

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF BAKER, LOUISIANA
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA
3325 GROOM ROAD
BAKER, LA 70714
May 8, 2018
6:00 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on May 8, 2018, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

MAYOR
Darnell Waites

COUNCIL MEMBERS
Glenda Bryant
Pete Heine
Brenda G. Jackson
Dr. Charles Vincent

ABSENT
Doris Alexander

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Waites presided.
The invocation was given by Bishop Michael Smith.
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 Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 24, 2018.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Alexander

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Jackson to add items “1. Approve business license for Waffle House (Mayor) and 2. Approve business license for Healthy Options, LLC (Mayor)” under Planning and Zoning Matters to the agenda.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Alexander

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

Council Member Bryant stated that Ordinances 2018-18 and 2018-19 need to be added to the agenda for introduction.

The Mayor asked Council Member Vincent to read, for the record, the title of proposed Ordinance 2018-19. Council Member Vincent read the title of Ordinance 2018-19 into the record.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Heine to add items “2. Introduce Ordinance 2018-18, an ordinance to amend, supplement and reenact City of Baker Code of Ordinances Chapter 13.5, Article II, Section 13.5-32 and Section 13.5-33, relative to composition of the Baker Police Reserve Division and to provide for other matters regarding to the same (Mayor) and 3. Introduce Ordinance 2018-19, an ordinance to amend, supplement and reenact City of Baker Code of Ordinances Chapter 5, Section 5-7 concerning building permits and certification of

compliance and to provide for other matters regarding the same (Mayor)” under New Business to the agenda.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Alexander

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

RECOGNITIONS

1. Recognize the Baker High School Band for playing at Carnegie Hall (Mayor)
The Mayor recognized the Baker High School Band for playing at Carnegie Hall.

2. Recognize Bishop Michael Smith for receiving his Doctor of Divinity degree from St. Thomas Christian University in Jacksonville, Florida (Mayor)

The Mayor recognized Bishop Michael Smith for receiving his Doctor of Divinity degree from St. Thomas Christian University in Jacksonville, Florida.

3. Recognize Chester Cador for his participation in the planting of the First United Methodist community garden (Bryant)

Council Member Bryant recognized Chester Cador for his participation in the planting of the First United Methodist community garden. Chief Dunn accepted the recognition on Mr. Cador’s behalf, as he was unable to attend the meeting.

4. Recognize Sondra Hayes for her participation in the planting of the First United Methodist community garden (Bryant)

Council Member Bryant recognized Sondra Hayes for her participation in the planting of the First United Methodist community garden. Chief Dunn accepted the recognition on Ms. Hayes’s behalf, as she was unable to attend the meeting.

5. Recognize Courtney Sykes for her participation in the planting of the First United Methodist community garden (Bryant)

Council Member Bryant recognized Courtney Sykes for her participation in the planting of the First United Methodist community garden. Chief Dunn accepted the recognition on Ms. Sykes’s behalf, as she was unable to attend the meeting.

Council Member Bryant recognized all of the youth who participated in the planting of the First United Methodist community garden as well. Chief Dunn accepted the recognitions on behalf of the youth who participated in the work at the community garden.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS

1. *Approve business license for Waffle House*
Location – 14618 Plank Road, Baker, LA (Mayor)

Discussion regarding the agenda item was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Jackson, seconded by Council Member Vincent to accept the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the business license for Waffle House.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Alexander

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

2. *Approve business license for Healthy Options, LLC*
Location – 360 Main Street, Baker, LA (Mayor)

Discussion regarding the agenda item was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Members Bryant/Vincent to accept the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the business license for Healthy Options, LLC.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Proclamation declaring May 2018 National High Blood Pressure Education 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 Member Jackson to accept the proclamation.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

PUBLIC MEETING

1. Ordinance 2018-14, an ordinance to declare certain City of Baker property surplus and scrap and for related matters (Mayor) (Introduced 4/24/2018)
Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Members Bryant/Heine to adopt Ordinance 2018-14.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

2. Ordinance 2018-15, an ordinance to amend, supplement and reenact City of Baker Code of Ordinances Article V, Section 152 (a) and Section 152 (c), and to provide for other matters relative to the same (Mayor) (Introduced 4/24/2018)

The Mayor provided an overview of the proposed ordinance.

City Attorney Fabre read the amended title of Ordinance 2018-15 into the record.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Vincent to amend the title of Ordinance 2018-15 so that it reads as follows – Ordinance 2018-15, an ordinance to amend, supplement and reenact City of Baker Code of Ordinances Article V, Section 152 (a) and Section 152 (c) concerning grass and weeds and to provide for other matters relative to the same.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

Discussion regarding high grass and weeds and the manner in which the city addresses these issues was held.

Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Member Bryant to adopt Ordinance 2018-15.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

3. Ordinance 2018-17, an ordinance to declare certain City of Baker property surplus and scrap and for related matters (Mayor) (Introduced 4/24/2018)
Discussion regarding surplus property and the city's method of disposal for such items was held.

Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Heine to adopt Ordinance 2018-17.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Alexander

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

BIDS AND PROPOSALS

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

CONDEMNATIONS

1. 1531 Robinson (Mayor)

The Mayor stated that the city will send out another certified letter to the owners of this property.

