

JULY 2023

City of Lafayette

Edition: 2023-07

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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

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

July 2023

3 – Office closed

4 – Fourth of July - Office closed

8 – Bookmobile – 10:30am to 11:00am – Esther Ave.

10 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm

11 – Lion's Meeting – Community Center

12 – City Council 7pm Council Chambers* Note Date change

18 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center

20 – Bookmobile – 10:30am to 11:00am – Esther Ave.

25 – All Utility Payments Due!

28 – Fire Relief Fundraiser – Beer Tasting – Fire Hall

29 – Garage Sales (some 28th)

31 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

August 2023

1 – Night to Unite – Lund Park

3 – Bookmobile – 10:30am to 11:00am – Esther Ave.

7 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm

8 – Lion's Meeting – Community Center

14 – City Council 7pm Council Chambers

15 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center

17 – Bookmobile – 10:30am to 11:00am – Esther Ave.

21 – Council – Budget Workshop

25 – All Utility Payments Due!

26 – Lion's Hog & Corn Roast - Relief Music – Fire hall

28 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

Garbage & Recycling info:

Recycling Dates: July 7 (holiday schedule) July 20

August 3, 17 & 31

Fall Citywide Cleanup is Saturday, 10/14/2023

String Lights: Recycle holiday string lights and extension cords year-round; drop them at the office during office hours.

FYI: The office has a copy of the Nicollet County retailers that accept automotive wastes, call in or stop in for the information.

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

Save the Date!!

Night to Unite is coming soon!

Tuesday, August 1, 2023 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm

Bounce Houses, Vehicles, & Food by the Lions!

Note from Mayor Sandie Peterson:

This summer is going by too fast. I would like to commend all residents during our blight tour, I believe there were less issues and that everyone is really taking pride in making our little town look its best. Also, thank you for supporting the food trucks, I think it has been fun to have another option without leaving town.

Park and Recreation is in full gear with games and tournaments. Remember if there is a game, they are cooking at the pop shack!

July is when Dave's Place has their fun anniversary during the last weekend of the month. Also, that weekend are citywide garage sales and the firemen's new beer and wine tasting.

A few reminders: the kids are out of school slow down and watch for them, if walking your dog please pick up after them and don't mow your lawn clippings onto the street; this is dangerous for bike riders.

Enjoy the summer while it is here.

Sandie

Drought Watch:

Stay tuned – While most of the State is in moderate drought, so far, we are in a drought watch for our area. The weekly drought monitor comes out each Thursday. If we do not get sufficient rain and the DNR places restrictions, you will be alerted of any restrictions affecting our city.

As a reminder to all, here is bonfire information from the MN Department of Public Safety – State Fire Marshal Division posted on the website. ***It is a good reminder of bonfire safety. Please review it before you have a bonfire.***

<https://lafayettemn.municipalimpact.com/fire-department>

Celebrating the Fourth of July and other Local Festivities:

Our area has many great fireworks opportunities that are worth checking out. On July 2nd, you can find fireworks in Cambria. On the 4th of July, St. Peter holds their fireworks display and Mankato hold theirs over the MN River and Sleepy Eye's fireworks are over the lake. These are great opportunities within driving distance! Please be mindful if you are considering private fireworks that we are in a drought watch and also we have many dogs in town that are frightened by fireworks.

Winthrop Farm City Fun Fest: July 7 - 9, with tons of activities going on each day – check out the posters around town.

Gibbon Fun Fest: July 13- 17 Check out their Facebook page for a poster with all the activities!

New Ulm's Bavarian Blast: July 20 – July 23, 2023 – Great music, parade and much more.

Fire Relief Fundraiser: Craft Beer tasting, Friday, July 28, 2023 – Fire Hall

Dave's Anniversary: July 29 – Includes Saturday Tractor Pull, Inflatables, bean bag tournament, Chopper fun on Saturday night, early for the kids and later for adults!!

July Food Truck Mondays:

July 10 – Park & Rec will open the Pop Shack for delicious hamburgers!

July 17 – Back Street Market – will return!

July 24 – Jersey Sweets will bring Ice Cream Treats!

July 31 – Back Street Market – will return!

City-wide Garage Sales: It's NOT too Late!!!

Contact Kathy Eckstrand now for the July 29th city-wide garage sales at 276-1912 or keckstrand560@gmail.com. To be included on the map contact her by noon on Wed. 7/26 NO SPACE? The community center will be available on Saturday for garage sales on a first come basis. Contact the city with how many tables or space you will need. You will still have to contact Kathy and pay your fee for advertising. Anyone who utilizes the community center for their garage sale will work with the others to clean it afterwards – there is a rental the next day so all needs to be removed and cleaned. The second city-wide will be **Saturday, October 7** (right before the October 14, 2023 fall city-wide clean-up!)

