



The City of Lucas Newsletter

September 2015

665 Country Club Road - Lucas Texas - 75002 • 972.727.8999 • www.lucastexas.us



Mayor's Message

By Jim Olk

Over the past couple of months City Staff prepared a budget to present to City Council. So far, the City Council has had several meetings and one public hearing on the proposed budget.

As presented, the proposed budget maintains all the existing services provided to the residents of Lucas with a few additions. It maintains the existing tax rate of .320661 per \$100 of property value. Although, when calculated out the proposed tax rate is actually an increase in the "effective tax rate" (the amount of money collected from taxes) of 8.36% because of the increase in our property values. With this increase, the proposed budget reflects three additional fire department employees, and it is proposed that the street maintenance budget be increased to \$750,000, which is a 33% increase for street maintenance.

The increase in the street maintenance budget will not however eliminate the need to pursue General Obligation Bonds to address our Neighborhood Connector Streets. The last estimate that was submitted to the City Council listed Neighborhood Connector repairs and reconstruction at just over \$23 million dollars. City Council is very concerned about the amount and how that will impact our residents long term. The Neighborhood Connector bond will be on the May 2016 ballot for consideration.

The second public hearing on the 2015-2016 fiscal year proposed budget will be at the City Council meeting at 6:00 pm on September 3rd, 2015. If you have any comments or suggestions regarding the budget, you can attend the meeting, or email me at jolk@lucastexas.us, or email any City Council member, or email our City Manager Joni Clarke at jclarke@lucastexas.us.

Public Hearing Scheduled for September 3

A public hearing to consider the FY 2015-2016 budget and tax rate will be heard by the City Council on September 3, 2015 at 6:00 pm. Council will make their final decision regarding the FY15-16 budget and tax rate at the City Council meeting on September 17, 2015.

Neighborhood Connector Project

At the August 6 City Council meeting, council directed staff to acquire additional engineering data to further refine cost estimates. Louis Frisbee of Metropolitan Infrastructure and Public Works Director/City Engineer, Stanton Foerster will be gathering geo-technical information and traffic data, and will provide a presentation of their findings at a future City Council meeting.

Annual Street Maintenance

The annual street maintenance program is scheduled to begin September 2015. The City's contractor, APAC, will be recycling in place the existing asphalt, followed by a 3 inch asphalt overlay.

Firewise Insurance Discount

The Departments of Insurance have approved filings by USAA to give homeowner insurance discounts to USAA members living in communities recognized by the Firewise Communities/USA® program. This discount applies to policies issuing or renewing on or after June 30, 2015.

In 2012, The City of Lucas became the 57th recognized Firewise Community in Texas. The Firewise Communities program has to be renewed annually. You can help us maintain Firewise Community status by visiting <http://www.lucastexas.us/FormCenter/Firewise-10/Firewise-Hours-55>, and entering any hours and/or money you spend making your property Firewise safe. Please contact Bobette Mauck at bmauck@lucastexas.us if you have any questions about the Firewise Communities program.

Fire Station Grand Opening and Annual Open House Celebration

Sunday, October 4, 2015 1:00 pm



Meeting Reminders for September

Date	Time	Description	Notes
Sept 3	6:00 pm	City Council	City Hall
Sept 7		City Hall Closed	Labor Day
Sept 10	7:00 pm	Planning & Zoning	City Hall
Sept 17	7:00 pm	City Council	City Hall
Sept 22	7:00 pm	Parks & Open Space Board	City Hall

City Council Action Highlights

- Selected BrooksCardiel, PLLC to conduct the City's annual audit for Fiscal Year 14-15, with an option to renew for four years.
- Approved the Street Maintenance list and authorized the Mayor to proceed with an APAC agreement for asphalt placement and roadway milling in an amount not to exceed \$696,118.

