

March 2025

City of Lafayette

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791 Main Avenue/ P.O. Box 375

Office: 507-228-8241 Fax: 507-702-7220

City Office hours: M-F 7 am - noon and 1-4 pm

Email: [lafcityclerk@gmail.com](mailto:lafcyclyclerk@gmail.com)

Web: <https://lafayettetmn.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/LafayetteMNcom>

City emergency contact: Al Fox 507-276-1707

2025-2026 Council

Mayor: Curt Tauber 507-276-7803
Council Members: Dave Reed 507-228-8264
Tom Polich 507-766-1874
Andrew Hartley 507-276-9334
Logan VanDeest 507-766-6545

"The City of Lafayette is an equal opportunity provider."

March 2025

3 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm
10 – **City Council – 7pm Council Chambers**
11– Lions Meeting – Community Center 6:45pm
18-21 – Clerk Conference – Office Closed
18 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center
25 – All Utility Payments Due!
31 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

April 2025

7 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm
8– Lions Meeting – Community Center 6:45pm
14 – **City Council – 6:30pm Council Chambers**
15 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center
25 – All Utility Payments Due!

28 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

Other City Information:

Recycling Dates: March 13,27. April 10, 24

String Lights: Recycle holiday string lights and extension cords year-round; drop them at the office during office hours.

Snow Removal: If you need assistance with snow removal, the office has a few names on file. If you contract out for snow removal, let the office know to share your information to those in need.

Bookmobile Dates:

March 6, 20

April 3, 17 May 1, 15

The bookmobile is near the park on Esther Avenue from 10:15 to 10:45 am. No card, no problem – bring a photo ID and register for a Library card!

Lafayette is a pet friendly city - Let's keep it that way!

The 2025 Cat & Dog tags are now \$8 per pet. Resister them now!

If you are out with your dog and they drop feces PICK IT UP!



HELP!

We are in need of 2025 Garage Sale coordinator(s)!!!

This year's dates are May 10 and October 11, 2025.

It involves working with the clerk, hanging posters, gathering fees, advertising in newspaper and social media, getting information for the maps, handing out the maps and signs before the event and gathering them after the event. Contact Sandy in the office to sign up!

125th Celebration! Save the Dates!

Wednesday, July 23 – Sunday, July 27, 2025

The planning committee met on 2/25/2025.

The next meeting is Tuesday, March 25, 2025 at 6pm at the city council meeting room.

Come and learn what is planned!

Watch our Facebook 125 event page for updates!

"LAFAYETTE CELEBRATING 125 YEARS"

Watch each month's newsletters for updates on the timelines and more details of some of the events and where we need to have volunteers for each event. See a few items being finalized below. Planning is coming right along! We are only FIVE months away!

LOOKING FOR MORE LAFAYETTE MEMORABILIA

Lafayette Memorabilia is needed for our historical displays during the 125th Celebration.

Items have been trickling in. Look through your house-garage-attic and see what you may have from Lafayette in the past 125 years! An inventory is being created for the items and whether they will be donated or returned to the owners. Photos, advertising, P&R gear, information of the area businesses or organizations, anything Lafayette!

**Looking for a display for each: Scouts, boy & girl, 4-H groups, Legion, Lions, area churches, schools, study club, and whatever else there may have been!

ATTENTION LAFAYETTE SENIOR CITIZENS!!

Ages 80 and up! If you are 80 or older you are welcome to ride on the honorary member's float! Contact Kayla Altmann at kayla.altmann@gmail.com for details!

The parade will be on Sunday, July 27 starting at 2 pm. The Grand Marshall will be the Oldest Senior in Lafayette.

LAFAYETTE'S AMAZING RACE!!

Ages 14 and up, limited to 24 teams of four. Teams must follow the rules and clues; stations are only on public property. Stations will be set up around town for teams to perform tasks before they get the next clue to move on. This will run Saturday afternoon. Watch for further details coming soon!

LAFAYETTE'S MEDALLION HUNT!!

