

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF BAKER, LOUISIANA
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA
3325 GROOM ROAD
BAKER, LA 70714
August 13, 2019
6:00 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on August 13, 2019, 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 Belinda Williams.
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Bryant.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Vincent to add items 1. D Vessell Mobile Oil Change, 2. Kerry Complete Car Care and 3. Paradiam Thrift, LLC 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.

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 July 23, 2019.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Alexander

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

Council Member Alexander arrived.

RECOGNITIONS

1. Recognize Jean Byers for her years of exceptional service to the City of Baker (Mayor)

The Mayor recognized Jean Byers for her years of exceptional service to the City of Baker.

2. Recognize Alice Sanders for her years of exceptional service to the City of Baker (Mayor)

The Mayor recognized Alice Sanders for her years of exceptional service to the City of Baker.

The motion was made by Council Member Jackson, seconded by Council Member Alexander to add Richard Bird with Animal Control to the agenda.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

Assistant Director/Operations Manager for East Baton Rouge Parish Animal Control and Rescue Center Richard Bird explained the services provided by his organization. Mr. Bird said Animal Control handles anything animal related, whether the problem is with domestic animals or wildlife. He stated that they are here for the citizens and will work with residents. Mr. Bird advised people to call (225) 774-7700 with any issues. He said Animal Control will try to help any way they can.

The Mayor asked Mr. Bird to provide information about regulations pertaining to the keeping of horses and procedures to remove the animals should the need arise.

Discussion regarding horses in the City of Baker was held.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS

1. *D Vessell Mobile Oil Change*
Location – 2635 Hovey, Avenue, Baker, LA (Mayor)

Discussion regarding the agenda item was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Member Bryant to accept the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the business license for D Vessell Mobile Oil Change.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

2. *Kerry Complete Car Care*
Location – 1918 Main Street, Baker, LA (Mayor)

Discussion regarding the agenda item was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Jackson, seconded by Council Members Heine/Vincent to accept the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the business license for Kerry Complete Car Care.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

3. *Paradium Thrift, LLC*
Location – 14500 Plank Road, Baker, LA (Mayor)

Discussion regarding the agenda item was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Vincent to accept the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the business license for Paradium Thrift, 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 August 2019 Psoriasis 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 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.

PUBLIC MEETING

BIDS AND PROPOSALS

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

CONDEMNATIONS

1. 13950 Plank Road (Mayor)

No action was taken on this agenda item.

2. 4742 Groom Road (Mayor)

No action was taken on this agenda item.

3. 1950 Hovey (Mayor)

No action was taken on this agenda item.

Discussion regarding the condemnation process in the City of Baker was held.

ANNEXATIONS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Introduce Ordinance 2019-18, an ordinance to declare certain Baker property surplus (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Heine to introduce Ordinance 2019-18.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

2. Introduce Ordinance 2019-19, an ordinance to declare reorganization of Baker Fire Prevention Bureau (Mayor)

Assistant Fire Chief Keith Pease explained that the City of Baker is in the process of recertifying its fire rating. He stated the proposed ordinance is a required component of the city's efforts to maintain its current fire rating.

Discussion regarding the city's fire rating and the proposed ordinance followed.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Bryant to introduce Ordinance 2019-19.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

3. Introduce Ordinance 2019-20, an ordinance to amend 911 – emergency budget funds (Mayor)

The Mayor explained the need for the proposed ordinance.

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Member Vincent to introduce Ordinance 2019-20.

Discussion regarding the amount of the proposed budget amendments was held.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

4. Council concurrence for Mayor to sign Cox franchise agreement (Mayor)
The Mayor asked that this agenda item be tabled.

5. Discuss Baker Municipal Building contract amendments (Mayor)
The Mayor asked that this agenda item be tabled.

6. Report from LMA Conference (Bryant)
Council Member Bryant said that the LMA Conference provides an opportunity for continued education and networking for city officials. She stated it allows participants to discuss various issues faced by communities throughout the state. Council Member Bryant relayed information she obtained at the conference regarding water rates, infrastructure, and factors that affect the city's revenue.

