

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF BAKER, LOUISIANA
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA
3325 GROOM ROAD
BAKER, LA 70714
September 25, 2018
6:00 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on September 25, 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 Council Member Alexander.
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Bryant.

The Mayor led the assembly in singing “Happy Birthday” to 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 September 11, 2018.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

RECOGNITIONS

1. Recognize Precious Washington – Sickle Cell Anemia Ambassador – and declare her an Honorary Council Member (Vincent)

Council Member Vincent recognized Precious Washington – Sickle Cell Anemia Ambassador – and declared her an Honorary Council Member.

2. Recognize Ginger Vann for invaluable service rendered to the Stepter family (Jackson)

Council Member Jackson recognized Ginger Vann for invaluable service rendered to the Stepter family.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS

1. Approve business license for Baker Garden and Supply, LLC
Location – 3401 Baker Boulevard, Baker, LA (Mayor)

Discussion regarding the agenda item was held.

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

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

2. Approve business license for Top 10 Motorsports
Location – 2002 Main Street, Baker, LA (Mayor)
No action was taken on this agenda item.

3. Approve business license for K.M.C. Home Living
Location – 4539 Groom Road, Baker, LA (Mayor)
No action was taken on this agenda item.

4. Approve business license for LJK Catering 2
Location – 5204 Tristian, Baker, LA (Mayor)
No action was taken on this agenda item.

RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. LGAP Grant Resolution 2018-2019 (Mayor)
City Attorney Fabre read the resolution.

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

The motion was made by Council Member Alexander, seconded by Council Member Jackson to add item “Approve business license for Issa Sports, Inc. (Mayor)” under Planning and Zoning Matters to the agenda.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

*Approve business license for Issa Sports, Inc.
Location – 6404 Groom Road, Baker, LA (Mayor)*

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Jackson to accept the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the business license for Issa Sports, Inc.

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 2018 as Breast Cancer 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: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

Council Member Vincent announced that the Willie F. Hawkins Community Health Fair, hosted by Senator Regina Barrow, will be held Saturday, October 6, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the LSU Health Baton Rouge North Clinic at 5439 Airline Highway. Council Member Vincent distributed flyers detailing the event.

3. Proclamation declaring October 2018 as Domestic Violence 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: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

PUBLIC MEETING

1. Ordinance 2018-29, an ordinance to declare certain City of Baker property surplus and scrap and for related matters (Mayor) (Introduced 7/10/2018)
Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Member Vincent to adopt Ordinance 2018-29.

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 stated that the city will proceed.

ANNEXATIONS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Schedule date and time for Halloween in Baker (Mayor)
The Mayor asked that this agenda item be tabled.

2. Discuss VA center in Baker (Bryant)

Council Member Bryant outlined her vision and plans for bringing a VA center to the City of Baker. She shared the story of her younger brother who served 29 years in the United States Army, illustrating the need for veterans' services. She and the Mayor have met with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and discussed opening the proposed center in the city. There will be a Town Hall meeting in November aimed at gathering input from area veterans. The Mayor stated that it looks like we're going to be able to do this for our veterans.

Discussion regarding the need for such services in our area, as well as locations for the proposed center followed.

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 – The Mayor stated that it was a great event.
 - b. Prayer Breakfast
 - c. Strategic Planning Committee
 - d. Citizens Advisory Board to Law Enforcement

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Council Member Vincent stated that his Friendly Neighbor Keeper Initiative is designed to help keep neighborhoods clean. He said he has been approached by several constituents complaining about dogs going to the bathroom in other people's yards. He asked that all dog owners clean up after their pets. He asked about the new phone service being used by the Utility Department. The Mayor explained the new phone service.

Council Member Heine said that sickle cell anemia is a terrible disease and he prays everyday that they find a cure. He said that Precious Washington is a great representative for the Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation – she is truly precious, and we should keep all those who suffer from sickle cell and their families in our prayers. Council Member Heine stated that the large structure coming up on Groom Road is the warehouse being built by Red Stick Armature. The company's future plan includes further development of the area.

