

October 2025

City of Lafayette

Edition: 2025-10

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2025-2026 Council

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

October 2025

6 – Fire meeting – Fire hall - 7:30pm

11 – City-wide Garage sales

13 – **City Council – 7pm Council Chambers**

14 – Lions Meeting - Community Center 6:45pm

18 – Fall City-wide Cleanup

21 – Legion Post #300 – Community Center

27 – Ambulance Meeting Fire Hall

November 2025

3 – Fire meeting – Fire hall - 7:30pm

10 – **City Council – 7pm Council Chambers**

11 – **Veterans Day - City office closed**

11 – Lions Meeting - Community Center 6:45pm

18 – Legion Post #300 – Community Center

22 – Legion Turkey Bingo

24 – Ambulance Meeting Fire Hall

27 – **Happy Thanksgiving - Office closed**

28 – Office Closed

Other City Information:

Recycling Dates:

October 9, 23, November 16, 20. November 28 is a Friday Holiday collection for garbage only.

City-wide Garage Sale: Saturday, October 11.

Contact Kathy Eckstrand or Rachel Hoffmann to sign up. \$10 covers the cost for advertising and printing maps - please pay this if you will be participating.

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

Bookmobile Dates:

Fall hours are 10:30 to 11:00 am.

Fall dates: October 2, 16, 30, November 13, December 11. No card, no problem – bring a photo ID and register for a Library card!

Register your cat and dog. There are many dogs and cats in the city that are not registered or registration updated – stop in and get them up to date.

Lost & Found: There are still a few items left from the 125th a few keys, sunglasses with case & the red scooter it still here! Guessing someone is missing it!

Next up... Fall Garage Sales!

Saturday, October 11, 2025!

Contact Kathy Eckstrand 507-276-1912 or Rachel Hoffmann 507-276-1118 to get on the list. Cost is a \$10 fee for advertising and provide a brief list of what you are selling – before the map deadline of Wednesday, October 8, 2025.

No space at your house or in your garage to hold a sale? The community Center is open for anyone who wants to take part. Cost is the same \$10 for advertising and being listed on the map. The more in the community center the better pull to get buyers to enter! Also, fall weather can be unpredictable, the community center is climate controlled!

Fall Citywide Cleanup: Will be held on Saturday, October 18, 2025. Items must be to the curb by 7am. If you need the information to what is acceptable, stop by the office for another copy. ***This is a great opportunity to clean up your yard & home before winter sets in!***

Tri County Upcoming Fall Collections: Le Sueur, Nicollet and Sibley Counties.

Tire Appliance & Electronics Collection: Saturday, October 4, 2025 9 am to 1 pm. Nicollet County Fair Grounds in St Peter (400 W Union Street) For further information call Tri-County Solid Waste Office 507-381-9196 or www.tricountyrecycling.org. This is the final collection for 2025

Munibilling: If you are having issues trying to register for online access, try clearing your browsing history. It also seems typing in the website address seems to work better. If you are newly signing up, follow the setup using the code on the bottom of your bill. *Also, if you make a payment by a paper check and do not submit your payment stub, PLEASE write your account number on your check!*

Annual Tree Trimming: It's that time of year to trim your trees back. Code 90.01 in part states: All trees shall be pruned to sufficient height to allow free passage to pedestrians and vehicular traffic nine feet over sidewalks and pathways and 13 feet over streets, pathways and alleyways. There are many trees over roadways, sidewalks and covering signs.

Lions Trick or Treating: The Lions have held a Halloween trick or treating event for many years. This year they will host it in the community center and our hopes are that other families or groups would join them by dressing up and decorating a table to hand out their goodies to our children in a safe and climate-controlled space! Reach out to the office if you would like to join the inside trick or treating in the community center on Friday, October 31, from 5 to 7 pm!

Holiday park decorating: We are still looking for volunteers to decorate the memorial park for the holidays. One thought was to ask families or groups to each decorate a tree in the park or bandstand. The city has decorations in the shop. Feel free to come and check out what is here to use, or if you have a great display idea contact the office.

The Perfect Gift! Start your Christmas shopping early and give the gift of Lafayette History! The Next 125 Years is available now! Only \$30 each, get one for each family member! (We can even get Ruth to autograph them for you!) There are also a few grey 125th t-shirts only size XXL are left; regularly \$24, now \$20 each.

Hydrant Flushing

Al & Brennan will be flushing all hydrants in the city during the week of October 13-17, 2025.

It will be posted on the City Facebook page. They will flush approximately between the hours of 7 am and 3 pm. You may see sediment or discoloration if you pull water into your house during the flushing in your area.

TREX Plastics Recycling for Benches:

The garden club has submitted 689#s so far and only 311# away from our goal of 1,000#s! We have about 150#s that are sorted and bagged and ready to drop off and submit – we are getting close! We are an earth conscience community and everyone likes to recycle the plastics and slowly we have gotten the wrong items out of the collection process! **We need the next group to continue this plastics drive!** The project consists of collecting the proper plastics, bagging them, weighing each bag and sending a photo to TREX and in turn they send a bench once the 1,000 #s of plastic is achieved! We have the process down pat – are you willing to do it next? This project will continue as long as a group or organization will volunteer the time and effort. With a few good sources we have gotten that provide clean stretchable wrap, the amount adds up quickly. Any organization can register to collect and receive a bench. It will be nice to have a few additional benches on Main street when there are summer events down town!

