

November 2022

City of Lafayette

Edition: 2022-11

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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

November 2022

- 7 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm
- 8 – General Election Day – Nicollet County, St Peter
- 8 – Lion’s Meeting – 6:45pm –Community Center
- ? – LCS Schoolboard meeting – Zoom Date & Time TBD
- 10 – Bookmobile – 10:15am to 10:45am – Esther Ave.
- 11 – Veteran’s Day – City Office Closed
- 14 – **City Council –7pm Council Chambers**
- 14 – **Bloodmobile Community Center**
- 15 – Legion Post 300 – Fire Station
- 15 – **Lions/Amb./Allina – CPR Training – Community Ctr**
- 19 – Annual Legion Turkey Bingo Community Center
- 24 – Happy Thanksgiving!!
- 25 – City office Closed
- 25 – **All Utility Payments Due!**
- 28 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

December 2022

- 5 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm
- 6 – 1st Truth in Taxation and final 2023 budget workshop
- 8 – Bookmobile – 10:15am to 10:45am – Esther Avenue
- 12 – **City Council & 2nd TNT – 7pm Council Chambers**
- 13 – Lion’s Santa Day – Community Center & Mini Park
- ? – LCS Schoolboard meeting – Zoom Date & Time TBD
- 19 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall
- 20 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center
- 25 – **All Utility Payments Due!**
- 26 – Christmas Holiday Observed – Office Closed
- January 2, 2023 – Happy New Year! Office Closed

Garbage & Recycling info:

Recycling Dates: November 10 & 25 (11/25 is a Holiday schedule due to Thanksgiving) Dec. 8 & 22

Holiday Lights: As you decorate this holiday season remember to recycle your holiday lights and extension cords; drop them at the office during office hours.

LCS School Board: Will meet via Zoom until the final audit and dissolution by the State, contact Colin Hoffmann at 507-228-8283 for the link.

Note from Sandie Peterson, Mayor:

First, I would like to invite you to join me in a committee for the 125th anniversary of Lafayette in 2025. I would like to get a committee together and start to throw around ideas on what would be fun to do. I have already enlisted Ruth Klossner to update the history book (a little arm twisting was involved, lol!) Thanks Ruth! We will be reprinting the old history book including the past 25 years. I would appreciate anyone who is interested in being on the committee to call me 507-276-4583, since I am looking at having the first brainstorming meeting in January or February of 2023.

Now, as we come into the cold weather, please be careful as it gets colder to keep sidewalks snow and ice free, drive carefully and stay warm. I will be home now, since the camper is a little cold and hard to get to, so if you would like to talk to me give me a call. I can’t know you have an issue unless I am told about it. I do bring any and every issue up to the council to see how or if we can resolve it. I hope everyone has a Happy and Thankful Thanksgiving.

Sandie

Blood Mobile:

The bloodmobile will take place at the Community Center, 540 7th Street, on Monday, November 14, 2022, from 1:00 to 7:00 pm. Call Lori at 507-228-8788 or Red Cross 1-800-733-2767 or RedCrossBlood.org to schedule an appointment!

CPR Training:

Allina Health, Lafayette Area Lions and the Lafayette Area Ambulance invite you to join them in this FREE non-certified CPR Training. The event will be held at the Community Center on Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at 6:30pm. To register, contact Mark Dick 507-340-6848 or sign up at Citizens Bank, CIA or the City office.

Family Decoration Project:

HELP! Our local Santa’s Elf is looking for residents to create ornaments for the holiday tree in the park (band stand) this year. Drop them dropped off at the city office before Wednesday, November 23, 2022, 4pm and the Elf will be sure that yours is on the special tree! **Santa Day is Tuesday, December 13, 2022**

A Few Reminders:

- 1) Sump Pump waivers were sent out. Please return them with your annual fee, if you will turn the sump into the sewer drain from November 1 to April 1 2023. Council will approve at the next meeting.
- 2) All mail-in ballots need to be received on or before the General Election Day Nov. 8, 2022. A sample ballot is posted at the office, or MN SOS website, <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/>
- 3) The compost is still open, but will close soon. There are two piles, one for yard & garden waste and the other is for branches three (3) inches in diameter or less.
- 4) Trim your trees to 13-feet over streets and 9-feet over sidewalks
- 5) Winter parking is in effect from November 15 through April 30, 2023, no vehicles can be parked on a street for an excess of 24 hours during this time. “No Parking at Any Time” after a snow event for Main Ave. from 6th St. to 9th St. and the ends of dead-end streets. These are to allow for proper snow removal per city code 71.03.
- 6) Once the snow begins, adopt your fire hydrant during snowfalls. Do not park in front of mail boxes, driveways, etc.
- 7) If you contract out for snow removal let the office know - people call and ask. A few are listed on the city website on the business list.
- 8) The annual **Community Thanksgiving Service, is Tuesday, November 22** at 7pm at Swan Lake Lutheran - everyone is welcome!
- 9) Zoning clarification. Sheds of 100 square feet or more need a permit. All zoning permits need to be council approved before construction has begun. Council meets the 2nd Tuesday each month and your permit should be turned in by the Friday prior to be included on the agenda.

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, up to age 12 years old, from the area who are in need. Donations can be dropped off during CIA’s office hours of 8am to 4pm M – F and also register to win a CIA goodie bag!

