini-Roses, 4 1/2" Pot</b>	Assorted Colors	\$6.50	x		
<b>Garden Mums</b>	Assorted Colors	\$2.50	x		
<b>Accent Plants</b>	Vinca Vine	\$1.70	x		
	Spike	\$1.70	x		
	Sprenger Fern	\$1.70	x		
	Bacopa -4 1/2" Pot	\$3.50	x		
<i>Sweet Potato Vine</i>	Green - 4 1/2" Pot	\$3.50	x		
	Purple - 4 1/2" Pot	\$3.50	x		
<b>Hanging Baskets</b>					
<b>Fuchsia</b>		\$18.00	x		
<b>Boston Fern</b>		\$18.00	x		
<b>Asparagys Sprenger Fern</b>		\$18.00	x		
<b>Ivy Geraniums</b>	Red	\$18.00	x		
	White	\$18.00	x		
	Pink	\$18.00	x		
	Purple	\$18.00	x		
<b>Verbina</b>	Red	\$18.00	x		
	Purple	\$18.00	x		
<b>Hybrid Impatiens</b>	Lilac	\$18.00	x		
	Red	\$18.00	x		
	Pink	\$18.00	x		
<b>Strawflower</b>	Yellow	\$18.00	x		
<b>Mini Petunia</b>	Pink	\$18.00	x		
	Yellow	\$18.00	x		
	Red	\$18.00	x		
	Dark blue	\$18.00	x		
				<b>Page 2 Total</b>	\$
				<b>Page 1 Total</b>	\$
				<b>ORDER TOTAL</b>	\$



Orders Due  
April 1.

Please make checks payable to the Van Meter Park and Recreation Board.

**Thank You!!**

Van Meter Park Board