

**MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF BAKER, LOUISIANA  
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
3325 GROOM ROAD  
BAKER, LA 70714  
September 27, 2016  
6:00 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on September 27, 2016, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

**MAYOR**

Darnell Waites

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Doris Alexander  
Glenda Bryant  
Pete Heine  
Brenda G. Jackson  
Dr. Charles Vincent

**CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Waites presided.  
The invocation was given by Council Member Vincent.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Deacon Johnson.

**DISPOSITION OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Bryant to approve the minutes of the meeting held on September 13, 2016.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

Kenneth Cutno, candidate for Louisiana's 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District, introduced himself and presented his platform.

**RECOGNITIONS**

1. Recognize Zi-Kia Williams – Sickle Cell Anemia Ambassador – and declare her an Honorary Council Member (Vincent)  
Council Member Vincent recognized Zi-Kia Williams – Sickle Cell Anemia Ambassador – and declared her an Honorary Council Member.

**PLANNING AND ZONING MATTER**

1. Approve business license for Inner City Learning Center  
Location – 1060 Main Street, Baker, LA (Mayor)

The Mayor asked that this item be tabled, as no representative from Inner City Learning Center was present.

**RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

1. Proclamation declaring October 2016 as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the City of Baker (Jackson)  
Council Member Jackson spoke about the importance of promoting awareness of domestic violence.

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

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

2. Proclamation declaring October 2016 as Breast Cancer Awareness Month in the City of Baker (Vincent)

Council Member Vincent reminded those present about Relay for Life, and asked everyone to support the Cheerful Givers Z Team and the American Cancer Society.

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

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

### **PUBLIC MEETING**

1. Ordinance 2016-28, an ordinance to allow for temporary placement, for up to 18 months, of manufactured housing in residential districts and/or designated disaster relief site in response to the 2016 flood event (Mayor) (Introduced 9/13/2016)

Public meeting was held. The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Jackson to adopt Ordinance 2016-28. Vote was called for.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

### **BIDS AND PROPOSALS**

### **APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

### **CONDEMNATIONS**

### **ANNEXATIONS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Introduce Ordinance 2016-27, an ordinance to designate Baker Police Department equipment to be surplus (Mayor)

Discussion regarding the designation of Baker Police Department equipment to be surplus, as well as the city's policies/procedures pertaining to surplus property was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Bryant to introduce Ordinance 2016-27.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

### **REPORTS ON BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

1. Planning and Zoning Commission
2. Annexation Review Committee
3. Economic Development
4. Heritage Museum/Related Committees – Heritage Museum Director Jean Byers stated that they are working on a series of exhibits featuring the photographic art of Willie Harris to be shown later in the fall.
5. ABC Board
6. Other Special Committees

- a. Buffalo Festival – The Mayor provided a recap of the festival, saying that the event was well attended and a good time was had by all. He thanked everyone who contributed to making the event a success.
- b. Prayer Breakfast
- c. Strategic Planning Committee
- d. Citizens Advisory Board to Law Enforcement – Chief Dunn stated that he is looking at the third Thursday of October as a possible meeting date. He said that once plans are finalized notices will be sent out.

#### **NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Tarita Freeman, 1404 Johnston, asked who the new city inspector is, and for his job description. The Mayor stated that the city is currently using Donovan Simmons. He said Mr. Simmons has been hired due to the increased work load following the flood.

Discussion followed.

Council Member Vincent thanked the Mayor for getting debris picked up, and for having the street lights on Lavey Lane repaired. He thanked the city employees for all they've done in the wake of the catastrophic flooding.

Council Member Heine thanked the Buffalo Festival Committee for honoring him by naming him Grand Marshal of the Buffalo Festival parade. He commended the Mayor on the way he handled his duties at the Buffalo Festival, as well as on the job he's doing for the Baker community.

Council Member Bryant reminded residents to update their information with the city to facilitate communication. She also encouraged residents to contact their council members with any concerns or needs they may have.

Council Member Alexander announced that the Baker Rotary Club will be distributing insulation on Friday, Saturday and Sunday to residents affected by the flood. Distribution will be held in the Miracle Place parking lot.

Tarita Freeman, 1404 Johnston, asked Chief Dunn about the theft that occurred at her home following the flood.

Discussion followed.

Council Member Jackson announced that she along with Council Members Bryant and Heine attended the POW/MIA event at VFW Post 4224. Photos from the event will be posted on the city's website. She thanked Council Member Bryant for suggesting that they walk in the Buffalo Festival Parade, and said they had a great time. Council Member Jackson then introduced Ms. Tawana Harris a domestic violence awareness advocate.

Tawana Harris spoke about the planned activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the City of Baker, saying that domestic violence is a crisis in our community. She asked that everyone participate and support their ongoing efforts to raise awareness of domestic violence.

Bill Johnson asked that the city address the high grass, junk vehicles and trash at several properties on Lavey Lane.

Discussion followed.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

The Mayor announced that the shelter will be closing on September 30, 2016. There is a transition team in place to assist people with relocation.

The Mayor stated that the process for FEMA housing is slow. The city is working on opening a group location for multiple mobile homes on Groom Road, the same site that housed Renaissance Village following Hurricane Katrina. He stressed the importance of

providing housing for displaced residents of Baker and the northern portion of East Baton Rouge Parish.

The Mayor said that contractors have completed the first run for debris pick-up. He asked that everyone fill out Right of Entry forms, so that the contractors can access debris located on resident's property.

The Mayor announced that a community meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 4, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at Redemption Life Fellowship. Topics for discussion include transitional housing, mitigation, substantial damage, and available federal and parish funds for flood victims. Congressman Garret Graves will be in attendance.

The Mayor commended Assistant Chief Bonaventure of the Fire Department for the job he's doing despite the losses he suffered due to the flood.

The Mayor announced that Baker High School will have its homecoming parade and game on Friday. He encouraged everyone to come out and support the team, and to show their Baker pride by wearing red and black on Fridays.

Council Member Vincent asked about the status of the work being done on the bridge on Morvant.

Discussion followed.

**ADJOURN**

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

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

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 September 27, 2016.

---

Angela Canady, LCMC  
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  
September 27, 2016**

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 September 27, 2016, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

**COMMISSIONERS**

Doris Alexander  
Glenda Bryant  
Pete Heine  
Brenda G. Jackson  
Dr. Charles Vincent  
Darnell Waites

**CALL TO ORDER** – Commissioner Waites presided.

**DISPOSITION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The meeting was called to order and the motion was made by Commissioner Heine, seconded by Commissioner Bryant to approve the minutes of the meeting held on September 13, 2016.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent, Waites

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

**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 Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Bryant to adjourn.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent, Waites

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 September 27, 2016.

---

Angela Canady, LCMC  
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  
September 27, 2016**

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 September 27, 2016, with the following members attending:

**COMMISSIONERS**

Doris Alexander  
Glenda Bryant  
Pete Heine  
Brenda G. Jackson  
Dr. Charles Vincent  
Darnell Waites

**CALL TO ORDER** – Commissioner Waites presided.

**DISPOSITION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The meeting was called to order and the motion was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on September 13, 2016.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent, Waites

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

**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 Commissioners Heine/Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Vincent to adjourn.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent, Waites

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 September 27, 2016.

---

Angela Canady, LCMC  
Clerk of Council