

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF BAKER, LOUISIANA
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA
3325 GROOM ROAD
BAKER, LA 70714
January 27, 2015
6:00 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on January 27, 2015, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

MAYOR

Harold M. Rideau

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Joyce Burges

John Givens

Pete Heine

Dr. Charles Vincent

Robert Young

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Rideau presided.

The invocation was given by Deborah Anderson.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Deborah Anderson.

DISPOSITION OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Young to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 13, 2015.

YEAS: Burges, Givens, Heine, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

RECOGNITIONS

Council Member Burges recognized the Walgreen Company for hosting a donation drive benefitting adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and senior citizens.

Council Member Burges recognized Baker Presbyterian Church for their historical presence in the City of Baker and being listed on the National Historical Register. As no representative from Baker Presbyterian Church was present at the meeting, Council Member Burges asked that their certificate be mailed to them.

Council Member Vincent announced the American Cancer Society's Baker/Zachary Relay for Life to be held at the Zachary Community Park on Friday, April 24, 2015 from 6:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. He asked everyone to seriously consider giving to the Cheerful Givers Z Team. He also asked that everyone support the American Cancer Society if at all possible.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

William King, 5550 Bentley Drive, expressed his displeasure with the current state of the city.

Eric Burges thanked the Mayor, City Council, Police Department and citizens of Baker for their part in making the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Legacy March the successful event that it was.

UPDATE ON DISTRICTS

1. Update on District 3 (Burges)

The Mayor asked Council Member Burges to provide an update on what they are doing to raise revenue to offset the deficit.

Council Member Burges stated that District 3 was in partnership with Walgreens for their donation drive for seniors last week. She announced the Super Heroes Mission of Love Event to be held at Walgreen's on Saturday, February 14, 2015 from 12:00 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Council Member Burges provided an overview of her meeting with Postlethwaite & Netterville regarding the audit and the state of the city's finances. She stated that the city is not doing as bad as it may have appeared. Council Member Burges said that an additional ½ sales tax or an increase in property taxes is being looked at as possible solutions for generating revenue for the city.

Discussion regarding the audit and budget followed.

Council Member Heine stated for the record that he is opposed to any increase in property or sales tax.

Discussion regarding the audit and budget resumed.

Council Member Burges stated for the record that the way she voted was in the best interest of the citizens of Baker.

Discussion resumed.

2. Update on District 1 (Vincent)

Council Member Vincent reminded those present about Relay for Life. He stated that District 1 will do all it can to support the Cheerful Givers Z Team, and he asked for everyone's support. Council Member Vincent said that he plans to share the ideas and knowledge he has obtained regarding economic development with the Economic Development Team as soon as possible. He stated that following his conversation with the auditor, it is his belief that Baker is going to be fine.

Discussion regarding the audit followed.

3. Update on District 5 (Givens)

Council Member Givens had no update on District 5 at this time.

4. Update on District 4 (Young)

Council Member Young had no update on District 4 at this time.

5. Update on District 2 (Heine)

Council Member Heine had no update on District 2 at this time. He did reiterate the need for the City of Baker to address the deplorable condition of Groom Road, and much needed improvements to the roadway with City Parish.

Discussion followed.

RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Proclamation declaring February 2015 as African-American History Awareness Month in Baker (Vincent)

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Heine to accept the proclamation.

YEAS: Burges, Givens, Heine, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

Council Member Vincent announced a program featuring Dr. Everett D. Gibson and his book A Portrait of Southern University: History, Achievements and Great Football Traditions 1880-2012 to be held on Saturday, February 14, 2015 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:00

a.m. at the Baker Branch Library.

2. Proclamation declaring February 2015 as American Heart Month in Baker (Vincent)

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Burges to accept the proclamation.

YEAS: Burges, Givens, Heine, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Ordinance 2015-1, sales & use tax (Mayor) (Introduced 1/13/2015)

The motion was made by Council Member Givens, seconded by Council Member Vincent to adopt Ordinance 2015-1. Public hearing was held. Vote was called for.

YEAS: Burges, Givens, Heine, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

2. Ordinance 2015-2, insurance license tax (Mayor) (Introduced 1/13/2015)

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Givens to adopt Ordinance 2015-2. Public hearing was held. Vote was called for.

YEAS: Burges, Givens, Heine, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

3. Ordinance 2015-3, occupational license tax (Mayor) (Introduced 1/13/2015)

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Member Givens to adopt Ordinance 2015-3. Public hearing was held. Vote was called for.

YEAS: Burges, Givens, Heine, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

4. Ordinance 2015-4, chain store license tax (Mayor) (Introduced 1/13/2015)

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Burges to adopt Ordinance 2015-4. Public hearing was held. Vote was called for.

YEAS: Burges, Givens, Heine, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

5. Ordinance 2015-5, alcoholic beverage tax (Mayor) (Introduced 1/13/2015)

The motion was made by Council Member Burges, seconded by Council Member Vincent to adopt Ordinance 2015-5. Public hearing was held. Vote was called for.

YEAS: Burges, Givens, Heine, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

6. Ordinance 2015-6, property tax 6.22 mills (Mayor) (Introduced 1/13/2015)

The motion was made by Council Member Burges, seconded by Council Member Vincent to adopt Ordinance 2015-6. Public hearing was held. Vote was called for.

YEAS: Burges, Givens, Heine, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Burges to add item "1. Approve business license for Big Catfish Studio, LLC (Mayor)" under Planning and Zoning Matter to the agenda.

