



City of Lafayette

Edition: 2022-03

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NEW!! Web: <https://lafayettemn.com>

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

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

March 2022

3 – Bookmobile – 10:15 to 10:45 – Esther Avenue

3 – City Council – 7 pm – 791 Main Avenue

7 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm

7 – Blood Mobile – Community Center

8 – Lions Meeting – 6:45pm – Community Center

8 – LCS School Board – 5:30pm – Tech. Rm

13 – Daylight Savings Time - Spring ahead 1 hour!

15 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center

17 – Bookmobile – 10:15am to 10:45am – Esther Avenue

17 – Happy St Patrick's Day!

19 – Scouting for Food – Post-it Note reminder

25 – All Utility Payments Due!

26 – Scouting for Food collection day starts @ 9 am

28 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

31 – Bookmobile – 10:15am to 10:45am – Esther Avenue

April 2022

4 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm

7 – Local Board of Appeals (LBAE) – 6:30 Community Center

7 – City Council – 6:30 Community Center

12 – Lions Meeting – 6:45pm – Community Center

12 – LCS School Board – 5:30pm – Tech. Rm

14 – Bookmobile – 10:15am to 10:45am – Esther Avenue

17 – Happy Easter!

19 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center

25 – All Utility Payments Due!

25 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

128 – Bookmobile – 10:15am to 10:45am – Esther Avenue

Garbage & Recycling info:

Recycling Dates: March, 3, 17, 31 April 14, 28

Holiday Lights: Year-round Recycling of holiday lights and extension cords; drop them at the office during open hours.

Energy Assistance Program:

EAP now includes water and sewer utilities along with heating. Contact MN Valley Action Council (MVAC) Get help now, if you qualify.

Volunteering for the Community!

Have you considered joining the Lafayette Fire or Ambulance Departments? The time is now! Contact Chief Nick Klingler or President Mark Dick for more information.

Note from Sandie Peterson, Mayor:

Happy St. Patrick Day to all! Even if you're not Irish, everyone is a little Irish on St. Patrick's Day! Here we are in March and we are almost through another Minnesota winter. There is a lot going on in March starting with Ash Wednesday on the 2nd, Daylight Savings Time on the 13th (remember spring ahead), of course the 17th is St. Patrick's Day and then the 20th is the first day of spring and the firemen's pork chop dinner (please support our firemen as they give of their time to keep us and our property safe). Park and Rec is gearing up for the new season sign up is underway. Let's get the kids out from behind the screens and having fun with friends playing ball. If you don't think you can afford it, please call me and I will see what I can do. With spring right around the corner hopefully we can get out and visit with our neighbors again and enjoy what our town is about community.

Sandie

Council Meeting Dates Temporarily Changed:

The city council meetings will be held on the first Thursday each month from February through May, to accommodate ambulance training on Mondays and Wednesdays for one of our members. March and May's meetings will be held in the council chambers at 791 Main Avenue at 7pm. April's council meeting will be at 6:30 for LBAE at the Community Center.

Local Board of Appeals & Equalization (LBAE) in April:

The VALUATION NOTICE will be arriving to you the end of March showing the proposed value of your property to be used for the property taxes paid in 2023. **Follow the instructions on the notice...** If you do not feel the value of your property is correct, you will need to contact the county assessor to discuss your property **before** the deadline to request a review. After the review they will then bring the information to the April 7, 2022 hearing at the community center at 6:30 pm. We had many homes sell last year for high amounts, and this can reflect the values again this year.

Copper Update:

The City of Lafayette has determined, along with the Minnesota Department of Health, for Lafayette's Water Facility to re-instate corrosion control treatment as of 9 February 2022. The goal of the treatment is to lower the Copper residuals in the household plumbing systems.

Lafayette Area Lions:

Lion's Bingo is back and starts each Saturday at 2 pm @ Dave's Place.

Meat Raffles are held Thursday night at 7pm @ Dave's Place.

Fire Relief Fundraiser:

March 27th the Fire Relief will hold a Pork Chop meal Fundraiser, serving from 11am to 2pm. The cost is \$12 per meal and the proceeds will go to the Fire Relief association.

Thank you to all who supported the Fire and Ambulance Polar Plunge team!

The St. Peter event had 281 participants and raised \$75,671 for the MN Special Olympics! Our crew of eleven jumpers raised \$3,843!

Lafayette Park and Recreation:

Registration is now open! You can register in person with us on Sunday, March 27 from 1:30-4:30pm at Dave's Place, pick up a registration form from the C-Store or check out our website

(<https://lafayetteparkandrecreation.wixsite.com/minn>) fill out a fillable PDF form and email to lafayetteparkandrecreation@gmail.com.

T-Ball is for ages 4-7. Baseball is for ages 7-17. Softball is for ages 5-17.

*Early bird registration ends on Sunday, April 17, 2022. Any registration forms turned in after that day, there will be an additional \$15 charge.

*Practices begin the week of May 9.

UMPIRES NEEDED! If anyone is interested in being an umpire, please email us! We will take care of training you and making sure you have all the equipment you need. Ages 14 and up.

40th Annual Farm Show – NU Civic Center 3/11 1-8 pm 3/12 10am-5 pm

Support Your Local SCOUTS!

March is **SCOUTING FOR FOOD!** On March 19 the Lafayette Boy Scouts will drop off Post-it notes as a reminder for the **SCOUTING for FOOD collection day on Saturday March 26, starting @ 9 am.** Also, **Girl Scout** cookie sales run through March 27. HURRY and stock up before they are GONE!!

