

Mayor Tauber called the Park & Recreation workshop to order at 6:00pm on Monday, February 10, 2025, at the Lafayette City Council Chambers, 791 Main Avenue, Lafayette. Present were Mayor Curt Tauber, Councilors: Dave Reed, Tom Polich, Logan VanDeest; Andrew Hartley was absent. Also attending were Clerk/Treasurer Sandy Burger, Utility & Maintenance Superintendent Al Fox, and City Attorney Aaron Walton.

Park & Recreation Board members in attendance were: Heidi Portner, Angie Hartmann, Kayla Campbell, James Henderson, Jessica Henderson and Scott Portner.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Workshop pertaining to the Resolution 2025-05 Agreement Between the City of Lafayette and Lafayette Park and Recreation was discussed. The P&R group wanted clarification in Section 2 of what the initial cleaning by the city consisted of; Fox clarified what they do to open the building. Section 4 the city will supply paper towels, hand soap, toilet paper and toilet bowl cleaner for the bathrooms. The city asks that they notify the city before supplies are needed. Section 9 was discussed as far as weed control and maintenance of the fields after season. Section 10 the date for a P&R wish list for the next year's budget planning is to be submitted to the city clerk by July 1 each year. Section 13 the P&R, if it ever dissolves, would donate any balance of funds to the Lafayette Area Lions. Section 15 was eliminated as the fountain is city property. Section 16 changed the wording to the effective date as being two years from the approval of the agreement. There was discussion for bids for the future fencing and in-kind discounts for volunteer labor. This would be a city project with the help of the park & rec group for funding and possible in-kind labor. There would need to be two sealed bids if the cost falls between \$25,000 up to \$175,000.

Mayor Tauber closed the workshop at 6:52pm and recessed until the 7pm council meeting.

Guests present: Doug Hanson – Winthrop Publications, Residents Jessica Tauber – 551 5th Street, and Nick Klingler – Fire Chief.

Motioned by Polich and seconded by VanDeest to approve the agenda as amended; all ayes, motion carried. A new firefighter application was added to new business #3.

Motioned by Reed and seconded by Polich to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; all ayes, motion carried. Included in the consent agenda were the 1/13/25 council minutes, and 2/5/2025 council Cannabis workshop, bills totaling \$53,127.16, the receipts totaling \$60,899.05. The treasurer's report including the bank reconciliation for January, the 2025 payrolls 2, 3 and LV council electronic reimbursement. Resolution 2025-06 February Donations including; \$10,000 from the Lions for the Playground Equipment bonds, C&A Thoreson \$500 to the Ambulance Fund, P&N Eckstein \$300 to the Fire Fund, L&K Thoreson \$200 split to the Fire & Ambulance funds and R Eckstein \$50 to the Fire Department Fund. Council denied the CUP incomplete application from Roberson and approved the Fog Youth request to use the fire hall for ham bingo.

Reports:

Fox: Submitted his written report and highlighted information of monthly reports and projects and of the MPCA PFAS new mandates and testing schedules.

Burger: Submitted a written report and highlighted that gWorks was pushed back to the week of July 14, 2025. Pay Equity passed compliance, next report is in three years. Let council know of a dog attack that was reported to the county over the weekend.

Tauber: Attended the first meeting via of the Nicollet County Hazardous Mitigation Plan with Fox & Moldan.

Reed-Tauber: Attended the RS Fiber JPB workshop. They discussed township growth, RS representative said there is no capital for expansion, but will take it to the executive board to look into air verses fiber for the townships. If they pursue the sale, they would look to have the cities repaid.

Klingler: Polar Plunge raised \$6,000 for the MN Special Olympics, Rural Farm Board meeting February 12. He and fox will go through an ISO review. Last time the city was at a 7, on a 1-10 scale and ten being the worst. Fire Relief is holding the annual ham dinner on March 30th.

VanDeest: Attended the newly elected foundational training, he learned a lot and made connections with other new council members

Unfinished Business:

1. **Utility Updates: RO:** EPA Grant on hold until state funding comes through. Mayor & he will attend Day on the Hill. Senator Frentz has entered a bill to the senate. Representative Schwartz intends to submit a similar bill to the house. She will be here for a visit with Fox and Mayor Tauber on Friday, February, 14, 2025. Will need to resubmit the Intended Use Plan (IUP) **MPCA:** New monitoring for Ammonia will be included in the next permit. Fox is working with the lab on these and plan to do a preliminary sample before the permit comes. **Stormwater Grant:** nothing new from last month. **STREAMS:** The tech team met on 2/3 to verify anticipated rates structure for all participants. On 2/5 they met with Bill Dunn from the Public Facilities Authority (PFA) for an overview of the STREAMS project, funding opportunities and procedures. Cities should have their own chapter and applications under the STREAMS project. The purpose to have the separate applications is it would open up grant opportunities per city verses just one for the STREAMS project. Submittals and deadlines were discussed and the first step is to get on the PFA Project Priority List (PPL), the due date is March 7, 2025. **Motioned by Polich and seconded by VanDeest to give Fox the permission to submit the PPL application for our grant opportunities; with no further discussion all ayes, motion carried.**
2. **Ord. 150 - An Electrical Franchise Agreement :** **Motioned by Reed and seconded by VanDeest to pass and approve the second reading; all ayes, motion carried.** The Resolution for Summary Publication will be on the March agenda.
3. **Resolution 2025-05 City- P&R Agreement:** With no further discussion, **there was a motion by Polich and seconded by VanDeest to approve Resolution 2025-05 Agreement Between the City and the Lafayette Park & Recreation as amended; all ayes, motion carried.**

New Business:

1. **Audit:** Sara Oberloh, of Oberloh & Oberloh, Ltd. was on hand to walk the council through the 2024 Annual Financial Report. The General Fund unassigned balance is at 70.2% of the subsequent year's budgeted disbursements, for a city of our size the guideline is 50 to 75%, so the city currently is right on target. **Motioned by Reed and seconded by Polich to approve the 2024 Audit Annual Financial Report, with no further discussion, all ayes, motion carried.**
2. **Cleaning bids:** None were turned in. The company who did a trial a few years back responded after the due date. Burger advised him to submit a proposal that she would bring to the next council meeting.
3. **New Firefighter:** Scott Foster is on the NUFD, but works in our area, he will need no training and would be willing to attend all meetings and drills as required. The fire department approved him on February 3, 2025. **Motioned by Polich and seconded by Reed to approve the hiring of Scott Foster, all ayes, motion carried.** Approval of an application of another NUFD member was tabled to March until the fire department approves of them.
4. **Utility Software:** Burger shared with council the utility billing onboarding was moved back now to July. She and Fox had watched demos of a couple of companies and the comparisons were Munibilling a \$5700 up front changeover cost and \$2,572.68 annual and Current UB \$1500 upfront and \$4250 annually. Burger recommended council approve moving forward with Munibilling. **Motioned by Reed and seconded by Polich to change the utility billing program to Munibilling, with no further discussion all ayes, motion carried.**
5. **Ord. 151 Amending the Zoning Code Regarding Cannabis Businesses:** After the 2/5 workshop, city attorney Walton updated the State's model ordinance to fit the consensus of the council and presented it for the first reading. There was no further discussion **Polich motion to accept the first reading and set the public hearing for the March 10, 2025 council meeting. VanDeest seconded the motion; all ayes, motion carried.** Burger will publish and post the notice and post the ordinance on the Ordinance tab of the website and have a copy available for public viewing.

Adjourn: **Motioned by VanDeest and seconded by Reed to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 pm; all ayes, motion carried.**

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