

**MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF BAKER, LOUISIANA  
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
3325 GROOM ROAD  
BAKER, LA 70714  
May 14, 2019  
6:00 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on May 14, 2019, 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 Heine.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Vincent.

**DISPOSITION OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 23, 2019 with the necessary corrections.

Council Member Vincent asked that a correction be made to the minutes of the April 23, 2019 council meeting. He wanted to indicate that he called Entergy, as well as the Public Works Department to report the streetlight that was down on Alba Drive.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Heine to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 23, 2019 with the correction made by Council Member Vincent.

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 withdraw item number nine under New Business from the agenda.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

**RECOGNITIONS**

**PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS**

1. O's Maintenance, LLC  
Location – 508 Daniels Street, Baker, LA (Mayor)  
No action was taken on this agenda item. The Planning and Zoning Commission did not meet due to inclement weather.
2. E-Z Klean Carwash, LLC  
Location – 580 Main Street, Baker, LA (Mayor)

No action was taken on this agenda item. The Planning and Zoning Commission did not meet due to inclement weather.

3. Affordable Tires

Location – 1814 Main Street, Suite A, Baker, LA (Mayor)

No action was taken on this agenda item. The Planning and Zoning Commission did not meet due to inclement weather.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

1. Obtain views on the community development needs of the City of Baker and to discuss the submission of an application for funding under the State of Louisiana FY 2020/2021 Community Development Block Grant (LCDBG) Program (Mayor)

The Mayor stated that the city has applied for a Louisiana Community Development Block Grant. He asked City Engineer Kevin Gravois, PEC, to further explain the grant and the application process.

Council Member Jackson pointed out that a work session to discuss the grant and application process was scheduled for May 2, 2019. However, due to the lack of a quorum, the work session was not held. The Mayor said that Mr. Gravois planned to provide information on both the grant and application process at this meeting.

Council Member Jackson asked if the council would be required to vote on this issue at tonight's meeting. The Mayor said there are resolutions on tonight's agenda which would require the council to vote.

Council Member Alexander asked if it would be possible to have another work session to discuss the grant prior to any voting on the issue.

Mr. Gravois stated that the public hearing is to get input from residents on an infrastructure project, it does not commit any funds, its purpose is to get the City of Baker in line for a project.

Public hearing was held.

Kevin Gravois, PEC, provided an overview of the grant and application process and facilitated discussion regarding both.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Vincent to schedule a work session to discuss the LCDBG Program on Wednesday, May 22, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

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. Resolution to adopt citizen participation plan – LCDBG Program (Mayor)

The Mayor asked that this item be tabled.

2. Resolution to hire administration services – LCDBG Program (Mayor)

The Mayor asked that this item be tabled.

3. Resolution to hire engineering services – LCDBG Program (Mayor)

The Mayor asked that this item be tabled.

4. Resolution to readopt procurement policy – LCDBG Program (Mayor)

The Mayor asked that this item be tabled.

5. Proclamation declaring May 18, 2019 National Kids to Parks Day in the City of Baker (Mayor)

City Attorney Fabre read the proclamation.

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

6. Proclamation declaring May 2019 Lyme Disease Awareness Month in the City of Baker (Bryant)

City Attorney Fabre read the proclamation.

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

7. Proclamation declaring May 2019 as Mesothelioma Awareness Month in the City of Baker (Bryant)

City Attorney Fabre read the proclamation.

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

8. Proclamation declaring May 2019 Bladder Cancer Awareness Month in the City of Baker (Vincent)

Council Member Vincent distributed flyers detailing various free cancer screenings taking place in the Baton Rouge area.

City Attorney Fabre read the proclamation.