HELP! VOLUNTEERS! Bandstand updates and the ramp construction continues... stay alert for dates to volunteer for these projects! The City's Facebook page and website will post information. **Skilled helpers are needed too!** Also, helpers to run supplies, clean up, and bring lunch or treats to other volunteers – it all counts as volunteers for our grant project!

Mayor for a Day Contest: All fourth, fifth and sixth grade students can answer the question: "What would you do if you were a mayor for a day?" All of the information to enter is on this link.

<https://www.lmc.org/about/mayor-for-a-day-essay-contest/>

Dave's Place Happenings:

Texas Hold'em: Tuesday nights at 7:30pm,

Lion's Bingo: Begins Saturday, November 5th *Note: the time has changed from 2 pm to 1:30pm.

Meat Raffles: Thursday nights at 6pm

125 Years of Lafayette - Quasquicentennial:

(kwos-kwi-sen-ten-ee-uh l)

Interested in our history? WE NEED YOU! Help us plan a Quasquicentennial (125 years) celebration, to be held in 2025! All ideas welcome, as one thought might just spark another! Contact a council member or the office with your ideas.

Legion Post #300:

Paver orders are coming in at a good pace for the November 1, 2022 deadline for the first setting of the pavers next spring.

Annual Turkey Bingo – Saturday, November 19, 2022

Check out the Legion's new Facebook page!

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

Lafayette Area Lions:

11- 5 – Bingo begins – start time changed to 1:30pm

11- 10 - Meat Raffles begin @ 6pm

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

12-13 – Santa Day! Community Center & mini park

Energy Assistance Program:

2022-2023 season includes water and sewer utilities along with heating. Contact MN Valley Action Council (MVAC) for information.

Garbage- Recycling FYIs:

*If you need to up the size of your cart size or downsize it, contact the office.

*While going through your holiday lights drop the ones that no longer work at the city office during open hours.

*Cart issues – Wheels usually snap right back on, if the lid or wheels are broken contact the office.

Great job on the cleanup day! Lots of stuff was cleaned up out of the city!

Council Briefs 10/10/2022:

Public Hearing Variance: J. Huls of 751 4th Street requested a variance to extend and enclose the entrance into the 25-foot setback. Council approved it as an agenda item later in the meeting.

Approved the consent agenda: Included in the consent agenda were: 9/12/2022 council minutes and bills totaling \$52,044.07.

Guests: Doug Hanson – Winthrop Publications, Dave Burger – 580 Main Avenue, Marty Wacker – 540 Main Avenue, Mac Aalid – 660 Esther Ave., Rob Lawson – Ledger and Joelle Flitter – District #88 school board candidate.

Reports:

Fox: sidewalks were poured at the mini park, another seal coat, & then benches will be installed. Request for an additional street light at 6th & Skyview, for the bus stop, will happen once the county approves it. N. Reinhart has completed training for weekend plant rotation. **Burger:**

The Fire Relief Audit was uploaded to the state and signed; one other report is needed to be completed for the state fire aid to be paid. Medicare revalidation is due 12/31/2022. **Peterson:** Fire department

went through hiring process for the two new fire fighters: N. Reinhart and B. Moldan. Council approved, pending passing their physical and background check. **Walton:** Court date is set for October 26.

Unfinished Business:

RO Water Project: Fox handed out an update, stating we are ranked #25 on the PFA schedule, the driver for this project is the waste water permit issue. The development plans need to be at PFA in March 2023, an estimated cost at this time is \$230,000. In a discussion with the engineers and Shannon Sweeney DDA and PFA: The PFA funding is waiting on a bonding bill that should be approved – timeline unknown. The project is fundable with a loan for 20-year 2.5% interest, the missing piece is the additional grant monies that may be available for our project. Federal grant \$1,000,000.00, PFA funding \$1,606,337.00. Grant monies are determined by the affordability of 1.2% of the household median income (HMI). Lafayette's 2022 HMI is \$78,333, the current water rate is \$55.62. with just the loan it would be closer to \$99.64, with grants it is possible to go down to \$78.33. PFA will reimburse the City for short-term financing for the design plans and specifications, along with interest occurred. Short-term financing can be obtained through MRWA's MINI loan program for up to three years, associated costs are \$5,550.00. **Approved:** Moving forward with the engineer and specifications and short-term financing for the RO project. The above variance, set a public hearing for a variance application for extending concrete with in setback and right-of-way from J Uhde and move forward to certify delinquent utilities to taxes - public hearing for both at the November council meeting.

October donation of \$50 to the fire department, Ordinance 140 enacting and adopting a supplement to the city code of ordinances.

Quasquicentennial: Mayor would like everyone to start thinking of this celebration. **MPCA Small Communities Planning Grant:** packets are ready to go and will be submitted. Fox shared the MDH Sanitary Survey Report for the Water System that was recently completed.

Next meeting: Monday, November 14, 2022, @ 7 pm meeting in the Council Chambers 791 Main Avenue.

Support a Local Boy Scout Eagle Project – Flag Retirement Ceremony

Trevor Hanson, a Lafayette Troop 2 Boy Scout, is holding a Flag Retirement Ceremony on November 18, 2022 at 6 pm for his Eagle Scout project; it will be at Tanker Bay in Winthrop. If you have a flag to retire, bring it with you that night or drop it off at Mark Dick's Shop. He will be featured on KNUJ on November 17th.

THANK YOU to all of our Fire and Ambulance members!

To join these dedicated groups, contact:

Fire - Nick Klingler 507-276-6117

Ambulance Mark Dick 507-340-6848