



Lucas City Newsletter

Volume IV, Issue 1

January , 2009

newsletter@lucastexas.us

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

CITY COUNCIL

BILL CARMICKLE, MAYOR

(BCARMICKLE@LUCASTEXAS.US)

DEBBIE FISHER, MAYOR PROTEM

(DFISHER@LUCASTEXAS.US)

DON ZRINY, COUNCILMEMBER

(DZRINY@LUCASTEXAS.US)

KATHLEEN PEELE, COUNCILMEMBER

(KPEELE@LUCASTEXAS.US)

MARK BARRATT, COUNCILMEMBER

(MBARRATT@LUCASTEXAS.US)

WAYNE MILLSAP, COUNCILMEMBER

(WMILLSAP@LUCASTEXAS.US)

CITY MANAGER

ROBERT PATRICK

(RPATRICK@LUCASTEXAS.US)

EDITOR

RON MORRILL

(RMORRILL@LUCASTEXAS.US)

MEETING SCHEDULE

ALL MEETINGS BEGIN AT 7:00 IN THE CITY ANNEX UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR

THURS., JAN 1 CANCELLED

PLANNING & ZONING

THURS., JAN. 8

CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP

THURS., JAN 15

MUNICIPAL COURT

WED., JAN 28, 4PM



In these trying economic times it is often easy to forget the things for which we all should be truly thankful. It is my New Years wish that all of you have the good things in your lives continue to bring you joy, and the challenging times

to be few.

2009 will bring some changes to Lucas. For the first time we will be voting this spring under the new City Council structure approved by you, our citizens, as a result of the Home Rule Charter established in 2008.

We will be adding a sixth council seat, and all seats will now be voted upon using the place system, rather than the at-large-system used in the past. In May we will be voting to elect three council members and the mayor.

Seats currently occupied by Councilmembers Don Zriny and Mark Barratt, as well as the new sixth seat, will be up for election. In the future all terms of office will be for three years in lieu of the current two. Under the transition rules contained in the HRC, the Mayor's term beginning in 2009, will be for three years. The seat for Place 3, held by Don Zriny, will also be for a three year term beginning in 2009. The other two seats to be voted upon in 2009 will be for two years each. They include the seat currently occupied by Mark Barratt, (Place 1), and the new seat (Place 2). As a reminder, the Places are not geographical in nature. They merely require a candidate to pick a specific place (seat) for which to be a candidate.

Serving on the City Council is a rewarding yet challenging job. Our community needs dedicated people who are willing to meet these challenges. Candidates may pick up filing packets at City Hall beginning January 19. If you want to make a difference, I strongly urge you to consider serving your community as a member of its City Council.



Friends and Neighbors:

I am requesting a change in my status/rank from Division Chief/Fire Marshal to Chief/Fire Marshal Retired. I would like to be moved off ac-

tive duty effective December 31st 2008 (our first grandchild is due in January).

July 1978 I attended my first Lucas Volunteer Fire Department meeting. Chief Hamlin and his crew of around six individuals welcomed me with open arms. When I inquired as to the process of joining the department, you are at the meeting you are a member!

Now thirty years later processes, equipment and methods have under-gone changes none of us in that July 1978 meeting would have envisioned. One thing has remained constant through that time, the heart and dedication of the department personnel. It has been an honor to serve with and at times lead this group of individuals.

I would be remiss if I did not include the efforts and cooperation of the Mayors, Councils, City Staff and all the Lucas Residents. Without

their assistance and support, what has been accomplished over the last thirty years would never have been possible.

Again, thank you all! Attending that meeting in July 1978 certainly had a major and positive impact on me, my family and our lives.

Lastly, should Chief Kitchens need me to work special department projects I will gladly serve as required (as long as they do not interfere with any visits with the new grandbaby).

God Bless,

Chief Ron Grotti

AEROBIC SEPTIC MAINTENANCE

Collin County requires maintenance to be performed on aerobic septic systems at least three times per year. The company performing the maintenance is required to submit a report to the County within 14 days of inspection or maintenance. To see if maintenance on your system is being properly reported, please visit:

http://co.collin.tx.us/development_services/reports/aerobic_system_list.html

2010 Census Positions Available

Every 10 years the United States conducts a census of the population. The results help to determine your representation in the Federal House of Representatives and the Presidential Electoral College as well as the allocation of Federal funds for parks, roads, housing, schools and public safety. Census employees play a vital role in insuring an accurate count.

