



# Lucas City Newsletter

**December, 2006**

**newsletter@lucastexas.us**

**151 Country Club Road, Lucas TX 75002 • 972/727-8999 • www.lucastexas.us**

### City Council

- Bob Sanders, Mayor  
(bsanders@lucastexas.us)
- Debbie Fisher, Mayor Pro Tem  
(dfisher@lucastexas.us)
- Tonda Frazier, Councilmember  
(tfrazier@lucastexas.us)
- Bill Carmickle, Councilmember  
(bcarmickle@lucastexas.us)
- Don Zriny, Councilmember  
(dzriny@lucastexas.us)
- Kathleen Peele, Councilmember  
(kpeele@lucastexas.us)

### City Administrator

Charles Fenner  
(cfenner@lucastexas.us)

## Meeting Schedule

**All meetings begin at 7:00 in the City Annex unless otherwise specified.**

City Council Regular

Thurs., Dec. 7

Planning & Zoning

Thurs., Dec. 14

City Council Workshop

No meeting in Dec.

Parks & Open Space

Mon., Dec. 11, 6:00 PM

Municipal Court

Wed., Dec. 13, 2:00 PM

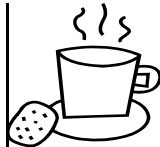


## HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE



You and your families are invited to attend the City of Lucas Annual Holiday Open House .

This years event will be held on Saturday, December 9, from 1:00PM until 4:00PM. The open house will be held at the City annex building. Refreshments will be served, and you will have an opportunity to visit with many of the City staff, as well as your elected officials. If years past are any indication, there likely could be a surprise visit from Santa Claus as well! Bring the kids, and have a wonderful time as we celebrate this holiday season.



## COFFEE WITH COUNCIL

Be sure to make plans to attend the Coffee With Council on Saturday, Dec. 9, from 8:00AM until 10:00AM. Council Members Bill Carmickle and Kathleen Peele will be your hosts for this event. It is your chance to visit with them in an informal setting and discuss your feelings and concerns about our community. Collin County Judge-Elect Keith Self will be a special guest. Please take this important opportunity to meet him and express your opinions about the challenges and issues that are important to you as a resident of Collin County and Lucas.

## RECEPTION HONORING BOARD AND COMMISSION MEMBERS

There will be a reception on Thursday, Dec. 14, from 6:00PM until 7:00PM honoring all members of the various boards and commissions who serve this community in these important volunteer positions. Be sure to drop by to offer your thanks to those who give of their time and knowledge to help make our community an even better place to live. The reception will be in the City Annex building. Immediately after the reception, the December meeting of the Planning & Zoning Commission will be held.

## HAPPY HANUKKAH



Celebration of the Jewish holiday Hanukkah begins at sundown on Friday, Dec. 15 and lasts for eight days. Our best wishes go to all of you who celebrate this holiday of hope and freedom.



**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL FROM YOUR CITY STAFF! CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY , DEC. 25 AND TUESDAY, DEC. 26.**

## **CITY WORKS**

We began the discussion of how City Council meetings are held in last month's newsletter, and are continuing this month with information on agendas. The Mayor is responsible for officially setting each agenda. Council Members may request agenda items, but the Mayor approves their inclusion and order of placement. Although it rarely happens, if a mayor denies a request, then a vote of three council members is needed to override that denial and have the item included.

Each agenda normally opens with the same four items: Call to Order, Roll Call, Determination of Quorum, and, finally, to avoid meeting interruptions, a request for all attendees to silence or turn off phones and pagers.

The next item on the Agenda is normally the Citizen Comments session during which residents are free to speak on any agenda item, or any other subject pertaining to the City. This session was discussed in last month's column.

Staff Reports follow the Citizen Comments. During this part of the agenda, various members of the City staff, including the City Administrator, and the Director of Public Works give the Council updates on various items relating to the day to day operation of the City, as well as status reports on projects completed or ongoing. During this session, the Council and Mayor may ask questions or seek clarification from staff on any items relating to the above.

Our City Attorney generally attends all Council Meetings in order to give guidance and advice as necessary.

