

Found – a single key on a Wisconsin shaped key chain was deposited in the drop box after hours 8/21/2024 – call the office if your key.

# September 2024

## City of Lafayette

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

City emergency contact: Al Fox 507-276-1707

### 2023-2024 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

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

### September 2024

2 – Labor Day - City office closed  
9 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm  
9 – **City Council – 7pm Council Chambers**  
10 – Lion’s Meeting – Community Center  
12 – Bookmobile – 10:15 to 10:45am – Esther Ave  
16 – 125<sup>th</sup> Planning Meeting Council Chambers  
17 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center  
**25 – All Utility Payments Due!**  
26 – Bookmobile – 10:15 to 10:45am – Esther Ave  
30 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

### October 2024

7 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm  
8 – Lion’s Meeting – Community Center  
10 – Bookmobile – 10:15 to 10:45am – Esther Ave  
12 – Citywide Garage Sales  
14 – **City Council – 7pm Council Chambers**  
15 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center  
19 – Residential Curbside Cleanup  
24 – Bookmobile – 10:15 to 10:45am – Esther Ave  
**25 – All Utility Payments Due!**  
28 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

### Garbage & Recycling info:

**Recycling Dates:** Sept. 6 is a Friday holiday schedule garbage only; recycling is 12 and 26.  
October recycling 10 & 24

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

### Note from Mayor Sandie Peterson:

Well, the summer has flown by with vacations, school activities, and local functions. Now the kids are heading back to school, which I am sure they are excited (or not but the parents are), for the new year and many new things to learn. So, let’s watch at the bus stops and keep our children safe.

Congratulation to the new and first Miss Lafayette Kylie Berdan and her 1<sup>st</sup> princess Emma Hoffmann. I hope you ladies have a fun year representing your hometown. Enjoy all the fun things you will be doing.

With fall coming remember that we do have the fall curb-side pickup coming on October 19, the week after fall citywide garage sales.... It’s a good time to clean out all the junk or should I say treasures.

I have had some complaints about the grass in the streets and by curbs. It has been a hard year for spraying and weed management, as we know from our own yards. With all the moisture be it rain or dew it has been difficult to keep up. Our crew is doing their best with all of their other duties, to try and kill them, but it’s been a challenge. When driving though other towns I see they are having the same issues. I hope everyone had a good summer.

*Sandie*

**gWorks:** Our utility billing company, UBMax, was purchased by gWorks in November 2022 and is now ready to switch us over within the next few months. Throughout the years many of us have transitioned to cell phones and email, but have not contacted the city to update them. Included in your packet is a copy of your account information. Please verify and/or update your phone, email, co occupant with phone and email and anything else needed. Also, verify your garbage service; the medium cart is the same size as the recycling cart. When done just drop it off in the drop box, mail with your payment or email me your updates to [lafcityclerk@gmail.com](mailto:lafcityclerk@gmail.com). Thank you!

### 2024 Miss Lafayette!

On Saturday, August 24, 2024 the first Miss Lafayette was crowned! Congratulations to Kylie Berdan and her 1<sup>st</sup> princess Emma Hoffmann!!! Our newly crowned royalty will represent our city during events and parades throughout this next year, promoting our 125<sup>th</sup> Celebration July 23 through July 27, 2024!

## **General Election Day – Tuesday, November 5, 2024**

### **Notes from Jaci Kopet – Public Service Director, Nicollet County:**

- \*All Registered Voters will receive their ballot packets the week of September 23, 2024.
- To check if you are registered use the link below.
- \* If not registered yet – the pre-registration closes on Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, make sure you register online before that date at <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote>
- \* If you vote early and change your mind, the timeline to ‘claw back a ballot’ is 18 days before the election or Friday, October 18, 2024. (when this happens the originally submitted ballot is voided and a new ballot is issued.)

### **Reminder: DO NOT THROW YOUR BALLOT AWAY!!!**

You can mail your ballot or drop your ballot in person at the courthouse anytime from September 20<sup>th</sup> to November 5<sup>th</sup> at 8pm, when all polls close.

## **Dave’s Place 2024 Bike & Car night Grand Finale Wednesday, September 4, 2024!!**

**CANCELLED** The Armstrong Boulevard Brass Quintet will perform in the Memorial Park bandstand from 5:30 to 6:30 pm during the 2024 Bike and Car finale night. This free concert is brought to us by a grant from the Carl & Verna Schmidt Foundation. This grant allows them to perform in small southern Minnesota cities free of charge during 2024.

Armstrong Boulevard Brass Quintet (ABBQ) is a traditional brass group (2 Trumpets, Horn, Trombone, Tuba) that also performs Jazz standards and classic and current Pop and Rock. With 100 years of combined performance experience, the ABBQ has the skill to provide brass music appropriate for any life occasion; community concerts, weddings, fairs/festivals, birthdays, anniversaries, church services of any denomination, Christmas and holiday parties, corporate events, memorial services and funerals.

**Fall Citywide garage sales! October 12, 2024**  
**To join contact Kathy Ekstrand 507-276-1912**  
**keckstrand560@gmail.com**

**Fall Residential Curbside Cleanup 10/19/2024 by 7 am**

**Trimming of Trees and shrubs:**

Fall is that time of year to look at the trees and shrubs on your property and trim them, if needed. Code 90.01 (C) Trimming of trees: nine-feet over walkways and 13 feet over the street. Reminder only branches of 3-inches or less can go to the compost's brush pile.

**Lafayette Area Lions:**

Bingo, Meat Raffles and Horse Racing will begin in October! Watch Facebook for details and updates!

