



Lucas City Newsletter

April 2013

newsletter@lucastexas.us

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

City Council

- Rebecca Mark, Mayor
(rmark@lucastexas.us)
- Kathleen Peele, Mayor Pro Tem (6)
(kpeelee@lucastexas.us)
- Wayne Millsap, Councilmember (1)
(wmillsap@lucastexas.us)
- Jim Olk, Councilmember (2)
(jolk@lucastexas.us)
- Steve Duke, Councilmember (3)
(sduke@lucastexas.us)
- Philip Lawrence, Councilmember (4)
(plawrence@lucastexas.us)
- Debbie Fisher, Councilmember (5)
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City Manager

Jeff Jenkins
(jjenkins@lucastexas.us)



THOUGHTS FROM THE MAYOR

You may recall that back in January I wrote that the City was working with State Rep. Jodie Laubenberg to ask our legislature to amend the current Local Government Code dealing with the creation of a “Fire Control, Prevention, and Emergency Services District.”. The current code requires a city to have a population in excess of 25,000 in order to form such a district, whereas our request is to have that figure reduced to a population of 5000.

The creation of such a district allows cities to use designated sales taxes to help fund emergency services, rather than rely entirely on property taxes. Rep. Laubenberg filed House Bill 339, and is working diligently to help get it passed. Rep. Laubenberg is making a request of the Chairman of Urban Affairs for a public hearing on the bill.

Once the bill makes it through the House, the bill will need to have a Senate sponsor and we are hopeful that our Senator, Ken Paxton, will step up and support the bill. There is also a process that potentially could allow the bill to be a local one, possibly affecting only cities in Collin County.

Our lobbyist, former State Rep. Fred Hill is tracking the entire process on our behalf to make sure the proposed legislation gets fair consideration.

I want to make it perfectly clear that passage of this bill only gives us the flexibility to take another option to you, our voting residents, for funding emergency services. Any decision as to whether or not we form such a district is entirely based upon taxpayer approval as any proposal to utilize a sales tax for this purpose requires a proposition to be voted upon by City residents. State law allows cities to collect a 1% general sales tax and up to 1% for specific purposes. Many cities use the “specific purposes” portion of the tax to form economic development corporations. The City of Lucas currently uses .25% sales tax for street maintenance, and another .25% to reduce property taxes, leaving a potential additional .50% that could be repurposed to use for fire and emergency services, if the taxpayers so desire, and the bill to allow it is passed in the legislature.

We will keep you informed as this progresses.

All meetings begin at 7:00 PM unless otherwise specified.

City Council Regular
Thursday, Apr 4

Planning & Zoning Commission
Thursday, Apr 11

Municipal Court
Wednesday, Apr 17, 3:30 p.m.

City Council
Thursday, Apr 18

@CityofLucas



City of Lucas





Left to Right: Nick Harrison, Texas Forest Service, Mayor Rebecca Mark, Fire Chief Jim Kitchens

The City of Lucas becomes the 57th Firewise Community in Texas!

The Lucas Firewise application was submitted and approved! The City of Lucas became the 57th Firewise Community in Texas and the very first Firewise Community in Collin County on January 16, 2013.

We need your help! The Firewise Communities has to be renewed annually. The cost of becoming/maintaining a Firewise Community is \$2.00 per capita, which can be offset by volunteer hours. Any time citizens spend working in and around their homes and yards to reduce the risk of wildfire can count toward the cost. So, please keep track of the time and any cost incurred when you are having working done around your home and in your yard to create a defensible space.

The Firewise Communities board is planning many activities for the upcoming year. Upcoming events will be posted on the Lucas Fire Department website and/or the City of Lucas website/Facebook.

The Firewise Communities program was created in 1986 in response to the destruction of homes due to wildfires. In the fall of 2002, the National Firewise Communities/USA Recognition Program was established. There are now over 800 Firewise Communities within the United States.

The Firewise Communities program teaches residents about the hazards of wildfire in the wildland urban interface, and how to take simple steps to create a defensible space around their homes. A home ignition zone has 3 zones. Some things homeowners can do to reduce the risk of destruction to their home due to a wildfire is to remove dead leaves/pine needles that are left on roofs, deck and in gutters; storing firewood away from the home, remove “ladder” fuels by trimming the lower branches from trees and shrubs.

To find out more about the Firewise Communities program and what you can do to protect your home visit www.firewise.org

For more information and to schedule an assessment of your home to reduce the risk of destruction from wildfires please contact Bobette Mauck – bmauck@lucasfire.com or 972-727-1242

Why is Storm Water a Problem?

Stormwater can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants and flow into a storm sewer system or directly to a lake, stream, river, wetland, or coastal water. Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the water bodies we use for swimming, fishing, and providing drinking water.

