

**Mayor Peterson called the council meeting to order on Monday, March 11, 2024, at 7:00 pm at the Lafayette City Council Chambers, 791 Main Avenue, Lafayette.** Present were Mayor Sandie Peterson, Councilors: Dave Reed, Scott Portner, Tom Polich, and Curt Tauber. Also attending were Clerk/Treasurer Sandy Burger, Utility & Maintenance Superintendent Al Fox, City Attorney Aaron Walton and Fire Chief Nick Klingler, and Ambulance President Mark Dick.

**Guests present:** Doug Hanson – Winthrop Publications

### **Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Motioned by Reed and seconded by Tauber to approve the agenda as presented; all ayes, motion carried.**

**Motioned by Polich and seconded by Portner to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; all ayes, motion carried.** Included in the consent agenda were the 2/12 council minutes and 2/27 council workshop's recap, bills totaling \$63,104.08, the treasurer's report including the March 1 bank reconciliation and receipts totaling \$56,917.18, and 2024 payrolls 4 & 5.

### **Reports:**

**Fox:** Submitted written report and updated council that the playground equipment will be delivered on May 1 with installations to begin on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Safety meeting 3/12 in Courtland. Fox brought up a zoning question posed to him and Burger, pertaining to a parking pad on a property. The current code's use description states: *ACCESSORY USES. A land use related, but subordinate to the main use of the property, including, but not limited to, garages, fences, parking lots, gardening and landscaping.* Fox and Burger wanted clarification as to this description. Burger, inquired about the wording that included gardening and landscaping. After council discussion the consensus was to update the description by removing the gardening and minor landscaping, and the parking lots and driveways would stay. Burger will bring an ordinance to the April meeting.

**Burger:** Submitted a written report and inquired of council of what to charge the group from St Gregory's parish that still get together in Lafayette at the community center. When they were a church, it was a non-profit and no charge. Being it is now a group of people getting together they were charged the residential fee \$75 as a private party. After some discussion of whether the \$75 was appropriate or they would fall under the community gathering fee of \$15, being it is open to anyone. ***Polich motioned that they should be considered a community group and charged the \$15 community gathering fee and a refund of the difference should be given, seconded by Reed, all ayes, motion carried.***

**Peterson:** She attended Day on the Hill with Fox, it was very interesting, with many discussions such as to clarify ESST for volunteer Fire & ambulance, many rezoning bills, and the bonding bill. Met with Representative Brand and Senator Frenz – they were both understanding that something needs to be done. Both commented on Fox's presentation that it was thorough and easy to follow. The BABA (Build American, Buy American) waiver is automatic, just needs documentation. Has had a couple calls inquiring if the church was purchased for residential use, if the zone would be changed back to residential.

**Klingler:** Rural purchased a pumper truck for \$446,600, it will arrive in 2-3 weeks. The parade truck will need to move to be stored in a different location, it will still be covered under our insurance we just need to update the location to where it is stored. He mentioned Nicollet Fire is updating to an auto mutual aid for structure fires, which would increase the ISO rating, he is looking into this for Lafayette as well.

**Dick:** Ham dinner and Ham bingo coming up. The new equipment is up and running, run count is higher, there are three new who are taking the EMT course with Allina. Continue the intercept agreement from 6am to 6pm weekdays.

### **Unfinished Business:**

1. RO Update: Mayor and Fox attended Day on the Hill and met with Representative Brand and Senator Frenz. Frenz authored a bill for the Lafayette RO project. For the application process of State Revolving Funds Programs Application Forms, a resolution detailing funding is required. ***Motion by Polich and seconded by Portner to approve Resolution 2024-06 Resolution of Application, all ayes, motion carried.*** The resolution details the funding requirements and funding possibilities and needs. The BABA waiver is automatic, but needs documentation.

2. MPCA – Wastewater Permit: Fox shared his response to the Minnesota MPCA letter of the new limits, which was received on January 31, 2024. There will be a meeting with the MPCA on March 19<sup>th</sup> at 3pm to discuss the limits to the WWTF permit, most of which can not be met. The meeting will go through the permit limits, section by section. The RO project and timeline will also be brought up. He asked the MPCA, who else in our watershed district has such limits.
3. Ord 146 Updating the Fee Schedule: ***Motioned by Reed and seconded by Tauber to approve the second reading and to adopt Ordinance 146 amending the fee schedule for the ambulance fees, all ayes, motion carried.***
4. Policy Committee for Liability and Use: ***Motioned by Portner to form a policy committee for the liability and use in the fire hall, seconded by Polich, all ayes, motion carried.***
5. Resolution 2023-20 Outdoor furnace: Has until April 1 to remove. It is still in place, Burger to send a reminder. If not removed it will be on the April agenda for further action.

**New Business:**

1. Resolution 2024 – 05 – March Donations ***Motioned by Reed to approve Resolution 2024-05 as presented, seconded by Portner, all ayes, motion carried.*** Donations included: Additional Donations and Tips from the ambulance fundraiser of \$360, Fillmeup Donation bucket \$35 to the 125<sup>th</sup> Celebration.
2. Stormwater, Wastewater Community Resilience grant: Letters went out to all properties and the first phase is to clean and inventory all service lines and laterals this spring.

**Adjourn: Motioned by Polich and seconded by Portner to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm; all ayes, motion carried.**

**Next Meeting:** This includes the annual Local Board for Appeals and Equalization hearing - April 8, 2024 at 6:30pm in the Lafayette Council Chambers, 791 Main Avenue, Lafayette. Please notify the clerk if you are unable to attend the meeting.

---

Thomas Polich –Acting Mayor

---

Sandy Burger – City Clerk- Treasurer