



City of Lafayette

Edition: 2020-03

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City emergency contact – Al Fox 276-1707

March 2020

- 2 – Fire Department meeting – Fire hall
- 2 – Mini Park Committee meeting – Council chambers 7 pm
- 3 – Presidential National Primary – Community Center
- 3 – Office Closed due to election
- 5 – Bookmobile – Esther Avenue – 10:15 to 10:45
- 8 – Daylight Saving Time – ‘spring’ clocks ahead 1 hour!**
- 9 – City Council –7:30 pm –791 Main Avenue ** time change
- 10– Lions Meeting 6:45 Community Center
- 10– LCS School Board – 5:30 pm– Technology room
- 15 –LCS PROS Auction!
- 16 – 19 – Office Closed – Clerk Conference**
- 17 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center – 7 pm
- 19 – Bookmobile – Esther Avenue – 10:15 to 10:45
- 22 –Annual Fire Relief Ham Dinner!
- 25 – All Utility Payments Due!**
- 30– Ambulance meeting – Fire hall

April 2020

- 2 – Bookmobile – Esther Avenue – 10:15 to 10:45
- 6 – Fire Department meeting – Fire hall
- 11 – Lion’s Easter Egg hunt 10 am LCS
- 13 – Board of Appeals & Equalization, 6:30 Council Chambers
- 13 – City Council –7pm –791 Main Avenue
- 14– Lions Meeting 6:45 Community Center
- 14– LCS School Board – 5:30 pm– Technology room
- 16 – Bookmobile – Esther Avenue – 10:15 to 10:45
- 21 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center – 7 pm
- 25 – All Utility Payments Due!**
- 27– Ambulance meeting – Fire hall
- 30 – Bookmobile – Esther Avenue – 10:15 to 10:45

Garbage & Recycling info:

March 5, 19 and April 2, 16, 30

Blood Mobile:

Save the date! The next visit of the Bloodmobile is Monday, March 9, 2020 at the Community Center from 12:30 to 5:30 pm; contact Lori Dick to set up an appointment.

MN REAL ID:

I have had many requests from residents as they need to have a bill with both their name and street address on it. I can do this for you **BUT**, if you need to renew your license in April I need to update your account **BEFORE** the end of March, I would need to know by March 25th. Once bills are run, I cannot change it until the next billing cycle; I will gladly help you, but you will need to plan ahead!

February Billing:

Includes annual State water connection fee \$9.72 and meter deposit interest reimbursement of 60 cents.

Fire Relief’s Annual Ham Dinner:

The Fire members will be serving a delicious ham dinner on Sunday, March 22 at the Fire Hall. Raffle tickets are available from Fire department members while available.

Lafayette Charter School Happenings!

SAVE THE DATE! June 20, 2020 to celebrate “Twenty Years Strong” with an all school reunion!

- March 5 – Pre-K Open house Kindergarten Round-Up 4 – 6 pm
- March 10 – School Board meets 5:30 Tech room
- March 15 - LCS Parents Reaching Out for Students (PROS) is hosting the annual Auction from 11 to 3 pm, with a pulled pork meal, live & silent auctions!

We thank you for your continued support!

- Friday, March 20 – Student Council Day
- Wed, March 25 – Community Coffee hosts are grades 5th & 6th - Community is invited!

Lions Events:

March 1 - Marshyl Wenninger Benefit 10am to 2pm at the UFC Berdan Center – see posters for details! THANK YOU LIONS for your generous donation to the dugout upgrade and for supporting the Ambulance with the Raffle and fundraiser on February 29th. Don’t miss the Easter Egg Hunt 4-11-2020 @ LCS

Ham Bingo!

Save the Date! Ham Bingo held Saturday, April 4, 2020 in the Fire Hall. Fundraiser supports the Fields of Grace (FOG) Youth programs! Watch for details on posters!

2020 Census:

The 2020 Census day is fast approaching it is for every person living in your house on April 1, 2020! We need everyone counted! This affects things like services available to our area, Highway Planning and construction, and so many other things based on population. Schedule of census mailings and other information is included in the enclosed Census flyer. See the Census flyer for more information!

Rent the Community Center:

Contact the city office 228-8241 to book your event, already taking bookings for 2020 and beyond! Wi Fi is available!

Support Your Local SCOUTS!

March is **SCOUTING FOR FOOD!** On March 21 Lafayette Boy Scouts will drop off Post-it notes as a reminder for the **SCOUTING for FOOD pick up on Saturday March 29**. Also, **Girl Scout** cookie sales run through March 29. **HURRY** and stock up before they are **GONE!!**

Park & Rec News!

Registration is 1/2 price through April 1st!

