



September , 2009

newsletter@lucastexas.us

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CITY COUNCIL

BILL CARMICKLE, MAYOR

(BCARMICKLE@LUCASTEXAS.US)

KATHLEEN PEELE, MAYOR PRO TEM

(KPEELE@LUCASTEXAS.US)

MARK BARRATT, COUNCILMEMBER

(MBARRATT@LUCASTEXAS.US)

DEBBIE FISHER, COUNCILMEMBER

(DFISHER@LUCASTEXAS.US)

REBECCA MARK, COUNCILMEMBER

(RMARK@LUCASTEXAS.US)

WAYNE MILLSAP, COUNCILMEMBER

(WMILLSAP@LUCASTEXAS.US)

DON ZRINY, COUNCILMEMBER

(DZRINY@LUCASTEXAS.US)

CITY MANAGER

ROBERT PATRICK

(RPATRICK@LUCASTEXAS.US)

MEETING SCHEDULE

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

**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3**

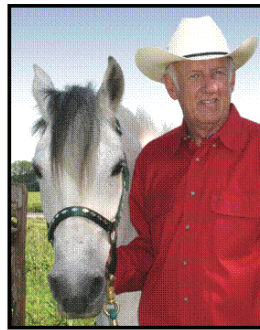
**PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**

**CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**

**COFFEE WITH COUNCIL
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19
8 A.M. TO 11 A.M.**

**NEW CITY HALL OPENS
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28**

Straight Talk from the Mayor



Now that the summer vacation for all our kids is over, and the new school year is in session, I want to remind every one to be especially careful when driving through the school zones located throughout our city. Nothing is more important than the safety of our children.

Speeding in school zones is dangerous, unlawful, and potentially very expensive to any violator!

Effective September 1, our State Legislature added another measure to help in our fight to enforce safe driving practices in our school zones. **H.B. 55—Cell Phones** makes the use of a wireless communication device (i.e. cell phones) while operating a motor vehicle within a school crossing zone a class C misdemeanor, unless the vehicle is stopped or the device is being used in a hands-free mode. This prohibition does not, of course, apply to operators of emergency vehicles while the vehicle is in official use.

In order for our city to enforce this prohibition, the new law requires us to post signage as prescribed by Texas Department of Transportation in each school zone. Additionally, we should enact an ordinance that is consistent with the specific provisions of the state law.

In a future meeting of the Council, we will be considering the wording and passage of an ordinance addressing this issue.

As Lovejoy HS now has upper level students who drive vehicles, and who also may participate in evening extra-curricular events, it is very important to be especially alert when driving on Estates Parkway (FM2170) particularly after dark. The speed limit along that stretch of road is 55MPH, and there are no traffic lights at the entrances of the high school. Please be very observant of cars pulling out of these entrances.

For our children's sake, drive safely.

Bucket Brigade or Fire Dept.?

By Mayor Pro Tem Kathleen Peele

In 18th century colonial America the cry of fire brought out the entire town to quickly form 2 lines that ran from the town well to the burning structure. One line, formed by the men of the town passed the full buckets of water from man-to-man hoping to extinguish the flames before the fire spread. The other line was made up of the town's women and children who had the job to pass the empty buckets back to the well so they could be refilled. After the fire had been put out the buckets were often tossed into piles. In order to easily identify their fire buckets, names, initials or designs and emblems were painted on them. It was important to get your buckets back as typically the towns required a fire bucket be kept for each fireplace in the home and one kept on the front porch filled with water at all times ready for the bucket brigade.

We've come a very long way from the days of fighting fires by using bucket brigades. Thankfully, when I hear the siren sound of the fire truck at night I do not have to rush out into the street in my night clothes to join a brigade. Our fire fighting equipment and trucks allow our firefighters a rapid response and more effective and efficient tools to protect structures, rescue people and animals, save lives and provide a higher degree of safety for the firefighters while doing so. But we also ask much more of our firefighters than was asked of the town bucket brigades. Today's fire fighters respond to structure fires, grass fires, automobile fires and are first responders for emergency medical services. They also conduct building inspection and code enforcement to insure City, State and Federal safety standards are being met. They must recruit and train new firefighters in the use of high tech equipment and fire fighting techniques. They must be ready and able to handle chemical spills. They are expected to respond to natural disasters and work with the Dept. of Homeland security to address potential terrorist attacks. To meet these demands our firefighters must undergo extensive training and practice drills. They must have appropriate firefighter gear. It also requires the use and availability of trucks and equipment all kept in good repair and ready to go when the 911 call comes in. None of this comes cheap. For example, following is an average of cost for basic equipment for a fire call as reported in a National Firefighter magazine:

<u>Each Firefighter:</u>		<u>Fire Truck & Equipment</u>	
Helmet	\$450	Fire Truck	\$420,000
Coat	\$1,000	SCBA	\$22,750
Pants	\$800	Hose	\$7,775
Hood	\$40	Nozzles	\$10,000
Gloves	\$40	Tools	\$9,000
Boots	\$250	Foam	\$1,000
Pagers	\$580	Radios	\$11,000
Total	<u>\$3,160</u>	Total	<u>\$481,525</u>

Note the above does not include cost of building and maintaining the fire station nor any salaries. It is no surprise then that in any City the Fire Department budget, funded with our City taxes, is one of the largest. But while maintaining a City Fire Department means we do not need to heed the call for a bucket brigade to respond to fires are there any other benefits to me as a resident of Lucas? Absolutely!

Were you aware that the City of Lucas has one of the best, if not THE BEST, volunteer fire departments in the State? Recently achieving an ISO rating of 3 means Lucas Citizens pay approx 8 – 12% LESS in homeowners insurance than our neighbors with fire department ISO ratings that are higher.

