

# MARCH 2023

Your March bill will reflect the MN S=Department of Health's annual connection fee of \$9.72. Next month the annual meter deposit credit will show on your accounts.

## City of Lafayette

Edition: 2023-03

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://lafayettemn.com>

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

City emergency contact: Al Fox 276-1707

### 2021-2022 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."

### March 2023

2 – Bookmobile – 10:15am to 10:45am – Esther Ave.

6 – Bloodmobile – Community Center 1 – 7pm

6 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm

13 – City Council – 7pm Council Chambers

14 – Lion's Meeting – Community Center

16 – Bookmobile – 10:15am to 10:45am – Esther Ave.

21 – 24 – Clerk's Conference – Office Closed

21 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center

25 – All Utility Payments Due!

26 – Fire Relief Ham Dinner – Fire hall

27 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

30 – Bookmobile – 10:15am to 10:45am – Esther Ave.

### April 2023

1 – Annual Foggy Youth Ham Bingo! Fire hall

3 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm

9 – Easter

10 – Local Board of Appeals & Equalization 6:30pm

10 – City Council – following LBAE Council Chambers

11 – Lion's Meeting – Community Center

13 – Bookmobile – 10:15am to 10:45am – Esther Ave.

18 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center

24 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

25 – All Utility Payments Due!

27 – Bookmobile – 10:15am to 10:45am – Esther Ave.

26 – 28 – Office closed – Clerk PTO

### Garbage & Recycling info:

Recycling Dates: March 2, 16, 30 & April 13, 27

Spring Citywide Residential Cleanup is Saturday, May 20

Holiday Lights: Remember to recycle your holiday lights and extension cords; drop them at the office during office hours.

Mark your calendar for Saturday, June 24, 2023 Lafayette's Electronic and Appliance Collection.

Also, Tri-County is again offering a coupon good through 12/31/2023 for \$5 recycling of electronics and appliances when taken to the recycling centers. A coupon will be in a future newsletter or contact the clerk for a copy.

### Note from Sandie Peterson, Mayor:

March is here and I was thinking about a March about 20 years ago, it was so warm that at our bowling tournament I had to go to Kmart to get shorts and a short-sleeved shirt. I am hoping that will come around again. I think all Minnesotans are done with this winter and now we will have to see if winter is done with us!

A few of us attended the League of MN Cities Leadership conference this past weekend. The League puts on such good training sessions that are very beneficial for mayors and council members. I always learn a lot at these conferences and meet a lot of Minnesota council members and mayors.

The one thing I did learn is that in every city in Minnesota, the public works does plow the snow and it fills in the bottom of the resident's driveway. Everyone got a kick out of this, since we have all had this compliant once or twice! Seriously, though I would like to take this time to thank Al, Brennan, and Lafayette Excavating for their diligent effort to get our roads looking good and clear for us to get to our destinations. Sandy, I did not forget you; we appreciate what you do too, and to the citizens who help to keep our city safe and nice looking.

So, let's go into March with a positive attitude and maybe the weather will follow suit and we will get an early spring!

Sandie

### Red Cross Bloodmobile:

Monday, March 6, 2023 from 1 to 7 pm at the Community Center.

### Office Closed 3/21 through 3/24:

Sandy will be attending the annual clerk's conference in St. Cloud. Payments are still due on the 25<sup>th</sup> – utilize the drop box to be sure your payments are on time. We do offer ACH payments and there is no charge to you for this service! Applications are online or contact the office for one. Payments are drawn out of your chosen account on the 20<sup>th</sup> or next business day. You can sign up before March 15 for it to be started with your March payment.

### Polar Plunge 2023!

Thank you for all who pledged for our five area jumpers from the Fire & Ambulance, they raised over \$3,000 for the MN Special Olympics!

### Ambulance Steak Fry:

Thank you to the community for their support in tip donations for the Steak Fry! It was an overwhelming success and the money will be used toward updating ambulance equipment.

### 2023 Pie & Ice Cream Socials and Lafayette Band concerts:

The band has set the date for the annual summer concerts and local organizations have scheduled Pie socials on concert nights.

May 29 – Legion Memorial Day event – Community Center	July 6 – No band concert
June 2 – band undecided if there will be a concert	July 14 – Legion
June 7 – Bernadotte Social	July 21 – Foggy Youth
June 16 – 1 <sup>st</sup> Lutheran WELCA Social	July 28 – Park and
June 23 – Lion's	
June 30 – Legion Auxiliary	

### Energy Assistance Program:

The 2022-2023 season (October 22 – June 23) includes assistance with water and sewer utilities along with heating. Contact MN Valley Action Council (MVAC) for information and to see if you qualify. Application deadline is May 31, 2023

### 125 Years of Lafayette - Quasquicentennial:

(kwos-kwi-sen-ten-ee-uh l)

See the golden insert included in your billing packet for updates on the planning and how you can help us to make our milestone event a spectacular celebration!!

### **Help your Local Scouts in March!**

The Boy Scout's annual Food Drive supports Food Shelf month. They will drop off notices on Saturday, March 11 and will gather food donations on Saturday, March 18. It's Girl Scout cookie time, buy lots of cookies and support the Girl Scouts!!

