



The City of Lucas Newsletter

May 2015

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



Mayor's Message By Rebecca Mark

By now most of you know that this will be my last article as your Mayor. For the past four years, it has been an honor for me to serve this wonderful little city as your top elected official, and, before that, as a councilmember. I believe that as

a council, we have accomplished much over the past few years, and I feel privileged to have been a part of that growth.

We have seen our first major commercial development come to fruition, and are thankful for the financial boon that it has provided us. With the added security of the additional revenues, we have been able to expand our fire department to become a true, fully functional emergency services department that provides top notch ambulance and emergency services to all our residents. We have succeeded in expanding our fire station to meet the needs of this increase in services.

We are truly blessed to have outstanding staff who are led by an extremely professional City Manager, Joni Clarke. It has been a pleasure working with all of them, and I appreciate the guidance and education they provided me along the way.

Over the past few years I gained a new understanding of just how important our boards and commissions are to the operation of our City, and greatly appreciate all those who have chosen to serve.

As my husband and I look forward to the next phase in our lives, I know that this City will be well served by our next mayor, Jim Olk, who is running unopposed. He is a true professional and an outstanding advocate for all residents of Lucas. I will be proud to have him as our mayor.

Last, but certainly not least, I have greatly enjoyed serving with my fellow councilmembers. I believe that every one of them cares deeply about this City, and its residents. A variety of views are represented on this Council, and I feel that makes us stronger and gives rise to better ideas. A council needs to represent a cross-section of the residents it represents, as every single resident deserves representatives who consider their needs, and not just those of special interest groups.

It has been an honor. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Memorial Day Thank You

The City of Lucas would like to thank our service men and women and honor those who gave their lives in service to our country.

Important Dates to Remember

- May 9 — Election Day
- May 10 — Mother's Day
- May 25 — Memorial Day observed
(City Hall closed)



Mid-Year Budget Review

The mid-year budget review is scheduled for the council meeting on May 7, 2015. Staff will be providing the City Council with a brief update of accomplishments for the current fiscal year, proposing recommended revisions to the Master Fee Schedule, reviewing revenue projections, providing a summary of expenditures, and also making recommendations regarding budget adjustments.

Election Updates

Early voting is underway for the **May 9, 2015** City of Lucas General and Special Election. City Hall will be open during the dates and times listed below, but eligible voters may vote at any of the early voting polling locations (see dates, times, and links below).



Early Voting Locations:

http://www.co.collin.tx.us/elections/election_information/Pages/early_voting_city_isd.aspx

Voting Day Locations:

http://www.co.collin.tx.us/elections/election_information/Pages/election_day_city_isd.aspx

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 26	April 27	April 28	April 29	April 30	May 1	May 2
	Early Voting 8am-5pm	Early Voting 8am-5pm	Early Voting 8am-5pm	Early Voting 8am-7pm	Early Voting 8am-5pm	Early Voting 8am-5pm
May 3	May 4	May 5	May 6	May 7	May 8	May 9
	Early Voting 7am-7pm	Early Voting 7am-7pm				7am-7pm Election Day!

Meeting Reminders for May

Date	Time	Description	Notes
May 7	7:00 pm	City Council	City Hall
May 14	7:00 pm	Planning & Zoning	City Hall
May 18	8:00 am	Special Meeting City Council	City Hall
May 21	7:00 pm	City Council	City Hall
May 26	7:00 pm	Parks & Open Space Board	City Hall

Preparing for Severe Weather

The City of Lucas does not have an outdoor warning system. Sirens are typically used and are designed to alert those who are outside that something dangerous is approaching. For alerts indoors, every home and business should have a NOAA Weather Radio All-Hazards. NOAA Weather Radio is like a smoke detector for severe weather and can wake you up when a warning is issued for your area so you can take appropriate action.

When a severe thunderstorm is imminent or already occurring in your area, it's time to put your plan into action.

If You're in a Building

- Make sure you have a portable radio, preferably a NOAA Weather Radio, for weather alerts and updates.
- Seek shelter in the lowest level of your home such as a basement or storm cellar. If you don't have a basement, go to an inner hallway, a smaller inner room, or a closet.
- Keep away from all windows and glass doorways.
- Cover your head and eyes with a blanket or jacket.

