

August 2022

City of Lafayette

Edition: 2022-08

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2021-2022 Council

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August 2022

1 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm

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

8 – City Council – 7pm Council Chambers

9 – Lion's Meeting – 6:45pm – Location Community Center

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

15 – City Council – 2023 Budget workshop

16 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center

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

25 – All Utility Payments Due!

27 – Lion's hog & Corn Roast – Fire Relief Dance

29 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

September 2022

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Garbage & Recycling info:

Recycling Dates: August 4, 18, September 1, 15, 29

Labor Day week is on holiday schedule Friday, September 9, for garbage only. Fall curbside clean-up will be Saturday, October 15.

Holiday Lights: Year-round recycling of holiday lights and extension cords; drop them at the office, during office hours.

Lafayette Park and Recreation:

Thank you to all players, parents, coaches, fans and sponsors for a fantastic summer ball season! Watch the Lafayette Ledger for some special highlights as well! Keep up to date on the Park & Recreation Facebook page:

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

Check out our website

<https://lafayetteparkandre.wixsite.com/minn>

Note from Sandie Peterson, Mayor:

I cannot believe how fast summer is going! Why can't winter be the same way? I hope everyone will be able to join us for some fellowship and fun in Lund Park for the **Night to Unite** on Tuesday, August 2. Thank you to all the organizations that are working hard on this project. It is always nice to be able to visit with our neighbors and watch the children enjoy the park.

School is already beginning on Aug. 30th, so be careful to watch for children at the bus stops around town.

This month is sad to see both Big Dogs and the Lafayette Charter School closing. I wish the staff at both places the best of luck in their future endeavors.

Wishing everyone a great August enjoy the warmth while we can before the cold, grey winter sets in on us again.

Sandie

Election Updates:

Ballots were sent out to all registered voters a few weeks ago. Primary Election Day is Tuesday, August 9, 2022. If mailing, be sure your ballot packet is mailed early enough that it would arrive by or before that day's mail, being sure to follow the directions and have a witness sign it. Take your ballot packet to the Nicollet County Government Center if you want to vote in person.

Filing for the two council (4-year terms) and mayor position (2-year term) will open Tuesday, August 2, 2022 7AM and run through Tuesday, August 16, 2022 at 5PM. Affidavits to file are available at the city office.

We look forward to seeing you, your family and friends from Lafayette and the surrounding area at **Lafayette's Second Annual**

NIGHT TO UNITE!!

Last year's event was such a success and so far for this year there are plans for: bounce house, Plink-o, safe escape house, food stand, ice cream truck,

Nicollet County Public Health, ambulance, fire truck, antique tractors, snowmobiles, groomer, little excavator, squad car, school bus, floater, semis, water, 1919 root beer, calves, black smith demo, and Clydesdales!!

See you there!

**Tuesday, August 2, 2022
from 5:30 to 7:30pm Lund Park!**

Saturday, August 27 2022

Lion's Annual Hog & Corn Roast

Serving from 4:30 to 7:30pm

Adult meal \$12 (extra chop \$4) Kids Hotdog meal \$5

Entertainment: Rick Franta 4:30pm, Larry Mages 5:30pm

Lafayette Band Concert 6:30pm

Lafayette Fire Relief

Annual Raffle Drawing will be at 7:30pm

The Schell's Angels will perform for the dance

from 8pm to midnight, Dave's Place will provide the bar
\$5 gate fee to support Fire Relief Association

Check your trees over streets, alleys and sidewalks!!

Every fall the city inspects trees over the streets, alleys and sidewalks. The trees are to be trimmed to eliminate issues with garbage collection and snow plowing and safe passage for everyone. This is giving you heads up; please work to have your trees, etc. trimmed before the October 10th council meeting. The list will be reviewed again and official letters sent for possible abatement, if not completed. **Code: 90.01 (C) Trimming of trees.** Private property trees, shrubs and any other herbaceous plants must be trimmed so as not to cause a hazard to persons or property on abutting property. All trees shall be pruned to sufficient height to allow free passage to pedestrians and vehicular traffic nine (9) feet over sidewalks and pathways and thirteen (13) feet over streets, pathways and alleyways. Trees/shrubs growing in or next to buildings is not allowed. Storm damaged trees are to be cleaned up and maintained by property owner after inclement weather/wind situations to avoid undue injury to person and property.

Lafayette Area Lions:

August 9 – 6:45 pm meeting @ Community Center

August 27 – Hog & Corn Roast

Watch their Facebook page for updates!

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

125 Years of Lafayette - Quasquicentennial:

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

Help us plan a Quasquicentennial (125 years) celebration, to be held in 2025! Ideas shared so far... an update to the centennial history book, or at least a reprint, updating the city logo, renaming the mini park, etc. All ideas welcome, as one thought might just spark another! Contact a council member or the office with your ideas.