Flyers are out and registration forms are now available at the C-store and the Bank. SIGN UP NOW! You don't want to miss out on this special deal!!

The open house registration date is Sunday, March 15th from 12 – 2pm at Dave's Place. It's a perfect time for parents to stop by and sign up for the season! Of course, like always, Park & Rec is looking for anyone that is interested in volunteering, such as: coaches, ump's, committee members or those people that just want to help; there is a lot that can be done for those willing! Check out our Facebook page– share with your family and friends; we update it regularly!

The dates for our tournaments this year are:

Girls' softball will be held on June 13th.

Boy's Baseball will be held on July 18th.

And fun for the Adults...Join in the fun at the 3rd Annual Adult kickball tournament on Friday, July 24 – to "kick off" Lafayette's Mudville Days!!

DNR Classes:

Turkey Clinic – Sunday, April 5, 2020

ATV Hands-on riding class – Sunday, June 28, 2020

For the information on these classes, they are posted on the website, or you can stop by the office.

2/10/2020 - Council Briefs:

Approved the consent agenda it included the 1/13/2020 council minutes, bills totaling \$56,153.41, and Resolution 2020-04 - Accepting a donation of \$3,300 from the Lafayette Area Lions

Public Hearing for the Solar Garden Conditional Use Permit was opened for public comment: Size is about 11.1 acres; east of HWY 15 North of Cty Rd 1. In deep snow they are angled and the sun hits them and it melts off and they do monitor them if cleanup is needed. Looks - They will be planting pollinators; they do a site visit once a month to check for noxious weeds, there will be a screen of trees to the west side and a six foot perimeter fence. Would produce enough energy to supply energy to 225-250 homes, the energy produced would be added to the Xcel power grid so does not specifically stay here in the area. It takes about 6 to 8 weeks to build, one week to drive the piles into the ground. The garden is a 25 year contract, but it could be extended. There are no studies that show it lowers property values. It is a very nonintrusive garden.

Reports: Fox: Highlighted the action items needed for the vulnerability assessments for the water and sewer plants. He has addressed most and is in the process to complete the remainder. **Burger:** KNUJ Town day for Lafayette will be February 20 – Polich volunteered to be interviewed. Board of Appeals will be held at 6:30 prior to the April 13 council meeting. **Portner:** Attended the LMC Leadership training. Great speakers and information; one thing that was

2/10/2020 - Council Briefs Continued:

Reports continued: suggested was an annual council retreat, having guest speakers and discuss and recap the year and to plan for next. Park & Rec met to get the 2020 season going. **Peterson** also attended the Leadership training and agreed with Portner as to the great speakers and information; one thing she pulled from a session was how differently men and women on council differ in how they see things. **Polich:** Attended Foundational Leadership training he said there was a lot of information, but the thing he found interesting was the legislative updates and then mentioned topics of discussion of non-gender public areas and Tobacco 21. **Dick:** Ambulance refresher for 11 members, upgraded some EMT jackets, annual meeting Council member Reed attended; no increases but added another training officer.

Public Comment: A resident asked to be heard about late fees posted; disputing the 25th due date each month particularly December 25th. He did not pay the late fee and then another late fee was posted due to the account having a balance. After much discussion the council did not reverse the first late fee as the payment was late according to the ordinance, but did reverse the second being it was being appealed.

Unfinished business: Approved the 1st Reading of Amending Code 71.03 - Winter Parking, after changing the end date from March 15 to April 30. Fox updated council on the remaining funds to complete the City Building. LMC paid the reimbursement of \$42,092.44, and understand that there may be a need to review the final costs for adjustments and suggested prior approval of any funds spent over the final payment. There is \$31,205.41 in remaining funds of which approximately \$14,500 is estimated for completing carpentry, electrical, HVAC and insulation.

New Business: Sheriff Lange and County Attorney Fischer were on hand to share the Countywide proposed Dangerous Dog Ordinance. They discussed the importance of uniformity for the Sheriff Department and the communities of Nicollet, Courtland and Lafayette who have no police departments to which they serve for these situations. It is based on the State Statues but more clearly defines the process and steps for owners. They would like all three communities to adopt the County Ordinance, once it is approved by the County Commissioners. Council will discuss it further at the March meeting. Solar Conditional Use Permit was approved. The March 9, 2020 council meeting time was changed from 7 pm to 7:30 pm to allow for travel time for the City Auditor as she is presenting earlier to another city council. She should arrive around 8 pm

Next Council meeting: March 9, 2020 in the council chambers, at 791 Main Avenue 7:30 pm. All council meetings are open to the public.

This is just a glimpse of the council meeting. Full minutes are posted on the city website once they are approved at the following council meeting.