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Lucas City Newsletter

November 2012

newsletter@lucastexas.us

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City Council

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City Manager Jeff Jenkins (jjenkins@lucastexas.us)

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

City Council

Thursday, Nov 1

Planning & Zoning Commission

Thursday, Nov 8

City Council

Thursday, Nov 15, CANCELLED

CITY HALL CLOSED

NOV 22 & NOV 23

Municipal Court

Wednesday, Nov 28, 3:30



THOUGHTS FROM THE MAYOR

The last few weeks have brought sad news to our community. Two of our past long time residents, Frank and Virginia Hamlin, who both contributed immeasurably to the Lucas we know today, passed away only weeks apart. Frank died from natural causes at the age of 83, and Virginia was killed in an

accident less than a month later at the age of 82. They were a wonderful couple who moved to Lucas many years ago, and quickly set about making our community a better and safer place to live. They were both instrumental in the formation of our volunteer fire department in 1973. Frank served as our Fire Chief for 15 of his 18 years of service to the fire department. Virginia was a founding member of the Ladies' Auxiliary and helped raise money for equipment and operating costs through bake sales, quilt raffles, cookbooks, and other endeavors. She also served as the LVFD secretary for many years. In fact, our fire station carries Frank's name as a tribute to his contributions.

In the late seventies, Frank also served as the Mayor of Lucas for a time. Virginia served the City as an unpaid City Secretary at the same time, and minutes of Council meetings can been seen in our archives, all meticulously detailed in her beautiful handwriting.

In their retirement years, Frank and Virginia moved to Anna, Texas to be closer to their daughter. Prior to moving to Anna, they lived in Lucas for 35 years. Their service to their country and community was not confined to their roles in Lucas. Frank proudly served as a United



States Marine. He and Virginia both were longtime volunteers at Medical Center of McKinney.

Our thoughts and prayers are with their family. Thank you, Frank and Virginia. You will remain in our hearts.

CITY WORKS

(by Councilmember Kathleen Peele)

The City of Lucas buys its water from North Texas Municipal Water District. Since we are not a member city of the Water District, we pay a slightly higher rate for this water than do member cities. We buy our water under a common system known as "take or pay". We must commit to purchasing a certain number of gallons per year. If we don't use all to which we have committed, then we still must pay for the full contracted amount. If we exceed the committed amount, then we must pay for the overage, and NTMWD may add additional fees or recalculate the "take or pay" contract for the following year.

We have a contractual obligation to accept any and all measures for conservation as determined by NTMWD. They divide the available water among all their customer cities, and non-compliance with mandated conservation measures, such as the current Drought Contingency Plan, could result in caps or restriction on the amount of water allocated the following year (based on previous years' usage.)

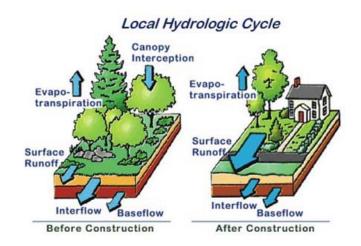
The Lucas Water Utilities Department does not make a profit. Under Texas Law, we can collect only what we need to maintain our water systems and provide you with quality water service. Monies collected cannot be used for such things as road repair or any other non-water service related items. Water revenues may be used only for the following:

- Debt Service payments made to retire outstanding revenue bonds. These bonds are used for making large improvements to the system.
- Personnel cost of all staff in the department, including the person who answers your phone call and those who repair water main breaks.
- Capital used for renewing water mains, building pump stations and water towers, or making other large purchases to maintain or improve the water system.
- Supplies includes items such as minor tools, uniforms, and office supplies.
- Maintenance covers any annual maintenance contract for radios, fleet maintenance, and other equipment.

 Other - includes items such as electricity to pump the water into the distribution system, payment for water purchased from NTMWD, professional licenses, and fuel.

The City also collects water impact fees from developers to help offset service line costs, connecting fees, cost of new meters, processing fees, and other related costs of new developments tapping into our water system.

Stormwater runoff occurs when precipitation from rain or snowmelt flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces like driveways, sidewalks, and streets prevent stormwater from naturally soaking into the ground. 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. 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 buttswashed into water bodies can choke, suffocate, or disable aquatic life like ducks, fish, turtles, and birds.