Council Member Bryant thanked the Mayor for allowing them to have their sustainable agriculture classes at the city. Graduation was held on September 18, 2018, with 23 people completing the course. She announced *Rebirth Magazine* will host a Pink and Purple Party on Sunday, October 14, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Baker Municipal Auditorium. The party is to support breast cancer survivors and domestic abuse victims. She invited everyone to come out and support these individuals.

Council Member Alexander thanked the Mayor for working with her family on the surprise birthday celebration that was held at the Buffalo Festival. Council Member Alexander announced that a Meet the Candidate program is being held on October 18, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Baker Municipal Auditorium. The event is being sponsored by several civic and social clubs in the community.

Council Member Bryant announced that there will be a Coastal Sustainability Grant meeting on Thursday, September 27, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Baker Branch Library.

Council Member Jackson stated that one of her initiatives as a council member is to provide recreational activities for the youth in our community. She recently met the mother of Diontreya Claiborne, a young man whose life was cut short by an act of violence on March 29, 2014, and learned of the Diontreya Claiborne Stop the Violence Organization's basketball camp set for 2019. The organization's mission is to get our young generation involved in positive recreation activities, to strive to teach guidance, self-discipline and to build self-esteem as well as prevent violence in our communities. To find out about the dates follow them on Facebook – Diontreya Claiborne Stop the Violence LLC – and on Instagram @DC_STV_org. Council Member Jackson thanked everyone for attending the meeting tonight. She stated that she appreciates the constituents of District 5 sharing their comments and concerns.

Council Member Heine asked everyone to look for the article in tomorrow's paper about the two individuals who saved his life when fire destroyed his home. He said LMA will be honoring Mr. Johnson and Ms. Williams on October 10, 2018 at their board meeting. He reiterated that the story is not about him, it is about the people who saved his life and their selfless acts of heroism.

City Attorney Fabre refuted a news story recently aired by Channel 9 regarding the appeal of a decision made by the City of Baker's Fire and Police Civil Service Board. He stated that Channel 9 ran the story without fact checking with him prior to airing. Mr. Fabre stated that despite what was stated in the news story – the City of Baker did not initiate any type of settlement negotiation.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

The Mayor gave a presentation on the administration's project list. The Mayor provided information on the 2018-2019 Street Rehabilitation Project and the MLK Lane new road project. He asked Public Works Director Kelvin Ridgley to provide updates on the Lavey Lane water well improvements and the Debra Street water well improvements. The Mayor said that new lighting is being installed at City Park, in the municipal

complex and eventually street lights will be upgraded as well. He spoke about the proposed baseball complex on Jefferson Street using handouts to show how the completed site would appear. The Mayor also had handouts which provided information on the Park and Ride Program and complex being proposed for Plank Road. The Mayor stated that these are seven of the seventeen projects that the administration is working on.

Council Member Jackson, once again, recognized Ginger Vann for invaluable service rendered not only to the Stepter family, but to all of those who came seeking her assistance following the flood.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Members Alexander/Vincent to add item "Schedule a work session to discuss meters and collectors" 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 Alexander, seconded by Council Member Jackson to schedule a work session to discuss meters and collectors on Tuesday, October 2, 2018 at 9:30 a.m.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

ADJOURN

The motion was made by Council Member Jackson, 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 Wall, certify that I am 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 25, 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
September 25, 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 September 25, 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 Heine, seconded by Commissioners Bryant/Jackson to approve the minutes of the meeting held on September 11, 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
2. Other Reports
3. Items Requiring Action

ADJOURN

There was no other business to come before the commission. The motion was made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Heine 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 Wall, certify that I am 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 25, 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
September 25, 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 September 25, 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 September 11, 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

Commissioner Vincent inquired about the process of obtaining a new gas meter when residents have a generator installed. Commissioner Waites asked that he schedule a time to meet with him so that they can go over the process in detail.

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 Commissioners Alexander/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 Wall, certify that I am 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 25, 2018.

Angela Canady Wall, LCMC
Clerk of Council