

The only thing at stake in talks this week in La Crosse city hall is the existence of the city's most popular event. Mayor Matt Harter plans to meet with representatives from the Oktoberfest board to work out an agreement on fees that the city wants from the event to offset costs of police overtime. The board thinks the fees are excessive enough that it has suspended planning for its three parades in the fall. Despite that, Harter feels optimistic

The city wants 18 thousand dollars for the Maple Leaf and Torchlight parades. Apparently no charge for the opening day parade, but the organization has put that one hold, anyway.