October Actions from City Council

- * Approved **Ordinance # 2012-10-00737** of the City of Lucas, Texas, amending the city's code of ordinances and zoning use chart to allow for minor automobile repair in the CB zoning district with an SUP, and allow for a definition of minor automobile repair, major automobile repair and auto paint or body rebuilding shop.
- * Approved Ordinance # 2012-10-00740 concerning a request for a change in zoning to R-1 from AO of a tract of land situated in the City of Lucas, Collin County, Texas, Texas, being a part of the John Gray Survey, Abstract Number 349, and being 76.026 acres of land, part of a called 220.733 acre tract of land described in deed to D.R. Horton-Texas, Ltd., as recorded in Document Number 20110830000915300, Collin County Deed Records.
- * Approved Ordinance # 2012-10-00738 of the City Council of Lucas, Collin County, Texas, amending the Code of Ordinances by amending Chapter 4 "Business Regulations" by adding Article 4.04 "Business Establishment Security" establishing guidelines for business establishments located within the city limits that employ or utilize private security officers.
- * Approved the preliminary plat of Broadmoor Estates, a tract of land situated in the John W. Kerby Survey, Abstract No. 14 in the City of Lucas, Collin County, Texas, being out of a 12.968 acre tract, as described in Clerks File No. 95-0078930, a 15.0 tract, as described in Clerks File No. 20110228000213320, a 9.923 acre tract, as described in Clerks File No. 20060524000708880, a 8.1 acre tract, as described in Volume 1032, Page 736, 2.0 acre Tract, No. 20070912001273990, in the Deed Records of Collin County, Texas.
- * Approved Ordinance # 2012-10-00739 an ordinance of the City Council of Lucas, Collin County, Texas designating the McKinney Courier Gazette the official newspaper of the City of Lucas, Collin County, Texas, for Fiscal Year 2012 2013; authorizing the City Manager to contract with the McKinney Courier Gazette; and providing an effective date.

- * Approved Ordinance # 2012-10-00741 of the City of Lucas, Texas, amending the Code of Ordinances by amending Chapter 4 "Business Regulations" by adding Article 4.04 "Garage Sale Regulations" providing regulations for garage sales; providing a severability clause; providing a repealing clause; providing a savings clause; providing for a penalty of fine not to exceed the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for each offense; and providing for an effective date.
- * Approved **Ordinance # 2012-10-00742** of the City of Lucas, Texas, amending the Code of Ordinances by amending Chapter 3 "Building Regulations," Article 3.16 "Signs" by revising Subsection 3.16.007(9) "Exempt Signs" regarding duration and frequency requirements for temporary resident information signs and by adding Subsection 3.16.007(13) in regards to temporary resident information signs related to pets; providing regulations for garage sales; providing a severability clause; providing a repealing clause; providing a savings clause; providing for a penalty of fine not to exceed the sum of two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) for each offense; and providing for an effective date.

THE HOLIDAY SEASON IS APPROACHING

The City of Lucas is collecting food and unwrapped toys to be given to a number of families in the community in need of assistance. A collection box is at City Hall, and will remain there through December 15th. If you wish to donate non-perishable food items or an unwrapped toy please drop by City Hall between the hours of 8AM and 5 PM.

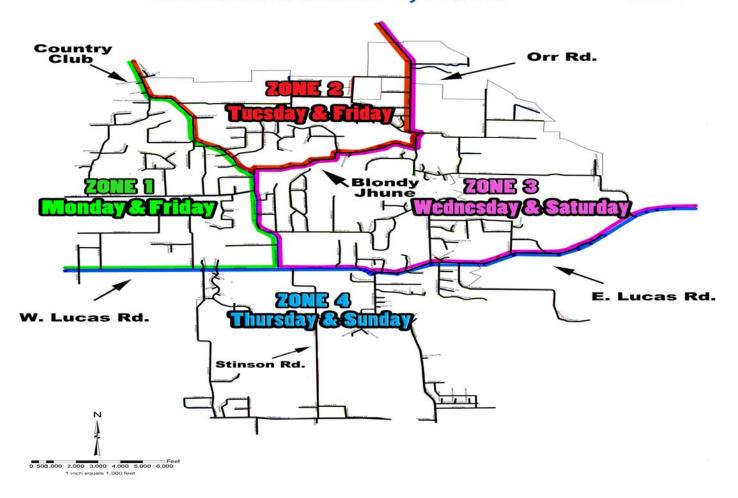
During this season of thankfulness, please consider helping those less fortunate by donating.





Stage 2 ~ Water Restrictions Effective June 1, 2012





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