

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF BAKER, LOUISIANA
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA
3325 GROOM ROAD
BAKER, LA 70714
August 27, 2019
6:00 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on August 27, 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 Heine.

DISPOSITION OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Heine to approve the minutes of the meeting held on August 13, 2019.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

Council Member Jackson asked that item 6. Discuss status of bridge on Twin Oaks under New Business be moved up on the agenda to immediately follow Recognitions.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Alexander to have item 6. Discuss status of bridge on Twin Oaks under New Business moved up on the agenda so it follows Recognitions.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

Council Member Jackson asked that item 1. Discuss NOAH grant under New Business be moved up on the agenda to immediately follow item six.

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Members Alexander/Vincent to have item 1. Discuss NOAH grant under New Business moved up on the agenda so it follows item six.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

Council Member Jackson asked that item 1. Approve travel for Officers Bryan Holiday and Kelvin Miller to the Louisiana Homicide Investigator's Association 2019 Training

Symposium September 9, 2019 to September 13, 2019 in Lake Charles, Louisiana be added to the agenda under New Business.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Alexander to add item 1. Approve travel for Officers Bryan Holiday and Kelvin Miller to the Louisiana Homicide Investigator's Association 2019 Training Symposium September 9, 2019 to September 13, 2019 in Lake Charles, Louisiana.

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 Bryant, seconded by Council Members Alexander/Jackson to allow Mr. James Moffett with Cox to follow discussion of NOAH grant on 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 Bryant, seconded by Council Member Alexander to have item 7. Presentation via citizen under New Business moved up on the agenda so it follows the representative from Cox Communications.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

RECOGNITIONS

1. Recognize Morgan Watson for his contribution to the NASA Apollo 11 Space Program and being an integral part of history (Mayor)

The Mayor recognized Morgan Watson for his contribution to the NASA Apollo 11 Space Program and being an integral part of history.

2. Recognize W.T. Winnfield for his contribution to the NASA Apollo 11 Space Program and being an integral part of history (Mayor)

Mr. Winnfield was unable to attend the meeting.

3. Recognize Jamar Newton for going above and beyond in assisting a member of the Baker community (Alexander)

Mr. Newton was unable to attend the meeting. Council Member Alexander recognized Mr. Newton for going above and beyond in assisting a member of the Baker community. She also thanked Public Works Director Kelvin Ridgely for encouraging his employees to have compassion for members of the community.

Discuss status of bridge on Twin Oaks (Alexander)

Fred Raiford, East Baton Rouge Parish Transportation Director, provided a status update on the Twin Oaks bridge. Mr. Raiford stated the bridge must be replaced, and he empathizes with residents living in the area. He said a limited amount of funds are allocated every year for bridge maintenance/repair, and with over 400 bridges in the Parish projects must be prioritized. Mr. Raiford said a consultant has been hired and work on the Twin Oaks project will continue.

Discuss NOAH grant (Mayor)

Mr. Cunningham, Louisiana Housing Corporation, provided an overview of the services provided by the organization. He also presented information regarding various programs administered through the NOAH grant and its implementation in the City of Baker.

James Moffett, Cox Communications, gave a brief presentation on the franchise

agreement between Cox Communications and the City of Baker.

Introduce Ordinance 2019-21, an ordinance to grant and extend a cable television franchise agreement with and to Cox Communications Louisiana, LLC and to provide for related matters (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Vincent to introduce Ordinance 2019-21.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

Presentation via citizen (Bryant)

Mamie Lloyd, First United Methodist Church, provided an overview of a new program being implemented in the City of Baker – Positive Direction Intense Outpatient. The program is for individuals who are addicted to drugs and/or alcohol.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS

RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Proclamation declaring September 2019 National Sickle Cell Anemia Awareness Month in the City of Baker (Vincent)

Council Member Vincent stated he continues to advocate for making sickle cell testing readily available to the community. He hopes to have present and recognize the Baton Rouge Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation's Ambassador at an upcoming council meeting.

City Attorney Fabre read the proclamation.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Members Alexander/Heine/Jackson to accept the proclamation.

Council Member Heine recounted his church family's personal experience with sickle cell anemia and a young congregant named Marcus. He stated that he fully supports this proclamation.

Council Member Heine asked that everyone keep these individuals and their families in their prayers.

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.

PUBLIC MEETING

1. Ordinance 2019-18, an ordinance to declare certain Baker property surplus (Mayor) (Introduced 8/13/2019)

Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Members Bryant/Vincent to adopt 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. Ordinance 2019-19, an ordinance to declare reorganization of Baker Fire Prevention Bureau (Mayor) (Introduced 8/13/2019)

Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Alexander to adopt 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. Ordinance 2019-20, an ordinance to amend 911 – emergency budget funds (Mayor) (Introduced 8/13/2019)

Finance Director Mary Sue Stages explained the proposed budget amendments.

Public meeting was held.

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

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. 13950 Plank Road (Mayor)
2. 4742 Groom Road (Mayor)
3. 1950 Hovey (Mayor)

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

The motion was made by Council Member Alexander, seconded by Council Member Bryant to declare the properties totally condemned.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

ANNEXATIONS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discuss NOAH grant (Mayor)

This agenda item was previously addressed.