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 – Event will be held September 20-22, 2019. There will be carnival rides, vendor booths, live entertainment, Buffalo Wing Cook-Off, 5K Run/Walk and the Show & Shine car show. Parade will be Saturday, September 21, 2019. Flyers are available.
 - b. Prayer Breakfast
 - c. Strategic Planning Committee
 - d. Citizens Advisory Board to Law Enforcement

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Ikeal Davenport, 3314 Chamberlain, asked for an update on the NOAH grant. The Mayor stated the Louisiana Housing Authority will be at the next council meeting to discuss the grant. The Mayor provided an overview of the various programs administered through the grant.

Discussion regarding the NOAH grant and its implementation followed.

Louvanna Pope, 2701 Hovey, stated she is still concerned about the canal across the street from her house. She would like for the canal to be cleaned out in order to facilitate drainage.

Leroy Brown, Dr. M.L.K., Jr. Lane, expressed his concerns regarding the work done on his street. He stated personal property was damaged in the process and the job has not been completed. Mr. Brown asked that the city assess the situation and document their findings so the issues can be addressed.

City Attorney Fabre stated we don't want citizens to have an unrealistic expectation as regards our police department. He said the police department only has so many people, and their primary objective is to deal with crime and to protect the city limits. City Attorney Fabre clarified the manner in which the police department will assist animal control.

Council Member Vincent asked Public Works Director Kelvin Ridgley if a reflector has been placed near the ditch at Felicity and Lavey. He said he would like to see a black and

yellow reflective pole placed at this location. Council Member Vincent announced various free cancer screenings that are taking place in the Baton Rouge area. Flyers were distributed.

Council Member Heine said the LMA Conference they recently attended was one of the best that they've ever had. He thanked residents for allowing them to attend the event and bring back information the city can use to better serve the people.

Council Member Bryant announced the NAACP will host voter registration Wednesday, August 14, 2019 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at 3962 Country Way Drive. She encouraged everyone to get registered. Council Member Bryant emphasized the importance of the upcoming 2020 Census and urged all residents to participate. She said the Farmer's Market was held this past weekend, and they plan to have it once a month. Council Member Bryant stated the city needs to expand its economic development and allow businesses to come.

Council Member Alexander announced the Baker-Zachary Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and the Baker Main Street Pilot Club will sponsor a Candidates Forum on Thursday, August 29, 2019 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Ruffins Showroom.

Council Member Jackson announced public viewing for Lt. Col. Roosevelt Peters will be held Friday, August 16, 2019 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at Greater Mt. Caramel Baptist Church located at 1414 Sora Street, Baton Rouge. She said City Prosecutor Christopher Dassau's second annual domestic violence symposium was well attended and she enjoyed the event. Council Member Jackson thanked the Meadows of Chaleur Homeowners Association for inviting her to their meeting on August 10, 2019. She also thanked Director of Utilities Keba Coleman for attending the Meadows of Chaleur HOA meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

The Mayor said the road projects are in the bid process and the goal is to have them completed before the holidays.

The Mayor announced the BREC master plan reveal will be held Saturday, August 17, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Greenwood Park.

The Mayor announced a Bike/Pedestrian Open House will be held on Thursday, August 15, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Auditorium.

The Mayor said No Loitering signs are being put up around the city, at apartments, stores, etc., in an effort to avoid trouble.

The Mayor stated that economic development is a team effort.

Rochelle Dunn, 5856 Groom Road, initiated discussion regarding the city's role in bettering the schools and the Baker school system in general.

Council Member Alexander left the meeting.

Discussion regarding the city's role in bettering the schools and the Baker school system in general continued.

The motion was made by Council Member Jackson, seconded by Council Members Bryant/Vincent to extend the council meeting.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Alexander

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

Discussion regarding the city's role in bettering the schools and the Baker school system in general resumed.

ADJOURN

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Members Jackson/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 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 August 13, 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
August 13, 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 August 13, 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 Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on July 23, 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
Niketa King submitted a monthly sales report for July 2019.

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

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent, Waites
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Alexander
ABSTAIN: None
The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

2. Other Reports
3. Items Requiring Action

ADJOURN

There was no other business to come before the commission. The motion was made by Commissioner Heine, seconded by Commissioner Jackson 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 August 13, 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
August 13, 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 August 13, 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 Vincent, seconded by Commissioner Jackson to approve the minutes of the meeting held on July 23, 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 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 August 13, 2019.

Angela Canady Wall, LCMC
Clerk of Council