

APRIL 2023

***The annual meter deposit interest refund is credited to utility accounts this month, if it applies.**

City of Lafayette

Edition: 2023-04

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2021-2022 Council

Mayor: Sandie Peterson 507-276-4583

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

April 2023

1 – Annual Foggy Youth Ham Bingo! Fire hall

3 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm

9 – Happy 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.

28 – Office closed – Clerk PTO

May 2023

1 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm

8 – City Council 7pm Council Chambers

9 – Lion's Meeting – Community Center

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

16 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center

20 – Citywide residential Cleanup day 7 am

22 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

25 – All Utility Payments Due!

29 – Memorial Day – Legion event mini park & CC

Garbage & Recycling info:

Recycling Dates: April 13 & 27 - May 11 & 25

Spring Citywide Residential Cleanup is Saturday, May 20, 2023.

String Lights: Remember to recycle your holiday string 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.

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.

Watch for cleanup and recycling day information next month!

Note from Sandie Peterson, Mayor:

Happy Easter!!

I hope everyone has a nice weekend with family or friends. I hear the Easter bunny with the Lions help is having an Easter egg hunt on Sat. April 8th at the school grounds.

Now that it is April, hopefully it will bring us warmer weather and happier spirits after this long, long winter! I, as well as many other people, are looking forward to going to the lake. Mostly, I am looking forward to being able to be outside and see my fellow Lafayette residents. I can't wait to have the kids playing at the parks and riding bikes; so, if you are out driving around be mindful of the little ones out enjoying the warmer weather.

With the nicer weather and everyone starting to clean up outside and inside remember we do have a citywide cleanup day coming in May.

I sure am glad we made it through a long snowy cold winter again, and thank god we will get this break with flowers, green grass and sunshine!

Sandie

New Logo Ideas Due:

Drop off your ideas to the city by Monday, April 17, or email to

lafcyclick@gmail.com It can be a rough idea and all ideas are appreciated! Be part of creating our current history!

Sump Pump Waivers:

At the time of the printing of this newsletter it is still cold outside, even though the April 1st deadline is here. If your sump pump discharges to the street it is unsafe to do so until it is above freezing. Route your sump pump discharge into your yard for now, if you can. Contact the city office if you are unsure.

City's Compost:

During the winter months, the compost area is the site for all of the snow that is hauled from the down town Main streets all winter and until it melts and the ground dries out – the Compost site is NOT open! This winter has been long and full of a lot of snow – have patience – the warm weather will be here soon! Please call the office to see if the compost is open before heading out to the site.

125 Years as Lafayette – Quasquicentennial – Join the fun!

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

The next meeting is on Wednesday May 10 at 7pm in the community enter.

2025 is fast approaching, join us and be a part of something of historical significance! See the blue insert; we need our entire community to participate to make this a success!

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/mini-Park

June 2 – Foggy Youth

June 7 – Bernadotte Social

June 16 – 1st Lutheran WELCA Social

June 23 – Lion's

June 30 – Legion Auxiliary

July 6 – No band concert

July 14 – Legion

July 21 – Open

July 28 – Park and Recreation

Watch the city Facebook, website and office window for upcoming volunteer needs and times for working on the bandstand update and ramp building project!

The paver project will be starting this spring as well!

See you soon in the park!

Energy Assistance Program:

The 2022-2023 season (October 2022 – June 2023) includes assistance with water and sewer utilities along with heating. Contact MN Valley Action Council (MVAC) for information, if you have fallen behind on your utilities, to see if you qualify. Deadline for new applications is May 31, 2023

Red Cross Bloodmobile:

Way to go Lafayette blood donors! The March drive met and exceeded the goal with a total of 52. The next bloodmobile is on Monday, November 20, 2023 from 1pm to 7 pm at the Community Center. If interested in volunteering, contact Lori at the bank.

Fire Relief's Annual Ham dinner:

Thank you to the community for their support to the fire relief association's annual ham dinner, this year they served 345 meals! If interested in joining the fire department, contact Nick Klingler.

Legion Post #300:

Paver sales will now be ongoing. Original orders will be process and then batches of 25 can be turned in to the company to prepare. Stay tuned – someday the snow will melt and the project can begin! There will be many volunteer opportunities!

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

Lafayette Area Lions:

Last month of Lion's Bingo – Saturdays at 1:30pm and Meat Raffles – Racing – Thursdays begin @ 6pm
Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday, April 8, 10am at the school grounds.

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

Park & Recreation Update:

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

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

4/17: Combination of all 3 off-season 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 3/13/2023:

Approved the consent agenda: Including: 2/13/2023 council minutes, bills totaling \$51,361.69, and treasurer's report with receipts totaling \$56,61.85.

Guests: Doug Hanson – Winthrop Publications, Jessica Moldan – 660 10th Street, and Brittany Galetka GFW

Reports: Fox: Xcel pole was replaced, purchases equipment or hydrant flow testing. Lead service line inventories due by October 16, 2024.

Peterson: 125 celebration committee 3/16 at 7pm in the community center. **Burger:** LBAE at 6:30 for the April Meeting, ARPA funds need to be spent before the end of 2024. **Klingler:** New fire fighter, council approved the application, relief looking into a craft beer and wine tasting council approved the street closure in from of the fire hall. Approved up to \$1500 to upgrade the radio system in the city's pumper.

Unfinished Business:

Fox presented the updates for the RO Project. The electrical updates by Xcel and Isenberg Electric's were approved for \$4,144.11. Council approved to accept the engineer's recommendation for Harn R/O Systems LLC's proposal, to complete the Pilot study for the RO Plant at a cost of almost \$74,000 plus expenses. Council approved moving to the RO Project fund, \$24,000 out of each of the water and sewer funds, if the grant money was not available before bills need to be paid. The Pilot project equipment will be placed to the west of the water facility from approximately May 1 until the end of July. Council also approved the proposed exterior building design.

New Business:

Donation of \$300 was approved from the Sibley/Nicollet County Corn & Soybean growers for the community center.

Next meeting: Local Board of Appeals and Equalization hearing and council meeting, Monday, April 10, 2023 at 6:30 pm meeting in the Council Chambers at 791 Main Avenue.

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

You received the **VALUATION NOTICE** from Nicollet County 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.

Other happenings in our area:

Swedish Choir: The Vettern College Choir from Jonkoping Sweden is returning to Bernadotte Lutheran Church on Tuesday, April 18 at 6pm. There will be a free will donation for the choir to help defray their expenses.

Coming soon: Lafayette Little Learners is in the process to become a daycare center in Lafayette to provide care for children 6 weeks to 12 years old. They are seeking qualified experienced staff for multiple positions; contact lafayettelittlelearners@gmail.com for information.

Garage Sale:

The city-wide coordinator, Kathy Eckstrand, is gathering names for the annual city-wide garage sales. There were suggestions of doing two sales dates. The first are set for Friday-Saturday, July 28-29, the second being Friday-Saturday, October 6-7, right before the October 14, 2023 fall city-wide clean-up. Posters will be out in May with information, or call Kathy Eckstrand at 276-1912 or keckstrand560@gmail.com If you would like to help Kathy, please let her know!