2. Introduce Ordinance 2019-21, an ordinance to grant and extend a cable television franchise agreement with and to Cox Communications Louisiana, LLC and to provide for related matters (Mayor)

This agenda item was previously addressed.

3. Award and execute 2019 debris monitoring RFP (Mayor)

Kevin Gravois, PEC, explained action taken tonight allows for a preposition contract for debris monitoring to be in place in the event of an emergency. Mr. Gravois stated the bids are qualification based. PEC recommended the preposition contract for debris monitoring be awarded to Debris Tech.

The motion was made by Council Member Alexander, seconded by Council Members

Bryant/Jackson to award the preposition contract for debris monitoring to Debris Tech.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

4. Award and execute 2019 debris removal RFP (Mayor)

PEC recommended the preposition contract for debris removal in the event of an emergency be awarded to DRC.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Alexander to award the preposition contract for debris removal to DRC.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

5. Award and execute 2019 asphalt street program (Mayor)

PEC recommended that the 2019 asphalt street contract be awarded to M Trak, LLC of Livonia, as they submitted the lowest bid for the project. The contract amount is \$1,364,269.38.

The motion was made by Council Member Alexander, seconded by Council Member Jackson to award the 2019 asphalt street contract to M Trak, LLC of Livonia.

Discussion regarding the bids received and the companies that submitted them 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.

Approve travel for Officers Bryan Holiday and Kelvin Miller to the Louisiana Homicide Investigator's Association 2019 Training Symposium September 9, 2019 to September 13, 2019 in Lake Charles, Louisiana

The motion was made by Council Member Alexander, seconded by Council Member Jackson to approve travel for Officers Bryan Holiday and Kelvin Miller to the Louisiana Homicide Investigator's Association 2019 Training Symposium September 9, 2019 to September 13, 2019 in Lake Charles, Louisiana.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

6. Discuss status of bridge on Twin Oaks (Alexander)

This agenda item was previously addressed.

7. Presentation via citizen (Bryant)

This agenda item was previously addressed.

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.
- b. Prayer Breakfast
- c. Strategic Planning Committee
- d. Citizens Advisory Board to Law Enforcement – Will meet on Thursday, September 19, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at Lagniappe.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Robert Young, 331 W. Buffwood, announced the formation of the City of Baker's first bicycle club. There will be a bike show at the Buffalo Festival and the club will participate. Mr. Young recognized the "Big 4" – honorary members of the club – Mayor Waites, Police Chief Dunn, Fire Chief Hunt and Judge Kirk Williams.

Louvanna Pope, 2701 Hovey, thanked Kevin Gravois and the Mayor for a fantastic job.

Council Member Vincent said he was glad to see the City of Baker recognize citizens, such as Mr. Watson, for their accomplishments and contributions. He gave a presentation on The 1619 Project and stated that this month, 400 years ago, was very important to the history of this country.

Council Member Heine said despite the posting of signs prohibiting dumping, people all over the city continue to do so. He stated that this practice affects all residents because it hurts property values. Council Member Heine announced that Mayor Waites has been appointed to the executive board of the Louisiana Municipal Association.

Council Member Bryant said the new zoo's reveal was held on August 17, 2019 at Greenwood Park and she is looking forward to the economic development that the city will be able to do around the changes and improvements with the new zoo. She announced the Farmers Market will be at City Park on Saturday, September 7, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Council Member Bryant thanked Administrative Officer Julie McCulloch and Public Works Director Kelvin Ridgley for addressing the situation on Dr. M.L.K. Jr. Lane.

Council Member Alexander reminded everyone of the Labor Day parade. She also reminded everyone of the Candidates Forum on Thursday, August 29, 2019 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Ruffins Showroom being sponsored by the Baker-Zachary Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and the Baker Main Street Pilot Club. The event is being live streamed by LPB.

Council Member Jackson thanked C2D, Inc. and especially Ms. Ashley Williams for their help correcting cell phone issues. She stated she has signed the letter dealing with the Fire and Police Civil Service Board and provided copies of applicable statutes to her colleagues. Council Member Jackson thanked the residents of District 5 for their support.

Council Member Bryant thanked Police Chief Dunn for the cook-out he hosted for children in a group facility in District 3.

Council Member Vincent asked everyone to visit the Little Free Libraries and support that effort.

The Mayor thanked Police Chief Dunn for all he's done in the last month.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

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 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 27, 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 27, 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 27, 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 Heine, seconded by Commissioners Bryant/Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on August 13, 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 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 August 27, 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 27, 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 27, 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 Commissioners Bryant/Vincent, seconded by Commissioner Alexander to approve the minutes of the meeting held on August 13, 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

Commissioner Vincent asked if Keba Coleman has been named the permanent Director of Utility Billing. Commissioner Waites confirmed that Mrs. Coleman is the new Director of Utility Billing.

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 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 August 27, 2019.

Angela Canady Wall, LCMC
Clerk of Council