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

**Lafayette Park & Recreation:**

**Fall Soccer:** Sept. 9, to 30, ages 4-8, 6pm Lund Park, \$10 per player.

Website: [lafayetteparkandre.wixsite.com/minn](http://lafayetteparkandre.wixsite.com/minn)

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

**Legion Post #300:**

Paver sales are ongoing and forms can be found at the city office or the bank, or by contacting Mark or Keith Schuelke.

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

**Red Cross Bloodmobile:**

The next bloodmobile is on Monday, November 18, 2024, from 1pm to 7 pm at the Community Center. If interested in volunteering, contact Lori Dick or Traci Abrahamson.

**Lafayette Study Club:**

Our local book club has been active for over 100 years and will be meeting in September for the start of the 2024-2025 season! If you have a love for reading and would like more information contact Sandy Hartley or Sandy Burger

The club meets monthly on the third Tuesday of the month.

**Thank You!**

The Lafayette Area Lions sends thanks to all who attended and supported them at their annual Hog & Corn Roast in August. The goal meter is rising! *Thanks for the Playground donations too!*

**Garden Club:**

As the garden club wraps up its 2nd year, we are working on what our goals & future projects may be. 2024 was nice as we had many gifts from the sky so watering was not daily like the drought of last year! We would like anyone – green thumb or not to join us!

Contact Lori Dick or Sandy Burger

**2024 Monday Food Truck season ending**

Sept. 2 – Labor Day – off week

Sept. 9 – Back Street Market

Sept. 16 – Sunny Days Comfort Foods

Sept. 23 – Angela's Egg Rolls

***Thanks Mayor Sandie, for setting up these amazing vendors!***

***FYI: changes will be posted on the City Facebook***

**Council Briefs: 8/12/2024 7:00pm**

**Guests:** Resident Jessica Tauber

**Approved:** Consent Agenda including the 7/8 minutes, bills totaling \$133,463.21, the treasurer's report including the bank reconciliation for June, receipts of \$130,315.90, 2024 payrolls 14, 15 & 16

**Reports:** **Fox:** Submitted report & updates: spillway in the park will be done in September, council approved replacing the hydrant at the rink \$4800 and a laptop for Moldan for \$1300 **Burger:** In addition to her report, shared her & Dick applied for the state funding for the ambulance. The state set up \$24,000,000 to help out small rural ambulance services in the state, two ambulance trainees passed testing and will begin ride-alongs, two more working on testing. **Peterson:** The park is being used a lot; shared a League of MN Cities letter sent to Frenz honoring his work for our area. **Klingler:** Concrete poured by the bell, relief will reimburse, one application in, two maybes. **Reed:** Lions are applying to NU Foundation for a grant to the playground.

**Unfinished Business:** Fox updated council on the progress of all the projects and funding. No word from MPCA for WWTF permit. Stormwater grant - RFP sent to five contractors for cleaning and televising lines, Lead inventory completed and sent to MDH; 283 connections, 2 are galvanized and need replacement and 26 unknown (it will be updated and submit later) **STREAMS:** Next meeting 8/22, Kimley-Horn to have feasibility completed by October meeting. **Ord 148:** council approved the updated wording on code 33.04 Reimbursement of Computer and Computer related equipment. **Blight properties:** Two properties have issues – Burger will work with city attorney for notice of destruction orders. **Liability policy update,** Polich, Reed & Klingler presented the updates to the Personnel Policy Chapter 17 Drug-Free workplace, council approved the update as amended.

**New Business:** Approved the July donations of \$1,095, which included \$654 from Friends of 125<sup>th</sup> Hotdish cook off, \$200 Citizens Bank, \$150 Charlie & Sandy Hartley, \$91 Fillmeup Bucket all to the 125<sup>th</sup> celebrations. Also approved a payment plan, Fire SOGs updates, gWorks agreement, and DSI request to extend the Solar CUP through 9/2025. Council also set a public hearing to certify a delinquent utility bill to the tax rolls. The next council meeting will be held on Monday, September 9, 2024 at 7pm. *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 regular meeting.*

**2025 City Budget:**

The first budget workshop was on Monday, August 19 at 7pm. These past months the staff have been working on the 2025 budget. The council does listen to requests and evaluates the best way to spend the city funds. Wish lists have been noted and included in the first draft. The council and staff met on Monday, August 19 to discuss and make adjustments to the budget. At the September meeting the council will approve the Preliminary 2025 Budget and submit it to the County. The preliminary budget will always be higher, due to many unknown projections and will be reviewed when more firm numbers of things like insurance, healthcare, etc. The second budget workshop will be in December prior to the approval of the final budget at the December meeting.

**125<sup>th</sup> Celebration! Save the Dates! Wednesday, July 23 – Sunday, July 27, 2025**

**Everyone is welcome to join us to make this a successful celebration!**

Here is a sneak peek to what our week will hold: **Wednesday:** Bike & Car night and kick off of the Lafayette 125<sup>th</sup> Celebration Medallion Hunt.

**Thursday:** Park & Rec will have youth ball games, a meal at the pop shack, and possibly a bean bag tournament. **Friday:** Legion meal in the community center, Lafayette Band concert followed by the Concord Singers and Naren, Relief's Craft Beer & wine tasting. **Saturday:** Historical displays in the community center's display cases and city office, craft & vendor, quilt show, 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. Possible adult ball tournament.

**Sunday:** Prayer Service in Memorial park, Dad's Belgium waffles – fire hall, parade and NU Battery for a grand finale shooting the cannons at Lund park. **Let's continue to make our city look beautiful for the celebration. If you see a neighbor struggling to get to the compost or something, please offer to help! That's what small town life is about!!**