

**Mayor Peterson called the council meeting to order on Monday, January 13, 2025, at 7:00 pm at the Lafayette City Council Chambers, 791 Main Avenue, Lafayette.** Present were outgoing Mayor Sandie Peterson, Councilors: Dave Reed, Tom Polich, Curt Tauber, newly elected Andrew Hartley and Logan VanDeest. Also attending were Clerk/Treasurer Sandy Burger, Utility & Maintenance Superintendent Al Fox, City Attorney Aaron Walton, Fire Chief Nick Klingler; Ambulance Vice-President Marti Uhde.

### **Pledge of Allegiance.**

Outgoing Mayor Peterson opened the meeting. Clerk Burger gave Tauber the oath of office as mayor and then oath of office for Hartley and VanDeest as the new council members; the meeting proceeded.

**Guests present:** Doug Hanson – Winthrop Publications, Residents Jessica Tauber – 551 5<sup>th</sup> Street, and Brennan Moldan – 1091 Lafayette Avenue and Adam Prochniak – AP Lawn Service also attended.

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

***Motioned by Reed and seconded by VanDeest to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; all ayes, motion carried.*** Included in the consent agenda were the 12/9 council minutes, bills totaling \$442,780.72, the receipts totaling \$371,736.56. The treasurer's report including the bank reconciliation for December, the 2024 payrolls 25,26 EOY PTO payout over 80 hours and 2025 Payroll 1.

### **Reports:**

**Fox:** Submitted his written report and highlighted information of the rink and updates needed. P&R will be holding a hockey day on January 26<sup>th</sup>. Worked on monthly reporting and year end items. Had a request to have a can drop at the WWTF. After brief discussion to not allow it on city property, as to not set a precedence, ***Polich motioned to deny this request to have a can drop at the WWTF, Hartley seconded, with no further discussion motion carried.***

**Burger:** Submitted a written report and highlighted that gWorks was pushed back to the week of January 20, 2025. Working on EOY and Audit items. Updated council on information of garbage and Xcel rate changes, no update on the Revolving loan program.

**Uhde:** EMT Refresher was held with 11 members attending. Working to get all on the same cycle to be able to have local training. February 8 Steak Fry. Two new members from Allina program, one other is retaking the test, the other chose not to continue.

**Peterson:** Attended the Ambulance Commission meeting. Received the \$51,671.07, which will be used to update the ambulance equipment, Lucas and Stryker, 2024 had 45 runs. Increasing the per household assessment from \$40 to \$45, and raised the Vice-president position from \$350 to \$500

**Tauber:** Attended Zoom meeting for the RO Project with Al and Senator Frentz.

**Klingler:** Polar Plunge February 1, Rural Farm Board meeting February 12. Upcoming: the P& R will be holding a Meat Bingo.

**Reed:** Attended the final Community Assessment – this is focused on mental health in the county. There will be sessions for individuals to meet in Lafayette, Courtland and Nicollet.

**Polich:** Will be attending the Leadership conference.

### **Unfinished Business:**

- 1. Utility Updates: RO:** Tauber and Fox met with Senator Frentz to discuss the RO project bonding and upcoming session; requesting continued support. USDA RD has low interest loan and some grants. Will hold off to see what the happens with the State bonding bill
- 2. Stormwater:** Reviewed modeling, came up with three scenarios to investigate for future development projects. EPA – Delta meeting held 1/10/2025 to discuss findings and possible funding options.
- 3. STREAMS update:** Fox believes the team came up with a suitable rate structure. They continue to evaluate and check to make sure it is valid. STREAMS was invited to a DNR round table to present the project. Statewide officials from County Water Planners to State Elected Officials will be in attendance.
- 4. MPCA Permit:** Continues on a holding pattern.

5. **Ord. 150 & CUP Application:** *Motioned by VanDeest and seconded by Polich to reschedule the public hearings for the February 10, 2025 council meeting; all ayes, motion carried.*

**New Business:**

1. **Resolution 2025-01 – Civic Duties** *Motioned by Polich and seconded by VanDeest to approve Resolution 2025-01 Civic Duties as amended, with no further discussion; all ayes, motion carried.*
2. **Resolution 2025-02 – Authorized Signers** *Motioned by VanDeest and seconded by Hartley to approve Resolution 2025-02 Authorized Signers as presented, with no further discussion; all ayes, motion carried.*
3. **Resolution 2025-03 – January Donations** *Motioned by Reed and seconded by VanDeest to approve Resolution 2025-03 January Donations as presented, with no further discussion; all ayes, motion carried.* Included in the donations of \$823.68 were \$118 to the 125<sup>th</sup> FillMeUp \$18 and Isaacson S&S \$100. \$50 to the fire department from P. & M. Dummer and \$655.68 to the ambulance from an anonymous donor.
4. **Resolution 2025-04 – Recognition** *Motioned by Reed and seconded by VanDeest to approve Resolution 2025-04 Recognition for Distinguished Service as presented, with no further discussion; all ayes, motion carried.* Council asked Burger to mail copies to Peterson and Portner.
5. **2025 Council Meeting Schedule:** *Motioned by VanDeest and seconded by Hartley to approve the 2025 council meeting schedule as amended, with no further discussion; all ayes, motion carried.*
6. **Mowing Bids:** With only one bid submitted and little discussion there was a *motion by Hartley and seconded by Reed to approve the bid for the 2025 mowing season to AP Lawn Service for \$450 per mows & up to three sprays; all ayes motion carried.*
7. **Cleaning bids:** None were turned in and the consensus of the council was to run the ad in the Winthrop, Journal add to the Website to continue the search for a contracted cleaning company to clean the community center quarterly.
8. **Resolution 2025-05 – Amending the Agreement Between the Park & Recreation and the City.** After review and discussion of the proposed changes submitted by the park and recreation board, the council felt it should be tabled and a meeting is to be set up between the park and recreation board and the city council to iron out a few details of the agreement for better understanding by both groups.
9. **Fire SOG Update:** *Motioned by Polich and seconded by Reed to approve the 2025 Fire SOG updated; with little discussion, all ayes, motion carried.*
10. **Fire member Dismissal Letter:** Motioned by Polich to approve the fire department's recommendation to dismiss firefighter Wade Karstad for not meeting the minimum attendance requirements. It was amended to add a January 31 deadline to return the pager, the motion as seconded by Hartley; all ayes, motion carried.

**Adjourn:** *Motioned by VanDeest and seconded by Hartley to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 pm; all ayes, motion carried.*

**Next Meeting:** The next council meeting and public hearings will be held on Monday, February 10, 2025 at 7pm, to be held at 791 Main Avenue, Lafayette.

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Sandy Burger – City Clerk- Treasurer

Approved by Council 2/10/2025