Starting with the kick off on Wednesday, a new clue will be posted to Facebook and a notice on the city office door daily at 9 am until the medallion is found. Join the fun and search the city!

LAFAYETTE'S HUMAN FOOSBALL!!

Plans are being made to have a human foosball tournament on Thursday evening on downtown Main Avenue! This should be a fun event to join or watch!!

This & That:

gWorks: gWorks utility billing changeover has been pushed back to a July 14 onboarding. Your online payments and ACH payments will be business as usual!

Blood Mobile: Monday, March 10, 2025 – register on the Red Cross website.

Clerk Conference: Office will be closed Tuesday, 3/18 – Friday, 3/21/ 2025.

Ham Dinner/Raffle: Fire Relief Ham Dinner is Sunday, March 30, 2025 – Raffle tickets available from Fire members.

Sump Pumps: Waiver ends April 1st.

Ham Bingo: Fog Youth Annual Ham Bingo – Fire Hall Saturday, April 12, 2025

Garage Sales: The Spring Garage sale is scheduled for May 10th We need a coordinator for the garage sales. Contact Sandy in the office.

Spring Curbside Cleanup: Saturday, May 17 – to the curb before 7am.

City Appliance & Electronic Collection: Saturday, June 21, from 8 am until 11 am.

Bike & Car nights: May 28, June 11, 25, July 9, 23, August 6, 28, and September 3

Winter Notes – and hopeful for Spring!!

Parking & Snow removal: Reminder no parking during a snow event or parking more than 24 hours from November through April.

Spring is on the way: We will have a few months of ugly brown yards before they start greening up. Remember that pollinators are resting in those leaves and grass clippings until the ground reaches a consistent 50 degrees. With these nice days we get antsy to do yard work...**STOP, it's too early!**

125th Community Quilt:

Thank you to everyone who sewed quilt squares! The sewing group has almost completed the quilt! It will be beautiful! The 125th Committee is working on the raffle for the quilt – more details will be available in the next month or so.

Lafayette Area Lions:

The Lafayette Lions are a service organization that helps so many in our community and surrounding area! Consider joining them!

Thursday: Meat Raffles-Horse Racing-Jemi's Jackpot 6pm start time.

Saturday: Bingo 1:30 start.

Volunteer: If you are interested in being a volunteer to sell or to call bingo or meat raffle / horse racing, contact Mark Haler.

<https://www.facebook.com/Lafayette-Area-Lions-1815080668713552>

Playground: The Lions are making donations to the city to pay the equipment bond payments for the playground. They are doing fundraising and using gambling proceeds to make these donations. Help by participating in the Lions events or making a donation to the Lions directly for this project – see Taylor at the bank, if you wish to donate directly to the Lions.

Lafayette Park & Recreation:

Summer ball sign up is open! Registration forms can be found online and at the C-Store!

2025 Teams:

T-ball Ages 3-7

NJK Construction - Rookie Softball

Pee Wee Softball

Jr. Softball

Rookie Baseball

Peanuts Baseball

Bi-County Baseball

<http://lafayetteparkandre.wixsite.com/minn>

<https://www.facebook.com/people/Lafayette-Park-and-Recreation/61556096219153/>

**A reminder and a thank you to those who use the can drop at the c-store! This is also an ongoing fundraiser for the P&R. They are working with the city for updates for the park fencing which is a huge cost.

Legion Post #300:

<https://www.facebook.com/LafMNAmLeg300>

Paver orders are ongoing. Reach out to the Legion or stop into the city office for an order form.

TREX Plastics Recycling for Benches: The project consists of collecting the proper plastics, bagging them, weighing each bag and sending a photo to TREX – in turn they send a bench once the 1,000 #s of plastic is achieved! The Garden Club will be working on it currently. This project will continue as long as a group or organization will volunteer the time and effort. Any organization can register to collect and receive a bench. Only stretchable plastics, clean and dry. Salt bags with handles need to be cut off. **NO dog food bags.** Remove receipts from store bags.