Census employees receive competitive pay (\$8.00-\$19.25/hour depending on position and location) and are reimbursed for authorized mileage and related expenses. All Census em-

ployees must be US Citizens and be able to speak English. Bilingual skills are needed in many communities.

Besides good pay, employees have flexible hours, paid training and the chance to work within their own community.

Call 1-866-861-2010 to schedule a Field Employee Selection Aid Test.

For more information please visit:

<http://www.census.gov/rodal/www/employ.html>

December City Council Report

December 4, 2008 City Council Regular Meeting

- Approved minutes from the November 6th Regular and November 20th Workshop meetings
- City Staff to prioritize areas throughout the City that need to be addressed concerning drainage issues and bring back to Council with costs associated with construction and man hours
- City Council approved increasing water rates by 10% of in-city customers and 20% for out-of-city customers with no base rate increase, effective March 1, 2009. Staff to bring back an ordinance for Council action.
- City Council ratified the boundary line between the City of Lucas, City of Wylie, and Town of St. Paul and authorized the Mayor to sign a letter of agreement with the aforementioned municipalities approved by City Attorney based on the map presented.
- City Council approved Staff to work with Collin County to redraw the Fire District Boundary Lines and bring back with a date for implementation.

December 18, 2008 City Council Workshop Meeting

- City Council approved Ordinance # 2008-12-00635 amending the in-city and out-of-city water rates by increasing the in-city rate by 10% and out-of-city rate by 20%.
- City Council discussed the color scheme and logo requirements for all ground storage and elevated water tanks.
- City Council discussed the drainage systems beneath City maintained roadways.
- City Council discussed the purchase, lease, and sale of real property.

Water Rates to Increase



Beginning in March 2009, Lucas water customers will see an increase in their water bills. The City received notice from North Texas Municipal Water District, the city's water supplier, that they were increasing their rates beginning in October 2008.

This led to a study of the impact on the City budget. In December, the City Council approved an increase of 10% on the different rates while retaining the base rate of \$18.00.

The following table shows the increase residents can expect:

Monthly resident water bill:

\$30.00 \$38.50 \$51.25 \$73.50 \$95.75 \$118.00 \$140.25

Monthly increase:

\$1.20 \$2.05 \$3.32 \$5.55 \$7.77 \$10.00 \$12.23

It is necessary to make several improvements to our water system. Projects scheduled to be completed during the next year include upsizing a portion of the waterline along Country Club Rd, repainting and refurbishing the Winningkoff water tower, and adding an emergency generator to the McGarity facility.

We are all sensitive to these tough economic times.

These rates will be reviewed periodically to insure both that the water utility remains viable and that we are not overcharging the customers.





VOLUNTEERS FOR ADVISORY GROUP

The City is still accepting applications for volunteers to serve on the Advisory Group. If you are interested in serving please come by City Hall and sign up or go on our web at <http://www.lucastexas.us/index.php?id=MTEzNjIxOTgxMA2> and fill our community volunteer form.

Recycling Bags Available at City Hall

You may purchase a roll of blue recycling bags at City Hall for \$5 per roll. The City forwards the monies received to Barnes Waste Disposal Service. If you are interested in participating in the recycling program, please contact Barnes Waste Disposal Service at (972) 396-1139.



LET YOUR VOTE BE COUNTED

Saturday, May 9, 2009

7:00 a.m.—7:00 p.m.

City Annex Building

Did you know that only about 17% of registered Lucas voters actually vote in the city elections? Let your voice be heard and vote for the positions of Mayor and three Councilmembers.

Not registered? No problem. There's plenty of time left. Don't really know where the Annex is located? It's just to the north of our fire station on the northwest corner of Lucas Road and Country Club/FM1378.

One must be registered to vote by April 9, 2009 in order to vote in the May election.

Voter Registration Web Site:

http://www.co.collin.tx.us/elections/voter_registration/index.jsp

CITY OF LUCAS
151 COUNTRY CLUB
LUCAS, TEXAS 75002

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

POSTAL PATRON