Mini Park:

The Lafayette Band, so far, has collected over \$700 in donations during performances and the Lafayette Lions have donated \$5,000 to help with the cost of supplies to build a new ramp to the bandstand. Burger and Rozeske wrote a grant with the Southern Minnesota Initiative Fund for \$10,000, which will go toward the supplies for the ramp, steel for the outside and a sidewalk from the street to the flag area. Cost of the project is over \$20,000 and the work for the bandstand will be completed by volunteers. The Legion is working to finalize pavers for the Veteran's memorial around the flagpole area; there will eventually be an opportunity for memory pavers for non-military family members as well. Landon Uhde is helping for his Eagle Scout project. Once this project is underway, volunteers will be needed here too. The committee will next meet on 7/31 at 6:30 pm at the community center.

Council Briefs: 7/11/2022

Approved the consent agenda including 5/5 minutes and recap of the Personnel Policy handbook workshop. Bills totaling \$61,733.54

Guests: John Luepke – Nicollet County Commissioner, Doug Hanson – Winthrop Publications, and Rob Lawson – Lafayette Ledger, and Paul Bertelson – Renewal Development. **Residents:** JoAnn Bieraugel – 671 11th Street, Patti Jo Ferguson – 711 Lafayette Avenue and Mack Aalid – 660 Esther Avenue, Nancy Reinhart – 600 Adolph Avenue, Steve and Cheri LeBrun – 440 Wanser Avenue,

Council Briefs: 7/11/2022 – continued:

Marg Hurd – 680 Esther Avenue, Jim Langhoff – 760 Pioneer Avenue, Phil Lund – 640 Esther Avenue, Rachel Hoffmann – 191 7th Street, Bradley Moldan – 540 Lafayette Avenue, Jessica Moldan – 660 10th Street, Norman Langhoff – 1020 Lafayette Avenue, Lila Ellies – 731 Lafayette Avenue. Paula Wenninger, Kevin & Barb Wenninger, Laurie & Cassidy Platz all from rural Lafayette.

Citizen concerns: There were a number of guests residents and from the area. One concern was of manure trucks hauling through the city, Fox explained that when the city did the streets, they upgraded all to 10-ton roads at a cost of over \$160,000. The trucks coming through town were empty and they are also exempt, being they are farm use vehicles. Concern of a neighboring property: Peterson explained that last year the abatement process in the code was updated and also have contracted with the county attorney, should need arise. Many were present to air concerns of a commercial property's potential sale. Paul Bertelson, owner of Renewal Development asked to attend council to share what his plans were for the Big Dog property. His company was looking to purchase the old nursing home, he has entered a contingent purchase agreement, based on a zoning change from commercial to multi-family. Council allowed the group of about twenty concerned citizens to have a Q&A directly to him with their concerns. Mayor Peterson ended the session informing the group, until the new owner applied for the property to be rezoned, there was nothing the council would do, as they have to follow the code process. (Note: since the meeting the offer was rescinded.)

Reports: Fox: Replacement benches have been delivered and the others should arrive next week. Repair of the clarifier damaged from the powerline transformer will be done this week, and a connection leak on the well header pipe will be repaired. **Burger:** Worker's Comp audit completed, copier contract is up in mid-November, the conveying of the land to the city is finalized, SMIF Grant was submitted, if chosen, it will be awarded in mid-August. L&L Cleaning Service will do the trial deep clean on August 1 at the community center. **Ambulance:** Signed with a new Medical Director Service **Reed:** Attended the RS Fiber joint powers board, there was not quorum, so no meeting, but it will still be 7 to 9 years for them to start paying back cities for the bond payments. **Polich:** Park & Rec gearing up for Night to Unite on August 2.

Unfinished Business:

RO Water Project: Nothing to report. **Personnel Policy Review:** Peterson will schedule another workshop. **Blight Properties:** Letters will be sent again to nine properties, two of which council would like further action.

New Business:

Approved: Zoning Permits for N Frederickson, approved the use of the bandstand for a fundraiser, there is no fee on the fee schedule for use at this time. Council waived the center fee for the July 30th Lafayette Days, this would also allow for the community center to be used for garage sales. **Approved July donations of \$8,392.62 included:** \$346.31 to each the Fire and ambulance funds, \$200 to water fund, \$5,000 from the Lions to help with the bandstand ramp and \$2,500 to complete the fencing in the kiddie park. Discussed pools, no added regulations at this point, Fire department is not to fill pools, council motioned to stay with the current practice of offering a second meter to residents for outside water use. Mayor Peterson brought up the need to update the Pay Equity and is not something that should be done in house, council asked her to get quotes from three companies and bring to the August meeting.

Next meeting:

Monday, August 8, 2022, @ 7 pm meeting in the Council Chambers 791 Main Avenue. 2023 Budget workshop will be held on Monday, August 15 @ 7pm.

This is just a glimpse of the council meeting – the full minutes are available on the website, once approved.