If You're Outside

- Get inside a building and see notes above.
- Avoid buildings with long-span roof.
- If you cannot find a place to go inside, crouch next to a strong structure, or lie flat in a ditch or other low-lying area. Cover your head and neck with your arms or a jacket.

If You're in a Car

- Stop the car (but leave it running), and crouch down.
- A long-standing safety rule has been to get out of the car and into a ditch. If you do that, you should get far enough away from the car that it doesn't tumble onto you. Being below the prevailing ground level may shield you from some of the tornado wind and flying debris
- Do NOT get out of a vehicle and climb up under the embankment of a bridge or overpass.

Preparing for Severe Weather - continued

If You're in a Mobile Home

- Do not remain in a mobile home during a tornado.
- Heed all local watches and warnings, and leave your mobile home to seek shelter as quickly as possible before a tornado strikes.
- If no shelter is immediately available, find the lowest-lying area near you and lie down in it, covering your head with your arms or a jacket.

Know Your Terms

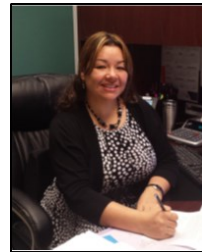
Severe Thunderstorm or Tornado Watch: Conditions are favorable for the development of severe thunderstorms and/or multiple tornadoes in and around the watch area. People in the affected areas are encouraged to be vigilant in preparation for severe weather.

Severe Thunderstorm Warning: Issued when a severe thunderstorm has been observed by spotters or indicated on radar, and is occurring or imminent in the warning area.

Tornado Warning: Spotters have sighted a tornado or one has been indicated on radar, and is occurring or imminent in the warning area. When a tornado warning has been issued, people in the affected area are strongly encouraged to take cover immediately.

Employee Spotlight

Linezka Maduro, Purchasing Coordinator / Finance Assistant



Linezka began working for the City of Lucas in June of 2013 as a part time employee assisting with Municipal Court administration. She is from Venezuela where she earned her Bachelor's Degree in Law. Linezka is fluent in Spanish and assists with interpretation for the court when needed, and is instrumental in translating documents

for city projects.

Linezka is now a full time employee and is responsible for Purchasing, Bank Reconciliations, Fixed Assets, Capital Projects, and assists the Finance Director with budgeting and other financial duties. She also provides backup support for Utility Billing.

Linezka is married and has four children, one dog, five fish, and two geckos. She enjoys spending time with her children, playing soccer with her husband, and painting. In addition to all this, she volunteers with the Allen ISD, and with her daughter's Girl Scout troop. Linezka is pleasant, cheerful, and always willing to help others. The City of Lucas is very fortunate to have a wonderful employee like Linezka on our team.

Comprehensive Plan — Your Chance to Help Shape the Future of Lucas

By: Peggy Rusterholtz, Joe Hilbourn, & Louis Frisbee

Municipalities formulate and adopt Comprehensive Plans as a guide for planning and development decisions for the city's growth. Through this process, the community assesses what it has currently, what it would like to see in the future, and then how to implement the decisions made. In addition to defining the land use for residential, business and public uses, the Comprehensive Plan encompasses all facets of the city including parks, roads, and water/public utilities.

The first Comprehensive Plan formulated in the 1980's by a panel of citizens and adopted by the City Council, has guided the City forward through many years of development. However as time rolls on, development forecasts change and the Comprehensive Plan should be reviewed to assure it reflects the citizens desires for future developments. The last update was in 2004 and it is time for it to be revisited to provide development guidance for the next 10 plus years.

The first step in this process started March 21, 2015 with a workshop attended by the members of the City Council, Planning and Zoning Commission, the Parks and Open Space Board, and City Staff including City Manager Joni Clarke, Development Services Director Joe Hilbourn, and City Engineer Stanton Forester. In addition the city's consultant, Louis Frisbie, PE of Metropolitan Infrastructure made a presentation expanding the elements to be considered to include population and socioeconomic conditions, land use and growth management, transportation, parks and open space, economic development, housing, stormwater management and water infrastructure.

