



Public Meetings

City Council

Monday, June 26, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Planning Commission

Monday, June 19, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Design Review

Monday, June 26, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Arts & Science Discovery Center,
3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

School Board Meetings

Acalanes Union High School District
Wednesday, June 28, 7 p.m.
AUHSD Board Room
1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette
www.acalanes.k12.ca.us

Lafayette School District

Wednesday, June 21, 7 p.m.
Regular Board Meeting
District Office Board Room
3477 School St., Lafayette
www.lafsd.k12.ca.us

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

City of Lafayette:

www.ci.lafayette.ca.us
Phone: (925) 284-1968

Chamber of Commerce:

www.lafayettechamber.org



Lafayette Police Department Incident Summary Report

May 21 - June 3

- Alarms** 69
- 911 Calls (incl hang-ups)** 5
- Noise complaints** 18
- Traffic stops** 143
- Suspicious Circumstances** 13
- Suspicious Subjects** 35
- Suspicious Vehicles** 30
- Service to Citizen** 39
- Abandoned Vehicle**
 - 3700 Block Sundale Rd.
 - Mariposa Rd./Mountain View Dr.
 - Palo Alto Dr./Toledo Dr.
 - Silverado Dr./Hartwood Ct.
 - 400 Block Block Silverado Dr.
 - 1st St./Moraga Blvd.
- Animal Cruelty**
 - 3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
 - 900 Block S Thompson Rd.
- Auto Burglary**
 - 10 Block Greenvally Dr.
 - Pleasant Hill Rd./Wb Sr 24
 - 3300 Block Springhill Rd.
 - 3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
 - 900 Block East St.
- Battery**
 - Buchan Dr./Old Tunnel Rd.
- Beat Info**
 - Wb Sr 24 At 1st St.
- Civil Problem**
 - 800 Block Reliez Station Rd.
 - 1000 Block Aileen St.
 - 800 Block Mountain View Dr.
- Commercial Burglary**
 - 1000 Block Dewing Ave
- Counterfeit**
 - 3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
- Defraud Innkeeper**
 - 3200 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
- Disturbing The Peace**
 - 3300 Block Springhill Rd.
 - 3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
 - 3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
 - Brookwood Park
- DUI Misdemeanor**
 - 3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)
 - 3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
 - 30 Block Lafayette Cr.
- Elder Abuse**
 - 3400 Block Lana Ln.
- Fire/Ems Response Info**
 - 3800 Block Palo Alto Dr.
 - 1000 Block Miller Dr.
 - 1200 Block Pleasant Hill Rd.
- Forgery**
 - 900 Block 4th St.
- Found Adult**
 - 3500 Block Golden Gate Way
- Found Property**
 - 4000 Block Marianne Dr.
 - 3300 Block Springhill Rd.
 - 3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
 - Glenside Dr./St. Marys Rd.
- Fraud False Pretenses**
 - 3300 Block Mildred Ln.
- Grand Theft**
 - 4000 Block Tilden Ln.
- H&S Violation**
 - 3400 Block Moraga Blvd.
- Hailed By Citizen**
 - Moraga Blvd./4th St.
 - 3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
- Harassment**
 - Sunset Loop/Meek Pl.
 - Mt. Diablo Blvd./1st St.
 - 800 Block Revere Rd.
 - 1000 Block Miller Dr.
- Hit And Run Misdemeanor**
 - 3400 Block Moraga Blvd.
 - 3200 Block Stanley Blvd.

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Council takes time to review city manager's contract

By Pippa Fisher



Steve Falk Photo Gint Federas

With City Manager Steve Falk's employment agreement up for renewal, Lafayette City Council members and residents weighed in on the terms of the contract at a recent meeting, resulting in an extension for 120 days, giving enough time to review both performance and the wording of the contract.

Although residents in attendance took the opportunity to raise two areas of concern – performance and the severance package – it became apparent that a couple of the council members also questioned the generosity of the package.

Under current terms Falk has an 18-month severance package, which would add up to \$512,142 including salary and benefits. The city would not have to pay if a termination were due to willful misconduct or felony.

Council Member Cam Burks noted that an 18-month severance package was much higher than typically agreed for other city managers. City Attorney Mala Subramanian explained that 18 months had been arrived at over time, growing incrementally by one month for every year since it was set at six months in 1996 to a maximum of 18 months.

Council Member Ivor Samson agreed with Burks and said that he was concerned with an 18-month severance pay, “notwithstanding the history behind it.”

By comparison, the Walnut Creek city manager has a nine-month severance package, but more typically the length of time is six months, such as is the case for

city managers in San Ramon and Moraga.

Falk says that despite the severance controversy, he is still enthusiastic. He provided a long list of accomplishments from his latest three year term, including his work with Police Chief Eric Christensen and the Crime Prevention Commission to implement crime cameras, body-worn cameras and to convene an Implicit Bias workshop for police, and negotiated to acquire and rebuild a new police station.

He pointed to the development of housing in the downtown, the acquisition of \$2 million in grants for improvement of the BART southern station entrance as well as the negotiations to rebuild Fire Station 16 in western Lafayette, among other accomplishments.

However, those residents that attended the recent city council meeting had a list of their own, citing issues that they say have not been handled fairly, in particular the development of a playground in Leigh Creekside Park, the current controversy surrounding the proposed removal of trees by PG&E and an ongoing investigation by the Fair Political Practices Commission into alleged wrong-doing by Lafayette commissioners, among other complaints.

Council Member Mark Mitchell reminded residents that while he respected their comments, residents should direct their anger over these issues instead to the city council. “The city manager implements the policies of the council,” he pointed out.

Steve Cortese, a Lafayette resi-

dent and principal of the Cortese Investment Company who own La Fiesta Square and Lafayette Mercantile, says that the city manager position is a difficult job. “You balance many different interests and you take heavy fire. I’ve known several city managers throughout the Bay Area and Steve Falk is the best I’ve seen. I really think we’re lucky.”

Cortese continues, “The state of the city is proof of his success. Before Steve became city manager, the downtown was in disrepair and lifeless. He’s managed to reposition our downtown in a relatively short time frame. Now we have a vibrant city and a stable financial picture.”

However as Burks later commented, this meeting was not about performance. Right now, he said it is about “process and structure,” referring to the severance terms and a need for review of legal wording.

The council agreed unanimously to extend the contract as it is for 120 days during which time they will meet to review Falk’s performance and they directed the city attorney to review the contract to make sure it meets current California law before bringing it back at a public meeting towards the end of the summer, at which time the council will hear residents’ comments on the subject.

Falk himself commented, “I have completely enjoyed my 27 years here with the city and hope to serve Lafayette for many, many more. If I continue to work hard and do a great job, the matter of severance will never be an issue and the city won’t pay a dime.”

Rockin’ the Plaza

Young and old alike celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Summer of Love in the first of the Rock the Plaza series of concerts in Lafayette, to be held on Fridays in June. Families spread out their blankets and relaxed to the groovy sounds of San Francisco Airship. Some danced, some jammed after the show around the campfire and others rode the magic bus. — Pippa Fisher

Photo Lafayette Chamber



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