

January 2025

City of Lafayette

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2023-2024 Council

Mayor: Curt Tauber 507-276-7803
Council Members: Dave Reed 507-228-8264
Tom Polich 507-766-1874
Andrew Hartley 507-276-9334
Logan VanDeest 507-766-6545

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

January 2025

6 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm

7 – Lions Meeting – Community Center 6:45 pm

13 – **City Council – 7pm Council Chambers**

14 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center

20 – **Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday – Office**

Closed

25 – **All Utility Payments Due!**

27 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

February 2025

3 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm

10 – **City Council – 7pm Council Chambers**

11– Lions Meeting – Community Center

6:45pm

17 – **Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday – Office**

Closed

18 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center

25 – **All Utility Payments Due!**

24 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

Other City Information:

Recycling Dates: January 3, Friday holiday schedule for both garbage & recycling, 16, 30. February 13,27.

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

Snow Removal: If you need assistance with snow removal, the office has a few names on file. If you contract out for snow removal, let the office know to share your information to those in need.

Bookmobile Dates:

January 9, 23

February 6, 20

March 6, 20

April 3, 17

May 1, 15

The bookmobile is near the park on Esther Avenue from 10:15 to 10:45 am. No card, no problem – bring a photo ID and register for a Library card!

Final Note from Mayor Sandie Peterson:

Happy New Year Everyone!

This will be my last message to you. As I leave the office of mayor, and before that the years on the council, I am looking back at all the things we have accomplished as a city council for the city. The Memorial park project to which I would like to thank all of you who made this a reality. The Legion, Lions, Evolve Landscape, Landon Uhde, the committee and many others.

The food trucks have been a great success and we already have a good start on next year.

The RO project and the STREAMS project, which I feel are very important to our community.

The Lions playground project. What a great upgrade for our kids and grandchildren to play. Plus, the fountain... as the kids told me it is 'Cool'.

The 125th committee is working hard at getting a fun eventful weekend planned for the city's celebration.

When you sign up for council and/or mayor you don't have a clue what all goes into the day-to-day operations to make the city function properly. You also think you can change whatever you want to, but there are laws and ordinances that we have to follow and procedures that have to be adhered to. And yes, there are the calls and complaints from the residents which you might think is a bad thing, but it is not. We, as council members, cannot see everything so you can get our attention to the problem. We have always looked into every complaint or concern and have done what we can to fix it.

I would like to thank the council members that I have served with, it has been a pleasure to serve with every one of you.

Mostly, I would like to thank Al Fox, Sandy Burger, and Brennan Moldan for everything they do every day for us to be able to have the well running city we do. Until you work, day after day with these people you have no clue what they do and how much they have to learn to operate the city. Thank you for helping the council and myself understand the projects and rules we have to follow.

As I close this letter, I would like to wish the new mayor Curt and the new council members Andrew and Logan the best of luck in your new positions.

Sandie

Thank you to our outgoing council members:

Thank you to Scott Portner for his ten years on the council and to Sandie Peterson for her two years as council and four years as mayor. Being on council is sometimes a thankless job, but you have both worked hard to make our city a better place. We are sure you will both continue to be involved in many things within the city. Thank you again for your service.

Winter Notes:

Compost: Closed for the season to make room for snow from Main Avenue.

Winter Parking: Is in effect through April 30, 2025. No vehicle can be parked on the street in excess of 24 hours. No parking zones move your vehicle off Main Street if it is snowing.

Snow removal: The city will start snow removal within 24 hours of a snow event (3 inches or more, unless the wind conditions prompt an event.) If you know it is going to snow, move your vehicle off the street. If you see the plows out and you are parked on the street - move your vehicle to a plowed area. The city will do a final cleanup after an event. Some events are continuous due to drifting or continued snow. The city could have a vehicle towed if not moved. Per State Statute 169.42 you cannot plow, dump, blow, or shovel snow into any roadway.

Hydrants, etc.: If you have a hydrant in your neighborhood, please help to keep it cleared. It not only protects the property on which it is located, but the entire neighborhood. Also, do not park in front of driveways or mailboxes

gWorks: Hopefully we will have more information soon! Our on-boarding is to begin January 6, 2025. Watch the website, Facebook and door postings for updates.

125th Community Quilt:

We have had many quilt squares already completed. Be part of our 125th quilt and stop by to get a kit. There are two to choose from one a bit easier and one more detailed. The quilt will be raffled off and the sewers of the pieces will be documented! Be a part of our history!

Tree trimming: Trim your trees to 13-feet over streets and 9-feet over sidewalks

2025 Events:

January 12 – Lion's Dad's Belgian Waffles – Community Center serving 9 am to 1pm

January 25 - 9:30 to 11:30 – Nicollet County Health Community Health Assessment outreach – see insert for information to take part.

January 31 – LAST day to get reduced priced 2025 pet tags! 2/1 fee returns to \$8 each.

February 1 – Polar Plunge - Support our Lafayette Area Jumpers or join to jump yourself!!

February 8 – Dave's Place annual Steak Fry serving from 5 to 9pm – benefitting the Ambulance

February 22 – DNR Youth Snowmobile Class is February 22, 2025, ages 11-15 online courses.

Must register ahead. See the flyer in the office for details or the DNR website.

Looking for Lafayette Memorabilia

Looking for Lafayette Memorabilia!!! Needed for our historical displays during the 125th Celebration. Items have been trickling in...so look through your house-garage-attic and see what you may have from Lafayette in the past 125 years! An inventory is being created for the items and whether they will be donated or returned to the owners. **Looking for a display for each: Scouts, boy & girl, Legion, Lions, area churches, schools, study club, and whatever else there may have been!