For more information, fact sheets are at the city office or check out the TREX website: <https://nextrex.com/view/educate>.

Council Briefs:

2/5/2025 Council Workshop: Council met with city attorney Walton and worked through the model ordinance for creating a Cannabis Ordinance. By consensus of the council, Walton will prepare the ordinance for first reading at the 2/10 council meeting. **2/10/2025** Prior to the council meeting, the council met with members of the park & recreation board to go over the two-year agreement. Park & Recreation Board members in attendance were: Heidi Portner, Angie Hartmann, Kayla Campbell, James Henderson, Jessica Henderson and Scott Portner. Discussed: cleaning, supplies, fencing, and field maintenance. Fencing project: being it is a city owned field the city would need to seek two bids if the cost falls between \$25,00 and \$175,000. P&R will continue to fundraise for the update. The agreement was amended and okayed by the park and recreation members; the Council later approved it as an agenda item later in the meeting.

Guests: Doug Hanson – Winthrop Publications, Residents Jessica Tauber – 551 5th Street, Nick Klingler – Fire Chief.

Approved: Agenda, as amended and Consent Agenda as presented including the 1/13 minutes, the recap of the 2/5 workshop, bills totaling \$53,127.16, treasurer's report including the bank reconciliation for January, receipts of \$60,899.05, 2025 Payroll 2 & 3 & LV council electronics reimbursement. Donations of Lions \$10,000 for the playground, C&A Thoreson \$500 to the Ambulance Fund, P&N Eckstein \$300 to the Fire Fund, L&K Thoreson \$200 split to the Fire & Ambulance funds and R Eckstein \$5-0to the Fire Department Fund. Denied a CUP incomplete application from Robertson and approved the Fog Youth request to use the fire hall for ham bingo.

Reports: **Fox:** Submitted his written report and highlighted information of monthly reports and projects and of the MPCA PFAS new mandates and testing schedules. **Tauber:** Attended a Nicollet County Hazardous Mitigation Plan Zoom with Fox & Moldan.

Burger: Submitted report and highlighted gWorks is pushed back to July 14, received Pay Equity compliance, made council aware of dog attack.

Reed-Tauber: Attended the RS Fiber JPB workshop. Discussed township growth, RS has no capital, but would take it to the executive board to look into advancing air verses fiber for the townships. If they pursue a sale they would look to repay the cities. **Klingler:** Polar Plunge raised \$6,000 for Special Olympics; the rural farm board meeting is February 12. He & Fox will review the ISO. Relief Ham dinner 3/30. **Polich:** Will be attending leadership training. **VanDeest:** Attended the newly elected foundational training.

Unfinished Business: RO: On hold until state funding is approved. Mayor and Fox will attend Day on the Hill 3/6. Senator Frentz entered a bill to the Senate. Rep. Schwartz will meet with the city to understand the project and plans to submit a similar bill in the House. **STREAMS:** Tech team met with Public Facilities Authority (PFA) for an overview and funding opportunities and procedures. He suggested each city to submit applications under the STREAMS project to maximize the amount of funding for the project. Council approved Fox to submit the PPL application for the grant opportunities for the STREAMS project.

Xcel Franchise: Approved Ord. 150 and Walton will prepare a summary of the Ordinance to publish.

New Business: Approved: 2024 Audit, fire fighter Scott Foster for daytime help, first reading of the Ord. 151 Amending the Zoning Code regarding Cannabis Businesses, a public hearing is set for March 10.

The next meeting will be held March 10, 2025, 2025 at 7pm in the council chambers 791 Main Avenue.

2025 Band Concerts – Friday Night Socials

The Lafayette Band has set their concert dates for the 2025 season. The concerts will continue to start at 7:30pm, except during the 125th it will start at 6:30pm, to allow for the transition to the concord singers. Contact the office to book your Friday Night Social!

May 30 – Open

July 11 – Open

June 6 – Foggy Youth

July 18 – Open

June 13 – Lions

July 25 – Legion 125th Celebration Meal

June 20 –1st Lutheran

June 27 –West Newton 4H