

Mayor Peterson called the council meeting to order on Monday, August 12, 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, Fire Chief Nick Klingler, Ambulance President Mark Dick was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests present: Doug Hanson – Winthrop Publications, and resident Jessica Tauber – 660 10th Street.

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

Motioned by Reed and seconded by Portner to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; all ayes, motion carried. Included in the consent agenda were the 7/8 council minutes, bills totaling \$133,463.21, the treasurer's report including the bank reconciliation for July, receipts totaling \$130,315.90, 2024 payrolls 14, 15 & 16.

Reports:

Fox: Submitted his written report and updated that the spillway will be done in September, the hydrant at the skating rink needs replacement at a cost of \$4,800. **Motioned by Portner and seconded by Tauber to replace the hydrant; all ayes, motion carried.** Would like to get a laptop for Brennan with a quote from Kemske of \$,1300. **Motioned by Polich and seconded by Reed to approve the purchase of the laptop for the utility assistant; all ayes, motion carried.**

Burger: Submitted a written report and highlighted a few items, applied for State funding of \$24,000,000 for ambulances and explained how the money will be rewarded on a sliding sale to benefit small services such as ours, the money will be disbursed with the December 26 LGA payment. Two of the ambulance trainees have passed their test and filled out employment paperwork, the other two are testing.

Peterson: Commented that the park is being used a lot. Shared an LMC letter to Senator Frentz honoring his work for our area.

Klingler: Concrete was poured by the fire bell and entry – relief will reimburse. Has the one application hoping he has two more shortly.

Reed: The Lions are applying to NU Foundation for a grant to assist with the playground payoff.

Unfinished Business:

- 1. Utility Updates:** Fox updated council on the progress of all the current utility projects and funding.
Permit: No word from MCPA for the Wastewater permit submitted on May 29. **Streams:** Kimley-Horn will have a feasibility study completed by October 2024. It should show the associated costs and potential rate schedules. **Stormwater:** RFPs will be sent to five independent contractors for cleaning and televising. **Lead Service Line Inventory:** Completed and sent to MDH: 283 total connections, two Galvanized that need to be replaced and 26 unknowns, which will be updated and submitted at a later date.
- 2. Ordinance 148 updating Code 33.04 Reimbursement for Computer and Computer Related equipment:** After no further discussion, **Reed motioned to approve Ordinance 148: Updating Code 33.04 Providing for Reimbursement for Computer and Computer Related Equipment Tauber seconded, all ayes, motion carried.**
- 3. Blight:** A few properties were still in violation and Burger will work with the City attorney to send the appropriate notices.
- 4. Liability Policy Committee:** Polich, Reed and Klingler discussed the changes and how they compromised to come up with the policy using the LMC examples and discussions with other cities, after a brief discussion and that the ambulance department and personnel needed to be included, **Polich motioned to update the personnel policy with the changes to Chapter 17 Drug-free work place section as amended, Reed seconded; all ayes, motion carried.**

New Business:

1. **Resolution 2024–14 – August Donations:** *Motioned by Portner to approve Resolution 2024-14 as presented, seconded by Tauber; all ayes, motion carried.* The donations of \$1,095.00, were all for the 125th celebration; \$654 from the Friends of the 125th hotdish cook off proceeds, \$91 from the FillMeUp bucket, \$150 from Charles and Sandra Hartley, and \$200 from Citizens Bank.
2. **Payment Plan:** A payment plan was submitted with a plan to be paid to current status within six-months. *Motion by Reed to approve the payment plan as presented it was seconded by Portner; all ayes, motion carried.*
3. **Fire SOG Updates:** After explanation by Burger and Klingler of the updates and reasoning, there was a *Motioned by Polich to approve the 2024 Fire SOG updates as presented, seconded by Tauber; all ayes, motion carried.*
4. **gWorks:** Burger shared that gWorks, who purchased UBMax, will be ending the updates by the end of the year. She has looked into many other companies and recommended to the council that it was the best fit, Fox concurred, having sat in a few presentations. *Motioned by Polich and seconded by Tauber to approve the quote for gWorks and to begin the changeover; all ayes, motion carried.*
5. **DSI Request:** Development Services, Inc. (DSI) is the second solar farm that council, in January 2022, approved a CUP, last August an extension was granted through 2024. They continue to have project delays due to Xcel interconnection issues, market issues associated with interest rates and due to these continued issues are asking for an additional extension through September 2025. *Motioned by Reed and seconded by Polich to grant the extension as requested through September 2025, all ayes, motion carried.*
6. **Certify:** Information was given for a past due account, which the renters vacated and to start the certifying process of the balance of past due utilities *the consensus of council was to set the public hearing for the September 9, 2024 meeting.*

Adjourn: *Motioned by Tauber and seconded by Portner to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 pm; all ayes, motion carried.*

Next Meeting: There will be a budget workshop on Monday, August 19, 2024 at 7pm. The next council meeting will be on Monday, September 12, 2024 at 7:00pm in the Lafayette Council Chambers, 791 Main Avenue, Lafayette. Please notify the clerk if you are unable to attend the meeting.

Sandra Peterson – Mayor

Sandy Burger – City Clerk- Treasurer