

Mayor Tauber called the council meeting to order at 7:00pm on Monday, June 9, 2025, at the Lafayette City Council Chambers, 791 Main Avenue, Lafayette. Present were Mayor Curt Tauber, Councilors: Dave Reed, Tom Polich, Logan VanDeest; Andrew Hartley was absent. Also attending were Clerk/Treasurer Sandy Burger, Utility & Maintenance Superintendent Al Fox, and City Attorney Aaron Walton.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests present: Doug Hanson – Winthrop Publications, Residents Jessica Tauber – 551 5th Street, Nick Klingler (Fire Chief) – 330 Griebel Lane, and Brennan Moldan – 1091 Lafayette Avenue.

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

Motioned by Polich and seconded by VanDeest to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; all ayes, motion carried. Included in the consent agenda were the 5/12/2025 council minutes, bills totaling \$44,544.46, and receipts totaling \$34,484.90. The treasurer's report including the bank reconciliation for May, the 2025 payrolls 10,11 & council 1st half and Resolution 2025-13-June Donations totaling \$1,265 all towards the 125th Celebration, either sponsoring events or donations, as follows: \$500 Isenberg Electric, \$500 Happy Tails, and \$225 – Mark Dick Construction. Also included were the 2025 summer street closures for Bike & Car nights, 125th celebration, the Lions corn roast and the temporary liquor license for the Fire Relief for the July 25 Sampling event.

Reports:

Fox: Submitted his written report and highlighted, he worked with P&R to create an Emergency Plan, discussed the fencing for the ball fields. P&R would like them both replaced for a cost of \$109,755 not including demo or removal or the other option is to repair the first base line of the softball field to reset 24 poles to the appropriate depth for \$1308, other supplies may be needed. After the discussion ended, **Polich motioned to fix the softball field fence first and not the baseball field fence, VanDeest seconded the motion; all ayes, motion carried.** Alley maintenance has been completed; there was discussion of the 10th street minimum gravel road. Fox stated the base is "pretty much gone" and supplied council with a cost estimate of \$6,512.10. **Motioned by Reed and seconded by VanDeest to fix 10th street gravel road; all ayes, motion carried.**

Burger: Submitted a written report and highlighted that we are now using the Munibilling program and bills were sent out from that, the 125th met and worked mostly on advertising – no news from the fireworks company. Reed and Burger attended the county board's workshop along with Nicollet and Courtland requesting the county to take the responsibility for the business registration and compliance of cannabis.

Dick: Burger read a brief report by Dick which included; Mark attended Air Ambulance training, all new equipment is installed and personnel trained. The fire hall stairs were built and the new chair lift was used on it for training and it worked great!

Klingler: Inquired about the council to again waive the non-profit rental fee of \$40 for the Fire Relief's sampling fundraiser. **Motioned by Reed and seconded by Polich to waive the non-profit rental fee for this continuous year, seconded by Polich; all ayes, motioned carried.**

Tauber: The mayor read an email from Lois Warren (Wellnitz) "*Hello my name is Lois Warren (nee Wellnitz). My parents were Kurt & Evaline Wellnitz. Yesterday my daughters and I drove to Lafayette to visit the graves of mom & dad. We ate lunch at the restaurant/bar on Main Street and then drove to the cemetery. On the way we passed the ballpark and saw the Wellnitz sign. We pulled over and stopped to take pictures. Previously there was a small sign on the fence denoting it as Wellnitz field, but this new sign is absolutely wonderful. Thank you, Lafayette, for continuing to honor Dad's connection to the town and especially the ballfield. He really loved living, working and volunteering in Lafayette. The ballfield and pop shack were his pride and joy. In august he will be gone 50 years – this sign is a great tribute. Sincerely, Lois Warren*

Unfinished Business:

1. Utility Updates: RO: Waiting on the final results of the Special Session and the State Bonding Bill. **MPCA:** Sulfate Variance: Held the first session and all others have been cancelled, for now.

Stormwater Grant: Fox handed out the Stormwater Resiliency Assessment and Action Plan to council to review. **STREAMS:** Preliminary engineering cost request has not been received by Kimley-Horn. After discussion with MESERB, it was suggested to look for another engineering firm for project management activities. Kimley-Horn is no longer on the project. After contacting multiple engineering firms, Short Elliot Hendrickson, Inc. (SEH) offered management and full-service estimates with associated costs, the tech group decided to hire SEH for funding assistance for the sum of \$75,000 or \$18,750 per city. Resolution 2025-14 was presented and ***motioned by Reed and seconded by Polich to approve Resolution 2025-14 Approving the Continued Participation in the Regional Wastewater Treatment Planning and Authorizing Additional Funding; all ayes, motion carried.***

2. Chickens:

- a) Ord. 152 Amending the Animal Code 91 - The Keeping of Backyard Chickens. After a brief discussion on the time frame to remove deceased chickens, council amending line A- 5 from 24 hours to 48 hours, and a couple corrections to the titles of sections ***VanDeest motioned to approve the second reading of Ord. 152 – Amending the Animal Code to Regulate Chickens, as amended, Polich seconded the motion; all ayes, motion carried.*** A Summary Resolution will be on the July Agenda for final approval and publication.
- b) Ord. 153 – Amending Code 33.05 – Fee Schedule: With little discussion ***VanDeest motioned to approve the second reading and adopt Ord. 153 Amending Code 33.05 as presented, Reed seconded; all ayes, motion carried.***
- c) Update Resolution 2025-01-02 – Appointing a Chicken Compliance Officer – after brief discussion, ***There was a motion by VanDeest and Seconded by Reed to appoint Reed as Chicken Compliance officer and Polich as Deputy Chicken Compliance Officer, all ayes, motion carried.***

New Business:

- 1. ***Motion by Polich and seconded by VanDeest to set a public hearing at the June 14, 2025 council meeting for ZONE 2025-05 – Xcel Energy replacing new poles, reconductoring, installation of new substation.***

Other discussions:

VanDeest inquired of comments for citywide spraying. Burger had no replies. The consensus of the council that it would be an individual choice.

VanDeest inquired about painting yellow by intersections where vehicles are parked by stop signs. He will connect with Fox.

Adjourn: Motioned by VanDeest and seconded by Reed to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 pm; all ayes, motion carried.

Next Meeting: The next regular council meeting will be held on Monday, July 14, 2025 at 7:00pm, to be held at 791 Main Avenue, Lafayette.

Sandy Burger – City Clerk- Treasurer Approved by Council on:7/14/2025