



City of Lafayette

Edition: 2021-05

791 Main Avenue/ P.O. Box 375

Office: 507-228-8241 Fax: 507-702-7220

City Office hours: M-F 7 am - noon and 1-4 pm

Email: lafcivclerk@gmail.com

Web: <http://lafayettetmn.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/LafayetteMNcom>



City emergency contact: Al Fox 276-1707

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 2021

3 – Fire Department meeting – Fire Hall

10 – City Council –7 pm – Community Center

11 – Lions Meeting – 6:45 – Community Center

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

13– Bookmobile – 10:15 – 10:45am Esther Avenue

15 – City-wide Clean-up! To the curb by 7 am or sooner

18– Legion Post 300 – Community Center

25 – All Utility Payments Due!

24 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

31 – Memorial Day Holiday

June 2021

7 – Fire Department meeting – Fire Hall

8 – Lions Meeting – 6:45 – Community Center

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

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

14 – City Council –7 pm – Community Center

15– Legion Post 300 – Community Center

24– Bookmobile – 10:30 – 11:00 am Esther Avenue

25 – All Utility Payments Due!

26 – Appliance and Electronics collection – city shop

26 – Shredding event – County Garage parking lot

28 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

Garbage & Recycling info:

May 13, 27, June 10, 24

Holiday lights and extension cord recycling is ongoing;

just drop them at the office during open hours.

Public Service recognition week:

May 2 – 8 is Public Service recognition week. Take the time to thank our city council members who devote their time to the betterment of our community! Mayor – Sandie Peterson, council members: Dave Reed, Scott Portner, Tom Polich and Curt Tauber, **THANK YOU!!!**

May is full of many other National recognition weeks!

May 2 – 8 is Professional Municipal Clerk's Week

May 9 – 15 is National Charter School Week

May 6 – 22 is National Public Utility worker's week.

Note from Sandie Peterson, Mayor:

Happy Spring!

Hopefully April showers (both rain and snow) will bring beautiful flowers. We are having our city-wide clean-up this month, so take advantage of the chance to get rid of all that winter trash. (Please follow guidelines on what can be picked up). The compost is up and running for your lawn trimmings, garden waste and branches. Next month, in June, the council will be doing the annual blight tour.

With spring here, remember to be mindful of farmers, children out playing and riding bikes. The Park and Rec will be starting to hold practices at Lund Park, so slow down when driving near the park.

Another concern is when walking your pet please be kind and clean up after them.

Again, if you have any concerns, please feel free to call me and I will see what I can do about them.

Let's keep Lafayette a great town to live and raise our families.

Sandie

Community Center:

The community center is now open for meetings and rentals. Current restrictions are at 50% capacity, which for the community center is a 51 people in the main room. We are hopeful as more are vaccinated that the percentage opens up. Contact the office for the most updated information.

Pie socials: Pie socials can be possible with a little thinking out of the box if these restrictions stay the same. The pass-through doors will be closed to be able to open at 50% and have social distancing between tables. So, food could be pick-up or served to the tables, and possibly two sittings. If your organization is willing to host a pie social, contact the office to get on the schedule!

Band Concerts:

Band concerts are allowed as well, current restrictions are the members would be 6-feet apart and the audience be 12-feet away from the performers, even at an outdoor event.

The tentative schedule for the Lafayette area band is:

Practice May 20th, Memorial Day Service May 31 - 10 am, mini park

Fridays of June 4, 11, 18, and 25th and July Fridays of 9, 16, 23, and 30.

The band welcomes new members! If you are a musician and would like to be part of this 117-year-old tradition, contact Joe Hoffmann

joe.h@themusicmart.biz

Compost and Mowing:

The compost site is open; please use the blacktop road out to the site. There are two piles one for garden waste – grass, weeds, leaves, and such. The other is for branches and brush under 3 inches in diameter. No branches/or logs over 3 inches are allowed. When utilizing the site get as close to the pile as you can, toss your items ON THE PILES, not out in the middle of the driveway. NO TRASH, plastic bags, plastic pots, treated lumber, etc.

Mowing: When mowing your yard or business remember that you cannot mow into the street. Plan your mowing so that the outside swipes are blown into the yard, not onto the street.

Cleaning Position open:

In a special meeting on Monday, April 27, council decided to continue its quest for either a contracted cleaning service or person, or to hire an individual to clean the city buildings. The office is cleaned twice a month and the fire hall office/meeting room area once a month. The community center would be after each rental. The hours are flexible, depending on the rentals of the community center and the average throughout the year is about 5 hours a week. Inquire at the city office for further details or an application. Council will make a decision at the June 14 council meeting.

City-wide Clean-up:

Citywide clean-up is Saturday, May 15th. All items MUST be to the curb before 7 am, as the haulers need to be able to collect everything and get to the landfill before it closes at noon. You can utilize your carts for this collection, if you have small items that fit. Put it out Friday night, many like to search for treasures!

