

# October 2023

## City of Lafayette

Edition: 2023-10

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City emergency contact: Al Fox 276-1707

### 2022-2023 Council

Mayor: Sandie Peterson 507-276-4583

Council Members: Dave Reed 507-228-8264

Scott Portner 507-380-7463

Tom Polich 507-766-1874

Curt Tauber 507-276-7803

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

### October 2023

2 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm

7 – Fall Citywide Garage sales

9 – City Council 7pm Council Chambers

10 – Lion's Meeting – Community Center

12 – Bookmobile – 10:30am to 11:00am – Esther Ave.

14 – Fall Residential Citywide curbside cleanup

17 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center

25 – All Utility Payments Due!

26 – Bookmobile – 10:30am to 11:00am – Esther Ave.

30 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

### November 2023

6 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm

9 – Bookmobile – 10:30am to 11:00am – Esther Ave.

10 – Veterans' Day – Office Closed

13 – City Council 7pm Council Chambers

14 – Lion's Meeting – Community Center

17 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center

18 – Turkey Bingo – Community Center

23 – Happy Thanksgiving! Office Closed

24 – Office Closed

25 – All Utility Payments Due!

27 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

### Garbage & Recycling info:

**Recycling Dates:** Recycling: October 12, 26, Nov. 9.  
Thanksgiving week – Friday Holiday schedule for both garbage and recycling.

**Fall Citywide Cleanup is Saturday, 10/14/2023.**

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

**Tri-County Collections:** Final tire, appliance & electronics is Saturday, October 7 – Nicollet County Fair Grounds. If that doesn't work for you, there are \$5 coupons available to take your electronics and appliances to either Mankato or Hutchinson's recycling centers. Call the office for information.

### Note from Mayor Sandie Peterson:

Happy October!

With the fall weather upon us, it is time to clean up our homes and yards to unfortunately get ready for the dreaded winter that never ends. Remember that we do have a fall rummage sale date coming up and the second citywide cleanup; check the newsletter, city website and Facebook page for details.

I would like to express my gratitude for all the people that came to the dedication of the Lafayette Memorial Park. What a tribute to small town life with the attendance of over 250 people. Thank you to all who were involved in getting the park planned and executed, to the legion for organizing the dedication and to all the donators to the park project. We have definitely left a legacy for generation to come. Be Proud Lafayette!!

As we go into the harvest and school season, please drive carefully and make sure to be aware of what is going on around you. Also, watch for the Halloween trick or treaters.

*Sandie*

**Found:** A child's cap was found under the RO project container when it was removed in August, a photo was posted on Facebook. Contact the office for details.

### Sump Pump Waivers:

The annual sump pump waiver application is in your billing packet, please fill it out and submit it with the payment. If you have a sump pump and did not get a letter and need a waiver, contact the office.

### Trimming of Trees and shrubs:

It is that time of year again to look at the trees and shrubs on your property and trim them, if needed. See the criteria below from the city code.

#### **Code 90.01 (C) Trimming of trees:**

Private property trees, shrubs and any other herbaceous plants must be trimmed so as not to cause a hazard to persons or property on abutting property. All trees shall be pruned to sufficient height to allow free passage to pedestrians and vehicular traffic nine (9) feet over sidewalks and pathways and thirteen feet over streets, pathways, and alleyways. Trees/shrubs growing in or next to buildings is not allowed. Storm damaged trees are to be cleaned up and maintained by property owner after inclement weather/wind situations to avoid undue injury to person and property.

### Benches:

There are opportunities for future placement of memorial and/or sponsor benches around Lund Park. Possibilities for areas would be by the kiddie park, ball fields or in other areas of the park. The city orders them so they are all the same and you would be billed the actual cost of the bench and installation.

### City-wide Garage Sales – Fall Cleanup:

To date there are only a few sales that are planned for **Saturday, October 7**, so the sales will be advertised on Facebook personal pages and garage sale sites - if you see the posts please share! No maps will be printed unless we have ten or more sales, but a poster will be delivered to the bank, bar, post office, Fillmeup and the city with the addresses and information of all the known sales.

### **FINAL CITYWIDE CLEANUP – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2023**

### **Save the dates and plan your next sale!**

#### **2024 Dates:**

Spring - May 11, with cleanup date May 18, 2024

Fall - October 12, with cleanup on October 19, 2024

### **ACH Payments – sign up now!**

This is a free service to you; no more late fees, no more reminder notices! Contact the office for a form, sign up and then for the next billing your payment will automatically come out of your account on the 20th. You will still receive a bill, it will show DRAFT on the bottom section, so you can keep track of the amount. You can also go green and sign up for email billing!

### **Red Cross Bloodmobile:**

The next bloodmobile is on Monday, November 20, 2023, from 1pm to 7pm at the Community Center. If interested in volunteering, contact Lori at the bank.