The Mayor reported that one of the properties on Lavey Lane burned down and the incident is currently being investigated by the Baker Fire Department. He said that the requisite letters will be sent to the owners of the property regarding high grass and blight.

2. 4920 Lavey (Mayor)

The Mayor asked that this item be placed on hold.

3. 5002 Lavey (Mayor)

The Mayor asked that this item be placed on hold.

ANNEXATIONS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Site Plan Review Committee (Vincent)

No action was taken on this agenda item.

2. *Introduce Ordinance 2018-18, an ordinance to amend, supplement and reenact City of Baker Code of Ordinances Chapter 13.5, Article II, Section 13.5-32 and Section 13.5-33, relative to composition of the Baker Police Reserve Division and to provide for other matters regarding to the same (Mayor)*

Police Chief Dunn provided an overview of the proposed ordinance and initiated discussion regarding the same.

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Member Vincent to introduce Ordinance 2018-18.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Alexander

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

3. *Introduce Ordinance 2018-19, an ordinance to amend, supplement and reenact City of Baker Code of Ordinances Chapter 5, Section 5-7 concerning building permits and certification of compliance and to provide for other matters regarding the same (Mayor)*

The Mayor stated that this ordinance will change the process of getting permits by adding additional steps. Applicants will be required to submit their plans to the Site Plan Review Committee for approval. The plans will then be forwarded to the Planning & Zoning

Commission for their approval.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Heine to introduce Ordinance 2018-19.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Alexander

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

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 – Congressman Garret Graves will be the guest speaker.
 - c. Strategic Planning Committee
 - d. Citizens Advisory Board to Law Enforcement

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Sonya Jackson, 202 Chaleur, expressed her concerns regarding the garbage cans on Shilo. The Mayor stated that steps are being taken to address the situation.

Council Member Vincent asked the Mayor to have the toy pick-up truck on the side of Highway 19 removed. Council Member Vincent commended the city and Public Works Director Kelvin Ridgley for the work they are doing.

Council Member Heine asked about the status of the demolition at 2190 Hovey. He said the house is an eyesore and people in the neighborhood are trying to clean up. He asked that the Mayor and Council stay on top of the situation. Council Member Heine stated that there are still loose ends to tie up on the handling of the zoo. He stated that he has received the first \$100.00 donation towards the city's efforts to purchase an animal. Council Member Heine reiterated that work on this initiative continues.

Council Member Bryant asked that everyone keep Council Member Alexander in their prayers. She announced that Redemption Life Fellowship Church will host a program on Wednesday, May 9, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. The program is Cash Crowd Fundraising and is aimed at assisting individuals get back into their homes. The CEO will be on hand to facilitate and answer questions. She thanked the Baker Fire Department for all of their hard work on the planting of the community garden located near their facility. She said she appreciates them.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

The Mayor reported that the city was approved to receive a grant to create a bike path as part of the long term recovery program.

The Mayor stated that there are 62 trash piles in the city currently. He reiterated the city's policy on trash pick-up, reminding everyone that the city is no longer picking up debris resulting from the gutting of a property. The Mayor said debris removal is the responsibility of the person renovating the property. He also reminded everyone that trees cut down by a professional must be removed by the contractor.

The Mayor asked that everyone report street lights that are out. He asked residents to contact both the city and their electric provider and report the outage.

The Mayor reminded everyone to remove valuables from their cars and be sure to always lock the vehicle, as a number of break-ins have been reported.

The Mayor said that Representative Barbara Carpenter submitted a resolution today that went through the committee that will give cities a little control to work with BREC. He said when it comes to the zoo – the City of Baker wants to be at the table. The resolution is now in the House. The Mayor asked that everyone become involved and support Greenwood Park and the zoo.

The Mayor stated that the City of Baker and the Recreation Committee are working with BREC on the activities/programs being offered in our gym and at our parks. He said the Recreation Committee is working towards rehabilitating Jefferson Street park so that the city can host baseball and softball tournaments.

The Mayor said that we have to stop tearing each other down. He said we have to quit talking about how bad things are and talk about how good things can be.

Council Member Vincent asked for clarification on the process for reporting street light outages.

ADJOURN

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

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Alexander

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with 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 Council for the City of Baker, Louisiana held on May 8, 2018.

Angela Canady Wall, 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 8, 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 May 8, 2018, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

COMMISSIONERS

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

ABSENT

Doris Alexander

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 Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 24, 2018.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent, Waites

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Alexander

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

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 Heine to adjourn.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent, Waites

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Alexander

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by 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 Board of Commissioners for the Hillcrest Memorial Gardens held on May 8, 2018.

Angela Canady Wall, 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 8, 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 May 8, 2018, with the following members attending:

COMMISSIONERS

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

ABSENT

Doris Alexander

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 Bryant to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 24, 2018.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent, Waites

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Alexander

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

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 Vincent, seconded by Commissioner Heine to adjourn.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent, Waites

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Alexander

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by 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 Board of Commissioners of the Baker Consolidated Utility System held on May 8, 2018.

Angela Canady Wall, LCMC
Clerk of Council