

**MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF BAKER, LOUISIANA  
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
3325 GROOM ROAD  
BAKER, LA 70714  
November 12, 2019  
6:00 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on November 12, 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 Bryant, seconded by Council Member Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 22, 2019.

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 Jackson, seconded by Council Member Alexander to have item “1. Update on the Louisiana Community Development Block Grant by Kevin Gravois – PEC (Mayor)” 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.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Members Alexander/Vincent to have item “5. Presentation – Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (Alexander)” under New Business moved up on the agenda, so it follows the update on the Louisiana Community Development Block Grant.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

**RECOGNITIONS**

1. Recognize author Dr. Gwen Honore for her contribution to literature (Alexander)  
Council Member Alexander recognized author Dr. Gwen Honore for her contribution to literature.

1. *Update on the Louisiana Community Development Block Grant by Kevin Gravois – PEC (Mayor)*

Kevin Gravois, PEC, provided an update on the Louisiana Community Development Block Grant. Mr. Gravois stated the \$1, 835,000.00 grant is for the city's water system and will provide for a new water well on Mississippi Street, upgrading other well sites and maintenance of the system. He said the application package will be left in the Mayor's Office for public comment until Friday, November 15, 2019. The application is due by Friday, November 22, 2019.

5. *Presentation – Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (Alexander)*

Brenda Swanigan with Children Empowered by Caregivers of Louisiana, Inc. gave a brief presentation and stated the organization would like to establish a support group in the City of Baker. Ms. Swanigan said the support group would benefit everyone raising children that are not their own.

#### **PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS**

1. Dynamic Powersports, LLC  
Location – 3206 Main Street, Baker, LA (Mayor)

This agenda item was tabled, as there was no representative present.

2. 2019-34-----Re-Zoning Request

Dwight A. Roberts, Jr.

Re-zone Lots 1 of Bridges Subdivision, Dwight A. Roberts, Jr. 3712 Groom Rd.

Located in Township 5 South, and Range 1 East. Greensburg Land District,

Baker, Louisiana (Mayor)

This agenda item was tabled, as there was no representative present.

#### **RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

1. Resolution of the City of Baker, State of Louisiana, authorizing the Mayor and his administration to release the Louisiana State Fire Marshal and any other state entity from responsibility or liability in connection with those inspections performed by the Baker Fire Prevention Bureau (BFPB) and/or for the consequences thereof within the City of Baker (Mayor)

City Attorney Fabre read the resolution.

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

2. Proclamation declaring November 2019 World Prematurity Awareness Month and November 17, 2019 Prematurity Awareness Day in the City of Baker (Bryant)

City Attorney Fabre read the proclamation.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Members Alexander/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.

Council Member Bryant asked Mrs. Bianca Black, mother of the City of Baker's Prematurity Awareness Ambassador Kye Black, to speak about the event scheduled for tomorrow. Mrs. Black invited everyone to attend the Labor of Love Health Forum 2019 being held Wednesday, November 13, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at the Baker Heritage Museum.

3. Proclamation declaring November 2019 Adoption 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.

4. Proclamation declaring November 2019 Epilepsy 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 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.

5. Proclamation declaring November 2019 Lung 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 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**

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 condemned properties on the agenda was held.

## **ANNEXATIONS**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Update on the Louisiana Community Development Block Grant by Kevin Gravois – PEC (Mayor)  
This agenda item was previously addressed.
2. Ginger Vann to speak about HMGP (Mayor)

The Mayor asked that this agenda item be tabled.

3. Introduce Ordinance 2019-22, an ordinance to amend the general fund budget and capital outlay programs of governmental funds for the City of Baker, Louisiana for fiscal year 2019-2020 (Mayor)

Finance Director Mary Sue Stages provided an overview of the proposed ordinance.

The motion was made by Council Member Alexander, seconded by Council Member Bryant to introduce Ordinance 2019-22.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

4. Public Works Department to give presentation and distribute information regarding storm water (Mayor)

Director of Public Works Kelvin Ridgely gave a presentation and distributed information regarding storm water and flooding. Mr. Ridgely also provided tips on things that can be done to alleviate issues arising from storm water.

5. Presentation – Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (Alexander)

This agenda item was previously addressed.

6. Reschedule December 2019 Baker City Council meetings (Jackson)

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Alexander to reschedule the December 2019 City Council meetings for Tuesday, December 3, 2019 and Tuesday, December 10, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

#### **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
  - c. Strategic Planning Committee
  - d. Citizens Advisory Board to Law Enforcement

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

Denise Stevenson, 717 Sherron, reminded everyone that First Quarter will hold a community Spelling Bee on Saturday, November 16, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at Shady Grove Baptist Church. She asked that everyone support the event.

Ikeal Davenport, 3314 Chamberlain, thanked everyone involved for having the horses removed from the Leland College neighborhood, he appreciates all the work that was done. Mr. Davenport expressed his concerns regarding the increase in his mother's utility bill. He also asked about the proposed program regarding natural gas that was brought up earlier in the year.

Council Member Vincent reminded everyone to wrap their pipes. He recognized Mr. & Mrs. Roy Johnson, constituents of District 1, for being featured in the Peoples Health newsletter. Council Member Vincent thanked the Mayor, PEC and Kelvin Ridgely for the overlay work being done in Parkwood Terrace subdivision.

Council Member Heine commended the Mayor and his administration on the overlay program.

Council Member Bryant provided a brief explanation of the sewer charges that appear on the city's utility bills.

Discussion regarding the sewer charges that appear on the city's utility bills was held.

Council Member Jackson announced that Officer Brooks will at the Baker Branch Library to discuss human trafficking on Tuesday, November 19, 2019 from 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. On Wednesday, November 20, 2019 the Baker Branch Library will have a fall story/craft project from 5:15 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Also, the Baker Branch Library will host a Make and Take session in the Children's room on Saturday, November 23, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Council Member Jackson offered special condolences to her neighbors, the Miller family. Mr. Milton Miller passed away this afternoon.

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

The Mayor provided an in-depth explanation of the sewer charges that appear on City of Baker utility bills.

Council Member Alexander left the meeting.

Council Member Heine said the City of Baker is much better off not having its own sewer treatment plant.

City Prosecutor Christopher Dassau reminded everyone about the 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference for Men, Boys and the Women Who Love Them being held Thursday, November 14, 2019 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Baker Municipal Building.

**ADJOURN**

The motion was made by Council Member Heine, seconded by Council Member Bryant 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 November 12, 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  
November 12, 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 November 12, 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 Heine to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 22, 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 Heine, seconded by Commissioners Bryant/Waites 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 November 12, 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  
November 12, 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 November 12, 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 Bryant to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 22, 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 Heine, seconded by Commissioner Bryant 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 November 12, 2019.

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Angela Canady Wall, LCMC  
Clerk of Council