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

9. Proclamation declaring May 2019 Mental Health 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.

10. Proclamation in support of Councilman Vincent's Little Free Library Take a

Book – Share a Book Project in City Park (Vincent)  
City Attorney Fabre read the proclamation.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Alexander 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**

## **BIDS AND PROPOSALS**

## **APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

## **CONDEMNATIONS**

## **ANNEXATIONS**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Approve travel for City Attorney Ken Fabre and City Prosecutor Christopher Dassau to the LDAA Conference (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Alexander, seconded by Council Members Bryant/Heine/Vincent to approve travel for City Attorney Ken Fabre and City Prosecutor Christopher Dassau to the LDAA Conference.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

The Mayor read a portion of the budget message.

Discussion regarding the best time to hold work sessions to deliberate the budget and the budgetary process was held.

2. Introduce Ordinance 2019-11, an ordinance to adopt the operating budget of General Fund revenues and expenditures, City of Baker, LA, fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Member Vincent to introduce Ordinance 2019-11.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

Council Member Alexander did not vote. She stated that she would not vote because she does not know what is in there.

3. Introduce Ordinance 2019-12, an ordinance to adopt the operating budget of Special Revenue Funds revenues and expenditures, City of Baker, LA, fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Members Bryant/Vincent to introduce Ordinance 2019-12.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

Council Member Alexander did not vote.

4. Introduce Ordinance 2019-13, an ordinance to adopt the Capital Budget and Capital Program of governmental funds, City of Baker, LA, fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Alexander, seconded by Council Member Vincent to introduce Ordinance 2019-13.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

5. Introduce Ordinance 2019-14, an ordinance to adopt the budget of Utility Fund revenues, expenditures and capital improvements, City of Baker, LA, fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Member Vincent to introduce Ordinance 2019-14.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

6. Introduce Ordinance 2019-15, an ordinance to adopt the budget of Cemetery Fund revenues, expenditures and capital improvements, City of Baker, LA, fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Members Heine/Vincent to introduce Ordinance 2019-15.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

7. Introduce Ordinance 2019-16, an ordinance to adopt the budget of Sewer Revenue Fund revenues, expenditures and capital improvements, City of Baker, LA, fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Bryant to introduce Ordinance 2019-16.

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 Vincent, seconded by Council Member Jackson to schedule a work session to discuss the 2019-2020 budget on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. and another on Tuesday, May 28, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

8. Status of Park and Ride (Mayor)

The Mayor stated that the city has partnered with CATS, CRPC and East Baton Rouge Parish on the implementation of the Rapid Transit program. The city is currently in the planning stage of a transit center and Park and Ride facility on Plank Road. The Mayor said the city plans to purchase property on Plank Road near Bethany Church to lease out as part of the program. He said he is bringing this to the council so that the city can move

forward by placing a security deposit on the property. CRPC will do the environmental and design work on the project. The Mayor said the project is moving forward and it is the start of what is going to happen on Plank Road. Council Member Vincent stated that the hope is to change the economic district on Plank Road and make it as busy as Highway 19 in terms of activity. The Mayor asked for council concurrence in order to move forward.

Council Member Alexander initiated discussion regarding the amount of the deposit to be placed on the property. She stated that she would like to see how much money is being put down before voting on the issue.

Council Member Jackson asked if voting on this issue could be deferred until such time that council members have been given more information. She stated that concurrence and voting were not on the agenda.

9. Introduce Ordinance 2019-17, an ordinance to amend and re-enact Chapter 3 Sec. 3-81 (a) & Sec. 3-85 (6) of the alcoholic beverages ordinance of the Baker Code of Ordinances, concerning applicability and building, location, zoning and licenses and permits (Alexander)

Council Member Alexander withdrew this item from the agenda.

#### **REPORTS ON BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

1. Planning and Zoning Commission
2. Annexation Review Committee
3. Economic Development Team
4. Heritage Museum/Related Committees – New Museum Director Cynthia Grimes introduced herself.
5. ABC Board
6. Other Special Committees
  - a. Buffalo Festival
  - b. Prayer Breakfast – Event will be held Friday, June 28, 2019 and the guest speaker is Terrica Williams.
  - c. Strategic Planning Committee
  - d. Citizens Advisory Board to Law Enforcement – Next meeting will be held Thursday, June 20, 2019.