The next part of the agenda is known as the Consent Agenda. It is intended for items that likely do not need discussion, or have had previous discussion and just need final approval. Items can be placed there and then approved all in one motion, thus saving time. Any council member can request any of those items be removed for discussion or changes, and any remaining items can then all be approved in a single motion.

The next item that may appear on the agenda, as necessary, is the Public Hearing section. This agenda item is provided for the purpose of allowing citizens to ask specific questions regarding only the subject posted for the Public Hearing. Generally, Public Hearings are required by State Law for certain changes in ordinances, etc. and a record of those attending the Public Hearing is maintained as part of the official record of the proceedings.

The next item on the agenda will usually be either the Regular Agenda or the Workshop Agenda, depending upon the type of meeting being held ( Regular Meeting or Workshop Meeting.)

During the Regular Agenda, all items that relate to the business of running the City may be included. This may range from such things as discussion or action on proposed ordinances, approval of plats or engineering plans, to discussion of various city contracts, as well as any other items necessary to the operation of the City.

Although Workshop Meetings were originally intended as work sessions for the Council for the purpose of gathering a majority or consensus on ideas before proceeding, thus saving the staff's time spent on research and preparation, the growth of the City has necessitated regular work items being sometimes included on the Workshop Agenda.

The Executive Session may appear on an agenda at this point, if necessary. This is the part of the meeting that, by state law, may be conducted in private with only the Council, Mayor, and City Attorney present. Generally, the law allows this session only for certain discussions, such as litigation by or against the City, or certain personnel issues.

After an Executive Session, the Council may reconvene the Regular Agenda to take any action as necessary from the Executive Session.

The final item on the Agenda is Routine Business. During this part of the agenda, discussion and consideration of items to be placed on future agendas is held.

After all of the above Agenda items are discussed, the Mayor will ask for a motion to adjourn, and if the motion is made, seconded , and carried, the meeting is over.

## **HELP OUR FIRE DEPARTMENT**

We are fortunate to have an outstanding volunteer fire department in Lucas. Our thanks go out to these unselfish and caring people who give of their time and efforts to protect us all. The monetary needs of maintaining a top-notch VFD are great. As we approach year end, many of you are looking at your charitable donations for the year. We ask that you strongly consider supporting your VFD by including them on your donation list. As we reported last month, County Commissioner Jerry Hoagland has offered a matching funds donation of up to \$600 against funds raised by our fire department. With your generous donations, we can meet and exceed this goal. Call City Hall for information on how to direct your donation.

# RECYCLING BIN AT HART ELEMENTARY

By Tonda Frazier



The first grade class of Ms. Jill Dwiggins gather materials to be recycled. L-R: Dennis Womack, Lovejoy ISD Assistant Superintendent of Operations; Tonda Frazier, Lucas City Council member; Joe Jaynes, Collin County Commissioner; first grade class of Ms. Dwiggins; Al Breedlove, Hart Elementary Principal; Lynette Droge, Hart PTA Environmental Chair; Jill Dwiggins, Hart First Grade Teacher.

Thanks to County Commissioner Joe Jaynes, we now have a recycling bin at Hart Elementary. It is located at the northwest corner of the building next to the trash container.

The drop off bin is 'single stream' type, meaning you can place paper, cardboard, plastics #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, and #7 (#6 plastic is NOT accepted), metal, and aluminum all together in the bin. IF YOU BAG YOUR RECYCLABLES, PLEASE USE ONLY BLUE OR CLEAR RECYCLING BAGS. White or black or any opaque bag will be rejected at the recycling facility and placed in the landfill. This is for household recycling; industrial type items are not accepted. Please make every effort to follow the guidelines and avoid contamination of the load.

Commissioner Jaynes and I have been working toward getting this in place for well over a year. We are grateful to him and his fellow commissioners for agreeing to purchase the bin and provide the pick up costs for one year.

Additional thanks go to Lovejoy ISD for "hosting" the bin on the Hart campus and monitoring it for us. The location is easily accessible for all citizens. We are also happy to see that the PTA is teaching our Hart kids the importance of recycling under the coordination of Lynette Droge, PTA Environmental Chair.

