

**Mayor Sandie Peterson called the council meeting to order on Monday, November 8, 2021 at 7:00 pm at the Lafayette Council Chambers at 791 Main Avenue, Lafayette.** Present were: Mayor Sandie Peterson, Councilors: Dave Reed, Scott Portner, Tom Polich; Curt Tauber arrived at 7:04. Also present were: Utility & Maintenance Superintendent Al Fox, Clerk/Treasurer Sandy Burger, Fire Chief Nick Klingler and City Attorney Aaron Walton. Ambulance President Mark Dick was absent.

**Guests present:** Cassandra Postell – Lafayette Ledger, Dave and Laurie Trebelhorn – Dave’s Place, John Luepke Nicollet County Commissioner.

**Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

**Motioned by Reed and seconded by Polich to approve the meeting Agenda as presented; all ayes, motion carried.**

**Motioned by Reed and seconded by Portner to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; all ayes, motion carried.** Included in the consent agenda were: 10/11 and 10/19 minutes, bills totaling \$33,314.29 and twenty (20) sump pump waivers from Aalid, Barber, J Broste, A DeBoer, Hurd, Kapolczynski, Klimes, Koval, Krueger, N Langhoff, Morson, A Pehrson, S Reinhart, Saffert, Schaefer, Schmitt, Wacker, Weisensel, Woods and Youngblom.

**Reports:**

**Portner:** Park & Recreation will meet on Sunday, November 15 in the Community Center at 5pm. They held a park cleanup on October 30 and worked on the weeds at the fences and dragging the infield. Board continues to work on the Articles of Incorporation.

**Peterson:** had an artificial tree donated for the Santa Day event. Attended the RS Fiber JP meeting, they have added 100 customers since the last meeting and continue to grow. It will still be many years of the cities paying the bond payment, they did talk about ARPA money, but it would not help the city’s payments being done sooner.

**Klingler:** attended many good classes at the fire chief conference, S VanDeest benefit on December 11, 2 to 6 pm, Pork Sundae meal, phone call from NU of a pumper for sale, declined as it would not make sense at this time, D Marengo passed tests - waiting for notification, fire department conference is April 22, 23, 2022, they are contracting a different company to paint the floor stripes, new cabinets and counter tops are being installed in the kitchen, wanted council to be aware that the cylinders for the air packs need to be tested every five years, the current price being \$28 per tank and ours were just purchased, so in 5 years there will be that expense.

**Fox:** Hydrant at skating rink repaired, flag pole is not installed yet, waiting on meter for the natural gas hook up at WWTF, will be gearing up fall cleanup around the city as it will soon be snow priority, when asked about the rain garden, they will be looking for the source of the problem of it not draining. Replaced the outside valve at the fire station, finishing dugout this week.

**Burger:** Highlighted from her report she would like to attend the MCFOA conference in Marh and there is a Region 5 training in New Ulm on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Unfinished Business:**

**Wastewater Permit:** Engineers will meet with Al at 8 am on Wednesday to look at possibilities of where or if the equipment can or will not fit, etc.

**Ord. 137 Amending Code 33.05 Fee Schedule:** Burger presented a draft of the fee ordinance for discussion and first reading was approved after the changes made as follows:

<b>Lafayette City Code 33.05</b>	<b><u>Note</u></b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Utilities</b>		
Farm Fill Flow Charge	per 1000 gallons	\$6.00
Residential Sewer Base		\$32.00
Residential Sewer Flow		\$6.70
Commercial Sewer Base		\$33.00
Commercial Sewer Flow		\$6.70
Sewer Hook-up		\$1,000.00
Utility Late Fee	water, sewer	
Utility Reconnect Fee		
Residential Water Base		\$34.00

Residential Water Flow		\$5.85
Commercial Water Base		\$35.00
Commercial Water Flow		\$5.85
Water Hook-up		\$700.00
<b>Zoning</b>		
Re-Zone	plus, professional fees	
<b>Community Center Rental</b>		
Non-profit meeting/community band concerts		\$0.00
Non-profit fundraiser		\$50.00
Community Group Activity	ex: senior or sewing group, etc.	\$15.00
<b>Fire &amp; Ambulance Fees &amp; Charges</b>		
Fire Calls	plus, foam, etc.	\$1,000.00
<b>Misc. Fees &amp; Charges</b>		
Document Fee (assessment search)		\$30.00
Returned Check (NSF)		\$30.00