#### **NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Leroy Davis, 4312 Azie, announced that Baker High School's graduation ceremony is being held Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at Southern University in the F.G. Clark Assembly Center.

Barry Sterling, 4025 Jefferson Street, asked about the feasibility of having an event similar to Live After Five on Saturdays in the City of Baker. He feels that this would be an excellent way to bring funds into the city. The Mayor said two events have already been held, and plans are underway for future events. Mr. Sterling also asked when construction on the bridge on Twin Oaks would be complete.

Council Member Vincent stated that the name of the shopping center on Plank Road is Plank Road Crossing. He thanked the Mayor and the Public Works Department for being on top of the concerns he expressed on behalf of the constituents of District 1. Council Member Vincent said he rode District 1 during the horrible rain and high water and was grateful when the rain subsided.

Council Member Heine said that he was out during the storm, and residents not putting trash in the ditches made a big difference.

Council Member Bryant thanked Bishop Sinclair of Miracle Place Church for his invitation to the National Day of Prayer services on May 2, 2019. She reported that the most recent air quality report says the ozone layer is at 41 in our area. Council Member Bryant announced Grow Baton Rouge is hosting a Farmers Market on Saturday, June 1, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Baker City Park.

Council Member Alexander thanked everyone who supported the Citizen of the Year banquet. She announced the Main Street Pilot Club's A White Linen Event scholarship fundraiser will be held Friday, May 31, 2019 from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. in the Municipal Auditorium. Tickets are \$30.00.

Council Member Jackson thanked everyone who participated in the Power 5K Walk and Run that was held on Saturday, April 27, 2019. She gave a special thank you to the City of Baker, ASHA #1132 Order of the Eastern Stars and the City of Baker School System for their participation. Council Member Jackson extended a special thank you to the City of Baker School System for allowing them to install pinwheel gardens at all City of Baker schools. She stated her constituent Sharon Johnson, a lupus survivor, invited her to attend the Louisiana Lupus Foundation Breakfast Kick-Off on May 4, 2019 and it was very nice. Council Member Jackson thanked Senator Regina Barrow for inviting her to the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Victorious Women Luncheon on May 10, 2019.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

The Mayor thanked the Lions Club and everyone who helped with the Baker High School Band fish fry fundraiser.

The Mayor said the senior citizens who attended the SALT event recently held in the Municipal Auditorium had a good time. He thanked Police Chief Dunn for all his work in conjunction with the event.

The Mayor announced the Job Fair is being held Thursday, May 23, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Municipal Auditorium.

The Mayor said there will not be a rodeo at this year's Buffalo Festival, but they are working on having rides at the event.

The Mayor stated the city has applied for a grant to assist with the redevelopment of homes in the community.

The Mayor announced the Park Ridge Choir concert – Motown Special – on Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Municipal Auditorium. Tickets are \$5.00.

Council Member Jackson inquired about the work being done on Lavey Lane.

Council Member Vincent reported the developers hope to build homes, as well as a small strip mall at this site.

Discussion regarding the proposed development was held.

The Mayor led everyone in singing "Happy Birthday" to Willie Williams.

#### **ADJOURN**

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Jackson 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 May 14, 2019.

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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 14, 2019**

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 14, 2019, 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 Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 23, 2019.

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**

1. Request placement of bench in cemetery – Spinks Family

The motion was made by Commissioner Alexander, seconded by Commissioners Bryant/Vincent to allow the Spinks family to place a bench in the cemetery.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

**OTHER NECESSARY BUSINESS**

1. Monthly Business Report

Niketa King submitted a monthly sales report for April 2019.

The motion was made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Vincent to accept the sales report submitted for April 2019.

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 Bryant, seconded by Commissioners Jackson/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 for the Hillcrest Memorial Gardens held on May 14, 2019.

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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 14, 2019**

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 14, 2019, 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 Bryant, seconded by Commissioners Heine/Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 23, 2019.

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 Heine, 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 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 May 14, 2019.

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Angela Canady Wall, LCMC  
Clerk of Council