



# Lucas City Newsletter

**February, 2011**

**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  
(kpeelee@lucastexas.us)
- Mark Barratt, Councilmember  
(mbarratt@lucastexas.us)
- (Vacant), Councilmember
- Don Zriny, Councilmember  
(dzriny@lucastexas.us)
- Philip Lawrence, Councilmember  
(plawrence@lucastexas.us)
- Debbie Fisher, Councilmember  
(dfisher@lucastexas.us)

### Interim City Manager

Dan Savage  
(dsavage@lucastexas.us)



## THOUGHTS FROM THE MAYOR

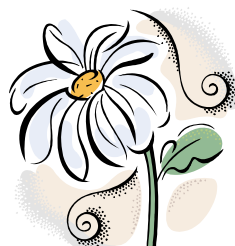
As your new Mayor, I want to recognize two people who have done outstanding jobs in keeping our City on a forward path after the resignations late last year of our prior Mayor and City Manager. Mayor Pro Tem Kathleen Peele provided much needed leadership during this difficult time, and made sure that none of us missed a beat in looking out for the interests of our wonderful

City. Her efforts in putting together a training workshop to lay the groundwork for a much needed strategic planning workshop to be held later this month are invaluable. City Engineer Stacy Caudell once again stepped up to the plate and assumed the role of interim City Manager until we could make a decision on how we should proceed with the recruiting process for a new City Manager. His calm, confident manner has given us and the entire City staff much needed stability during this time.

Recognizing the extreme importance of making the right choice of a new City Manager, and acknowledging the time involved in the hiring process, Council made a decision to engage the services of Texas First Group, an interim municipal management services provider. They provide cities with short term city managers who can fill in the gaps until permanent replacements are recruited. Dan Savage, an experienced City Manager, is now acting in this capacity until we can complete our recruiting and hiring process. Although Stacy Caudell has done an outstanding job in the interim, as our City Engineer and Public Works Director his plate is full.

I am very proud of our entire City Staff. We are very fortunate to have a group of true professionals who continue to perform at the highest level. We owe it to them to make a thorough, thoughtful, and considered decision as to who will be our next City Manager. All of us on Council are committed to making sure we do what is best for the citizens of our community.

We all ask for your support as we work our way through this process. We already have a number of resumes from what appear to be highly qualified candidates, and are in the process of evaluating these resumes and setting up interviews.



## SPRING IS COMING!

### Meeting Schedule

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

City Council Regular  
Thursday, Feb. 3

Planning & Zoning Commission  
Thursday, Feb. 10

Special Election  
Thursday, Feb. 10

**CANCELLED**

Municipal Court, 3 PM  
Wednesday, Feb. 16

City Council Workshop  
Thursday, Feb. 17

Strategic Planning Meeting  
Saturday, Feb. 26, 8 AM

## Special Election scheduled for February 10, 2011 CANCELLED

The City of Lucas' City Council voted to cancel the February 10th Special Election called for the purpose of electing a Mayor to fill an unexpired term.

The candidate for the position of Mayor, **Rebecca Mark**, has been certified as unopposed and therefore, is hereby elected.

Mayor Mark is no stranger to the citizens of Lucas as she has served on City Council, as Councilmember, Seat 2 since June 2009. Please join the City Council and City Staff in welcoming the newly elected Mayor, Rebecca Mark.



### Are you using the correct address when paying your water bill?

When customers receive their water bill from the City there is an envelope included with your statement for convenience in mailing your payment. Should you use another envelope, just a reminder to please make sure when mailing your payment, or using bill pay through your bank, that the payment is mailed to the City of Lucas, 665 Country Club, Lucas, TX 75002. Customers are responsible for a \$10 late fee when the payment is received after the 10th of the month.



**HAPPY  
VALENTINES  
DAY!**

## Actions from January 6, 2011 City Council Regular Meeting

- \* Approved the minutes from the December 2, 2010 Regular and December 16, 2010 Workshop City Council Meetings.
- \* Approved a contract between the City of Lucas and Collin County Election Administration for the February 10, 2011 Special Election Services..
- \* Directed the Parks & Open Space Board to apply for parks grants offered by the State of Texas.
- \* Rejected the lease agreement between the City of Lucas and Azami Group regarding the property located at 151 Country Club.
- \* Approved **Ordinance # 2011-10-00670** of the City of Lucas, Texas, amending the Code of Ordinances by amending Article 12.04 ("Commercial Vehicles and Weight Limits") of Chapter 12 ("Traffic and Vehicles"), replacing Sections 12.04.001, 12.04.002 and 12.04.003 to revise regulations on the operation of trucks and commercial motor vehicles within the city; providing a repealing clause; providing a savings clause; providing for a penalty of fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00); providing a severability clause; and, providing an effective date of July 20, 2011.
- \* Awarded an engineering design contract to BW2 Engineers, Inc. for design of a Wastewater Gravity Lift Station for the Wastewater System for the 2551 Commercial Developments. Also, approve a budget adjustment in the amount of \$75,650 to Professional Services (Account 51-6400-309) to cover this Lift Station design and the previously approved contract to design the Wastewater Gravity line. The amount for the Gravity line was \$49,850 and this contract is for \$25,800, for a total of \$76,650.
- \* Approved the appointment of Stacy Caudell as Interim City Manager and pay an additional compensation in the amount of \$125 per week while serving as Interim City Manager.
- \* Councilmember Fisher was directed by the City Council to have further discussions with Texas First Group Replacement Services regarding the hiring of an Interim City Manager. Mayor Pro Tem (Acting Mayor) Peele was directed by the City Council to negotiate and enter into an agreement with Texas First Group Replacement Services for an Interim City Manager.

