

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF BAKER, LOUISIANA
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA
3325 GROOM ROAD
BAKER, LA 70714
July 10, 2018
6:00 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on July 10, 2018, 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 City Attorney Fabre.
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Bryant.

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 June 26, 2018.

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 Heine, seconded by Council Members Jackson/Vincent to add “Paul Sawyer with Congressman Garret Graves’ Office – Funding of Priority Flood Protection Projects (Mayor)” to the agenda.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

Paul Sawyer with Congressman Garret Graves’ Office – Funding of Priority Flood Protection Projects (Mayor)

Paul Sawyer, Congressman Garret Graves’ Chief of Staff, gave a presentation regarding the funding that is now available for priority flood protection projects. He stated that the money needed to complete the Comite River Diversion Canal is in place and they believe that the entire project can be completed in four years.

Discussion regarding the available funds and the possible/proposed flood control projects followed.

RECOGNITIONS

1. Recognize Latania Anderson for passing the Certification Examination for Sustainable Neighborhood Developers (Jackson)
Council Member Jackson recognized Latania Anderson for passing the Certification Examination for Sustainable Neighborhood Developers.
2. Recognize Evelyn A. Parker for passing the Certification Examination for

Sustainable Neighborhood Developers (Jackson)
Council Member Jackson recognized Evelyn A. Parker for passing the Certification Examination for Sustainable Neighborhood Developers.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS

1. Approve business license for Issa Sports, Inc.
Location – 6404 Groom Road, Baker, LA (Mayor)
No action was taken on this agenda item.

2. Approve business license for Integrity Tax Works, LLC
Location – 414 W. Magnolia, Baker, LA (Mayor)
No action was taken on this agenda item.

RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

PUBLIC MEETING

1. Ordinance 2018-28, an ordinance to name an unimproved road donated to the City of Baker “Dr. M.L.K., Jr. Lane” and to provide for other matters relative to the same (Mayor) (Introduced 6/26/2018)

Council member Bryant shared photos of the road to be named Dr. M.L.K., Jr. Lane. She explained that this is a road that desperately needs to be improved for the sake of the citizens that live there. The improvements will allow emergency vehicles to access the residents living on the road. She stated that the residents are extremely happy and are planning a celebration once the work is completed. Council Member Bryant stated she is grateful that the project is going through, and she appreciates everyone’s support at this time.

Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Member Vincent to adopt Ordinance 2018-28.

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)
The Mayor asked that the council allow more time before taking any action on this item. He stated he would like to send the city inspector out to assess this property again.

2. 4920 Lavey (Mayor)

3. 5002 Lavey (Mayor)
The Mayor stated that the grass has been cut and the debris has been removed from the properties on Lavey Lane. He said that the owner completed all of the work and the city spent no money on this project.

ANNEXATIONS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Introduce Ordinance 2018-29, an ordinance to declare certain City of Baker property surplus and scrap and for related matters (Mayor)
The Mayor explained that this ordinance is part of the clean-up process being undertaken by the City of Baker.

Council Member Alexander initiated discussion regarding items previously declared

surplus and the city's method of disposal.

Council Member Heine asked about the city's procedure for selling the items declared surplus. He was told that typically the items are sold by auction. Council Member Heine then asked if city employees are allowed to participate in said auctions.

Discussion regarding city employees' participation in city auctions, the city's process for conducting said auctions and the city's method of disposal for items declared surplus followed.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Members Heine/Vincent to introduce Ordinance 2018-29.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

2. Approval for selection of The Advocate for Official Municipal Journal for fiscal year 2018-2019 (Jackson)

The motion was made by Council Member Jackson, seconded by Council Members Alexander/Heine to approve the selection of The Advocate for Official Municipal Journal for fiscal year 2018-2019.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

3. Designation of Council President and Vice President for the Baker City Council for July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019 (Jackson)

Council Member Jackson made a dual nomination – Council Member Alexander for Council President and Council Member Vincent for Vice-President.

