

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF BAKER, LOUISIANA
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA
3325 GROOM ROAD
BAKER, LA 70714
January 23, 2018
6:00 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on January 23, 2018, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

COUNCIL MEMBERS

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

ABSENT

Mayor Darnell Waites

CALL TO ORDER – Council Member Bryant presided.
The invocation was given by Council Member Heine.
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Willie Williams.

DISPOSITION OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Jackson to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 9, 2018.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

Council Member Bryant asked that item “4. Long term recovery presentation (Mayor)” under New Business be moved up to Resolutions and Proclamations.

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Member Vincent to move item “4. Long term recovery presentation (Mayor)” under New Business up to Resolutions and Proclamations on the agenda.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

RECOGNITIONS

1. Recognize Greg Peterson for exemplifying an outstanding level of trustworthiness and integrity (Jackson)

Council Member Jackson recognized Greg Peterson for exemplifying an outstanding level of trustworthiness and integrity.

Council Member Bryant asked that the following item be added to the agenda – resolution to adopt the Baker United Strategic Recovery Plan.

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Member Vincent to add the item to the agenda.

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

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

Council Member Bryant asked that the following item be added under New Business to the agenda – rescheduling of the February 13, 2018 council meeting.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Jackson to add rescheduling the February 13, 2018 council meeting to the agenda.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTER

RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Proclamation declaring February 2018 as African-American History Awareness Month in the City of Baker (Vincent)

Council Member Vincent provided a brief history of African-American History Month.

Council Member Vincent announced that the “Heroes of African-American History Series” program will be held on Saturday, February 3, 2018 at the Baker Branch Library from 10:00 a.m. to Noon.

City Attorney Fabre read the proclamation.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Heine 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 February 2018 as American Heart Awareness Month in the City of Baker (Vincent)

City Attorney Fabre read the proclamation.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Members Bryant/Heine 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.

3. *Resolution to adopt the Baker United Strategic Recovery Plan (Mayor)*

City Attorney Fabre read the resolution.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Vincent to adopt the resolution.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

4. *Long term recovery presentation (Mayor)*

John Russell, FEMA, gave a presentation on the Baker United Strategic Recovery Plan.

Council Member Bryant, on behalf of the Mayor, the administration, the City Council and the citizens of Baker, thanked them for all of the hard work they have done. She assured them that the city will utilize every resource they have provided. Council Member Vincent expressed this sentiment as well.

PUBLIC MEETING

1. Ordinance 2018-1, sales & use tax (Mayor) (Introduced 1/9/2018)
Public meeting was held.

Council Member Heine clarified that these are not new taxes, nor are they taxes that have been increased. He explained that they are the taxes that the City of Baker must adopt by ordinance every year.

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Member Vincent to adopt Ordinance 2018-1.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

2. Ordinance 2018-2, insurance license tax (Mayor) (Introduced 1/9/2018)
Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Heine to adopt Ordinance 2018-2.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

3. Ordinance 2018-3, occupational license tax (Mayor) (Introduced 1/9/2018)
Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Members Jackson/Vincent to adopt Ordinance 2018-3.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

4. Ordinance 2018-4, chain store license tax (Mayor) (Introduced 1/9/2018)
Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Member Vincent to adopt Ordinance 2018-4.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

5. Ordinance 2018-5, alcoholic beverage tax (Mayor) (Introduced 1/9/2018)
Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Vincent to adopt Ordinance 2018-5.

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

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

6. Ordinance 2018-6, property tax 6.22 mills (Mayor) (Introduced 1/9/2018)
Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Member Vincent to adopt Ordinance 2018-6.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

7. Ordinance 2018-7, an ordinance for the adequate posting of address numbers on houses, buildings and structures (Mayor) (Introduced 1/9/2018)
Public meeting was held.

Council Member Vincent initiated discussion regarding the size of the address numbers to be posted.

Council Member Heine reiterated the seriousness of this ordinance, saying it is vitally important to the health, safety and welfare of the people.

Council Member Vincent stated that at one time the Fire Department had grants to assist residents with the posting of address numbers, in an effort to ensure that all structures in the city were properly posted.

Discussion followed.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Vincent to adopt Ordinance 2018-7.

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

1. 1531 Robinson (Mayor)
2. 2190 Hovey (Mayor)

Discussion regarding the City of Baker's condemnation process was held.

ANNEXATIONS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Introduce Ordinance 2018-8, an ordinance to amend and supplement Ordinance 2016-28 (Mayor)
City Attorney Fabre provided an overview of the proposed ordinance.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Jackson to introduce Ordinance 2018-8.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

2. Introduce Ordinance 2018-9, an ordinance to amend 2018 budget for General Fund, Special Revenue Funds and Enterprise Funds based on mid-year review of budget to actual comparisons and current known facts of future events (Mayor) Finance Director Mary Sue Stages explained the proposed ordinance.

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Member Vincent to introduce Ordinance 2018-9.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

3. Introduce Ordinance 2018-10, an ordinance to adopt East Baton Rouge City Parish sewer pretreatment ordinance(s) and amendments from time to time in Accordance with the inter-jurisdictional agreement between the City of Baker and East Baton Rouge City Parish (Mayor) City Attorney Fabre provided an overview of the proposed ordinance.

