

NOTICE: The MN Department of Health's annual connection fee of \$9.72 and the annual meter deposit interest credit of 8 cents are applied to your account this month. This may cause some line items to drop off, as the printed bills only show ten lines; your total due is correct. If you have questions, call the clerk's office. **ACH accounts please note - this amount was included in your payment drafted on March 21, (so it was prepaid) it will be listed, but is not included in the total due this month, so sorry for the inconvenience!**

April 2022

City of Lafayette

Edition: 2022-04

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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

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

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

May 2022

2 – Fire Meeting – Fire Hall – 7:30pm

5 – City Council – 7pm Council Chambers

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

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

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

17 – Legion Post 300 – Community Center

21 – Spring residential curbside cleanup – to curb by 7am

23 – Ambulance meeting – Fire Hall

24 – Special Election Day for District 1 -Mail Ballot

25 – All Utility Payments Due!

Garbage & Recycling info:

Recycling Dates: April 14, 28 May 12, 26

Memorial Week – holiday schedule – garbage only 6/3

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

Energy Assistance Program:

This program is still available! EAP includes water and sewer utilities along with heating. Contact MN Valley Action Council (MVAC) to see if you qualify.

Fire & Ambulance need you!

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:

As March comes to a close, (hopefully like a lamb), we head in to April. Happy Easter! I hope everyone can celebrate with family and friends and that the bunny gives you just what you need in your basket. Don't forget the Lions Easter egg hunt, details are in the newsletter.

To disband any rumor... YES, we do have a park and recreation board and they are taking applications for t-ball, soft and baseball. Applications are available at the C-store or online at the Lafayette Park and Recreation Facebook page. I think it would be great to get some adult teams going too. If any adults are interested, please talk to Kayla (Altmann) Campbell, or any board member. The pop shack will be up and running; watch to see what is cooking! We will post the schedules, when available, so our residents can come and enjoy watching the young ones play. If you don't know the players, come and cheer anyhow to show that we support our local teams and you will meet others in the community! As the weather turns nicer, let's get out and freshen up our properties and show our visitors that we take pride in our community. Please be safe this time of year with the farmers (hopefully) getting in the fields and our kids getting outside more - slow down and enjoy our town.

Sandie

Local Board of Appeals & Equalization (LBAE) April 7:

You received the **VALUATION NOTICE** 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 bring the information to the April 7, 2022 hearing at the community center at 6:30 pm. If you missed the deadline, call the county and they may be able to bring your property information to the hearing, or you can attend the meeting. The assessor can give council the best recommendations for your property if you call ahead and they are able to review your property ahead of time.

Mail Ballot Special Election May 24, 2022:

A special election will be held to fill the late Representative Jim Hagadorn's vacated seat. Lafayette is a mail ballot precinct, so if you are a registered voter, you will receive a ballot packet in the mail. To vote – simply follow the directions and mail your ballot. Closer to election day (I believe 10 days) you will be able to take your ballot (so do not throw it away) to the St. Peter Government Center to vote in person, details will be sent with the ballots. If you are not registered to vote go to the MN Secretary of State's website. <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/>

Spring Cleanup begins:

Saturday, May 21 is the spring residential curbside cleanup. Have your items to the curb by 7 am; a detailed flyer will be included in the May newsletter along with the Tri-County Mobile Collection flyer – Keep them handy for future reference. Upcoming Blight Tour: Curbside cleanup is a great opportunity to clean up your yard before the council's annual blight tour, which will be held on June 13 at 6 pm, prior to the council meeting. A few of the things that they look for are vehicles without current tabs, junk vehicles, unkept yards with tall weeds, trees over hanging the road/alley, etc. After the snow melts is a good time to do a good look at your property. NOW is the time to get rid of junk vehicles or get them properly licensed. The annual Appliance and Electronic drop off event will be held on Saturday, June 25th from 8 am to 11 am – details will follow in next month's newsletter.

Garbage fees:

MN Waste Processing Company, where our garbage is processed, recently raised the fees per ton of garbage and per the garbage contract with our hauler they can pass this on to the consumers. Starting in March the bag tags will increase by 5 cents to \$2.65 each – a strip of 5 is \$13.25, small cart increases by 5 cents, medium cart by 10 cents and the large cart by 15 cents. These increases are reflected on this bill.

