

May 2022

City of Lafayette

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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

May 2022

2 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm

5 – City Council –7pm Council Chambers

9 – Mini Park Committee – 6:30 pm – Mini Park

10 – Lions Meeting – 6:45pm – Community Center

10– LCS School Board – 5:30pm – Tech. Rm

12 – Bookmobile – 10:15am to 10:45am – Esther Avenue

17 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center

21 – Spring residential curbside cleanup – to curb by 7am

23 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

24 – Special Election Day for District 1 -Mail Ballot

25 – All Utility Payments Due!

30 – Happy Memorial Day! Office Closed

30 – Legion Memorial Day program – Center & Mini park

June 2022

6 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm

9 – Bookmobile – 10:30am to 11:00am – Esther Avenue

13 – City Council Blight Tour 6:00 pm

13– City Council –7pm Council Chambers

14 – Lions Meeting – 6:45pm – Community Center

14– LCS School Board – 5:30pm – Tech. Rm

21 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center

23 – Bookmobile – 10:30am to 11:00am – Esther Avenue

25 – All Utility Payments Due!

25 – Annual Appliance & Electronics drop off – see flyer

27 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

Garbage & Recycling info:

Recycling Dates: May 12, 26 June 9, 23

Memorial Week – holiday schedule – garbage only 6/3

Holiday Lights: Year-round Recycling of holiday lights and extension cords; drop them at the office.

Spring Cleanup IS HERE!!

Included in this billing is a flyer with information for the Saturday, May 21 spring residential curbside cleanup, the June 25th Lafayette appliance and our electronics drop off and the Tri-County Mobile collections information – **Keep it handy for future reference!** This year with the attached coupons you will be able to take your items to either Mankato or Hutchinson, must use correct coupon and show proof of residency.

Note from Sandie Peterson, Mayor:

May is here and hopefully it will be warm and sunny to help get us back to normal after all the gloomy weather we have had. May is always a fun month, with the fields being planted and the citizens sprucing up their properties with flowers and decorations. City wide clean-up is May 21st.

As our weather warms, our park and recreation will be starting up, watch for details and let's go down and support our young people by cheering them on. Don't forget Mother's Day! Let the moms in your life know how much you appreciate what they do for you without fail.

Memorial Day is at the end of the month, watch for details on any ceremonies; the Legion will hold their program at the community center and mini park.

Again, with the warmer weather be careful and watch for children in our roads. May the farmers have a safe planting season.

Sandie

Lafayette's 2020 Annual Drinking Water Report:

The report is now posted on the city's website under PUBLIC WORKS/CCR Report tab. A paper copy will not be mailed out, you can access it by copying this link to your browser or stop in the office for a paper copy.

https://lafayettetmn.municipalimpact.com/documents/399/2021_CCR.pdf

Mail Ballot Special Election May 24, 2022:

A special election will be held to fill the late Representative Jim Hagadorn's vacated seat. Lafayette is a mail ballot precinct; the ballots were sent out the last week of April to all registered voters. To vote, follow the directions and mail your ballot. If you wish you will be able to take your ballot (so do not throw it away) to the St. Peter Government Center to vote in person, details will be sent with the ballots. If you are not registered to vote, go to the Nicollet County government center to register and vote.

Council Meetings Return to Regular Date:

May 5, 2022 is the last city council meeting that will be held on the first Thursday the month. June's meeting will go back to the second Monday of the month, June 13, 2022.

National Recognition Weeks:

Please take a minute, during the month of May, to thank our city council, city staff, and the ambulance and fire members, who work to keep your city safe and running smoothly.

May 1 – 7 – Public Service Recognition & Professional Municipal Clerk's week.

May 4 – International Firefighters Day – We appreciate our hard working, highly trained firefighters! Fire Prevention Week is in October every year.

May 15-21 – National EMS Week – We are very blessed to have such a dedicated Ambulance service for our community and surrounding areas!

Fire & Ambulance need you!

Have you considered joining the Lafayette Fire or Ambulance Departments? The time is now! Contact Chief Nick Klingler or President Mark Dick for more information.

Upcoming Blight Tour:

Curbside cleanup is a great opportunity to clean up your yard before the council's annual blight tour, which will be held on June 13 at 6 pm prior to the council meeting. A few of the things that they look for are vehicles without current tabs, junk vehicles, unkept yards with tall weeds, trees over hanging the road/alley, etc. The snow has melted and hopefully it stays away, so it is a good time to have a good look at your property. **NOW** is the time to get rid of junk vehicles or get them properly licensed.

Energy Assistance Program:

This program is still available! EAP includes water and sewer utilities along with heating. Contact MN Valley Action Council (MVAC) to see if you qualify.

Lafayette Community Band:

The Community Band 2022 Summer Concert schedule
May 30 – Legion Memorial Day Program,
June 3, 17, 24 in the mini park, June 8 – Bernadotte Pie Social
July 8, 15, 22, 29

Friday Night Pie & Ice Cream Socials:

June 3 – Lafayette Lions
June 17 – Legion Auxiliary

June 24 – Open

July 8 – Open

July 15 1st Lutheran
July 22 – Legion 24

July 29 – Open

No band concerts on Friday, June 10 or July 1. If your organization would like to host a fundraiser for your group, contact the office, they will be on a first come basis.

Garage Sale: The city-wide coordinator Kathy Eckstrand is gearing up to gather names for the annual city-wide garage sales. The date is set for Saturday, July 30, many open on Friday as well.

