

**Mayor Sandie Peterson called the council meeting to order on Monday, March 8, 2021 at 7:30 pm at the Lafayette Community Center.** Present were: Mayor Sandie Peterson, Councilors: Dave Reed, Scott Portner, Tom Polich and Curt Taube; Utility & Maintenance Superintendent Al Fox, and Clerk/Treasurer Sandy Burger were also in attendance. City Attorney Aaron Walton, Fire Chief Nick Klingler and Ambulance President Mark Dick were absent.

**Guests present:**

Brennan Moldan – 660 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Craig Portner 480 Lafayette Avenue, Dave Burger 580 Main Avenue, Marty Wacker 540 Main Avenue and Lee Zion – Ledger arrived at 7:39 pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

**Public Hearing:** Mayor Peterson opened the public hearing for the variance of Craig Portner and read the five standards for granting a variance, with no concerns presented to staff or Mr. Portner prior to the meeting or to council at the meeting and with little discussion from council, closed the public hearing at 7:33 pm.

***Motioned by Reed and seconded by Portner to approve the Agenda; all ayes, motion carried.***

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

Included in the consent agenda were: 2/8/2021 minutes, and bills totaling \$50,645.37

**Reports:**

**Fox:** Recapped the written report. Lead & copper rule revisions are out, but on a 60-day hold. The rule focuses on lead service lines and replacement, along with updated sampling requirements and procedures. Lafayette has one lead service line and the property will be included in the next round of sampling in April. MDH approved the wellhead protection extension. Fox also shared the COVID WWTF study results with council. **Portner:** Park & Rec will have a registration night from 4 to 8 at Dave's Place on March 13. Fire Relief will do a drive by ham dinner and raffle on April 18. **Polich:** Attended the mini park meeting. **Peterson:** Would like to see a welcome packet to include businesses from around the area. **Burger:** Updated council on payment plans on delinquent accounts, next Pay Equity Report is due next January, display case will be repaired.

**Unfinished Business:**

**Resolution 2021-05 Amending the COVID Related Authorizations:** Amending Resolution 2020-06 by updating item one (1) to read as the following: *“City buildings may be opened to the public to the extent permitted by the Executive Orders of the Governor along with the Minnesota’s Stay Safe Plan guidelines that accompany the Governor’s Executive Orders.”* Burger updated the council on what the current requirements and recommendations are as of 2/12/2021, the governor will do another update on Friday 3/12 and it may change. The painting will be done this weekend and floors will begin March 16. The Lions asked if they could hold their meeting on March 9, 2021 and the consensus was to allow them. ***There was a motion by Polich and seconded by Tauber to approve Resolution 2021-05; all ayes, motion carried.***

**Waste Water Permit:** Fox reviewed the MPCA Statement of Need and Reasonableness Document (SONAR) dated 12/14/2020. Class 3 and 4 waters were divided into subsections the narrative was that it would help set limits for MPCA permit holders. Fox sent his concerns, questions and clarifications to the effects this may have for Lafayette and at this time has not had a response. He also shared if the council would move forward with a central softening water facility, preliminary well sampling would be needed for approximately \$250.

**Snow Removal Policy:** Updated item G to state “written authorization of two (2) city authorities, including mayor, city council personnel, and public works personnel. ***Motioned by Reed and seconded by Tauber to approve the change to the Snow Policy; all ayes, motion carried.***

**Mini Park Committee update:** Peterson gave updates and progress, the meeting was well attended and many good ideas came out of it, no recommendations are ready to bring to council at this time. The committee will meet again on Wednesday, April 7 at 6:30 in the mini park.

**New Business:**

**Resignation:** Tanya Hoffman, our custodian, put in her notice effective May 14, 2021. ***Motioned by Portner and seconded by Tauber to accept her resignation; all ayes, motion carried.*** After much discussion the council directed Burger to place an ad in the Ledger and in the next newsletter looking for either a contracted service or hire a replacement. A contracted service would use their own supplies and equipment and must have a Certificate of Insurance.

**Resolution 2021-06 Craig Portner Variance: *Motioned by Portner and seconded by Polich to Approve the variance for Portner. Roll: Ayes - Peterson, Portner, Polich, Reed, Tauber, motion carried.***

**Handheld: *Motioned by Tauber and seconded by Reed to approve the purchase of a new handheld meter reader for \$2,000; all ayes, motion carried.***

**2020 Audit: Sara Oberloh of Oberloh & Oberloh Ltd. walked council through the 2020 audit, and with no questions *Portner motioned to approve the 2020 Audit as presented and Reed seconded; all ayes, motion carried.***

**Resolution 2021-07 Accepting a Donation: \$2365 donation from tips and donations to the Lafayette Area Ambulance from the Dave's Place 3/6/2021 Prime Rib dinner event. *Motioned by Polich and seconded by Portner to approve the donation of \$2,365. Roll: Ayes - Peterson, Portner, Polich, Reed, Tauber, motion carried.***

**FYI: Portner took a minute to thank Burger, Fox and Moldan for their time studies, saying it was interesting and would help them do their jobs better.**

***Motioned by Portner and seconded by Polich to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 pm; all ayes, motion carried.***

The next Council meeting and Local Board of Appeals and Equalization will be held on Monday, April 12, 2021 at the Lafayette Community Center at 6:30 pm.

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Sandie Peterson – Mayor

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Sandy Burger – City Clerk- Treasurer