## Actions from January 20, 2011 City Council Workshop Meeting

- \* Approved the minutes from the January 6, 2011 Regular and January 8, 2011 Special City Council Meetings.
- \* Approved an Interlocal Agreement between North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) and the City of Lucas for the use of Forest Grove Road.
- \* Awarded a contract for the construction of the Rock Ridge Road and Shady Lane Water Line Improvements, to Fox Contractors in the amount of \$316,372.25, and authorize a 10% contingency in the amount of \$31,637 for additional work for any unplanned connections, repairs, etc.
- \* Approved **Ordinance # 2011-01-00671** of the City of Lucas, Collin County, Texas amending the Code of Ordinances, by amending Chapter 1, General Provisions, Division 3, City Secretary, by repealing Section 1.04.061 in its entirety and replacing with new Section 1.04.061, providing that the City Manager shall provide daily oversight and guidance to the City Secretary; by repealing section 1.40.064 in its entirety and replacing with a new section 1.04.064, providing for the general duties of the City Secretary; repealing provisions in conflict; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.
- \* Approved **Ordinance # 2011-01-00672** of the City of Lucas, Texas, amending the Code of Ordinance by amending Chapter 8, "Offenses and Nuisances" by adding Article 8.06 "Illegal Smoking Products" to prohibit the use, purchase, possession, and sale of the synthetic Cannabinoid known or sold under such names as "Spice", "Genie", "Dascents", "Zohai", "Sage", "K-2" AND "KO Knock-Out 2" for public health purposes; providing a repealing clause; providing a severability clause; providing a savings clause; providing a penalty clause of fine not to exceed two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) for each offense; and providing for an effective date.
- \* Approved **Ordinance # 2011-01-00673** of the City of Lucas, Texas, amending Chapter 3, "Building Regulations" by amending Article 3.01 "General Provisions" by amending Section 3.01.003 to require the building official to report to the City Manager.

- \* Approved **Ordinance # 2011-01-00674** of the City of Lucas, Texas, ordering the cancellation of the Special Election scheduled to be held on February 10, 2011, for the purpose of electing a Mayor to fill an unexpired term; providing for certification of unopposed candidate which is hereby elected; providing posting requirements; and providing an effective date.



The Garden Show **green gardening**

*presented by the Collin County Master Gardeners*

**Green Gardening In Collin County**  
**Myers Park and Event Center in McKinney, TX**  
 Saturday, March 26                      Sunday, March 27

Saturday		
Mariana Greene	Jimmy Turner	Michael 'Keefe
Dotty Woodson	Kim Schofield	
Roger Sanderson	Greg Church	Steve George
Sunday		
Neil Sperry	Buddy Lee	Andrea Ridout

**9 AM—6 PM**

**11 AM—5 PM**

**Two days of family fun with vendors, seminars and regional gardening experts and organizations.**

Building a Rain Barrels • Raised Bed Gardening • Growing Herbs • Plant Propagation • Container Gardening • IPM • Composting • Annuals and Perennials • Rain Water Management • Vegetable Garden-

**ADMISSION IS 2 CANS OF FOOD OR \$2 PER CAR TO SUPPORT THE NORTH TEXAS FOOD BANK**

ing • Lawn Care

[www.ccmgatx.org/TheGardenShow](http://www.ccmgatx.org/TheGardenShow)



Garden Show by Collin County Master Gardeners



## Winter Heating

Curling up at home in front of a nice, warm fireplace is one of the greatest pleasures of the winter months, but home owners should be wary of the potential dangers before they kindle the fire.

Though cooking fires remain the number one cause of home fires and home fire injuries, dirty chimneys can easily cause fires that destroy homes or even kill people. After prolonged usage, a black tar-like substance called creosote will stick to the inner walls of the chimney. Creosote is highly combustible, and factors like restricted air supply, unseasoned wood, and cool temperatures will accelerate the buildup of creosote and thus increase the risk of a fire.

In addition, space heaters were responsible for about one in three home heating fires and four in five home heating fire deaths. As creosote can also build up in solid-fueled heating equipment, failing to clean heating equipment is the leading cause of such fires. Placing items that can burn too close to heaters will only increase these risks.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the Chimney Safety Institute of America (CSIA) have issued some guidelines on how to prevent an incident before it can occur:

- Keep any flammable objects, like paper, clothing, or mattresses, at least three feet away from heating equipment.
- Prohibit children from coming within three feet of heating equipment.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- Turn off everything before leaving the room or going to bed.
- Keep your chimney clean, and use a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room.
- In your fireplace, use only seasoned woods, and never burn cardboard boxes, wrapping paper, trash, or Christmas trees.

On top of all this, have all smoke alarms tested monthly and chimneys cleaned and inspected annually.

CITY OF LUCAS  
665 COUNTRY CLUB  
LUCAS, TEXAS 75002

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

POSTAL PATRON