See the posters or call Kathy Eckstrand at 276-1912 or keckstrand560@gmail.com

Bike & Car Nights:

Council approved a request for street closure for Dave's Place to hold Bike & Car nights tentatively scheduled for every other Wednesday: June 29, July 13, 27, August 10, 4 and September 7. Also, July 30 for Lafayette Days, Inflatables and street dance.

Lafayette Area Lions:

Lion's Bingo Saturday's at 2 pm @ Dave's Place extended through May!

Meat Raffles are held Thursday night at 7pm @ Dave's Place and have also been extended through May!

Lafayette Charter School:

Plant Sale dates – May 20 through May 22

2-6 Teacher appreciation week
10– School Board @ 5:30pm- Tech. lab
16-20 – LCS celebrates charter school week
17 – Spring Concert

18 – Track & Field Day

20 – Family picnic @11 am

25 – 8th grade graduation – Last day of school

For more information contact 507-228-8943 or

www.lafayettecharter.k12.mn.us.

LCS PROS are seeking donations of silent auction items for their family picnic event on Friday, May 20th. Donations can be brought to the LCS office by Thursday, May 19th. Thank you for your support!

125 Years of Lafayette - Quasquicentennial:

(kwos-kwi-sen-ten-ee-uh l) It is a tough word to say, but it is on its way to Lafayette! Our fine city was established in 1900, so in the year 2025 we will hold a Quasquicentennial (125 years) celebration! Join us in planning the celebration! Share with any council member or staff your thoughts and ideas for celebrating this upcoming event! A couple ideas brought up so far are: an update to the centennial history book, or at least a reprint, updating the city logo, renaming the mini park, etc. Again, all ideas welcome, as one thought might just spark another.

Council Briefs: 4/7/2022

Local Board of Appeals: The city had an across the board 27.2% value increase. Four residents appealed their property valuations, council approved the county assessor's recommendation of two: 660 Esther Avenue from \$133,900 to \$119,584 and 311 8th Street from \$174,400 to \$144,500. The other two properties, 580 11th Street and 471 Skyview Avenue, the council approved the county assessor to review the property and take their recommendation to the county board of appeals.

Approved the consent agenda including 3/3 minutes and bills of \$56,365.43.

Reports: Fox: Had a resident inquire about planting rice in the rain garden, consensus of council was to not allow this. Pop shack walls are up, MPCA annual compliance report submitted. WWTF Refresher and exam prep is in September. **Klingler:** The sheriff applied for a \$102,000 grant to update pagers. Relief's Dinner served 400 pork chops. **Burger:** Pay Equity Notice of Compliance was received. Band concert dates set and pie socials are being assigned, set the date of June 25 for appliance drop, attended clerk's conference and LMC regional Safety and Loss workshops – all very informative.

Unfinished Business:

RO Water Project: SEH's Dave Krueger attended to share cost and financing opportunities. Congressional Direct Spending (CDS) due April 13 with possible 50% funding. Additional funding from USDA Rural Development, can have stipulations that cause higher fees. GO or Revenue Bonds, PFA offers Water and Sewer projects low interest loans with possible forgiveness. RO Project Land acquisition: Council approved moving forward with the purchase of a 100 x 60-foot parcel, directly across from the current water facility for \$35,000. (Since the meeting, this option was no longer available, so the remaining option is to build up to the west of the current over the top of Well #1) **Lawn Service:** Three quotes were received 1) River Valley Lawn Care \$325 per mow, 2) AP Lawn Service \$400 per mow, 3) J Martin - 11 hours at \$60 per or \$2,640 per month for 6 months. Council approved AP Lawn Service for the 2022 season. **Quarterly Cleaning Service:** No quotes submitted.

New Business:

Approved Resolution 2022-08 Acquisition of Reconveyed Land, Worker's Comp annual premium quote, Permit LAF 2022-02, A. Sjogren for a garage, approved purchase of a 2014 Public Works truck contingent on inspection for \$45,000 from the City of Harmony, with 24,000 miles. Approved Wade Karstad as a new firefighter pending physical & background check, approved retirement of Keith Schuelke from the fire department. Approved the 2022 ambulance wage and officers, and Dave's Place bike & car night street closures from 6/29 to 9/7 and July 30 Street dance and 8/27 hog & corn roast & relief dance. FYI – the 2021 Consumer Confidence Report will be posted on the website and in the newsletter. Mini park meets 4/11 at 6:30.

Next meeting:

May 5, 2022, at 7 pm in the Council Chambers 791 Main Avenue.

Lafayette Park and Recreation:

***Registration is still open!** You can pick up a registration form from the C-Store or check out our website (<https://lafayetteparkandrecreation.wixsite.com/minn>) fill out a fillable PDF form and email

to lafayetteparkandrecreation@gmail.com. T-Ball is for ages 4-7. Baseball is for ages 7-13. Softball is for ages 5-17. *Practices begin the week of May 9.

UMPIRES NEEDED! If anyone is interested in being an umpire, please email us! We will take care of training you and making sure you have all the equipment you need. Ages 14 and up.

***Family Night at the Park!** Thursday, May 12, 6-8p.m., Try T-ball for free at 6:30p.m. Softball Field. Kickball in the baseball field for the older kids.

***Sponsorship!** Any business or individual interested in being a sponsor for Park and Recreation please check out our website under the sponsorship tab. Thank you!

** schedules, once teams have been set will be compiled and sent with the June newsletter.

Notes of Thank You!

Fire Relief sold 400 pork chops! Thank you to the community for your continued support! Fields of Grace Youth group would like to thank all who attended the 4th annual HAM BINGO!