Council Meeting Dates Temporarily Changed:

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

Lafayette Community Band:

The Community Band has set its schedule for the 2022 Summer Concerts.

May 30 – Legion Memorial Day Program,

June 3, 17, 24 in the mini park, June 8 – Bernadotte

July 8, 15, 22, 29

Friday Night Pie & Ice Cream Socials: Available dates are June 3, 17, 24 and July 8, 15, 22, and 29. No band concerts on Friday, June 10 or July 1. If your organization would like to host a fundraiser for your group, contact the office, they will be on a first come basis.

Garage Sale: The city-wide coordinator Kathy Eckstrand is gearing up to gather names for the annual city-wide garage sales. The date is set for Saturday, July 30, may open on Friday as well. Posters will be out soon with information, or Call Kathy Eckstrand at 276-1912 or keckstrand560@gmail.com

Lafayette Area Lions:

Lion's Bingo Saturday's at 2 pm @ Dave's Place through April, except 4/17.

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

April 17 – Easter Egg hunt at Lafayette Charter School at 10 am

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.

Lafayette Charter School:

April:

12 – School Board @ 5:30pm- Tech. lab

16 – Lion's Easter Egg Hunt

27 – Community Coffee 2:25pm

May: Plant Sale dates – May 20 through May 22

2-6 teacher appreciation week

10– School Board @ 5:30pm- Tech. lab

16-20 – LCS celebrates charter school week

17 – Spring Concert

18 – Track & Field Day

20 – Family picnic @11 am

25 – 8th grade graduation – Last day of school

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/>

125 Years of Lafayette - Quasquicentennial:

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

It is a tough word to say, but it is on its way to Lafayette! Our fine city was established in 1900, so in the year 2025 we will hold a Quasquicentennial (125 years) celebration! Join us in planning the celebration! Please share with any council member or staff your thoughts and ideas for celebrating this upcoming event! A couple ideas brought up so far are: an update to the centennial history book, or at least a reprint, updating the city logo, renaming the mini park, etc. Again, all ideas welcome, as one thought might just spark another.

Council Briefs: 3/3/2022

Approved the consent agenda including 2/3 minutes and bills of \$46,357.27

Reports: Fox: A replacement for the broken plow was found, should be back in service by 3/4/22, the fire station furnace is acting up again with a replacement cost of \$3,784.40, council approved purchase. **Klingler:** Approval of a new firefighter will be on the April council meeting agenda, requested to purchase a tablet for taking photos at scenes, instead of using personal phones, it will stay in the vehicle for access, council approved the purchase. **Tauber:** will submit the pop shack specs to the State for approval usually a 2-to-6-week turnaround. **Peterson:** Attended RS Fiber JPB, Rural Fire Board and Ambulance Commission. The commission besides raising run rates, increased per household assessments by \$5, and a few officer position stipends.

Burger: 2021 solar savings were \$2,046.04, the mowing ad will run in Journal, Leger and Winthrop News, FB and website.

Unfinished Business:

Waste Water Permit: SEH presented the options for the RO project. The engineers from SEH recommend Option #3, due to it being of similar cost and has room for future expansion, if needed. It meets all city and state setbacks and has less impact on the neighbors. They asked council to have a decision by the April meeting.

Approved Resolutions: 2022-05 to Reconvey the Land back to the State, Resolution 2022-04 Supporting housing and local decision-making authority, and the second reading and adoption of Ord 138 - Amending the ambulance fee schedule.

New Business:

Approved the 2021 City Audit, Resolution 2022-07 -To Elect the standard allowance for the Revenue Loss Provision of CLFRA under APRA, Resolution 2022-06 to Re-establish the precinct boundaries and polling place. Accepted Jason Armstrong's resignation from the fire department. Mayor Peterson will review the rural fire agreement and asked council to review the personnel policy to discuss at the next meeting.

Next meeting:

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.

Lafayette Park and Recreation:

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

Fields of Grace Youth HAM BINGO Fundraiser:

Saturday, April 9, doors open at 4 pm, Bingo starts at 6 pm at the Lafayette Fire Station. All ages welcome! Ham door prizes. Come early for BBQ or Hot dog meal. Concession available. All proceeds to Fields of Grace Youth group.