WHAT ARE YOUR VOLUNTEER 'SUPER POWERS'??

Maybe you are not comfortable to lead an activity, but are a great helper! We need you!
As you can see from our list of a lot of happenings that weekend... we will need many volunteers!!

125th Celebration! Save the Dates!

Wednesday, July 23 – Sunday, July 27, 2025

The planning committee met on 11/18/2024

The 12/18 meeting was postponed to Wednesday, January 15, 2025 at 6pm - city office. Come and learn what is planned!

Everyone is welcome!

Wednesday: Bike & Car night and kick off of the Lafayette 125th Celebration Medallion Hunt. Special concert from the Armstrong Boulevard Brass Quintet at 6pm. Possible Legion color guard kick-off.

Thursday: Park & Rec will have youth ball games, a meal at the pop shack, human foosball on Main Street. **Friday:** Legion meal in the community center, Lafayette Band concert followed by the Concord Singers and Narren, Relief's Craft Beer & wine tasting & burgers.

Saturday: Historical displays in the community center's display cases and city office, craft & vendor in the community center, quilt show at 1st Lutheran, Lafayette's Amazing Race. Local entertainment all afternoon in the bandstand. Firefighter keg fight keg, with ball option for children, antique tractor pulls, bounce house, fire training display, crowning of little miss Lafayette, and food trucks. Dave's place annual street dance with kiddie & adult dance. Kiddie parade Possible adult ball tournament and fireworks.

Sunday: Prayer Service in Memorial park, Dad's Belgium waffles – fire hall, kid's pedal pull, parade and NU Battery for a grand finale shooting of the cannons at Lund park.

Sponsorship: We are looking for sponsors for some of the activities. Contact Sandy in the office for details.

Lafayette Area Lions:

Thursdays Meat Raffles-Horse Racing-Jemi's Jackpot 6pm start
Saturday Bingo 1:30 start – If you are interested in being a volunteer to sell or to call bingo contact Mark Haler.

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

Lafayette Park & Recreation:

Website: lafayetteparkandre.wixsite.com/minn

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/people/Lafayette-Park-and-Recreation/61556096219153/>

Legion Post #300:

<https://www.facebook.com/LafMNAmLeg300>

NEEDED: 2025 Garage Sale coordinator(s)

Dates are May 10 and October 11, 2025

Holiday Community Tree decorator(s)!

Contact the office!

Council Briefs: 12/3/2024 & 12/9/2024

12/3/2024: Council held the 1st Truth in Taxation hearing and budget workshop. Guests: A Hartley, L VanDeest, J Tauber . Noone attended for the hearing and council proceeded with the budget workshop. After brief discussion due to the 125th , projects and staffing, the consensus of the council was to leave the levy/budget at the preliminary amount.

12/9/2024: Guests: Doug Hanson – Winthrop Publications, Residents Jessica Tauber – 551 5th Street, and Joe Robertson – 251 7th Street.

Public Hearing: for certifying delinquent accounts and 2nd Truth in Taxation . No one attended - mayor closed hearing.

Approved: Agenda and Consent Agenda including the 11/13 & 12/3 minutes & bills totaling \$73,548.39 the treasurer's report including the bank reconciliation for November, receipts of \$198,205.16, 2024 payrolls 24, 2nd half council, annual fire ambulance and one 2024-2025 sump pump waivers for Kopolczynski **Reports: Fox:** Submitted report & updates: a person interested in donating benches, WWTF repairs completed, Water Plant inspected earlier for the "Safe Drinking Water Act received a 68 page report showing compliance. Shared information to contact members of congress to continue the low-income household water assistance program permanently.

Tauber: Attended STREAMS. **Burger:** Submitted report and presented a payment plan – council approved, gWorks onboarding set for January 6. **Peterson:** Next 125th is 12/18 @ 6pm. **Klingler:** New firefighters in their 2nd week of training.

Unfinished Business: Fox updated council on the progress of all the projects and funding. **RO:** council approved moving forward with USDA loans, if the other fundings fall through.

Stormwater: updated council on the grant expenditures/reimbursements. **STREAMS:** Met on and shared concerns, worked on next steps. Tech team will contact MPCA & PFA to determine potential limits and understanding of loans and grants. STERAMS will be presenting at the DNR Roundtable 1/10/2025.

New Business: 1st reading of Ord. 150 An electrical franchise, set public hearing – full ordinance listed on the website. Approved certifying delinquent bills, December donation from Fillmeup bucket of \$22 to the 125th celebrations, 2025 fire officers, 2025 budget & levy General Fund \$236.003, RS Fiber \$35,385, ambulance assessment \$6,600 an increase of \$30,942. Burger updated council of the changes with the Small Cities Development Program (SCDP) DEED revamping program, Burger will contact DEED with council's questions. CUP Application public hearing waived until February meeting. Year-end moves: ambulance to GF \$530.99, \$32,000 PW to PW project & equipment fund, \$7,200 from fire to the fire equipment fund, \$4,800 from ambulance to fire for stall rent, \$10,560 from water to Temp water GO fund for RO project to cover the fund deficit.

The next meeting will be held January 13, 2025 at 7pm in the council chambers 791 Main Avenue.

Plastics recycling:

Will continue. Any organization can register to collect and receive a bench. Only stretchable plastics, clean and dry. Salt bags with handles need to be cut off. NO dog food bags. Remove receipts from store bags. This is a big undertaking for whomever is doing it, so let's work together to do it right! Bins at the bank, bar, C-Store & city office. Will work to get the PO one again.