Thanks to our City of Lucas Volunteer Firefighters for their outstanding dedication and commitment that gives our citizens piece of mind knowing they are available and trained to respond and for their hard work that saves our Homeowners on their insurance premiums. Much better than a bucket brigade.

City Council Actions for August

- Appointed Jinx Smith as an alternate member to the Board of Adjustments for the year, beginning June 2009 – May 2010 pursuant to the City of Lucas' Code of Ordinances, Chapter 1, General Provisions Article 1.05 Boards, Commissions and Committees.
- Appointed Scott Eisenhart to the Planning & Zoning Commission for the year, beginning June 2009 – May 2010 pursuant to the City of Lucas' Code of Ordinances, Chapter 1, General Provisions Article 1.05 Boards, Commissions and Committees.
- Appointed Patsy Black as an alternate member to the Parks and Open Space Board Members for the year, beginning June 2009 – May 2010 pursuant to the City of Lucas' Code of Ordinances, Chapter 1, General Provisions Article 1.05 Boards, Commissions and Committees.
- Approved the minutes from the July 16, 2009 City Council Regular Meeting.
- Awarded a contract to Reynolds Asphalt in the amount not to exceed \$228,507.00 for Lucas Intersection Improvements to include West Lucas Road and Country Club and Country Club and Estates Parkway.
- Approved an amendment to the Regional Wastewater Customer Service Contract between the City of Lucas and North Texas Municipal Water District to provide wastewater collection and treatment service for two additional areas defined in the City's Wastewater System Master Plan.
- Approved an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Lucas and TML Intergovernmental Employee Benefits Pool (TML IEBP) for the purpose of providing certain benefits and related services for employees.
- Authorized the renovations to the outside of 665 Country Club Road and budget \$65,000 in additional monies.
- Approved Ordinance # 2009-08-00650 an ordinance of the City of Lucas, Texas annexing the hereinafter described property described as situated in Collin County, Texas, and being called 2.93 +/- acres tract of land situated in the Brookhaven Ranch Estates, Lot 3A in the City of Lucas of Collin County, Texas into the City of Lucas, Texas, extending the boundary limits of the city so as to include said property within the city's limits, granting to all inhabitants and owners of property all of the rights and privileges of other citizens, and binding the inhabitants by all the acts, ordinances and regula-

Coffee with Council

Drop by the new City Hall, 665 Country Club, on Saturday, September 19th between 8 AM – 11 AM and enjoy a tour of the new facility as well as a FREE hot cup of coffee and a donut with Mayor Bill Carmickle, Mayor Pro Tem Kathleen Peele, and Councilmember Rebecca Mark.

We welcome your attendance and look forward to sharing coffee, donuts and dialog with you. See you then!

Agriculture



Keep livestock away from stream banks and provide them a water source away from water bodies. Store and apply manure away from water bodies and in accordance with a nutrient management plan. Vegetate riparian areas along waterways. Rotate animal grazing to prevent soil erosion in fields. Apply fertilizers and pesticides according to label instructions to save money and minimize pollution.

tions of the city; adopting a service plan; providing a repealing clause; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.

- Approved Ordinance # 2009-08-00651 an ordinance of the City of Lucas, Texas annexing the hereinafter described property described as situated in Collin County, Texas, and being called 2.93 +/- acres tract of land situated in the Brookhaven Ranch Estates, Lot 3B in the City of Lucas of Collin County, Texas into the City of Lucas, Texas, extending the boundary limits of the city so as to include said property within the city's limits, granting to all inhabitants and owners of property all of the rights and privileges of other citizens, and binding the inhabitants by all the acts, ordinances and regulations of the city; adopting a service plan; providing a repealing clause; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.
- Awarded the engineering design contract to BW2 Engineers, Inc. in the amount of \$99,500 regarding the Wastewater System and Lift Station from the Hunt Property to the south end of FM2551 commercial area.

Community Emergency Response Team – CERT

The Lucas Fire and Rescue department applied for and received a grant from the Citizen Corps Program (CCP) to begin a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program for citizens that live or work in the city of Lucas.

What is CERT? The CERT program educates citizens on how to prepare for a disaster that may impact their area. After a disaster citizens may be on their own for up to 72 hours until first responders can reach them. The CERT program teaches citizens the skills they need to help themselves, families and neighbors until help can arrive. Some other CERT opportunities could be, but is not limited to, helping the Lucas Fire and Rescue with disaster preparedness, community outreach, special community events, disaster drills, staffing a rehabilitation unit to help the firefighters recuperate during large fires, ham radio communications, and fire safety/prevention. CERT members could also be called upon to assist other agencies throughout the state in disaster drills and/or to help if a disaster strikes their area.

The CERT training is nine weeks. Training is usually

held one evening a week and possibly one or two Saturdays.

Unit 1 – CERT Overview and Disaster Preparedness

Unit 2 – Fire Safety

Unit 3 – Emergency Medical Operations – Part one

Unit 4 – Emergency Medical Operations – Part two

Unit 5 – Light Search and Rescue Operations

Unit 6 – CERT Organization

Unit 7 – Disaster Psychology

Unit 8 – Terrorism and CERT

Unit 9 – Course Review and Disaster Day Exercise

Graduation Day

You must be eighteen (18) years old, hold a valid Texas drivers license, pass a background check and attend all 9 units.

If you are interested in attending training or would like more information please contact:

Bobette Mauck at bmauck@lucasfire.com

CITY OF LUCAS
151 COUNTRY CLUB
LUCAS, TEXAS 75002

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

POSTAL PATRON