

**Mayor Peterson called the council meeting and Local Board of Appeals and Equalization hearing to order on Monday, April 10, 2023 at 6:30 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 present were: Utility & Maintenance Superintendent Al Fox, Clerk/Treasurer Sandy Burger, and Fire Chief Nick Klingler; City Attorney Aaron Walton and Ambulance President Mark Dick were absent.

**Guests present:** Shana Jackson – Nicollet County Assessor, Doug Hanson – Winthrop Publications, Jessica Moldan – 660 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Dave Burger – 580 Main Avenue, Heidi Portner (651 5<sup>th</sup> Street) & Angie Hartmann (411 Skyview Avenue) – Lafayette Park & Recreation

**Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

Mayor Peterson suspended the council meeting and opened the Local Board of Appeals and Equalization hearing. There were no appeals. Assessor Jackson explained due to the sales of properties in the criteria time frame, there was no increase in values. Statutes provide that the assessor's office must do an update of each property in the county every 5-years; this year the assessor's office will be sending out notifications to setup appointments, they will also post notices on doors in effort to connect with as many residents as possible. She also shared that in December she will send an email about Local Board of Appeals and Equalization training for the council members; in order for the process to remain local the city has to have at least one trained member. The hearing remained open incase an appeal stopped in and the council meeting preceded until 6:53 pm at which time the mayor thanked assessor Jackson and closed the hearing.

**Motioned by Reed and seconded by Portner to approve the agenda as amended by adding P&R request; all ayes, motion carried.**

**Motioned by Polich and seconded by Tauber to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; all ayes, motion carried.** Included in the consent agenda were: 3/13/2023 council minutes, bills totaling \$106,889.72 and the treasurer's report including the March bank reconciliation, payrolls 6 & 7 and receipts totaling \$52,207.19.

#### **Reports:**

**Fox:** He advised council if anyone asks the compost is not open yet, with the heavy snows the compost site is still too wet to allow use. Will complete the curb and gutter on the east side of Pioneer Avenue, the UV will be in place at the WWTF for the 5/1 season start. **Motioned by Portner and seconded by Polich to order the last two garage doors for the fire barn at a cost of \$10,600, all ayes, motion carried.**

**Burger:** Attended MCFOA conference, LMC Safety & Loss – informational tools coming out soon for cyber security, explained the Medicare ground ambulance data collection which is due May 31, 2023. Besides the Medicare, note from Mark Dick - Eagle scout project coming along can start when the pavers arrive, met with family for the Lion's pie social fundraiser for an ambulance member's family.

**Portner:** Attended storm spotter training. Inquired about vehicles on the street these past storms, Fox reminded him that after plowing is done, they have 24 hours to move vehicles. Mayor asked for a review of the snow policy.

**Polich:** Attended Zoning committee, 125 celebration committee

**Peterson:** LMC Safety & Loss – attended some of the administrative tracked and jumped to the police track for conversations and a de-escalating session both were good.

**Klingler:** Inquired about hot/cold water to the other side of the fire barn for ease of cleaning rigs, will revisit the request if there are ARPA funds after generators are purchased. Asked that the fire relief fundraiser at the fire hall \$50 fee be waived. **Motioned by Tauber, seconded by Polich to waive the non-profit rental fee for the fire hall for the relief association's fundraiser, ayes: Peterson, Reed, Polich, Tauber, abstain: Portner; motion carried.** Working with Burger on what needs to be done for the liquor license for the sampling fundraiser.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

**RO Water Project:** Fox is working with the EPA & Engineers on grant information and requirements. Ordered a storage container for the pilot project which will sit on the street for the three-month pilot time frame Fox has county approval. Xcel has issued a work order for the electrical upgrade; this is not needed for the pilot project but is needed for the final project. Portner raised a concern of the container on the street.

**Fire Truck discussion:** Will meet 4/11/2023

**Zoning Committee:** Tabled until city attorney is present and council has more time to review. The committee will meet again on 4/19 at 7pm.

**New Business:**

**Resolution 2023- 06 – April Donations:** Donations totaled \$69.00 to the mini park. ***Motioned by Reed and seconded by Portner to approve Resolution 2023-06 April donations; all ayes, motion carried.***

**Permits:** Zone 2023-02 Tauber – addition: ***Motioned by Reed, seconded by Portner to approve Zone:2023-02 Tauber addition, ayes: Peterson, Reed, Polich, Portner, abstain: Tauber; motion carried.***

Zone 2023-03 Isaacson S&S – remove old and replace storage shed: ***Portner motioned to approve Zone 2023-03, Polich seconded, all ayes, motion carried.***

**Pool Filling Policy:** This is not an approved expenditure and due to continued requests to fill private pools, . ***Polich motioned to approve the City of Lafayette Pool Filling Policy, seconded by Tauber, all ayes, motion carried.*** Residents have the option to purchase a second meter, where only water charges occur for the water flow.

**Worker's Comp Premium:** ***Reed motioned to approve the 2023-2024 WC premium of \$22,218, seconded by Portner, all ayes, motion carried.***

**New Fire fighter:** ***Motioned by Reed and seconded by Tauber to approve Ben Anderson as a fire fighter, all ayes, motion carried.*** Ben is on a neighboring fire department, but is able to cover day hours in Lafayette.

**Ambulance 2023 Officers:** Ambulance conducted the election of officers on March 27, 2023. President – Mark Dick, Vice-President – Marti Uhde, Secretary – Gary Griebel, Data Reporting – Shari Beranek, Maintenance & Supplies – Clete Goblirsch, Training – Ronda Goblirsch, Infectious Control – Claire Gieseke, and Active 911 – Shari Beranek. ***Motioned by Reed and seconded by Polich to accept the 2013 ambulance officers as presented, all ayes, motion carried.***

**125-Year Celebration:** Peterson shared the 125- year celebration committee information. Prior to the 2000 centennial celebration, the city gave a payment amount of \$2000 to the committee for startup expenses. ***Polich motioned to approve a payment of \$2,000 to start the 125-year celebration checkbook, Portner seconded, all ayes, motion carried.*** After the event, any money remaining will be donated to a community project.

**Park & Recreation:** H. Portner and A. Hartmann were on hand to inquire to the council about the P&R attaining a license to sell beer during tournaments. Will figure out the dates and contact Burger for further information.

***Motioned by Portner and seconded by Tauber to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 pm; all ayes, motion carried.***

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, June 12, 2023 council will hold a blight tour at 6:00pm and council meeting will follow at 7:00pm at the Lafayette Council Chambers, 791 Main Avenue, Lafayette.

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Sandie Peterson – Mayor

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Sandy Burger – City Clerk- Treasurer

Approved: