

# November 2024

## City of Lafayette

Edition: 2024-11

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: [lafcityclerk@gmail.com](mailto:lafcityclerk@gmail.com)

Web: <https://lafayettetmn.com>

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

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."

### November 2024

4 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm

5 – General Election Day

7 – Bookmobile - 10:15 to 10:45 – Esther Ave.

11 – Veterans Day – Office Closed

12 – Lion's 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Hahn's Winthrop

13 – City Council – 7pm Council Chambers

\*\*\*Date changed from schedule\*\*\*

18 – Bloodmobile – Community Center

19 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center

21 – Bookmobile 10:15 to 10:45am – Esther Ave

25 – All Utility Payments Due!

25 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

28 – Thanksgiving – Office Closed

29 – Office Closed

### December 2024

2 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm

3 – First TNT and final budget workshop – 7pm

5 – Bookmobile - 10:15 to 10:45 – Esther Ave.

9 – City Council – 7pm Council Chambers

10 – Santa Day! – Community Center

10 – Tree lighting – Memorial Park

17 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center

25 – Christmas Holiday – Office Closed

25 – All Utility Payments Due!

30 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

### Garbage & Recycling info:

Recycling Dates: 11/7, 11/21, 11/29 is a Friday

holiday schedule - garbage only. 12/5, 12/19,

12/27 a Friday Holiday schedule garbage only.

January 3, Friday holiday both garbage &

recycling.

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.

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

### Note from Mayor Sandie Peterson:

Well, camping is done and now back to reality. But that also means it will be getting cold soon. Remember to set your clock on November 3, "fall back" means shorter days. I am not a winter person, but I should be used to it after all these years of living in Minnesota. But like the saying goes "If we can't complain about the weather, we are not happy!"

We had a 125<sup>th</sup> meeting and things are looking good. It will be five days of fun, entertainment, music, and food. Everyone loves a good party. We are looking for volunteers to help with the activities, so mark the days on the calendar and if you have some time to offer, please let Sandy at the city office know.

With fall, everyone is busy getting ready for winter so let's make sure our neighbors are doing well.

I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

*Sandie*

### Fall/Winter Reminders:

Winter Parking: Is in effect from November 15 through April 30, no vehicle can be parked on the street in excess of 24 hours. Those residents or businesses in a designated "no parking zone" will receive letters.

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.

Sump Waivers: Sump Pump waivers were sent out. Please return them along with the annual fee, if you turn the sump to discharge into the sewer drain from November 1 to April 1 2024. Council will approve at the next meeting.

Compost: Check with the office as to when the compost is closed for the year. Once it is cleaned out and the weather changes, it closed as it is prepared to receive the truckloads of snow from Main street and can no longer accept yard waste.

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

Thanksgiving Service: The annual community Thanksgiving service will be held this year at Swan Lake Lutheran on Tuesday, November 29, 2024 at 7pm, with coffee to follow. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Santa's Closet: Community Insurance Agency is once again a drop off for Santa's Closet donations. Drop off your donations of toys, books, gloves, mittens, etc. for children from the area who are in need, up to age 12 years old. Donations can be dropped off during CIA's office hours of 8am to 4pm M – F before the December 6<sup>th</sup> pick up date.

### Green Light a Vet

A green porch light is a symbol of appreciation and support for veterans. Green Light a Vet is a campaign sponsored by Walmart and other military support organizations to raise awareness for veterans, service members and their families. So light up your porch during the month of November!!

### 2025 Pet tags:

Watch for your 2025 application in the November billing. If you added a pet or one of your furry family members crossed the rainbow bridge - let me know by 11/25, so I can include the proper number of applications. Reminder that all cats and dogs need to be registered with the city. To make it easier on your pocket book, council has lowered the price to \$2 per pet from 12/1/2024 through 1/31/2025. If you have updated vaccination records, drop them off when you take your pet to the vet!

### 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.

### Golf Carts:

Be sure your golf carts are being driven responsibly and following State laws. We do not want to see anyone hurt.

**gWorks update:** This is our 'soon to be' new utility billing program.

We have gotten access to a "demo mode" and to our training, so we can familiarize ourselves with the new processes. Our "Go Live" date was to be October 29<sup>th</sup>, but it has been pushed back indefinitely.

