



The City of Lucas Newsletter

March 2015

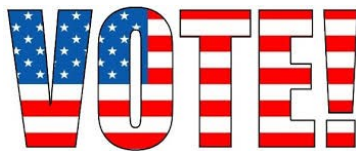
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Mayor's Message By Rebecca Mark

This is the time of year when we start planning for our May elections. This year it is especially important as there are actually 4 seats that are up for election. If you have not already registered to vote, I urge you to do so now. The

City Council is elected to represent the interests of all our residents. In order to have a real impact on the character and future of our city, you MUST participate in this process, and the best way to do that is at the polls. Talk to the candidates, understand where they stand on issues important to you, and let them know how you feel and what is important.



Communicate with all your council members on an ongoing basis. When you hear about an issue that is important to you, or read about it on the City website, or in the newsletter, contact your council members and ask questions and give input. Attend meetings occasionally so that you can gain a better understanding of how the process of governance by council works. This is YOUR city. Tell us how you feel. We are here to serve the citizens of Lucas so if at any time you need information or clarification on any issue, you are encouraged to contact any member of the City Council or City Staff. We will be a better council for it, and you will have a city with a character that more closely reflects what all our residents want.

Member	Position	Email
Rebecca Mark	Mayor	rmark@lucastexas.us
Kathleen Peele	Seat 6, Mayor Pro Tem	kpeelee@lucastexas.us
Wayne Millsap	Seat 1	wmillsap@lucastexas.us
Jim Olk	Seat 2	jolk@lucastexas.us
Steve Duke	Seat 3	sduke@lucastexas.us
Philip Lawrence	Seat 4	plawrence@lucastexas.us
Debbie Fisher	Seat 5	dfisher@lucastexas.us

CORRECTION REGARDING FILING DEADLINE FOR COUNCIL SEAT 2

On **May 9, 2015** the City of Lucas will hold a General and Special Election. The positions that will be on the ballot are the Mayor, Council Seat 3, and Council Seat 4, all with terms expiring in May 2018. Additionally, a Special Election will be held to fill the unexpired term for Council Seat 2. Council Seat 2 became vacant as result of the current Councilmember resigning to run for the position of Mayor. The candidate elected to Seat 2 will serve for the unexpired term which is May 2017.

Openings on the ballot May 9, 2015

- **General Election - Mayor and City Councilmember Seats 3 & 4**
- **Special Election - City Councilmember Seat 2**

Deadline Reminders

- **First day to file for a seat on the ballot** — Jan 28, 2015
- **Last day to file for a place on the ballot in the General Election** — Feb 27 by 5pm
- **Last day to file for a place on the ballot in the Special Election** — Mar 9 by 5pm
- **Election Day** — May 9, 2015

More information and packets can be found on our website at:

<http://www.lucastexas.us>

(Under City Government —> Elections —> General Election Information)



Tuesday, March 17, 2015

Meeting Reminders for March

Date	Time	Description	Notes
Mar 3	7:00 pm	Parks & Open Space Board	City Hall
Mar 5	6:00 pm	City Council	City Hall
Mar 12	7:00 pm	Planning & Zoning	City Hall
Mar 19	7:00 pm	City Council	City Hall

City Council Action Highlights

- * Council terminated a contract between Southwest Securities, Inc. and the City of Lucas for financial advisory services.
- * Council approve the Financial Advisory contract with SAMCO Capital Markets, Inc. and authorize the City Manager to enter into the agreement.
- * Continued presentation and discussions on the possible collector street project. Citizens inputs were heard. Louis Frisbie from Metropolitan Infrastructure will review safety concerns and bring back in the March 19 Council Meeting.

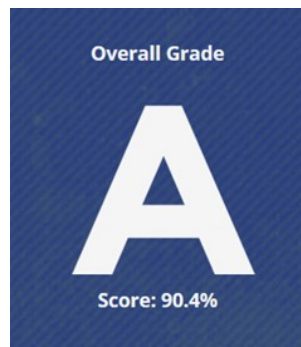
Congressman Sam Johnson's Staff Member to Visit Lucas City Hall

A Staff member from Congressman Sam Johnson's office will be coming to Lucas City Hall on March 25th from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm. Their Mobile Office Hours are an ongoing effort to conveniently provide Collin County constituents with assistance by visiting different communities across North Texas. Appointments are not necessary.

Congressman Johnson's staff can help with federal agency issues, such as Medicare, Veterans Affairs (VA), Home foreclosure, Social Security, and Internal Revenue Service.

In addition, Congressman Johnson's staff can also help with overseas adoptions, provide information regarding trips to Washington, D.C., Offer application guidance to a U.S. Service Academy, assist with Congressional Youth Advisory Council (CYAC) applications, and process requests to have American flags flown over the U.S. Capitol building.

Please be aware that, in order for Congressman Johnson's staff to make inquiries on constituents' behalf, the Privacy Act of 1974 requires a privacy release be signed before the agency is contacted. If you are represented by counsel, their permission to assist with the case is also required. Make sure to bring all relevant documents so staff is able to help you as expediently as possible.



Lucas receives an "A" in Transparency!

As reported in The Dallas Morning News

In a yearlong audit of open government compliance, The Dallas Morning News approached 113 local agencies to determine how well they followed state laws guaranteeing access to information about how taxpayer money is spent and whether they followed best practices, such as those developed by the state Comptroller, in 2014. More than 1 in 5 local government entities assessed scored a "D" or an "F."

