

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF BAKER, LOUISIANA
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA
3325 GROOM ROAD
BAKER, LA 70714
June 25, 2019
6:00 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on June 25, 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 Mayor Waites.
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 Members Heine/Jackson to approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 11, 2019.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

Council Member Bryant stated that she would like to add recognition of Migraine and Headache Awareness Month to the agenda.

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Member Alexander to add proclamation declaring June 2019 as Migraine and Headache Awareness Month in the City of Baker under Resolutions and Proclamations to 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 Kristin Robair for providing education excellence in the classroom and being named East Baton Rouge Parish Middle School Teacher of the Year (Bryant)

Council Member Bryant asked that this item be tabled. She said Ms. Robair was attending a teacher's conference in New Orleans.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS

1. Trinity World, LLC
Location – 14424 Plank Road, Baker, LA (Mayor)
Discussion regarding the agenda item was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Bryant to accept the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the business license for Trinity World, LLC.

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. Proclamation declaring July 2019 as Eye Injury Prevention 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.

2. Proclamation declaring June 2019 as National Safety 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 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.

3. *Proclamation declaring June 2019 as Migraine and Headache 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.

PUBLIC MEETING

BIDS AND PROPOSALS

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

CONDEMNATIONS

1. 13950 Plank Road (Mayor)

The Mayor said the issue is being addressed.

ANNEXATIONS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Introduce Ordinance 2019-17, an ordinance to Amend, Supplement and Re-Enact Article III, Section 20-96 of Baker Code of Ordinances Relative to Junk Vehicles and Abandoned Property and to provide for related matters (Mayor)

The Mayor provided an overview of the proposed ordinance.

Council Member Alexander asked what “related matters” in the proposed ordinance were. Discussion regarding “related matters” followed.

Council Member Bryant initiated discussion regarding the definition of a “junk vehicle” and abandoned property.

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Member Vincent to introduce Ordinance 2019-17.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

2. Designation of Council President and Vice President for the Baker City Council for July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020 (Alexander)

Council Member Alexander nominated Council Member Jackson for President of the Council and Council Member Vincent as Vice-President of the Council.

Council Member Bryant nominated Council Member Heine for President of the Council.

Council Member Bryant stated she is looking to elevate the level the President of the Baker City Council is chosen. She feels there are certain qualifications that need to be met.

Council Member Alexander called for the vote on electing Council Member Heine President of the Council.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine

NAYS: Alexander, Jackson, Vincent

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Council Member Alexander called for the vote on electing Council Member Jackson President of the Council.

YEAS: Alexander, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: Bryant, Heine

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Council Member Alexander called for the vote on electing Council Member Vincent Vice-President of the Council.

YEAS: Alexander, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: Bryant, Heine

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Council Member Jackson has been designated President of the Council and Council Member Vincent has been designated Vice-President for the Baker City Council for July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020.

Council Member Bryant initiated discussion about establishing criteria for designation of Council President and Vice-President.

3. Discuss naming the Baker Heritage Museum & Cultural Center in honor of Jean Byers (Alexander)

Council Member Alexander clarified her intent, saying that she would like the council to consider naming one of the outbuildings or the gazebo in honor of Jean Byers, not the museum itself. She asked for the council’s thoughts on this matter.

Discussion followed.

Council Member Alexander called for the vote on honoring Jean Byers by placing her name on the gazebo at the Baker Heritage Museum.

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

The Baker City Council voted unanimously to honor Jean Byers by placing her name on the gazebo at the Baker Heritage Museum.

4. Approval for selection of The Advocate for Official Municipal Journal for fiscal year 2019-2020 (Jackson)

The motion was made by Council Member Jackson, seconded by Council Member Alexander to approve the selection of The Advocate for Official Municipal Journal for fiscal year 2019-2020.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

5. Council appointment of Council Clerk of Baker City Council (Jackson)

The motion was made by Council Member Jackson, seconded by Council Members Alexander/Bryant/Vincent to appoint Angela Canady Wall Council Clerk of Baker City Council.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

The City Council and Mayor recognized and thanked the Council Clerk for all her help.

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 – Event will be held Friday, June 28, 2019 at 6:30 a.m. and the guest speaker is Terrica Williams.
 - c. Strategic Planning Committee
 - d. Citizens Advisory Board to Law Enforcement – Will meet Thursday, June 27, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at Lagniappe.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Louvanna Pope, 2701 Hovey, expressed her concerns regarding horses in the Leland College area. Ms. Pope said the situation with horses in the neighborhood is out of control and unacceptable.

Ikeal Davenport, 3314 Chamberlain, reiterated Ms. Pope's sentiments regarding horses in the neighborhood. Mr. Davenport said the city has ordinances to address this situation. He said if the city will enforce the ordinances it has, then there is no problem.

Council Member Vincent said he recently attended a 5G summit. He asked if the City of Baker is moving toward incorporating a 5G network and said he would be happy to sit with the IT department to see how the city is coming in terms of that.

Council Member Heine thanked the Mayor for digging the ditch in Leland College and for the No Dumping sign at the corner of Groom Road and Southwest Drive.

Council Member Bryant expressed her concerns regarding three houses on Biscayne. The Mayor said the situation will be addressed.

Discussion regarding abandoned properties and possible condemnations was held.

Council Member Jackson announced the Louisiana Rural Economic Development Summit being held July 7-9, 2019 at Paragon Casino Resort in Marksville, Louisiana, hosted by the Southern University College of Business, Southern University Law Center and the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe. She thanked Mr. Calvin Stevens, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds, for addressing her concerns about Veterans Plaza. Council Member Jackson thanked the Baton Rouge Chapter of the Louisiana Council on Human Relations for honoring Jean Byers.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

The Mayor stated the city has acted on the horse situation. Meetings have been held with several horse owners at which time the ordinance was gone over with them. He said the city is working on the issue.

The Mayor said after reviewing the letters from and speaking with residents in Feliciana Subdivision, it is people riding 4-wheelers in the neighborhood that is of greatest concern. Council Member Vincent stated that he had spoken with each of these individuals as well, and 4-wheelers are extremely troubling. The Mayor stated the city will do all it can to catch these individuals.

The Mayor went over the letter that will be sent to baker residents regarding the completion of the installation of new meters and the ensuing utility bills. He said the meters and new collectors have been installed and everything is working fine.

Discussion regarding the new meters and the city's maintenance contract for said meters was held.

The Mayor provided an overview of the Noah Grant. Discussion followed.

Council Member Alexander left the meeting.

Council Member Vincent said that work is still being done on the proposal to bring more bike trails to the City of Baker. He urged anyone who is interested in providing input to visit the website at walkbikecapitalregion.com.

The Mayor corrected an earlier statement regarding the utility bills customers will receive following installation of new meters. Utility bills will not be adjusted. However, residents can contact the Utility Department and set up a payment plan should the need arise.

ADJOURN

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Jackson 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 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 June 25, 2019.

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
June 25, 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 June 25, 2019, 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 Vincent, seconded by Commissioner Bryant to approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 11, 2019.

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 Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Vincent 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 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 June 25, 2019.

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
June 25, 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 June 25, 2019, 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 Bryant, seconded by Commissioners Heine/Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 11, 2019.

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

Commissioner Vincent asked for clarification regarding the \$4.75 charge on utility bills. Administrative Officer Julie McCulloch said the charge is to recoup money lost when the meters were not reading. This charge will appear on bills for one year.

Discussion regarding newly installed meters, re-averaging by City-Parish, and the basis/method for re-averaging was held.

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 Commissioner Vincent 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 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 June 25, 2019.

Angela Canady Wall, LCMC
Clerk of Council