March is Food Shelf Month: Support the Local Food Shelf!

<https://newulmfoodshelf.com/> Donate funds to your local food shelf in March. Financial donations go further due to access to food banks and discount purchasing programs, allowing food shelves to purchase items most needed in their community.

New Ulm Area Emergency Food Shelf brings food packages to Lafayette each month. If you would like to receive a package to help with food insecurities for your family, submit a request for the box by the 20th of the month prior to the collection date. There are forms in the city office, or for more information call 354-7668, or search the website. <https://newulmfoodshelf.com/mobile-food-shelf/> The food drops are monthly at the 1st Lutheran Church.

N95 Masks:

Nicollet County distributed some N95 masks for the city to give out. If you would like a few, stop by – while supply lasts.

Team Gran - Shenanigames Fundraiser: Join the fun at Dave's Place on Saturday, March 19, 2022 starting at 5pm for a fundraiser for the organization '**2B Continued' Dancing Like The Stars** event team from Winthrop of Jesse & Katie Gran. **2B Continued** is a suicide prevention organization. At this event there will be Shenanigames, a meat raffle and so much more! Inquire at Dave's Place for the complete details. If you wish to learn more about this suicide prevention group, check out their website at:

<https://2bcontinued.org/>

Lafayette Charter School:

Heggie's Pizza Fundraiser to order by March 14 contact any LCS student or call 507-228-8943; delivery is March 31.

March:

3– Pre-K Open House & Kindergarten Round Up 4-6 pm - Come & Go
8– School Board Meeting @ 5:30pm- Tech. lab
23– Community Coffee - 2nd/3rd grade at 2:15pm - Stage Room – the community is welcome!
25 – End of 3rd Quarter
29 & 31– Conferences

April:

12 – School Board @ 5:30pm- Tech. lab
16 – Lion's Easter Egg Hunt
For more information contact 507-228-8943 or
www.lafayettecharter.k12.mn.us.

Teaching Subs/Para/Food Service Subs WANTED:

Interested in subbing? LCS is currently looking for substitute paras, food service and teachers. For more information, contact Tally Clobes @ 507-228-8943. Applications can be found online at <https://lafayettecharter.k12.mn.us/job-opportunities/>

DNR Wildlife series Turkey Clinic:

March 27 from 9:30 to 1 pm @ the Community Center. Contact Steve Rykhus 507-216-3521 or email rykhussteven@gmail.com for details.

HomeServe USA:

Letters from Home Serve will be arriving to residents in March with an offer to sign up for the optional Service Line protection for residential properties. This protection covers the service line from the city connection to your home. Currently, the Servline Protection Plan adds Leak Protection to residential accounts for qualifying water and sewer leaks in the home and is included on your utility bill.

Council Briefs: 2/3/2022

Approved the consent agenda including 1/10 & 1/26 minutes and bills of \$61,910.33

Reports: Fox: will resume the C-4 Corrosion inhibitor to help reduce the corroding of copper pipes. Generator installation at WWTF completed. LMC Property & Casualty walk through and evaluation of the city buildings completed. **Polich:** Park & Recreation will move their meeting to the 13th or 20th. **Burger:** Expert Billing was at the 1/31 ambulance meeting she attended. He revisited the most important six items of information needed to better assist the billing coding process. The shared folders are working well.

Unfinished Business:

Waste Water Permit: Just prior to the meeting Fox received the engineer's report and summarized the options for the RO project, which is needed to reduce Chloride levels at the WWTF as mandated by the State. The first option - building up on the second level of the water facility was not feasible. Option 2 would be to add on to the west of the current facility and over Well #1, this could be manageable, but the well is old and if issues arise it would be tight to work on it. This came in at a cost of \$2.1 million. Option #3 would be to acquire land across the street and build the RO plant there for a cost of \$2.3 million. The Point Source Implementation Grant (PSIG) funding is 80% and WIF could add more to that amount, funding could be 20% of the total project. Neither option #2 or #3 figures in the cost of acquiring land. The reason the city is looking into this is that the WWTF permit is up for renewal and the new limit for Chloride will be a 230 milligram per liter limit and currently we are over 800. There is no way to reduce it at the WWTF, so the best course of action is to eliminate the Chloride (salt) through the water supply. Household softeners are the largest culprit and by moving to our water source to being RO filtered, the need for inhouse water softeners will be eliminated.

Website: Burger and Polich reviewed website companies and recommended Immense Impact, council approved.

New Business:

Reconveyance of the Tax-Forfeited land: Burger received an email for a 3-year review of the deed. The property use has changed as the city will not be rebuilding an office on that land, but it is being used for public use, so paperwork needs to be updated. Council tabled this and Burger will contact the state and county to get the next step information. Resolution 2022-04 Supporting Housing and Local Decision-making Authority: Council tabled so they could review further the information on this item. Council approved the 1st reading of Ord. 138 Amending the fee Schedule for the ambulance fees put forth by the ambulance commission – increasing the call rate from \$650 to \$700 and any other calls from \$0 to \$350.

Burger shared with council the community center procedures, rental application and check list for them to clean after their event. Partner suggested and council approved a Request for Proposals to be sent out for a cleaning service to deep clean the community center quarterly.

The next council meetings: The next council meeting will be held on **Change of Date: Thursday, March 3, 2022 at the Lafayette City Council Chambers at 791 Main Avenue, Lafayette at 7:00 pm.

**April's council meeting and Local Board of Appeals and Equalization hearing will be held at 6:30pm on April 7, 2022 at the Community Center 540 7th Street.