

## Meet Your Public Works Staff

### PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR - JEREMY BOGLE

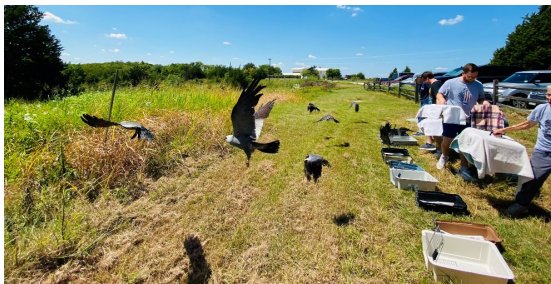


Jeremy Bogle is responsible for the day-to-day Public Works activities from special events, filling potholes, tree trimming maintenance, repair and replacement of street signs, and wastewater collection, but his main focus is the maintenance and care for the City's water distribution system and to deliver safe drinking water to Lucas residents. Jeremy gives the highest priority to the care of the City's water system. He holds a class C Water Distribution License, a Collection 1 Wastewater License and a Class B CDL license.

Jeremy grew up in West Texas near Abilene and moved to the Dallas area approximately 20 years ago. Jeremy worked summers as a seasonal summer employee mowing for the City of Lucas before eventually becoming full time. Jeremy has worked for the City for 15 years and in that time has worked in every area of Public Works from maintaining our City's parks and rights of ways to his current position of Public Works Supervisor. Jeremy and his wife have two boys, ages 6 and 8 and as a family they enjoy camping and the outdoors.

## Raptor Conservation and Education

### BLACKLAND PRAIRIE RAPTOR CENTER



The Blackland Prairie Raptor Center (BPRC) is dedicated to environmental preservation through public education and the conservation of birds of prey and wildlife in

their natural habitat. The BPRC is a small non-profit rehabilitation clinic that operates on donations and located in Lucas at 1625 Brockdale Park Road. The BPRC is only able to help birds of prey who are brought to their facility and ask for people to be aware of their surroundings and act quickly when helping a bird of prey in need.

On August 25, 2021, the BPRC released Mississippi Kites (*pictured left*) into the wild after rehabilitation. Mississippi Kites migrates through North Texas to breed during the summer. Once young Kites leave the nest, they travel back down to Argentina where they will spend the winter months. Most of the Kites released were orphaned or injured while still in the nest. The BPRC also released adult Kites who came in with a fractured wing. They were able to heal the fractures and perform physical therapy until the birds' release. The BPRC are contacted daily by caring members of the public who find injured and orphaned birds of prey. They triage and examine each patient that is brought into the facility. The BPRC has the ability to take radiographs, test blood levels, and perform surgeries onsite in the facility. Depending on the patient, they treat all injuries and place them in outdoor enclosures, where they recondition their flight muscles, until they are ready for release. To view the live stream video recording of the release of the raptors, go to <https://www.facebook.com/293353771975/videos/217178053703781/>.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Throughout the year, the BPRC has many fundraising events to support its mission, this includes:

- October 9 - Raptor Photo Day
- October 30 - 1st Annual Owl-O-Ween at the Raptor Center Park (4-7 pm)
- November 4 - Annual Gala fundraiser
- Painting a Raptor evening (*date yet to be determined*).



### EDWARD JONES GRAND OPENING

On September 9, 2021, the Lucas City Council participated in a ribbon cutting ceremony for Edward Jones, a financial services business office located in the Wolf Creek Village at 2720 Country Club Road, Suite A in Lucas. Andy Nopper is a Financial Advisor for Edward Jones and has been a Lucas resident since 2004. Mr. Nopper is excited to have his new office located in the same community where he also lives. Mr. Nopper invites the public to the grand opening celebration at 1 pm on Sunday, September 19, 2021 at the Edward Jones business office in Lucas.

### CITY CONDUCTING WATER RATE STUDY

The City of Lucas water system is handled as an enterprise fund, meaning that expenses and revenues are kept separate from the City's general fund. Revenue is generated from utility customers paying their water bills which goes into a fund where expenses are paid. Expenses include wholesale water costs from North Texas Municipal Water District, maintenance for the water towers, pumps, pipes, and personnel who work on the water system. To ensure that the City has adequate funds to keep the water system operational, every five years the City hires a consultant to perform a rate study. The next study will be in fiscal year 21/22. The purpose of the study is to design and implement a rate plan that will enable the water fund to meet operating and capital expenditure requirements for a five-year period beginning with fiscal year 22/23. The study considers each customer class (residential and commercial) to make sure any rate structure is just and reasonable. It also reflects national and industry standards for ratemaking as well as making sure rates are competitive with other water providers in the area.



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### MAYOR'S MESSAGE

*By Jim Olk*

I hope everyone enjoyed their summer as we look forward to fall. This month, I thought I would provide you an update on the upcoming City budget for next fiscal year.

As it stands, City Council has approved a budget that will add three additional Firefighter/

Paramedic positions to our Fire-Rescue Department. This will add one more full-time Firefighter/Paramedic per shift. This past year the City Council approved the purchase of a water rescue boat for the Fire-Rescue Department to aid with water rescues at Lake Lavon. Although we expect delivery sometime next year, we have approved water rescue training for this upcoming year. As the community continues to grow, the demands on our Fire-Rescue Department grow also.