125 Years as Lafayette –Join the fun!

The next meeting is on Wednesday, May 10 at 7pm in the community center. 2025 is fast approaching, EVERYONE is welcome! Be a part of something of historical significance! We need our entire community to participate to make this a great success. Committee will meet again in the fall.

Legion Post #300:

Thank you to the Legion for the wonderful Memorial day program! There will be a ceremony on September 17th to dedicate the park updates! Stay tuned! They have paver news! They will be manufactured the week of the fourth and delivered by mid-July. Volunteer opportunities will be announced soon!
<https://www.facebook.com/LafMNAmLeg300>

Red Cross Bloodmobile:

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.

Lafayette Area Lions:

July 11 – Melvin Jones Award – Officer installation meeting
<https://www.facebook.com/Lafayette-Area-Lions-1815080668713552>
Watch Facebook for upcoming Lion's Raffle opportunities for local families in need.

Park & Recreation Update:

[facebook.com/groups/970058526441490/events](https://www.facebook.com/groups/970058526441490/events)
July 10 - Supper @ the Shack 4-7pm
July 21 - Pie Social
August 1 – Night to Unite
August 7 – Park & Rec Family Fun Night! See FB for details
Watch for schedules to be posted on
<https://lafayetteparkandre.wixsite.com/minn>

Fields of Grace Parish – Summer Worship

opportunities: In addition to the once-a-week service as posted on the website: <https://fieldsofgracemn.com/>
Beverages & Hymns – 7:30pm Dave's Place patio – July 24 & August 14
Campfire Church – 5pm Swan Lake July 16, August 20
Music with a Message – 9:30am Bernadotte's Park July 30, August 27.

Council Briefs 6/12/2023:

Council held their annual blight tour prior to the meeting.

Public Hearing for Ord. 143- Adopting the Interim ordinance to the zoning ordinance. No public comments.

Approved the consent agenda: Including: 5/8/2023 council minutes, bills totaling \$85,598.36, and treasurer's report with receipts totaling \$50,894.00.

Guests: Doug Hanson – Winthrop Publications, Jessica Moldan – 660 10th Street, Tim Myers – 740 Lafayette Avenue, Mac Aalid – 660 Esther Avenue and Patty Jo Ferguson – 711 Lafayette Avenue.

Reports: Fox: Submitted report and revisited the generator decision – tabled until next month. **Peterson:** Please with food truck events and looking forward to the outdoor markets. Thanks Fox and Moldan for their work during the rain event. **Burger:** Submitted report and updated council on the Legion Paver project and the bandstand project. **Tauber:** Concern of the large vacant properties in town – looked into DEED grants. **Dick:** Looking to purchase new ambulance equipment.

Unfinished Business:

RO: Changed the plan to remove the underground storage and added a second option to the layout to provide storage and workspace. There is state bonding with 50-50 match that can use federal funding – council approved Fox to file the application. Adopted the interim ordinance into the zoning code with Ord. 143. Zoning committee update was tabled until July. Snow Policy review – after further discussion council felt that leaving the ordinance and policy as is.

New Business:

Approved: June Donations totaling \$9,277.97, of which \$750 to the ambulance from Dave's Place from tips and donations at the steak fry, \$2,700 to the 125th celebration: \$200 from Happy Tails and \$2500 from the Lions, \$827.97 to the Community Center from the Lions for new equipment and \$5,000.00 to the park for the concrete: \$2,000 from park & rec and \$3,000 from the Lions. Permits for Klingler addition to the shed, and D Portner for a fence. Personnel Policy: added Juneteenth – June 19th holiday and updating the wording in the drug-free workplace section. Discussed updates to the water & sewer ordinances – no action was taken. Burger was directed by council to send letters to the blight properties. Peterson will review before the next meeting.

Next meeting:

**** Note date change**** The next council meeting is, Wednesday, July 12, 2023 at 7:00 pm meeting in the Council Chambers at 791 Main Avenue.

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. The Band added July 7th as a concert night! We added an Ice Cream event to the night!
June 30 – Legion Auxiliary
July 7 – *The Garden Club will serve ice cream floats and cookies and bars!*
July 14 – Legion
July 21 – Park and Recreation
July 28 – Open – Watch Facebook if a Social is added!

Bookmobile is here for you!

Get your summer reading delivered right here in Lafayette! See page 1 for dates. No card, no problem, just bring a photo ID to sign up, or use your current card from another library.

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.