### **March is Food Shelf Month:**

<https://newulmfoodshelf.com/>

### **Give generously in March!**

New Ulm Area Emergency Food Shelf serves anyone in the District 88 area, including Lafayette. It also brings food packages to Lafayette each month (1<sup>st</sup> Lutheran Church), contact the food shelf for more information.

<https://newulmfoodshelf.com/mobile-food-shelf/>

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

Paver sales will now be ongoing. Batches of 25 can be turned in to the company to prepare.

<https://www.facebook.com/LafMNAMLeg300>

### **Lafayette Area Lions:**

Lion's Bingo – Saturdays at 1:30pm

Meat Raffles – Racing – Thursdays begin @ 6pm

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

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

A little off-season work made fun! Join us for a little practice! No registration required. Free. 6-7p.m. Lafayette Community Center. Follow the Facebook event!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/970058526441490/events>

3/19 - 2023 Summer ball registration event from 12-3pm at Dave's Place of Lafayette.

3/20: Community Center fielding \*please bring your glove

3/24: Open Gym at the school \$7 per family 6to 8pm

4/17: Combination of all 3 nights!

\*bring your bat, glove and full sweats

5/13 - Chipotle fundraiser 4-8pm, 1600 Warren St., Mankato.

Watch the Park & Recreation's Facebook page for updated activities, like open gym. Facebook and the P&R website for details.

### **Bookmobile is here for you!**

Get your library card right at the Bookmobile; just bring a picture ID with your current address. If you already have a card (New Ulm is the closest library, she can add it into their system when you fill out a form and show an ID) The Bookmobile stops in Lafayette each month and the dates are posted in the newsletter.

### **Council Briefs 2/13/2023:**

**Approved the consent agenda:** 1/9/2023 council minutes, bills totaling \$72,135.15, and treasurer's report.

**Guests:** Doug Hanson – Winthrop Publications, Dave Burger – 580 Main Avenue, Jessica Moldan – 660 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Brennan Moldan – 1091 Lafayette Avenue, Tanya Hoffmann – 56033 350<sup>th</sup> Street, and Sara Oberloh- Oberloh & Oberloh

**Reports:** **Fox:** Siren has been fixed. **Peterson:** Attended the RS Fiber JPB, Ambulance Commission and annual Rural Fire meetings. Also, reminded all of the 125<sup>th</sup> celebration committee meeting. **Burger:** Relief years of service will stay the same per Hoffmann. **Klingler:** One new EMT, Courtland applied for a thermal device grant, we would need to pay the matching amount of \$1200, he will apply for a \$1000 hero's grant, Foggy youth asked to use the fire hall for ham bingo, he was okay with it and council also approved it, with the non-profit fundraiser fee.

### **Unfinished Business:**

The city was awarded a Federal grant of \$1,000,000 for the RO project. The pilot project will start by May this year. The final project should start in the spring of 2024 and take 12-14 months to complete. Once the pilot project is complete the engineers will work on the final design with the cost and after the city receives the final PFA funding package, a public hearing will be set. Approved amending Ord. 142 Fee updates. and Tauber volunteered to be on the committee with Klingler and township representatives to discuss options for updating the city pumper with a possible combined tanker.

### **New Business:**

Council approved the 2022 Audit after City Auditor Sara Oberloh went through the Annual Financial Report. Also approved: February donations of \$1805.21 to ambulance and \$83 to the mini park project. Uhde's shed application, clarified two personnel policy updates and added Juneteenth (June 19) holiday starting June 2024 and updated utility time sheet. Discussed having one city PO Box and eliminating a separate fire and ambulance one upon suggestion of the auditor and city attorney, council voted 3-1-1 to leave the same. Portner was informed of a new firefighter physical reimbursement and it will be looked into further.

**Zoning Permit Discussion:** After discussion a committee was set to look through the zoning code for possible updates and report back to council. Tauber, Polich, S. Burger, Fox and residents D. Burger, L VanDeest, M Dick and N Klingler.

**Next meeting:** Monday, March 13, 2023 at 7 pm meeting in the Council Chambers at 791 Main Avenue.

### **Local Board of Appeals & Equalization (LBAE) in April:**

The **VALUATION NOTICE** will be arriving to you towards the end of March showing the proposed value of your property to be used for the property taxes paid in 2024. If you do not feel the value of your property is correct, **Follow the instructions on the notice...** you will need to contact the county assessor to discuss your property **before** the deadline to request a review. After the review they will then bring the information to the April 10, 2023 hearing for the council to approve or deny. The meeting will be held in the council chambers at 6:30 pm with the council meeting agenda following.

## **Join the Fire Relief for their annual ham dinner!**

**Sunday, March 26, 2023 from 10:30am until 1:30pm**

**\$15.00 at the door – no pre-sale - \$8.00 for ages 10 and under – Take outs available!**

**Includes: Ham, German Potato salad, Corn, Coleslaw, Dinner bun, and Beverage**