

FEBRUARY 2023

City of Lafayette

Edition: 2023-02

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2021-2022 Council

Mayor: Sandie Peterson 507-276-4583

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

February 2023

2 – Bookmobile – 10:15am to 10:45am – Esther Ave.

6 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm

11 – Dave’s Place-Ambulance Steak Fundraiser

13 – City Council – 7pm Council Chambers

14 – Lion’s Meeting – Community Center

15 – 125th Celebration meeting - 7pm Community Center

16 – Bookmobile – 10:15am to 10:45am – Esther Ave.

20 – Presidents’ Day – Office Closed

21 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center

25 – All Utility Payments Due!

27 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

March 2023

2 – Bookmobile – 10:15am to 10:45am – Esther Ave.

6 – Bloodmobile – Community Center 1 – 7pm

6 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm

13 – City Council – 7pm Council Chambers

14 – Lion’s Meeting – Community Center

16 – Bookmobile – 10:15am to 10:45am – Esther Ave.

21 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center

25 – All Utility Payments Due!

26 – Fire Relief Ham Dinner – Fire hall

27 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

30 – Bookmobile – 10:15am to 10:45am – Esther Ave.

Garbage & Recycling info:

Recycling Dates: February 2, 16 March 2, 16, 30

Holiday Lights: Remember to recycle your holiday lights and extension cords; drop them at the office during office hours.

Mark your calendar for June 24, 2023 Lafayette’s Electronic and Appliance Collection. Also, Tri-County is again offering a coupon good through 12/31/2023 for \$5 recycling of electronics and appliances when taken to the recycling centers. A coupon will be in a future newsletter or contact the clerk for a copy.

Energy Assistance Program:

If you are behind on your water /sewer bills, you may be able to get help! The 2022-2023 season (October 22 – June 23) includes water and sewer utilities along with heating. Contact MN Valley Action Council (MVAC) for information and to see if you qualify.

Come one, Come all, with your ideas for Lafayette’s 125th Celebration in 2025. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!
February, 15, 2023 at 7 pm Community Center

Note from Sandie Peterson, Mayor:

Happy Valentine’s Day! If you want to treat your sweeties to a good meal, for a good cause, join us at the Ambulance steak fry at Dave’s Place on February 11! I was so proud of our community on Jan 15th at the Lion’s Waffle breakfast benefit for Alissa Ries, the outpouring of love and support for this girl made me remember why we live in a small community; when times get tough you do not have to worry... we’ve got your back.

I am happy and thankful we did receive the 1-million-dollar federal grant for our Reverse Osmosis (RO) project, this is a big relief for the city and our residents.

Parents: Park & Rec. is holding open gym nights at the school. Please take advantage of these events to get the kids out and moving during the winter months.

As you all know I, of all people, don’t like winter and I would rather be at the lake in 70-degree weather, but we do live in Minnesota so we have to make the best of it. To make the time go by faster let’s find fun things to do. Such as check on a neighbor who might be stir crazy also, adopt a fire hydrant and make sure it is clear of snow, go to the park and build a snow house or snowman. Sometimes just 15 minutes makes all the differences in the world to a person.

Eagerly awaiting spring.

Sandie

Polar Plunge 2023!

The Polar Plunge is back in St. Peter for the 17th year in a row on February 4th! The St. Peter Plunge, which has moved to Johnson Hall at the Nicollet County Fair Grounds this year, has raised over \$1,216,699 in its 16-year history and in 2022, 281 Plungers braved windchills and raised over \$75,000!

Our Fire & Ambulance has had a team since the start, and many of those years the Boy Scouts and other community members have joined them. Watch for details on social media or contact Nick Klingler, Marti Uhde, or Mark Dick for details on how to join them or donate to this wonderful cause!

The Polar Plunge is the biggest fundraiser for Special Olympics Minnesota. All funds raised by Plungers help Special Olympics Minnesota provide year-round training and services to thousands of athletes with intellectual disabilities across the state.

DNR Snowmobile Safety Class:

The snowmobile field day will be held Saturday, February 11 - click on the link below or Contact Steve Rykhus 507-216-3521 or email rykhussteven@gmail.com for details. https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/events/safety_training.html

Must pre-register, no walk-ins.

Bookmobile is here for you!

You can get a library card right at the Bookmobile, bring a picture ID with your current address. If you already have a card (New Ulm is the closest library, she can add it into their system when you fill out a form and show an ID) The Bookmobile stops in Lafayette each month and the dates are posted in the newsletter.

2023 Pie & Ice Cream Socials and Lafayette Band concerts:

The band has set the date for the annual summer concerts and local organizations have scheduled Pie socials on concert nights.

May 29 – Legion Memorial Day event – Community Center/mini-Park

June 2 – band undecided if there will be a concert

June 7 – Bernadotte Social

June 16 – 1st Lutheran WELCA Social

June 23 – Lion’s

June 30 – Legion Auxiliary

July 6 – No band concert

July 14 – Legion

July 21 – Open

July 28 – Park and

All cats and dogs need to have current licenses and vaccination certificates on file. The cost is \$8 per pet.

125 Years of Lafayette - Quasquicentennial:

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

Local businesses, organizations, residents ... We would love for you to join us in planning a great celebration! 1st meeting is scheduled for **February 15 at 7pm in the community center – Join us!!**

Legion Post #300:

Paver sales will now be ongoing. Batches of 25 can be turned in to the company to prepare.