The City Council has approved \$750,000 for street maintenance along with an additional \$100,000 to address drainage issues. For the 20 years I have lived in Lucas, street maintenance has been challenging. As you look around, nationwide infrastructure is aging and we need to pay careful attention to our streets and water system so that there is not some catastrophic degradation that will cause a strain on our ability to provide safe clean water and impact our ability to get around town. Preventive maintenance and assessment is the key and your City budget reflects that commitment.

Through these times we have had to make changes to how we run our City meetings, but by working through that we have found some benefits to enhance public input and transparency. City Council and board/commission meetings will continue with the Zoom format allowing citizens to video conference remotely and provide their input on items on the agenda. So, the upcoming budget provides for the remote participation as well as a recorded video stream of the meetings that provides for indexed review of any topic on a meeting agenda. It is as simple as clicking on an agenda topic to see the full recording of the presentation, deliberation and action taken.

In addition to the larger items above, the budget covers vehicle replacement, equipment replacement, cost of living and merit increases for staff (these were frozen last year) and software to streamline our Human Resources functions. The reason that I wanted to highlight all of these was to show you that this was all accomplished with the adoption of a tax rate reduction of approximately ½ cent. Based on the budget that City Staff presented, Council made some minor modifications, but overall Council chose to adopt the “no-new-revenue” tax rate of \$0.288397 per \$100 of value. I believe this is one of the lowest if not the lowest municipal tax rate in Collin County. I think a big round of applause needs to go out to your City Staff for managing your tax dollars and providing excellent services to all of us.

Once again, thank you for allowing me to serve you.

Jim Olk, Mayor



# OCTOBER

## MEETINGS AND EVENTS

City meetings are open to the public and to protect the health of others, masks are encouraged. The City continues to use Zoom to allow for remote public participation. In order to participate remotely, audio-only is no longer allowed, full-video is required when speaking to the City Council or boards and commissions. To download a video conferencing link, go to <https://www.lucastexas.us/zoom-link-for-city-council-board-meetings/>.

### REGULAR MEETINGS

October 7	City Council Meeting City Hall   7 pm
October 14	Planning and Zoning Meeting City Hall   7 pm
October 21	City Council Meeting City Hall   7 pm
October 27	Board of Adjustment Meeting City Hall   6:30 pm

### UPCOMING EVENTS

October 5	National Night Out
October 9	Farmers Market Community Park   8 am - Noon
October 10	Fire-Rescue Open House Fire Station   12 - 4 pm
October 16	Halloween Movie in the Park Community Park   7:30 pm
October 23	Farmers Market Community Park   8 am - Noon

## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2021



National Night Out is October 5, 2021. If you would like Lucas Fire-Rescue to be part of your neighborhood gathering contact Devanie Stevens at 972-727-1242 or by email at [dsteven@lucastexas.us](mailto:dsteven@lucastexas.us). For more information on National Night Out visit [natw.org/about/](http://natw.org/about/).



The Lucas Parks and Open Space Board and the Lucas Farmers Market Committee continue to create opportunities for a wonderful family experience at the Farmers Market. The October markets will be held on October 9 and October 23 at the Community Park. On October 23, the last market of the season, the market will be featuring pumpkin decorating for the kids.

The Lucas Farmers Market is excited to offer a fun activity for kids 12 and under during the October 23 farmers market. In the pavilion during the farmers market from 8:30-11:00 am kids 12 and under will receive a free pumpkin (*while supplies last*) to decorate and take home. Decorating supplies, pumpkin and tables will be provided. As the farmers market winds down for the season, The Farmers Market Volunteer Staff would like to say **“thank you for all your support!”**

This year was the Lucas Farmers Market's first year of normal operations. Our first year was a few “pop-up” markets. We had fun, put our toe in and tested the water. It was very successful, and we made plans to move forward. However, last year's markets were really impacted with the COVID shut-down; we had off markets with drive-thrus and lots of restrictions. Despite all the issues of 2020, we still had some great markets and created a foundation of vendors and volunteers to kick off 2021 successfully, and we did just that!

The Farmers Market Committee was really looking for a great market season in 2021, and we are having it! Most markets averaged around 1,000 plus attendees, live music was incorporated; the farmers market team created some fun events at the pavilion with Chef Demos, pumpkin decorating events, and ice cream contests. This year also kicked off a special booth to support some of the local food pantries and organizations like Samaritan Inn, Allen Community Outreach and Minnie's Pantry. Proudly, Lucas steps up every market with some amazing donations! The Lucas Farmers Market has a great atmosphere with music, special events, families visiting with each other, kids playing on the playground, while parents do some market shopping. It really is a great family environment - has a fun vibe, and would not be successful with the support of our community. Thanks again from all the volunteers at the Lucas Farmers Market! We will see you next year – Bigger and Better.