Council Member Alexander seconded the nominations.

Council Member Bryant made a nomination – Council Member Heine for Council President and Council Member Vincent for Vice-President.

Council Member Heine questioned his colleagues, asking why he hasn't been asked to serve as President of the Council. He said he has been on the council for 6 years, and he would like for someone to explain why he's never been Council President.

Vote was called for to accept the nomination of Council Member Alexander for President of the Baker City Council for July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019.

YEAS: Alexander, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: Bryant, Heine

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 3-2.

It was determined that no further action would be necessary to decide the position of Council President.

Vote was called for to accept the nomination of Council Member Vincent for Vice-President of the Baker City Council for July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: Heine

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-1.

Council Member Alexander will serve as Council President and Council Member Vincent will serve as Vice-President for the Baker City Council for July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019.

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

Willie Williams reported that the map of the City of Baker, including city limits and zoning information, has been completed.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

John Champagne, 3535 Harrison, expressed his concerns regarding his utility bill. He stated that in the last thirteen months he has only had two bills with actual water meter readings. He would like to know what the problem is with the city’s equipment and why it has not been repaired. Administrative Officer Julie McCulloch addressed Mr. Champagne’s concerns.

Council Member Vincent thanked the Mayor and city for removing the houses on Lavey Lane. He asked for assistance with the ditch on Sprucewood, saying it needs to be cut or sprayed. He stated that erosion is extremely problematic at this site as well. Discussion regarding cooperative endeavor agreements between the City of Baker and City Parish and the ditch on Sprucewood followed. Council Member Vincent expressed his concerns regarding debris pick-up in the city. Discussion regarding trash pick-up was held.

Council Member Heine complimented the city and Republic Services on the job they’ve done in District 2 with the trash pick-up. He stated that he feels that one of the best things that Baker has going for it, is the garbage pick-up. Council Member Heine reported that Red Stick Armature is well on its way. Construction of the facility on Groom Road continues.

Council Member Bryant said that council members are elected to represent their districts and the constituents who live there. She asked that should her colleagues choose to abstain when voting, that they give a reason for doing so.

Council Member Alexander thanked those who have the confidence in her to be the President of the Council. She asked if the letter regarding a possible water rate increase has been mailed to residents. The Mayor stated that they are working on the letter, and that the council will see the letter before it is sent out.

Council Member Jackson thanked her constituents for expressing their concerns to her, and she asked that they continue to do so. She provided her phone number and email address and reiterated that they should call with any/all concerns that they may have.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

The Mayor asked that council members speak to their constituents, and ask them to be patient with the new answering system being employed by the Utility Department.

The Mayor said they are in the process of making the city more effective. The administration is currently evaluating the city internally in an effort to locate and implement cost saving measures.

The Mayor asked for patience. He said that the city is moving forward, that it is a better city, and that it will continue to be better as long as we stay together.

ADJOURN

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, 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 July 10, 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
July 10, 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 July 10, 2018, 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 Vincent, seconded by Commissioner Jackson to approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 26, 2018.

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

Niketa King submitted a monthly sales report for June 2018.

The motion was made by Commissioner Heine, seconded by Commissioner Vincent to accept the sales report submitted for June 2018.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

2. Other Reports

3. Items Requiring Action

ADJOURN

There was no other business to come before the commission. The motion was made by Commissioner 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 for the Hillcrest Memorial Gardens held on July 10, 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
July 10, 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 July 10, 2018, 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 Vincent, seconded by Commissioner Jackson to approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 26, 2018.

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

John Champagne, 3535 Harrison, asked the Board of Commissioners if they place a certain percentage of the revenue coming in into a maintenance fund. He asked what percentage is set aside each month and how much is in the fund. Commissioner Waites stated that he would get Mr. Champagne the requested information.

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 Heine, 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 July 10, 2018.

Angela Canady Wall, LCMC
Clerk of Council