

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF BAKER, LOUISIANA
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA
3325 GROOM ROAD
BAKER, LA 70714
May 23, 2017
3:30 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on May 23, 2017, 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 Pastor Brown.
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Waites.

DISPOSITION OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Jackson to approve the minutes of the meeting held on May 15, 2017.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

The motion was made by Council Member Alexander, seconded by Council Member Jackson to have item “5. Ordinance 2017-15, an ordinance to amend the City of Baker Fire Department pay plan and the rate of pay per hour for Fire Department employees for the City of Baker, Louisiana (Alexander) (Introduced 5/9/2017)” first under Public Meeting.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Jackson to add scheduling a work session to discuss the 2016-2017 audit to the agenda.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Jackson to schedule a work session on Monday, June 12, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. to discuss the 2016-2017 audit.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

RECOGNITIONS

1. Recognize the Athletes of the Year from Baker High School (Mayor)
The Mayor recognized Dexter Dennis and Tia Young for being named Baker High School Athletes of the Year.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTER

1. Approve business license for Creative Baskets by Me
Location – 1010 Patricia, Baker, LA (Mayor)
The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Member Vincent to accept the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the business license for Creative Baskets by Me.
YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Proclamation declaring June 2017 as Vision Research Awareness Month in the City of Baker (Vincent)
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

5. Ordinance 2017-15, an ordinance to amend the City of Baker Fire Department pay plan and the rate of pay per hour for Fire Department employees for the City of Baker, Louisiana (Alexander) (Introduced 5/9/2017)
Public meeting was held.

Discussion regarding the proposed ordinance was held.

Council Member Heine qualified his vote saying that he is a staunch supporter of the Fire Department and its employees. As one of the founders of the city's fire department and a former volunteer fireman, he is in complete agreement that the requested pay increase is well deserved. However, he feels that the request is ill timed.

The motion was made by Council Member Alexander, seconded by Council Member Jackson to adopt Ordinance 2017-15.
YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Jackson, Vincent
NAYS: Heine
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
The motion passed with a vote of 4-1.

1. Ordinance 2017-11, an ordinance adopting the Capital Improvement Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the City of Baker, Louisiana for fiscal year 2017-2018 (Mayor) (Introduced 4/25/2017)
Public meeting was held.
2. Ordinance 2017-12, an ordinance adopting the annual Utility Fund Budget for the City of Baker, Louisiana for fiscal year 2017-2018 (Mayor) (Introduced 4/25/2017)
Public meeting was held.
3. Ordinance 2017-13, an ordinance adopting the annual Utility Fund Capital

Improvements Budget for City of Baker, Louisiana for fiscal year 2017-2018
(Mayor) (Introduced 4/25/2017)

Public meeting was held.

4. Ordinance 2017-14, an ordinance adopting the annual General Fund and Minor Fund Budgets of Revenues and Expenditures for the City of Baker, LA for fiscal year 2017-2018 (Mayor) (Introduced 4/25/2017)

Public meeting was held.

BIDS AND PROPOSALS

1. Award bid for Hovey Avenue improvements (Mayor)

Council Member Heine stated that he spoke with residents that will be impacted by the proposed improvements, and while he is not comfortable with the proposed work, he will vote to award the bid.

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Member Vincent to award the bid for the Hovey Avenue improvements.

Discussion regarding the agenda item was held.

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.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

CONDEMNATIONS

ANNEXATIONS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Abandoned and/or blighted properties (Mayor) (held over from 3/28/2017)

- a. 2465 Hovey Avenue

No action was taken on this agenda item.

- b. 1748 Clark Street

No action was taken on this agenda item.

- c. 1008 Epperson

No action was taken on this agenda item.

- d. 3657 Buchanan Street

No action was taken on this agenda item.

- e. 613 Charles

No action was taken on this agenda item.

- f. 4506 Ashland

No action was taken on this agenda item.

Council Member Bryant asked how a For Sale sign being placed in the front yard at 4506 Ashland affects its status on the abandoned and/or blighted properties list.

Discussion followed.

Council Member Jackson asked that the grass be cut at 613 Charles.

Council Member Vincent asked about the status of the houses on Lavey Lane.

Discussion followed.

2. Discussion of petition for street dedication in Council Member Bryant's district (Bryant)

Council Member Bryant provided an explanation of the petition for street dedication. The street in question is the gravel road off of Groom Road near All About Storage. She said that the residents that live on the street would like for it to be paved and to have drainage installed. She also stated that doing so is in the best interest of public safety, as it would facilitate access for emergency vehicles, as well as the fire and police departments to residents living on the street.

Discussion followed.

3. Denise Stevenson founder of First Quarter Community Squadron, Inc. to provide an overview of the organization's vision and purpose (Jackson)

Ms. Stevenson gave a presentation regarding her non-profit organization First Quarter Community Squadron, Inc. She detailed the organization's vision and purpose and explained their many initiatives aimed at assisting the youth in our community.

4. Introduce Ordinance 2017-16, an ordinance to provide for the posting of annual budget(s) to the City of Baker official website upon adoption by the Baker City Council (Jackson)

Council Member Jackson provided an overview of the Ordinance 2017-16.

The motion was made by Council Member Jackson, seconded by Council Member Alexander to introduce Ordinance 2017-16.

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 Team
4. Heritage Museum/Related Committees
5. ABC Board
6. Other Special Committees
 - a. Buffalo Festival
 - b. Prayer Breakfast – Chief Edwards stated that everything is on schedule.
 - c. Strategic Planning Committee
 - d. Citizens Advisory Board to Law Enforcement

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Bill Johnson, 14044 Brantley, thanked the Mayor and City Council for recognizing the Zachary Men's Club for receiving the 2017 Solaris Award for Overall Outstanding Program at the last meeting. Mr. Johnson expressed his concerns regarding the cleanliness of the city, especially Main Street. He asked that a task force be formed to address the issue, and volunteered his time to support the effort.

Discussion followed.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

ADJOURN

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Vincent 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 May 23, 2017.

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
May 23, 2017**

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 May 23, 2017, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

COMMISSIONERS

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

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 Commissioners Bryant/Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on May 9, 2017.

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 Vincent, seconded by Commissioner Jackson 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 May 23, 2017.

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
May 23, 2017**

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 May 23, 2017, with the following members attending:

COMMISSIONERS

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

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 Vincent, seconded by Commissioner Jackson to approve the minutes of the meeting held on May 9, 2017.

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 Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioners Bryant/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 May 23, 2017.

Angela Canady, LCMC
Clerk of Council