Downtown mini park:

There are a few things in the works this month, the bandstand wheels will be removed to be prepared for its new home on a concrete base, and there will be electrical updates for the bandstand and also a future planned flagpole area! Things are shaping up and you can be part of it. The committee will meet again on Wednesday, May 5th at 6:30 in the mini park area. Join us to learn more and share your ideas.

125 Years of Lafayette - Quasquicentennial:

The summer of 2025 is not that far away when talking about planning a celebration! We really need community involvement to host a celebration! Please contact the office or one of your council members if you would like to be part of making history!

Welcome Packet and local directory:

At the June meeting, Council will be discussing creating an official welcome packet and also local directory. We will be looking for all businesses in our area, whether a brick and mortar, online business, direct sales, crafts, cottage food sales and so on. Watch future newsletter for more information.

Park & Rec:

Lafayette Park & Rec is looking for umpires. Teenagers and adults welcome. Minor experience needed and will train if you are interested. \$20/game for roughly a 2 hour or less commitment. They are also looking for a groundskeeper for the field maintenance. Tasks would include dragging the fields and chalking them before each game. Must have own mower, four-wheeler or other equipment to drag with. The drag is at field to use. Park and rec supplies everything else. No experience needed, will train interested individual. 8-week commitment (June and July), 4 days a week max (although most of the time less). \$300 for the season. Contact Ashley at 612-499-0192 or mickiemousie@gmail.com with any questions.

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 to coincide with the Mudville Celebration. Advertising will be for Saturday, July 24, but many will open on Friday the 23rd. Posters will be out soon with information, or Call Kathy Eckstrand at 276-1912 or kxstrand560@gmail.com

Nicollet County:

Are you, or someone you know, in need of a COVID-19 vaccine? Contact Nicollet County Public Health for more information: Jessalyn.mercado@co.nicollet.mn.us 507-934-8557. There is no food drop scheduled for May, but starting in July there will be a produce distribution available this summer. If you are having food insecurities, contact the local food shelf.

Lafayette Charter School:

LCS will be celebrating National Charter School week on May 9 – 15. The end of the 2020-2021 school year is fast approaching, the last day of school is May 26, 2021. To enroll your child for the 2021-2022 school year, contact the school office at 228-8943.

Council Briefs:

4/11/2021:

Local Board of Appeals and Equalization Public Hearing: There were four appeals presented to council, who serves as the Local Board of Appeals and Equalization (LBAE).

400 Wanser – No action taken

440 Lafayette Avenue – No action taken, but asked assessor to visit property and present the appeal to the county

211 10th Street – No action taken

Storage shed on Pioneer – Acted on the recommendation of the assessor's office and reduced the value from \$58,000 to \$48,400, due to the property having a dirt floor and no electricity, water or sewer.

Consent agenda: Approved the minutes of the March 8, 2021 council meeting and \$54,568.03 in bills.

Reports: Fox: Outlined projects completed and yet to do for the parks. Tile project completed 4/9, held a 90-day review of new utility employee Brennan Moldan and recommended a one (1) dollar per hour raise starting with Period 9, council approved, with C. Tauber abstaining. **Portner:** Park & Rec will meet, inquired of Ledger why no council information printed.

Peterson: Attended RS Fiber JPB, reported they are at 43% of the market share and continue to increase, awarded Fox with the Wastewater Operations Award for compliance and reporting excellence. Mentioned a few complaints and reminded that council will be holding a drive through around town prior to the June 14 council meeting. **Klingler:** Asked about fire hydrants painting, ham dinner will be Sunday, April 18.

Unfinished Business: Approved the COVID-19 Preparedness Plan for the opening of the Community Center, 2021 mowing bid for River Valley Lawn by a 3-2 vote. Fox continued to update council on the wastewater permitting process and what will need to be done when it arrives. Peterson shared the mini park committee's recommendation and council approved to go forward with removing the wheels from the bandstand \$1000, concrete foundation for the bandstand of \$3850 and for the electrical for the bandstand and flagpole \$1040.86 The welcome packet was tabled until next month.

New Business: Split lots: Council approved: Holly Johnson requested to split a 50ftX50ft section off the back of her lot and the split of the St. Gregory's rectory and church into two properties, and tabled two other requests, one was St Gregory's cemetery lots and the other the UFC lots across from the elevator. Approved resolution 2021-08 accepting donations totaling \$600 for ambulance and community center.

The next council meeting will be held on **June 14, 2021 at 7:00 pm** in the community center to allow social distancing.

Ambulance & Fire:

Are you interested in serving your community and surrounding areas? Maybe becoming an ambulance member or firefighter is a good fit for you! Contact Mark Dick or Marti Uhde for any questions on joining the ambulance squad and Nick Klingler or Keith Schuelke for questions on becoming a firefighter.

Thank you from the Lafayette Fire Relief for the huge support of their Ham Dinner Drive through and Raffle event on Sunday, April 18!!!