YEAS: Burges, Givens, Heine, Vincent, Young
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

BIDS AND PROPOSALS

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

CONDEMNATIONS

OLD BUSINESS

ANNEXATIONS

1. Proposed annexation of the subject properties as described by the Assessor's Office of East Baton Rouge Parish as portions of: Ward: 2-1 #399, Lot 34-A, Subdivision: Bolwood Acres. 2011 or Tract X of the former Moreland Tract, Section 47 T5S R1E and Ward: 2-2 #1223, Lot B, Subdivision: Sternberg, Erich Tract. Tract "B", Cont. 29.00 acres resubdivision of 31.15 acres of the Erich Sternberg Property in Sec. 47, T5S, R1E. Resub. 2010, Section 47 T5S R1E (Mayor)

The Mayor stated that work is being done on the proposed annexation.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discuss amending Ordinance 2010-37, an ordinance to amend and re-enact Chapter 24 (Traffic and Vehicles), Article IV (Operation of Vehicles) so as to add Sec. 24-148, Shared Roads a/k/a Sharrows to heighten motorist awareness of bicycle traffic on certain roads or streets in the City of Baker by designating the same by shared lane markings a/k/a sharrows (Vincent)

Council Member Vincent stated that he is waiting on input from his colleagues regarding which streets in their districts they would like identified and marked as part of the Share the Road Program. He asked that those council members who have not contacted him do so as soon as possible, so that the program can move forward.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTER

1. *Approve business license for Big Catfish Studio, LLC (Mayor)*

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Burges to accept the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the business license for Big Catfish Studio, LLC.

YEAS: Burges, Givens, Heine, Vincent, Young
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

Discussion regarding the agenda item was held.

REPORTS ON BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

1. Planning and Zoning Commission
2. Annexation Review Committee
3. Economic Development Team
4. Heritage Museum/Related Committees
5. ABC Board

6. Other Special Committees
 - a. Buffalo Festival – Work on this year’s event has begun.
 - b. Prayer Breakfast – The committee will start meeting in the beginning of February.

Council Member Heine announced that Mayor Rideau was elected Vice-President of District H on the LMA Board.

- c. Strategic Planning Committee
- d. Citizens Advisory Board to Law Enforcement – Chief Knaps stated they will be meeting in the near future. Council Member Vincent inquired about his appointments to the board. Discussion followed.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

The Mayor announced that he and the Council will be attending the LMA Mid-Winter Conference next week.

ADJOURN

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Burges to adjourn.

YEAS: Burges, Givens, Heine, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

**CITY OF BAKER
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

I, Angela Canady, certify that I am acting Clerk of the Council for the City of Baker, Louisiana, and that the above and foregoing is a copy of the minutes of a regular meeting of the Council for the City of Baker, Louisiana held on January 27, 2015.

Angela Canady, Clerk of Council

**MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HILLCREST MEMORIAL GARDENS
CITY OF BAKER
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA
3325 GROOM ROAD
BAKER, LA 70714
January 27, 2015**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, sitting as the Board of Commissioners for the Hillcrest Memorial Gardens, met in regular session on January 27, 2015, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

COMMISSIONERS

Joyce Burges
John Givens
Pete Heine
Harold M. Rideau
Dr. Charles Vincent
Robert Young

CALL TO ORDER – Commissioner Rideau presided.

DISPOSITION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The meeting was called to order and the motion was made by Commissioner Heine, seconded by Commissioner Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 13, 2015.

YEAS: Burges, Givens, Heine, Rideau, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS

PUBLIC NOTICE

NEW BUSINESS

OTHER NECESSARY BUSINESS

1. Monthly Business Report

2. Other Reports

3. Items Requiring Action

ADJOURN

There was no other business to come before the commission. The motion was made by Commissioner Rideau, seconded by Commissioner Vincent to adjourn.

YEAS: Burges, Givens, Heine, Rideau, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

**CITY OF BAKER
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

I, Angela Canady, certify that I am acting Clerk of the Council for the City of Baker, Louisiana, and that the above and foregoing is a copy of the minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the Hillcrest Memorial Gardens held on January 27, 2015.

Angela Canady, Clerk of Council

**MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BAKER CONSOLIDATED UTILITIES SYSTEM
CITY OF BAKER
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA
3325 GROOM ROAD
BAKER, LA 70714
January 27, 2015**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, sitting as the Board of Commissioners for the Baker Consolidated Utilities System, met in regular session on January 27, 2015, with the following members attending:

COMMISSIONERS

Joyce Burges
John Givens
Pete Heine
Harold M. Rideau
Dr. Charles Vincent
Robert Young

CALL TO ORDER – Commissioner Rideau presided.

DISPOSITION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The meeting was called to order and the motion was made by Commissioner Rideau, seconded by Commissioner Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 13, 2015.

YEAS: Burges, Givens, Heine, Rideau, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS

PUBLIC NOTICE

NEW BUSINESS

OTHER NECESSARY BUSINESS

1. Monthly Business Report
2. Other Reports
3. Items Requiring Action

ADJOURN

There was no further business to come before the commission. The motion was made by Commissioner Rideau, seconded by Commissioner Vincent to adjourn.

YEAS: Burges, Givens, Heine, Rideau, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

**CITY OF BAKER
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

I, Angela Canady, certify that I am acting Clerk of the Council for the City of Baker, Louisiana, and that the above and foregoing is a copy of the minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Baker Consolidated Utility System held on January 27, 2015.

Angela Canady, Clerk of Council