Lucas Welcomes Starbucks

Lucas residents will now be able to get their coffee fix closer to home. Starbucks opened for business on Tuesday, August 25, and will be serving their tasty brews 7 days a week. Their convenient hours of operation are Monday - Saturday 5am - 10pm, and Sunday 6am-9pm.

Starbucks is proud to be a part of the Lucas area, and a part of our community! Store Manager, Karen Wright looks forward to meeting you, and invites you to stop by and enjoy a cup of your favorite Starbucks drink.



Founders Day 2015

Bring the family to Lucas Community Park and join the fun on October 24, 2015 beginning at 12:00

Schedule of Events

Time	Event	Location
12:00	National Anthem	Stage
12:05	Parade Begins	Hart Elementary
12:00 – 5:00	Founders Day Historical Display	Community Building
12:00 – 5:00	Chili Cook-off Taste Testing	Booth Area
12:05 – 12:30	Andy Peele & Company	Stage
12:30	Lunch Begins	Pavilion
12:30 – 1:00	Piper Byers	Stage
1:00 – 1:30	Sunni & Buddy Band	Stage
1:30 – 3:00	Stick Horse Rodeo	Park Area
1:30 – 2:00	Parade Winners Announced Service Tree Awards Announced	Stage
1:30 – 2:00	Paris & Arden from the Youth Priest Band Creekwood Methodist Church	Stage
2:00 – 2:30	Creekwood Methodist Church Band (tentative)	Stage
2:30 – 3:45	Costume Contest	Stage
3:45 – 4:15	Raffle Ticket Winners Announced Scarecrow Contest Winners Announced Chili Cook-off Winners Announced	Stage
4:15 – 5:00	Trick or Treat Trail	Booth Area

Activities

Time	Event	Location
12:00 – 3:30	Raffle Ticket Sales	Welcome Booth
12:00 – 4:00	Face Painting/Balloon Maker	Booth Lane
12:00 – 4:00	Costume Characters	Throughout Park
12:00 – 5:00	Craft Booths	Booth Lane
12:00 – 5:00	Bounce Houses & Conk the Crow Game	Park Area
1:00 – 4:00	Dunk Booth	Park Area
1:00 – 4:00	Fire Hose Demo	Park Area

City of Lucas 1st Annual SCARECROW CONTEST & TOUR



Scarecrow
Decorating
Contest for...