A few changes we know of...online payments and ACH payments will be done via their 'Front Desk'. The Front Desk looks much easier to access and navigate than our current UBMax. At this time, what we do know is currently when posting an online payment, you are paying a user fee of \$3.00 per \$100, it will change to 3.5% per transaction with a minimum of \$2. Currently I pull an ACH report and send it to the bank to process, now ACH processing or I believe it's called reoccurring payments, will be done via Front Desk. A user fee will be charged of \$1.75 per transaction up to \$150, and \$2.25 per transaction from \$150.01 to \$2500. I have many questions before we begin using gWorks and will keep you posted in next month's newsletter.

### 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!!

### 125<sup>th</sup> Celebration! Save the Dates!

#### Wednesday, July 23 – Sunday, July 27, 2025

The planning committee met on 10/21/2024

Next meeting is on 11/18/2024 at 6pm - city office

**Everyone is welcome!**

**Wednesday:** Bike & Car night and kick off of the Lafayette 125<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 the cannons at Lund park.

**Wanted:** Lafayette Memorabilia!!! For our historical displays.

#### 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.

Holiday Lights Contest – See posters for details closer to event.

December 10 – Save the Date! Santa Day!

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

#### Lafayette Park & Recreation:

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

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

#### Legion Post #300:

Annual Turkey Bingo – Saturday, November 23 – location TBD 7pm start. 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>

#### Lafayette Study Club:

The 2024-2025 season has begun! 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.

#### Council Briefs: 10/14/2024 7:00pm

**Guests:** Doug Hanson – Winthrop News, Residents Dave Burger and Marty Wacker.

**Approved:** Agenda and Consent Agenda including the 9/14 minutes & bills totaling \$130,104.46, the treasurer's report including the bank reconciliation for September, receipts of \$68,988.42, 2024 payrolls 19 & 20 and 2024-2025 sump pump waivers for Aalid, Abrahamson, Ahl, Burger, A DeBoer, Dunham, Klimes, Maffioli, Messerli, Saffert, Schmitt, Wacker and Woods.

**Reports: Fox:** Submitted report & updates: Memorial Park weed control & seeding contracted, final sidewalk completed, Lund Park spillway done, rink hydrant replaced, gravel road maintenance done, Lion fountain will be installed. Water main break on 400 block of Lafayette Avenue and repaired. City pumper maintenance completed and the last two fire hall doors are scheduled to install.

**Polich:** attended 9/25 RS Fiber meeting

**Burger:** Submitted report and highlighted that Nicollet County is putting together a county-wide health assessment, she and Reed will attend on November 7 & 21 from 12 to 2pm. FML reporting has started with a few questions. Starting gWorks onboarding – there may be times the office door is locked to deal with the changeover.

**Peterson:** Food trucks a big hit, RS fiber meeting – many concerns for the sale to HBC. **Klingler:** He and Voges will attend Chief's conference, he will be gone 10/23-10/31, contact Voges, if needed.

**Unfinished Business:** Fox updated council on the progress of all the projects and funding. **RO:** EPA grant submitted and waiting for final submissions and awards. PSIG are on hold due to no bonding bill. If a bonding bill is passed in 2025, there could be a possible June release.

Estimated cost \$2,893,028, PSIG eligible amount \$1,185,538, EPA Grant \$1,000,000 leaves a balance of \$41,490 for a possible WIF Grant or loan. These are estimates and may change. **STREAMS:**

holding meetings each Wednesday to work on design and projected rates. **Stormwater:** Hydro-Clean will be televising and cleaning the mains and laterals for about three weeks. **Lead Service line**

**Inventory:** MDH certified the LSL inventory for Lafayette and notifications of potential exposure need to be sent to the 21 unknowns and 2 galvanized line owners by November 6, 2024. Council approved offering sampling for these owners.

**Snow Removal:** Council approved the Lafayette Excavating three-year snow removal contract.

**New Business:** Approved October donations of \$916, which included \$26 from Fillmeup Bucket and \$300 from Central Region Cooperative to the 125<sup>th</sup> celebration and donations to the fire department, Messerli \$125, Lebrun \$125, Christensen Farms \$200 and \$20 N Langhoff, \$120 to Culture from NU Fast pitch for use of fields. Set a public hearing for 11/13 for the church property being rezoned from commercial to residential. Approved Dave's Place 2025 license. Approved Blake Voges or Billy Mount pending passing the interview, physicals, and state firefighter background check.

**The next meeting will be held on WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2024, due to the Veterans Day holiday and Monday and the Lion's 45<sup>th</sup> Celebration on Tuesday.**

**Garden Club:** Thank you to the Garden Club for beautifying the Memorial Park this year! They are always looking for more members and ideas! Contact Lori Dick or Sandy Burger