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

Lafayette Area Lions:

Lion's Bingo – Saturdays at 1:30pm

Meat Raffles – Racing – Thursdays begin @ 6pm

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

February 11 – Dave's Place – Ambulance Steak fry fundraiser.

Dave's Place Happenings:

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

Lion's Bingo: Every Saturday, except holiday weekends @ 1:30pm.

Meat Raffles: Thursday nights at 6pm – added virtual horse racing and door prizes!

<https://www.facebook.com/davesplace2022>

Chili cook-off: February 12

Coming soon: Bike & Car night dates

Make an Impact in Nicollet County:

Become a 4-H Volunteer: As the largest youth organization in Minnesota, 4-H provides a unique volunteering experience. There are many ways adults can support youth learning in 4-H. Whether you are ready to join us for one day or one year, we appreciate and welcome your skills and knowledge. Contact Michelle Wicks at 507-934-7831 or wicks200@umn.edu for ways you can make an impact.

Park & Recreation Update:

A little off-season work made fun! Join us once a month for a little practice! No registration required. Free. 6-7p.m. Lafayette Community Center. Follow the Facebook event!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/970058526441490/events>

Monday, February 20 - sliding practice

*wear your tall baseball/softball socks, sweatpants and sweatshirt

Monday, March 20 - fielding

*please bring your glove

Monday, April 17 - combination of all 3 nights!

*bring your bat, glove and full sweats

Watch the Park & Recreation Facebook page for updated activities, like open gym. Sign-up for summer ball will be starting – watch Facebook and the P&R website for details.

Summer ball registration event Sunday, March 19 from 12-3pm at Dave's Place of Lafayette.

Council Briefs 1/9/2023:

Burger conducted the Oath of Office to Peterson, Reed and Polich, who were all re-elected.

Public Hearing CUP: Conditional Use Permit for DSI – Mary solar garden project. Laura Brown of Development Services, Inc (DSI) was on hand to share a brief summary of the planned project.

Approved the consent agenda: Included in the consent agenda were: 12/14/2022 council minutes and bills totaling \$291,820.79.

Guests: Adam Prochniak – Adam's Lawn Service, Doug Hanson – Winthrop Publications, Larkin VanDeest – 411 10th Street, Dave Burger – 580 Main Avenue, Jessica Moldan – 660 10th Street, Brooklyn Peterson – 660 10th Street, Laura Brown – Development Services, Inc, and Brian Martens – 36073 545th Avenue, Lafayette.

Reports: **Fox:** P&R is holding a hockey day on January 29, with recent storms most time spent on snow removal. **Peterson:** Set February 15 as the first 125th celebration meeting. **Burger:** Updated total receipts as \$211,994.84, asked which council will attend the League's Leadership training & will register them. Nic. Co Public health will do a vaccination clinic on January 31 at the community center. Band concerts dates are set for June 16, 22, 30 July 14, 21, 28 & undecided for June 2. **Klingler:** Sentence to serve cleaned the fire hall. Relief's accountant quit and they are looking at Abdo in Mankato to replace them. **Dick:** (submitted to Burger) Polar Plunge February 4, looking for new EMTs, eight members completed EMT refresher, looking to replace the ambulance defibrillator, Nic. Co. may have a used one available for a city building due to a grant they received. Steak fundraiser February 11.

Unfinished Business:

Soil sampling will be done this week for the RO project. Approved Ord. 141 - Rezoning the Heimat properties from residential to commercial (formality to December's approval). Adopted Resolution 2022-26 Park & Recreation Agreement. Discussed the possible upgrade of the city pumper.

New Business:

Approved: CUP for Brian Marten's DSI - Mary solar garden, Resolution 2023-01 2023 Civic appointments, Resolution 2023-02 Authorized signers, Resolution 2023-03 January donations of \$857.73 (\$757.73 to ambulance and \$100 to fire), 2023 Council meeting calendar, the first reading of the annual fee schedule by adding the fire hall to the non-profit fundraiser event rental, if approved by council and fire \$50, Service Charges: change in charges only to: (operator without equipment) from \$50 to \$100, Service charge (operator with mower) \$60 to \$120, Service charge (operator with truck or loader) from \$75 to \$150

2023 Mowing Bids: Four bids were received by the posted deadline. River Valley Lawn Care \$450 per mow plus \$150 per spray, Annual \$11,700, Hartley Diversified, Inc. \$385 per mow, Adam Prochniak, \$425 per mow and annual \$11,500, Helget Lawn Service \$755 per mow and \$22,200 annual. With a 4/1 vote approved Adam Prochniak's bid of \$425 per mow, with Tauber opposing.

Zoning Permit Discussion: D. Burger and L. Van Deest asked to discuss the zoning permit process and why it must come to council to be approved if it fits the criteria of setbacks, etc. N Klingler also stated sometimes due to weather or deliveries they have to jump to a different job and getting a permit right away is helpful. They inquired about a small committee that could look over a permit and decide which permits, if they met the criteria council be approved by right away. If it was a variance, CUP or certain questions, it would wait for a council meeting for review and approval. Council will add it for further discussion to the February meeting.

Next meeting: February 14, 2023 at 7 pm meeting in the Council Chambers at 791 Main Avenue.