

City Council Meeting February 21, 2013, at 7:00 PM City Hall - 665 Country Club Road Minutes

Call to Order

Mayor Rebecca Mark called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present:

Mayor Rebecca Mark
Councilmember Wayne Millsap
Councilmember Steve Duke
Councilmember Debbie Fisher
City Secretary Kathy Wingo
City Attorney Joe Gorfida

Mayor Pro Tem Kathleen Peele (absent) Councilmember Jim Olk Councilmember Philip Lawrence (absent) City Manager Jeff Jenkins Fire Chief Jim Kitchens

It was determined that a Quorum was present.

Everyone was reminded to turn off or silence cell phones.

Councilmember Jim Olk led everyone in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Citizens' Input

1) Citizens' Input.

There was no one present who wished to speak during Citizen's Input.

Community Interest

2) Items of Community Interest.

Councilmember Debbie Fisher stated that she was informed today of recent mailbox thefts. Councilmember Fisher urged citizens to watch their neighborhoods.

Regular Agenda

3) Discuss and Consider the approval of the minutes from the February 7, 2013, City Council Regular meeting. **[Wingo]**

MOTION: Councilmember Wayne Millsap made a Motion to approve the minutes from the February 7, 2013, City Council Regular meeting.

Councilmember Steve Duke seconded the Motion. Motion carried. Vote: 5-0.

4) Discuss and Consider the approval of a contract between the City of Lucas and Collin County Elections Administrations concerning election services. [Wingo]

MOTION: Councilmember Debbie Fisher made a Motion to approve contract between the City of Lucas and Collin County Elections Administrations concerning election services as presented. Councilmember Jim Olk seconded the Motion. Motion carried. Vote: 5-0.

5) Discussion only, City Manager Jeff Jenkins to present a fire district legislative update. [Jenkins]

Email sent to City Manager Jeff Jenkins from Fred Hill on February 21, 2013:

"The City of Lucas' bill has been filed in the House and was referred to the Committee on Urban Affairs on the 11th of this month. At approximately the same time Senator Ken Paxton's staff made the decision to bracket the bill so that it only applies to Collin County. In doing this three other Collin County cities, Celina, Prosper, and Melissa are affected because of their population. Ken Paxton's office is consulting with them. This should be no more than a formality. The bill would simply make them eligible to access the change in the law, also. It does not place them under any obligation or responsibility. In the meantime a committee substitute is being drafted. When the substitute is completed it is expected that the bill will be filed in the senate Representative Laubenberg expects to move forward quickly with the bill and get it passed out of the House at the earliest opportunity. At this point the process is moving smoothly."

City Manager Jeff Jenkins reviewed the purpose of the bill being considered. Getting an Emergency Service District passed in the City of Lucas would provide further revenue streams to improve the EMS services and the Fire Department. Based upon the city's conservative projections, an increased sales tax of quarter-half a cent, used for the district, would generate \$70,000-\$140,000 a year. City Manager Jeff Jenkins believes as the full sales trends change, this number will be higher.

Even if the bill is passed this legislative session, the measure would still have to be placed on the May 2014 ballot and approved by a majority of the City of Lucas' voters to become effective.

6) Discussion only of the Lucas Volunteer Fire Department and the City of Lucas being recognized as a Firewise Community. **[Kitchens]**

Fire Chief Jim Kitchens on behalf of the City of Lucas Fire Department and the City of Lucas accepted the award of Firewise Community.

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.

The cost of becoming 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 you and your family spend working on your house or in your yard to create a defensible space.

Nick Harrison, of the Texas A&M Forest Service, came forward to speak to the Firewise Community program. The City of Lucas is number 55 out of 57 in the State of Texas Firewise Communities. This is a national recognized program, City of Lucas being the first city in the North Texas area.

Mr. Harrison then presented Mayor Rebecca Mark and Fire Chief Jim Kitchens with the award and photos were taken.

Boy Scout Phillip Desjardins, 1 Crestview Circle, was in attendance and came forward to say that he was working on his citizenship badge.

7) Adjournment.

MOTION: Councilmember Jim Olk made a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m. Councilmember Steve Duke seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

Vote: 5-0.

These minutes were approved by a majority vote of the City Council on March 7,

2013.

Rebecca Mark, Mayor

Kathy Wingo./TRMC. MMC. City Secretary