Families
Individuals
Businesses
Youth Groups and
Church Groups

Registration begins September 15th, and ends October 19th

Complete contest/tour details and entry forms available at www.lucastexas.us

Separate judging for Family/Individual, Business, and Group Organizations

Prizes will be awarded at our Founders Day Celebration on October 24, 2015

Have questions? - email kpatterson@lucastexas.us

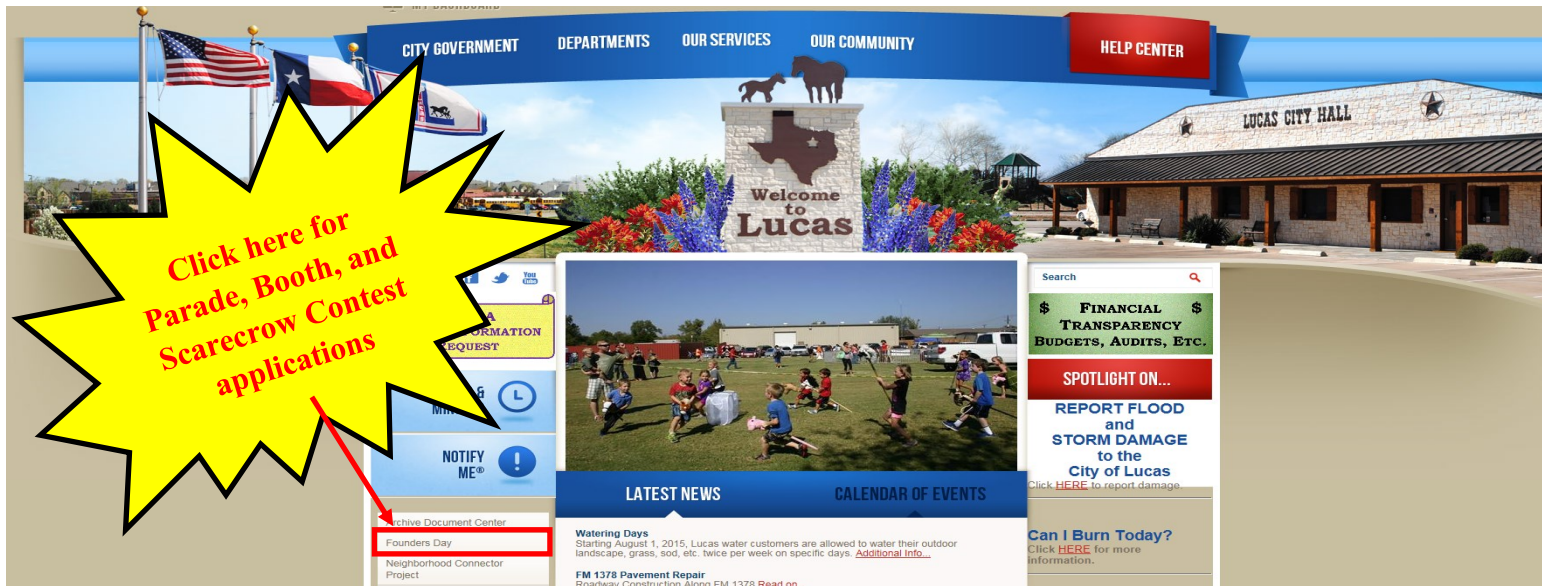


September 7, 2015

City Hall Closed

Founders Day Welcomes You To Lucas Past

The City of Lucas will host a display of pictures and information of the community leaders and families who helped shape the Lucas we know today. Come read their stories, learn significant historical facts, and talk to a few people who have called Lucas their home for generations. Displays will feature our namesake, Gabe Lucas and why the community bears his name, information about the original Lucas area schools, exhibits of material collected by our former Lucas Historical Committee, as well as pictures from the City archives. Be sure to stop by our new Community Building for a glimpse of Lucas past!



2015 City of Lucas Founders Day

When: Saturday, October 24, 2015
Time: 12:00—5:00
Where: Lucas Community Park
 (next to City Hall)

Applications for booths and parade registration, and for the Scarecrow contest can be found on the City's website at <http://www.lucastexas.us/>.

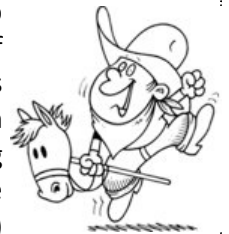
Volunteers: Our annual Founders Day event would not be possible without the support of our amazing and awesome volunteers. Volunteering is a great way to have fun and to meet your neighbors. It is an excellent way for Boy/Girl Scouts or church organizations to participate, and for high school students to gain service hours. To sign up to work for the day or for just a few hours, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Rebecca Mark at lucasvolunteers@aol.com, or 972-569-7360.

Parking: Carpooling to the event is encouraged. Parking at City Hall will be limited to vendors and volunteers. Parking for parade participants will be at Hart Elementary. Additional parking will be at Little Harts Day Care.

Parade: The Lucas Founders Day Parade is one of the favorite events of the day for everyone. Applications are being accepted for participation in the parade. For more info, please contact Planning Coordinator Donna Bradshaw at dbradshaw@lucastexas.us.

Booths: Applications are being accepted for Arts & Crafts, Service Organizations, Non-Profit, and Commercial booths. Booths are free of charge, however we do require that you agree to participate in the "Trick or Treat Trail" by bringing 10 pounds of candy to help provide the children with a great experience. For more info, please contact Booth Coordinator Valerie Turnbow at vturnbow@lucastexas.us.