*Bill Esposito, Lucas Farmers Market Commissioner*



Lucas Fire-Rescue will be concluding Fire Prevention Week with its annual Open House on Sunday, October 10 from 12 to 4 pm at the Lucas Fire Station located at 165 Country Club Road. There will be fun activities for all ages! We hope to see you there!

# Upcoming

## EVENTS

### HALLOWEEN MOVIE IN THE PARK

October 16 | 7:30 pm

Come enjoy the fall evening weather with Movie in the Park on Saturday, October 16, 2021 at the Community Park (665 Country Club Road). The movie will begin at 7:30 pm following sunset. The featured movie will be Disney Pixar's *Onward* which follows two teenage elf brothers who embark on an extraordinary quest filled with magic spells, cryptic maps, impossible obstacles, and unimaginable discoveries. It is the perfect movie to get your family excited for Halloween! We are encouraging your family to dress up in Halloween costumes to attend the event. Free candy, prepackaged snacks and drinks will be given away at the park pavilion. Families are also welcome to bring their own food, lawn chairs, blankets, and pillows to enjoy the Halloween Movie in the Park.

### ARBOR DAY AND RECYCLING EVENT

November 6 | 9 am - 12 pm

Save the date for this year's Arbor Day and Recycling Event on Saturday, November 6, 2021. The dual event supports the Keep Lucas Beautiful program in efforts to promote and support environmental sustainability in our community. Texas Arbor Day is an annual holiday that celebrates the role of trees in our lives and promotes tree planting and care. The City of Lucas partners with the Legacy 4-H Club to give away free tree saplings and mulch to encourage tree planting. The City also partners with United Electronic Recycling for an electronic recycling and paper shredding drop-off service during the event. There will be more information regarding the Arbor Day and Recycling Event in the November Lucas Leader.

### HOLIDAY DONATION DRIVE

November 1 - December 3, 2021

This year's Holiday Donation Drive will be held from November 1 through December 3, 2021. Each year, the City of Lucas holds a donation drive during the holidays to help those in need throughout the community. The City of Lucas will be partnering with Toys for Tots (toys for children), Allen Community Outreach (food for families), Family Promise of Collin County (household essentials/gift cards for families), Sparks Loving Care Home (Senior Angel Tree), Lucas Veterinary Hospital (food for pets), and Friends of the Lucas Fire-Rescue (Streaker restoration). We will have more information in the November Lucas Leader on ways to donate during the Holiday Donation Drive.

### COUNTRY CHRISTMAS

December 3 | 6 - 9 pm

Save the date for this year's Country Christmas event on Friday, December 3, 2021. The City of Lucas will be holding Country Christmas from 6 pm to 9 pm at the Community Park (665 Country Club Road). There will be the holiday tree lighting, ice skating, special movie in the park, holiday market, and Santa's workshop. In-N-Out Burger will be providing free meals at the event. We look forward to celebrating the holiday season with our Lucas community.

## BOARD AND COMMISSION INFORMATION SESSION

October 28 | 6:30 pm

Would you like to serve your community and get involved? One way to do that is to serve on a City of Lucas Board or Commission. The Lucas City Council is always looking for dedicated individuals that are interested in preserving the quality of life in Lucas. One way to learn more about the City boards and commissions is to attend the Meet and Greet information session scheduled for October 28 with the City Council where each board and its duties will be discussed. Applications will be accepted through November 1, prospective candidates will interview with the City Council in November, and the appointment process of selected candidates will occur in December. To serve on a City Board all candidates must meet the following criteria:

- Be a citizen of the City for twelve continuous months prior to appointment
- Be eighteen years old prior to the date of appointment
- Have not been convicted and are not currently charged with a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude
- Have no indebtedness to the City, such as delinquent taxes
- Be a qualified voter of the City

To learn more about the duties of each board and commission and to submit an online application, visit the City's website at [www.lucastexas.us/departments/boards-commissions/](http://www.lucastexas.us/departments/boards-commissions/). For questions contact the City Secretary's office at 972.912.1211.

## MEET SCOTT HOLDEN

City of Lucas Public Works Director



Scott Holden joined the City of Lucas team on September 7, 2021, in the capacity of Public Works Director. Mr. Holden is a professional civil engineer with 23 years of diverse and progressive experience. As a Senior Engineer for the City of Plano, Scott was responsible for the design and construction of Plano's Capital Improvement Programs and monitored professional services and construction contracts. As

the Owner/Project Manager of HoldenGarcia, LLC he was responsible for all aspects of design for small- and large-scale land development which focused on drainage facility design, water distribution systems, wastewater collection systems and roadway design. Scott also served the North Texas Municipal Water District as a Professional Engineer and reviewed design plans and specifications for completeness and accuracy as a quality control function along with managing special projects and studies.

The experience that Scott brings includes coordination of public works activities, project management, fiscal oversight and operating a municipal water system. Scott is a veteran and received an Air Medal in support of Desert Storm. He enjoys golf, boating, fishing and watching his children play baseball. If you would like to contact Scott, he can be reached at 972.912.1208 or by email at [sholden@lucastexas.us](mailto:sholden@lucastexas.us) Welcome to Lucas, Scott!