Lucas was among the best in the Transparency 2015 ratings. It ranked as excellent in request best practices, excellent in request compliance, poor in web customer service ,and excellent in online meeting notices.

For more on the breakdown of scoring:
<http://labs.dallasnews.com/reportcard/transparency-2015/lucas/>

Employee Spotlight Stacy Henderson – City Secretary



Please join us in welcoming our newest addition to City Hall, Stacy Henderson!

You are invited to attend a reception to meet Stacy on March 5 from 6:00 pm —7:00 pm. (reception begins 1 hour before the Regular City Council Meeting).

Stacy began her career with the City of Farmers Branch in 1990 as the Senior Secretary for the Community Services Department. The Community Services Department consisted of the Building Inspection, Planning, Environmental Health, Animal Services, and Code Enforcement divisions. Stacy was promoted to Office Manager in 2000, and in 2013 became part of the Planning and Economic Development Department. Stacy worked for the City of Farmers Branch for 24 years until joining the City of Lucas in February.

Stacy is a member of the Municipal Clerk's Association of Texas. Stacy is married and has one child. She enjoys scrapbooking, baseball (she's a Rangers fan – Yeah!), and traveling and spending time with her family.

Spring Forward March 8

Daylight Saving Time begins at 2 a.m. on March 8th.

Be sure to set your clocks one hour forward.

This is also a good time to change the batteries in your smoke detectors.



Hunter Education Safety Course

J.D. Smith, on staff with Royal Rangers, will be conducting a Hunter Education Safety Course on March 21 for anyone interested or needing to be certified to hunt in Texas. This course is required for anyone to hunt in Texas if they were born after 1971.

The class will be on held on March 21 beginning at 8 am at Faith Fellowship Church. It is an all-day course, and the cost is \$20 per person and includes lunch.

Before attending the course, you will need to go to the website listed below and complete the free online portion of the class (it will take you approximately 3-4 hours to complete). You will need to print out the test results and bring them with you to class on March 21. **You will not be able to take the class without this document.**

Please send your check or money order payable to "Faith Fellowship" by Tuesday, March 10 to reserve your spot and lunch. If you have any questions you may contact either Gary Bierschwale or Tim Russum at the church office at 972-442-2121.

Official Hunter Safety Education Course

<http://tpwd.texas.gov/education/hunter-education/online-course/hunter-education-online-course>



City of Lucas Outdoor Burning Regulations



The steps you must take before initiating an on-site burning of trees, brush, grass, leaves, branch trimmings, or other plant growth have changed.

Starting in February 2015, instead of calling the Collin County Burn Information line, you will need to check the City of Lucas website first to determine if it is an authorized burn day. Burn Day alerts are shown in the black Alert banner at the top of the page. If it is an authorized burn day, you will first need to obtain a Burn Permit from the City of Lucas. Once you have been issued your burn permit, you will still need to call Plano Dispatch at 972-941-7100 and advise them that you are conducting an outdoor burn. They will record the same information as before (name, address, phone number, and current burn permit number).

Please note that a burn permit is required before burning begins. Burn permits are good for 30 days, cost \$10, and can be obtained at City Hall.

It is important to know and follow safety rules including staying with the fire until it is extinguished.

You can find more information on outdoor burning on our website at: <http://www.lucastexas.us>.

WaterSense Program: Fix a Leak Week

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) has been asked to distribute information about the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) WaterSense Program, *Fix a Leak Week* which takes place March 16-22, 2015. The EPA would also like to invite utilities, water districts, government agencies, non-profit organizations and trade associations to join as a WaterSense Partner by promoting this annual public awareness campaign as well as promoting water efficiency. More helpful information can be found on their website at:

http://www.epa.gov/watersense/our_water/fix_a_leak.html

Storm Water - A Lost Resource

~ Reprinted in part from the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) website

One problem with not allowing rainfall to infiltrate the soil is a lowering of the level of the water that exists in the soil and rock below the ground surface - also known as the groundwater table. Water below the ground, or groundwater, slowly seeps into our streams over a long period of time. This is why many streams continue to flow even when it has not rained for a while. This flow keeps fish and other wildlife alive. If the infiltration of rain water into the ground is cut off by more and more impervious surfaces, the groundwater table can drop and streams can dry up. If the water table drops below the depth of a water supply well, the well can dry up.

The EPA has developed a strategy to promote the management of storm water as a valued water resource, to prevent pollution caused by storm water discharges, and to minimize the damaging effects to streams and public health. Included in the strategy is a new approach to storm water management known as low impact development. This approach has been used in urban and suburban areas for new development and to retrofit existing development. It is based on the concept of managing storm water on the site where it is generated, often by simple structures that allow the water to infiltrate the soil.

What can I do?

- Instead of directing the water from your drain spouts to your driveway, direct it to a rain barrel for later use, or to a grassy area, a french drain, an infiltration trench, or a shallow depression where the water can soak in.
- Mulch and plant a shallow depression or rain garden with some of the many attractive trees, shrubs, and plants that like "wet feet".
- If you already have a wet area on your property, don't fill it in - consider it an asset!
- Instead of paths made of concrete, consider mulch, crushed stone, or other permeable paving materials.
- Reduce the amount of lawn area on your property by replacing it with trees and shrubs in a mulched bed.
- Add organic matter, like composted leaves and grass, to your soil. This will allow the soil to absorb and retain more rain and will benefit your plants also.

CITY OF LUCAS
665 COUNTRY CLUB
LUCAS, TEXAS 75002

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