Council Member Alexander initiated discussion regarding raising the water rates in the city, asking if that is something that the City Council would be responsible for and if so, how soon the issue would be brought before them as a body.

City Attorney Fabre stated that he has been advising, even with the previous council, that it is dangerous to delay it. It is his opinion that this issue will come before the council very soon.

Discussion regarding the proposed ordinance and the possibility of raising the City of Baker's water rates resumed.

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Member Vincent to introduce Ordinance 2018-10.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

4. *Reschedule the February 13, 2018 council meeting (Bryant)*

Discussion regarding rescheduling the February 13, 2018 council meeting was held.

It was decided to reschedule the meeting for Wednesday, February 14, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. Council Member Jackson stated that she will be unable to attend the meeting on that day.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Heine to reschedule the February 13, 2018 council meeting for Wednesday, February 14, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

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
- c. Strategic Planning Committee
- d. Citizens Advisory Board to Law Enforcement

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Council Member Vincent asked that the city reinstate its annual clean-up day. He suggested coordinating with East Baton Rouge Parish, saying that they typically hold their clean-up sometime in April. He asked that everyone consider donating to the American Cancer Society, and announced that the Relay for Life event will be held on Friday, April 20, 2018 in Zachary at the Americana YMCA. Council Member Vincent also asked that everyone consider supporting the Cheerful Givers Z Team in the upcoming Relay for Life event.

Council Member Heine thanked the Mayor and his administration for their efforts in cleaning up Main Street, specifically the two businesses located on opposite corners of Main Street and Truman. He wanted to commend them for the results.

Council Member Bryant announced that the mustard greens and purple turnips were not destroyed by the recent snow. She stated that the gardens located at the Methodist Church and Fire Department are ready for harvest, and asked that everyone come out and get some of the vegetables.

Council Member Alexander announced that the “Walk Together Children” program will be held on Sunday, February 18, 2018 at the First Baptist Church of Baker from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The program is being sponsored by the Main Street Pilot Club and City of Baker Schools. The event is a fund raiser benefiting the Baker High School Symphonic Band’s invitational trip to perform at Carnegie Hall at the National Band & Orchestra Festival.

Council Member Jackson thanked Julie McCulloch and her staff for addressing the situation at Chipley and Balm. She also thanked Richard Jackson and his crew for their assistance with the burst pipe in her yard, saying the situation was addressed in a timely manner. Council Member Jackson announced that a “Good Job Workshop” is being presented by Michelle McKellar on Saturday, January 27, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to Noon at the Epic Center located at 6220 Florida Boulevard, Suite B, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The cost is \$20.00 in advance and \$25.00 at the door, and registration is available online at www.goodjobworkshop18eventbrite.com.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Administrative Officer Julie McCulloch stated that the Mayor asked that the Police and Fire Departments be commended for everything they did during the recent snow event. He said that both departments went above and beyond their call, and he felt that both deserved special commendation for their actions.

Council Member Jackson recognized Ms. Sandra Jones, a District 5 constituent, for spearheading the CERT program in the City of Baker, and expressed her appreciation for citizens helping to help Baker become a more progressive city.

Ms. Jones thanked the City of Baker and its residents for all of the support they’ve provided to both her and the CERT program.

City Attorney Fabre expressed his heartfelt thanks to everyone for their condolences following the death of his mother. He thanked the citizens of Baker, the Mayor and City Council, the ministries in the city, and Miracle Place Church for all of the love, prayers and support for him and his entire family.

ADJOURN

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Members Alexander/Jackson/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 January 23, 2018.

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
January 23, 2018**

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 23, 2018, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

COMMISSIONERS

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

ABSENT

Darnell Waites

CALL TO ORDER – Commissioner Bryant presided.

Commissioner Alexander stepped away from her seat.

DISPOSITION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The meeting was called to order and the motion was made by Commissioner Heine, seconded by Commissioner Jackson to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 9, 2018.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Alexander, Waites

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NEW BUSINESS

OTHER NECESSARY BUSINESS

1. Monthly Business Report

Niketa King submitted a monthly sales report for December 2017.

The motion was made by Commissioner Heine, seconded by Commissioner Vincent to accept the sales report submitted for December 2017.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Alexander, Waites

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

2. Other Reports

3. Items Requiring Action

ADJOURN

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

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None
ABSENT: Alexander, Waites
ABSTAIN: None
The motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

**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 23, 2018.

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
January 23, 2018**

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 23, 2018, with the following members attending:

COMMISSIONERS

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

ABSENT

Darnell Waites

CALL TO ORDER – Commissioner Bryant 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 9, 2018.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Alexander, Waites

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Vincent asked if any of the city's collectors are still down. Administrative Officer Julie McCulloch stated that all of the collectors are up and fully functional at this time.

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 Commissioner Vincent to adjourn.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Alexander, Waites

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

**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 23, 2018.

Angela Canady, LCMC
Clerk of Council