**Fire Doors:** Tabled from last month, there was clarification of the fire doors bids, both bids are R-Factor rating of 17 and are available in three weeks, NJK bid was \$4900, Nosbush \$5264. **Motioned by Polich Reed to accept the NJK bid, Tauber seconded the motion; all ayes, motion carried.** There was also discussion of the timing, as it should be a 2022 expense.

**Wanser Blight:** Walton and Burger recently met with Nicollet County Attorney Michelle Fischer, there was a recent blight case in North Mankato that went to the court of appeals, and was similar to this one, the City of North Mankato lost the appeals judgment, which sided with the homeowner. Some of the reasons it was overturned, were due to lack of documentation, written complaints, exact descriptions of what the violations were. Walton will work with Burger and Fox to get written complaints and photos attached to the exact violations, etc.

**Certify Utility:** Table until December meeting to hold the hearing – the certified letter was returned from the postal service unsigned.

**New Business:**

**Resolution 2021-22 Accepting November Donations to the City of Lafayette:**

Included were donations of \$200 to the fire department and \$200 to Ambulance from Messerli, \$150 to the Fire Dept from Drogemuller, and 16 flour sack dish cloths valued at \$25.00 from Krohn for the fire hall kitchen for use at events. **There was a motion by Portner and seconded by Tauber to approve all Resolution 2021-22 November Donations to the City of Lafayette. All ayes, motion carried.**

**Dave's Place –** Laurie and Dave Trebelhorn were in attendance. Laurie Trebelhorn, LLW INC, will probably be taking over Dave's Place on December 1, 2021 and to expedite the business's reopening on December 1, 2021 or shortly thereafter, and being the Dave's Place Liquor License from current owner is not transferable, the new license for LLW INC is in the process and needs council approval to submit. **Motioned by Reed and seconded by Portner to approve the Dave's Place Liquor license application from LLW INC, contingent upon receiving the following: all completed and signed forms to send to Alcohol & Gambling Enforcement, the Certificate of Liability Insurance, Certificate of Worker's Comp Insurance, and the Nicollet County Sheriff's report and signature; all ayes, motion carried.**

**Tree Lighting:** Mayor Peterson has had an artificial tree donated to add an outdoor event of tree lighting to run alongside with the Lion's Santa Day event in the community center on Tuesday, December 14, 2021. Being the first year, she is hopeful it will be expanded upon as the community is made aware of it. She has Clydesdale sled rides, caroling from local church choirs, Citizens Bank usually does donuts and coffee during the event, she is hopeful for more things to happen as Santa day is a great event to bring the community together.

**Park & Recreation-city agreement:** Kayla Campbell submitted a draft of an agreement between the organization and the city. It was discussed and is a good start, but after discussion on the matter, the timing is off. Peterson reiterated what she said at the special council meeting with the group, after the Lafayette Park and Recreation was an entity with

the State and have the 501 C3 status, an agreement would be made, Walton stated it needed to at least be registered as a non-profit entity with the state before an agreement can be made with the group.

**John Luepke:** Was in attendance, he is the Nicollet County Commissioner for the western rural side of Nicollet County and has made a point to attend at least one meeting at every city each year. He explained what has been happening at the county level, with staffing changes, Mandy Landkamer is now the county administrator, they mourn the loss of an outstanding commissioner when Denny Kemp, commissioner for district 3, lower North Mankato, recently passed away. He discussed the HYW 14 two-lane project starting next year.

***Motioned by Portner and seconded by Polich to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 pm; all ayes, motion carried.*** The council will hold its first Truth in Taxation Hearing on Tuesday, December 7 and the second truth in Taxation hearing and next council meeting will be held on Monday, December 13, 2021 at the Lafayette City Council Chambers at 791 Main Avenue, Lafayette at 7:00 pm.

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Sandie Peterson – Mayor

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Sandy Burger – City Clerk- Treasurer