### **Lafayette Area Lions:**

The Wenninger raffle drawing will be held at the October 10 meeting. Tickets are still available – contact Joe Meidl or other Lions members.

### **Coming soon:**

#### **October:**

19 - Thursday Meat Raffle and video pull tab racing

21 - Saturday Lion's Bingo is back!

31 – Halloween in the Lafayette Memorial Park – weather permitting, otherwise will be in the community center.

**Can you help the Lions?** The Lions are developing a plan to completely redo the kiddie playground and would love your support! You can donate directly to the Lions, also a portion of the gambling proceeds go towards community organizations and needs and projects like the playground rebuild!

**Join:** Become a Lafayette Area Lion to be a part of a very positive, caring, giving and generous organization!

### **Legion Post #300:**

Thank you to the Legion for the wonderful park dedication ceremony! Paver sales will be ongoing and forms can be found at the city office or the bank, or by contacting Mark Schuelke.

### **Park & Recreation Update:**

[facebook.com/groups/970058526441490/events](https://facebook.com/groups/970058526441490/events)

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

### **The Bookmobile brings books to you!**

Fall is a good time to snuggle in with a good book, get your reading choice delivered to you right here in Lafayette! See page 1 for Bookmobile dates.

No card, no problem, just bring a photo ID to sign up, or use your current card from another library.

### **Lafayette Study Club**

The book club meets on the third Tuesday, monthly from September through June at 7pm. If you love to read and meet others in the community, contact Sandy Burger 507-351-9731 or Sandy Hartley 507-276-4692 for details. You can attend as a guest at any time.

### **Serve our Community – Join the Fire or**

### **Ambulance!**

Are you looking for a way to give back to our community or to be a part of an organization that helps so many? Both our Fire and ambulance departments are looking for new members. Contact the office or talk with any fire or ambulance member how you can join! We need you!

### **Council Briefs 9/12/2023:**

**Approved the consent agenda: Including:** 8/14, 8/21 minutes, bills totaling \$70,239.49, and treasurer's report with receipts totaling \$46,111.82

**Guests:** Doug Hanson – Winthrop Publications, Residents, Dave Burger, Larkin Van Deest and Jessica Moldan.

**Reports:** **Fox:** the sidewalk to cc poured, grills removed from the park, working on the stormwater grant, MPCA updated the Sulfate Implementation – MESERB submitted a comment, 2 fire doors completed, pumper passed the pressure test, council approved repairs of \$848.02. Lions are working on their equipment list – bonds currently around 4.5%. **Peterson:** invited everyone to attend the Memorial Park dedication. **Burger:** Plans to move the Ledger archives, update on the AED from the county, Connecting Nicollet County will meet here on 10/17 from 7-10 am. Energy assistance for water and sewer ended; over the past two years helped many families with over \$8,700 in assistance. **Klingler:** Relief is looking to do a few updates to the fire hall, two doors, flooring in the meeting room and office, remove the grass by the bell and put rocks. **Tauber:** Inquired about any cannabis regulation. Burger and Peterson attended a countywide forum to discuss this and will meet with the county and Courtland and Nicollet on October 11.

**Unfinished Business:** RO: Decommissioning of the Pilot project was completed the week of 8/24; the design is at 60%. A delegation from the State House and Senate will have a briefing here on October 5 to learn about the funding needed for our RO Project. Approved the generator for the fire hall from Isenberg electric's quote. Tabled, the Ord. 144 reading for clarification.

**New Business:** Approved August cash donations totaling \$955.00. \$775 to ambulance from Citizens employees, \$80 from the NU Men's fast pitch to the park, and a \$100 anonymous donation to the fire department. Approved Mediacom's proposed term & payment update for the rental agreement. Burger shared information on the ESST law and how it will affect the city. A request to donate a memorial bench by the ball fields, council was fine with, but thought maybe in 2024 due to possible updates.

**2024 Preliminary Levy and budget was approved.** General Fund \$221,185, \$6,600 ambulance, \$35, 285 RS Fiber Bonds for a \$45,046 increase over last year's final budget. Each year MN cities must approve the next year's preliminary levy in September and submit it to the county. The preliminary levy and budget will always be higher as there are many projection figures that will not be available until later in the year.

The Lafayette Council will hold two opportunities for public comment on the 2024 budget and final property tax levy. The first will be held on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, prior to the final budget workshop. The second will be held during the Monday, December 11, 2023, council meeting.

**The next council meeting:** Monday, October 9, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers at 791 Main Avenue. *This is just a glimpse of the council meeting. Full minutes are posted on the city website once they are approved at the following council regular meeting.*

### **Community Center Rental:**

Hold your family event, meeting. No worries of weather, it has a kitchen and a smart TV and Wi-Fi! Call Sandy at 228-8241 to book your event today!