This is truly a partnership between the City of Lucas, Collin County and Lovejoy ISD and everyone wins.

Curbside recycling is still available through Barnes Waste

Disposal Services on a subscription basis. Contact Barnes Directly or City Hall to sign up if you prefer the convenience of curbside pickup.

I urge everyone to begin recycling if they are not currently doing so. It takes a little effort to get in the habit, but the rewards to the environment are monumental.

## BARNES WASTE DISPOSAL RECYCLING CALENDAR

If you use the subscription service provided by Barnes, the recycling calendar for Dec. 2006 through May 2007 is as follows:

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Dec. 1 and 15</b> | <b>Mar. 2 and 16</b> |
| <b>Jan. 5 and 19</b> | <b>Apr. 6 and 20</b> |
| <b>Feb. 2 and 18</b> | <b>May 4 and 18</b>  |

These dates are on the first and third Friday of each month.

## NOVEMBER CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS

### City Council Meeting November 2, 2006

- Approved minutes (with changes) from October 16, 2006 City Council Workshop Meeting.
- Approved adoption of an ordinance of the City of Lucas amending Ordinance No. 2001-01-02 by updating and adopting Revised Land Use Assumptions, Capital Improvement Plan for Water and Roadway Facilities; providing for amended Service Areas; providing for amended Service Units; amending the Impact Fees for Water and Roadway Facilities; repealing provision in conflict; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.
- Approved agreement between the City of Plano and the City of Lucas for Fire and Emergency Medical Dispatch Services.

### City Council Meeting November 16, 2006

- Approved minutes from November 2, 2006 Regular City Council Meeting.
- Approved resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an amendment to an agreement between the City of Lucas and Linebarger, Groggan, Blair & Sampson, LLP regarding the collection of delinquent taxes.
- Approved revision to Drought Contingency Plan , Section 3.4, moving items (i) and (j.) from Stage 3 to Stage 4.

## DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN UPDATE

At the November 16 City Council Meeting North Texas Municipal Water District Executive Director Jim Parks, and Executive Assistant Mike Rickman gave an excellent presentation on the current status of the ongoing drought. The complete presentation may be viewed through a link on the City web site. The bottom line was that we are unlikely to be out of the Stage 3 Drought Condition any time soon. However, as the hot, dry summer conditions are behind us, City Council made a decision at that meeting to relax the Drought Contingency Plan somewhat by dropping two of it's restrictions from the Stage 3 plan currently in force. The first to be eliminated is item (i) that called for no new pool permits. Pool permitting has now been resumed. The second provision to be eliminated , item (j), prohibited planting of new landscaping. Both of these restrictions remain in the Stage 4 plan. Although the Drought Contingency Plan has been made less restrictive, please remember that we are still in the middle of a serious drought with no end in sight. If we are going to avoid going to the highly restrictive Stage 4, we must all continue to conserve our water very carefully. Without significant rainfall, coupled with continued conservation efforts, NTMWD personnel advised that it is very possible that we could be forced into State 4 status by next spring. For any questions about the amended Drought Contingency Plan, contact City Hall. The complete text of the Drought Contingency Plan is available on the City web site.

## IDENTITY THEFT

Unfortunately, during the holiday shopping season, we are even greater targets for thieves who steal wallets and purses. If you should become a victim, you should immediately call the three national credit reporting organizations to place a fraud alert on your name and SSN. This alert means any company that checks your credit knows your info was stolen, and they have to contact you by phone to authorize new

credit. The numbers you will need to contact are as follows:

- **Equifax 1-800-525-6285**
- **Experian (formerly TRW) 1-888-397-3742**
- **Trans Union 1-800-680-7289**

Be smart, stay alert, and have a safe and happy holiday.

CITY OF LUCAS  
 151 COUNTRY CLUB  
 LUCAS, TEXAS 75002

PRESORTED STANDARD  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 ALLEN TX 75002  
 PERMIT 157

POSTAL PATRON