As a result of the workshop meeting, it was determined to kick off the process with the Planning and Zoning Commission conducting a Public Meeting to solicit citizen input. The Planning and Zoning Commission is an advisory board appointed by the City Council that is responsible for hearing, recommending and or determining matters relating to subdivisions, site plans, property plats, and zoning requests as well as being the stewards of the Subdivision and Zoning regulations and the Comprehensive Plan. The Board is comprised of five members and two alternates who serve a 2 year term. Currently, the five Board members include Peggy Rusterholtz (Chairman), David Keer (vice-chairman), Brian Blythe, Andre Guillemaud, and Joe Williams, and alternates Scott Sperling and Kevin Wier. Mayor Rebecca Mark serves as Council Liaison.

The first Public Meeting will be held May 14, 2015 at 7 pm at the Lucas City Hall. At subsequent Planning and Zoning meetings (held the 2nd Thursday of every month), the Comprehensive Plan will be on the agenda for discussion until an updated recommendation is formulated. During the process, additional Public Meetings will be conducted for citizen input. Once the Comprehensive Plan has been updated, the recommendation will be presented to the Lucas City Council for consideration and approval.

Citizen input and involvement is key to the success of this planning tool for the City. Please attend one of the meetings or submit written input that will be included in the process to the City Secretary, Stacy Henderson by email (shenderson@lucastexas.us) or via postal mail at City of Lucas, 665 Country Club Rd, Lucas, TX 75002.

City Council Action Highlights

- * Approved Ordinance 2015-02-00811 amending the Code Of Ordinances, Chapter 2 titled "Animal Control" .
- * Approved Ordinance 2015-01-00808 amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 3 titled "Building Regulations" by adding a new Article 3.19 titled "Fencing Requirements".
- * Approved the Lucas Volunteer Firefighter Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP). This is an IRS Qualified Retirement Program that the City is offering its Volunteer Firefighter/EMT's who are instrumental in providing emergency services to our citizens.
- * Approved Mutual Aid Contracts to assist with a fire emergency, if needed, between the City of Lucas Fire Rescue and the Cities of Allen, Wylie, McKinney, Murphy, Princeton, the Branch Volunteer Fire Department and the Lowry Crossing Volunteer Fire Department.

City Council Action Highlights — continued

- * Approved safety enhancements to the Collector Street Projects for the east and west bridges on Blondy Jhune and the reverse curve on Winningkoff Road, and issue Certificates of Obligation in an amount not to exceed \$2 million.
- * Approved an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Lucas and the Seis Lagos Utility District regarding the provision of fire and emergency medical services commencing October 1, 2015.

National Wildfire Community Preparedness Day

Join us for National Wildfire Community Preparedness Day on Saturday, May 2, 2015 from 10 am – 1 pm at the Lucas Community Park located next to City Hall. Learn what you can do to create a defensible space around your property, and how to be *Ready, Set, Go!* It will be fun for the whole family with games, fire extinguisher demonstrations, refreshments, and more. The kids can meet **Smokey Bear**, and get to see the Lucas Fire Rescue brush truck!

Water Conservation... the New Normal

The recent rains have brought visible relief to the water levels in Lavon Lake. The area grounds have replenished their water supply, and each spring shower adds hope to the relief of dangerously low water supplies for the summer. However, the drought has not officially ended. It is still important to maintain our conservative water usage to ensure adequate water for summer's hot, dry months.

Our water supplier, North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD), has released the following statement: " North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) water supply reservoirs have reached sufficient levels and capacities to allow the District to ease watering restrictions earlier than previously planned. Beginning May 1, 2015, NTMWD will terminate all drought stages and will implement its Water Conservation Plan that limits landscape watering to no more than two days per week, and **only if needed.**" Despite eased restrictions, twice per week watering may not be necessary, especially based on typical May rainfall.

NTMWD has several projects that will increase the water supply they provide to this growing area. The Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir project is in the final stages of permitting and land acquisition. Contracts have been approved for dam design and other vital parts of the lake construction. Their goal is to begin delivering water from the Reservoir during the year 2020. Another important water supply being developed is the East Fork Wetlands. Information on all projects and the strategies employed to provide adequate water for the region may be found on their website NTMWD.com

It is important for Lucas residents to do their part. This includes:

- Water lawns and landscaping only when it is needed;
- Choose drought tolerant plants and grasses;
- Check and repair all leaks;
- If you suspect a waterline leak, report it to the city promptly.



Be mindful of personal water use and don't waste this vital resource.

The new norm for all of us is conservation.

CITY OF LUCAS
665 COUNTRY CLUB
LUCAS, TEXAS 75002

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ALLEN TX 75002

POSTAL PATRON