The Effects of Pollution

Polluted stormwater runoff can have many adverse effects on plants, fish, animals, and people:

- * Sediment can cloud the water and make it difficult or impossible for aquatic plants to grow. Sediment also can destroy aquatic habitats.
- * Excess nutrients can cause algae blooms. When algae die, they sink to the bottom and decompose in a process that removes oxygen from the water. Fish and other aquatic organisms can't exist in water with low dissolved oxygen levels.
- * Bacteria and other pathogens can wash into swimming areas and create health hazards, often making beach closures necessary.
- * Debris—plastic bags, six-pack rings, bottles, and cigarette butts—washed into waterbodies can choke or suffocate.



Lucas Egg Hunt & Family Fun
(hosted by Faith Fellowship)

Saturday, March 30th
10 AM—1 PM
Lucas Community Park
665 Country Club

Giant egg hunt, games & prizes, food and ALL FOR FREE!!! For more info: www.faithfellowshiplucas.org



Good Shepherd United Methodist Church

750 W. Lucas Road

Good Shepherd United Methodist Church of Lucas would like to thank the City of Lucas for their

partnership with our Christmas Angel Tree program. 2012 was the fourth year in a row that the City has worked with Good Shepherd in bringing smiles to local children on Christmas morning. We also want to thank the wonderful staff of the City as they helped organize, manage and receive the generous gifts from citizens. The requests were humble, several families only asked for food and ways to stay warm, but through the generosity of the City of Lucas and the people of Good Shepherd we were able to do so much more for the families we served. We are proud to be a part of this wonderful community. Thank you again for blessing children and their families with the gift of hope.

Rev. Nancy Sherman



Councilmember Debbie Fisher and Councilmember Kathleen Peele ran unopposed for the May 11, 2013

Lucas General Election. The election has been cancelled and both candidates are deemed elected to serve another three (3) year term. Join us in saying congratulations Councilmember(s) Fisher and Peele.

7th Annual Lovejoy Country Run

By Michelle Huddleston

Join us May 18th, at 8am for the start of the 7th Annual Lovejoy Country Run. Race day registration will begin at 7am. The 5K race and the 1K Fun Run will begin at the back of Lovejoy High School, 2350 Estates Pkwy in Lucas The 5K is a flat and fast course. Awards will go to the overall male and female winners and male and female master winners in the 5K as well as age group awards up to 70+.The 5K will be chip timed by Race Chip Timing. All 1K participants will receive ribbons. Take the McDermott exit east. McDermott becomes Main and then turns into Estates Pkwy in Lucas. No turns until you see Lovejoy High School!

The Lovejoy Country Run was established 7 years ago to support all athletic booster clubs at Lovejoy. It is a fun and healthy community event for all ages! The event will also be offering many other activities such as a pancake breakfast (free for runners with entry), or non-race participants may buy tickets at the door(5 and younger eat free). There will also be vendors, a health fair and face painting!

Online registration is available on GetMeRegistered.com but you can also register at Luke's Locker in Allen prior to the race at packet pick up. Entry forms are also available at all Lovejoy ISD schools. Early registration is \$25 for adults and \$15 for students. An additional \$5 will be added to the prices one week before the race and race day so register early! All pre-registered runners will be guaranteed a custom race shirt. Please visit our website at www.lovejoycountryrun.org for additional information, course map and sponsorship opportunities.

City Council Actions for March

- * Approved **Ordinance # 2013-03-00752** concerning a request by Kwik Industries for a Specific Use Permit (SUP) for the operation of a Kwik Lube Minor Automotive Repair Center. The property to be considered is located along Angel Parkway, Lucas, Collin County, Texas, and described as follows ABS A0821 William Snider Survey, Tract 32, 6.47 acres.
- * Approved and accepted the City of Lucas' Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for Fiscal Year 2011-2012.
- * Approved the Capital Roadway Improvements as presented and authorize Staff to utilize the existing Interlocal Agreement with Dallas County for pavement maintenance for the various roads, not to exceed an amount of \$540,460.
- * Approved a contract between the City of Lucas and BW2 Engineers, Inc. concerning design services for an 8" waterline project along Osage Lane, from Southview Drive, east to the end of Osage, for an amount not to exceed \$29,800.
- * Authorized staff to move forward with the schematic design phase of the Fire Department Expansion Project, using part of the \$210,000 funds approved back on June 21, 2012 by the City Council.
- * Approved a lease agreement between the City of Lucas and Family Promise of Collin County concerning 325 W. Lucas Road for a period of two (2) years beginning April 1, 2013.
- * Approved a Development Agreement between the City of Lucas and McCreary Donihoo Partners, LTD concerning annexation.
- * Approved a Development Agreement between the City of Lucas and North Texas Equestrian Center, Inc. concerning annexation.
- * Approved **Resolution # R-2013-03-00396** of the City Council of the City of Lucas, Texas, canceling the May 11, 2013, General Election for City Officers and declaring each unopposed candidate elected to office; ordering the posting of this resolution at each polling place on election day; providing that this resolution shall be cumulative of all resolutions; providing a repealing clause; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.

CITY OF LUCAS
665 COUNTRY CLUB
LUCAS, TEXAS 75002



POSTAL PATRON