Stick Horse Rodeo: The Stick Horse Rodeo is one of the most popular events of Founders Day. Participants of this year's rodeo are encouraged to come dressed in cowboy/cowgirl costumes, and to bring their own stick horses if available. The Rodeo action starts with registration (free) and getting a number on your back just like real rodeo cowboys. The first event is the *Grand Entry* where all rodeo participants will ride the arena to display their groomed horses and fine western attire. Prizes will be awarded to best dressed cowboy & cowgirl. Then it's on to the *Stampepe*, *Boot Scramble*, and *Barrel Racing* where participants competing by age group, have the opportunity to win 1st, 2nd or 3rd place. Completing the rodeo this year is the team *Pig Penning* event. A Stick Horse Stable is available for those cowpokes without a mount of their own. Guaranteed fun, laughter, and photo opportunities for the entire family!



Costume Contest: Everyone enjoys seeing the little one's having fun dressed up in their Halloween costumes. This year's contest will be broken into 3 age groups, 0-4, 5-8, and 9-12, and will be separated into boys/girls. Judges will be selecting the best costume from each category, and prizes will be awarded to the winners.

Scarecrow Contest: New to this year's fun will be the Scarecrow Competition. Lucas residents are encouraged to register, and create a scarecrow display at their home or business location. Prizes will be awarded in each of two categories: individual and organization. Prizes will be awarded for 1st Place - \$30, 2nd Place - \$25 and 3rd Place - \$20.

- Registration is free and limited to Lucas residents
- Registration begins September 15, and ends October 19
- Scarecrow judging will be October 20-22
- The theme is "Scare" or "Crow"



Additional Watering Around Foundations is Allowed

By North Texas Municipal Water District

The hot, dry weather conditions in north Texas lately is causing the soil around the foundations of many area homes to dry out, contract, and pull away from homes which can cause foundation problems. While the conservation plan allows for up to twice per week landscape watering using automatic sprinkler systems to maintain a healthy lawn, the amount of water needed around foundations could be different than for lawns and gardens.

“Customers served by the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) are encouraged to use soaker hoses or drip irrigation systems to properly water home foundations,” said Denise Hickey, water conservation manager at the North Texas Municipal Water District. Officials with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Dallas have tips for the proper set-up and use of soaker hoses and drip irrigation systems.

“Soaker hoses or drip irrigation systems should be set-up at least 8 inches from the foundation, and water should be allowed to drip slowly,” said Patrick Dickinson, Water Conservation Specialist with Texas A&M Agrilife. “Visually inspect the soil near the foundation, and also use a moisture meter. Be careful not to overwater.”

Another way to help maintain the soil moisture around your foundation is to use mulch such as bark or compost. Mulch significantly helps reduce moisture evaporation from soil.

For more information about the proper use of soaker hoses for foundations visit http://dallas.tamu.edu/media/75260/protecting_foundations_under_dry_conditions.pdf.

Outdoor Watering Schedule

Starting August 1, 2015, Lucas water customers are allowed to water their outdoor landscape twice per week on specific days. The first watering day per week is the same day as the customer’s trash collection day. The second watering day per week is three days after the customer’s trash collection day.

Residential Watering Schedule

First Watering Day	Second Watering Day
(your trash day)	(three days later)
Monday	Thursday
Tuesday	Friday
Wednesday	Saturday
Thursday	Sunday
Friday	Monday

If you are a school or commercial establishment, your watering days are Tuesday and Friday.

Customers are only allowed to water on their watering days. These water days are based on the capacity of the city system and fire protection requirements. Please water on your days only if lack of rainfall requires watering.

NO WATERING IS ALLOWED BETWEEN 10 AM AND 6 PM ON ANY DAY OF THE WEEK.

If you have any questions, contact our Utility Billing Coordinator at 972-727-8999.

CITY OF LUCAS
665 COUNTRY CLUB
LUCAS, TEXAS 75002

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ALLEN TX 75002

POSTAL PATRON