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

Lafayette Area Lions:

The Lafayette Lions are a service organization that helps so many in our community and surrounding area! Consider joining them! Horse racing begins October 16 and Bingo on October 18! <https://www.facebook.com/Lafayette-Area-Lions-1815080668713552>. 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 them 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:

Youth Soccer ages 4- 8 Tuesday nights, 9/2 through 9/30 from 6 – 6:45 pm. \$10 fee.

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

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

****Remember to recycle your cans in the trailer at the C-Store. They are planning a meat bingo this winter. Watch for posters with the details.**

Legion Post #300

Turkey bingo will be here before we know it!
Watch for posters of the details.

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

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

First Lutheran Fall Benefit:

Sunday, October 12 10:30am church service, 11:30am freewill luncheon of soup & sandwiches. 12:30pm A to Z Bingo \$5 per card – 40 games. Prizes include: toys, clothes, household items, bakeware and groceries. Quilt Raffle winners will be drawn at 2pm.

Proceeds go toward electrical updates.

Council Briefs:

9/8/2025 – Meeting was not held due to lack of quorum. Rescheduled for 9/15/2025.

9/15/2025 – Guests: Doug Hanson – Winthrop Publications, Residents Jessica Tauber – 551 5th Street, Brennan Moldan 1091 Lafayette Avenue, Nick Klingler – Fire Chief, Mark Dick – Ambulance President.

Approved: Agenda and Consent Agenda including the 8/11, minutes 8/18 and 8/26 special meeting with budget workshops minutes & and the 9/10 minutes of cancelled meeting. Bills totaling \$57,220.92, the receipts totaling \$48,313.78. The treasurer's report including the bank reconciliation for August, the 2025 payrolls 17 & 18 and Donations Resolution 2025-23 of \$18,003.00 including: \$700 to fire, \$500 to ambulance, \$10,000 to the Lion's playground fund, \$6,803 to the 125th celebration; a complete list of donors are included in the resolution.

Reports: **Fox:** submitted his report and highlighted that the skating rink reshape quote is \$3,270 and is in the budget. After a discussion council tabled it thinking it was too high and asked for another quote. Even though the 3rd quarter results for the THM, HAA5 were under the "80 threshold", MDH deems the violation in 2nd quarter is ongoing and we need to send a letter with the September billing. **Burger:** Submitted report. Training for the Local Board of Appeals & Equalization is open again for council to complete. **Dick:** All AED pads are replaced. Driving training took place, will apply for a grant for new EMTs that would cover tuition, MN Ambulance reporting due in November – will work with Burger to complete. **Klingler:** He, Voges and Clemon will attend the chief's conference. He & Clemon will attend a NERIS training for a new fire reporting system that will begin in December. Inquired about getting the TV setup. **Polich:** Attend the Connecting Nicollet County as a speaker along with mayor Tauber.

Unfinished Business: **RO:** EPA accepted updates, approval should be completed by the end of September. PFA: waiting on the PSIG grant application status. Working with MDH on plans and specs for approval. **Stormwater Grant:** nothing new to report. **STREAMS:** A meeting was called for September 17 to meet with SEH. The Capitol Bus Tour will meet in Winthrop on October 22, at 8 am for a short introduction to the STREAM project's 4-million-dollar bonding request.

New Business: Approved: **Ord. 154:** Enacting and adopting a supplement to the code. This includes all ordinances approved since the last code update in February 2024, set a public hearing for a rezone request. **Waiver:** The Liability Coverage Waiver - member does not waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability. **Budget/Levy:** Resolution 2025-22 Approving the 2026 preliminary budget and preliminary 2026 levy, which was set at a \$55, 056 or a 19.80% increase. Staff will work to lower and the council will hold another budget workshop on December 2, 2025. The final budget and levy will be approved at the December 8, 2025 council meeting. **Courland Fire agreement:** Klingler explained that this agreement is for structure fires, the department covering the area would be paged and the nearest second fire department will respond with an engine company and water tender, unless further assistance is required. This saves critical response time from the need to call for mutual aid, and it also helps the ISO ratings for the area. **Hiring committee:** Council approved the hiring committee's recommendation to hire Kim Thomas, pending the background check. (since this meeting, Kim has withdrawn her acceptance.) **Investments:** Burger presented possible options for the long-term CD and adding a new short-term CD. It was approved to roll over the long-term CD into the best rate and term available when it matures, and to start a new \$100,000 3-month CD.

City pumper: Staff stated it is rarely used and removing it from service would only lower the ISO rating about a quarter of a percent. A resolution declaring the pumper as surplus and to allow the sale will be on the October agenda. **Park Fencing:** A previous motion to fix the first baseline was rescinded after the council had a better understanding of the project than they previously had. The mayor commended Park and Recreation on the work they are doing at the park. H. Portner reported that they have an additional bingo set and also will host five tournaments to help raise funds for the fencing.

The next council meeting will be held Monday, October 13, 2025, at 7:00 pm in the council chambers 791 Main Avenue.