

**MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF BAKER, LOUISIANA  
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL**

**Dial In: 774-220-4000**

**PIN: 22537**

**May 26, 2020**

**5:00 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on May 26, 2020, 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 May 12, 2020.

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 Members Alexander/Vincent to add “Resolution adopting the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for the year ending June 30, 2020” 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.

Council Member Vincent asked to hear citizen’s concerns and allow discussion regarding the Buffwood Club property at this time.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Jackson to add “Discuss Buffwood Club property” under New Business to the agenda.

The motion was made by Council Member Alexander for an addendum to the motion, asking that the process/public hearing be delayed for two weeks until Buffwood can have input.

Council Member Vincent said he has reviewed the budget, as well as the Buffwood Club property documents, and there is nothing in the budget that deals with the situation in Buffwood subdivision.

Council Member Alexander reiterated she would like subdivision residents to have the opportunity to discuss how having the clubhouse will affect the integrity of the Buffwood community.

Council Member Bryant stated the Buffwood Club property has absolutely nothing to do with the budget.

Council Member Jackson asked Council Member Alexander for clarification. She asked Council Member Alexander to repeat her request.

Council Member Alexander said she is asking that the public hearing on the budget ordinances be delayed for two weeks so that the residents of Buffwood have an opportunity to be heard.

The motion was made by Council Member Alexander, seconded by Council Member Jackson to postpone voting on the budget ordinances for two weeks – until June 9, 2020.

Council Member Bryant said again, the Buffwood Club property has absolutely nothing to do with the budget and there is no need to delay voting on the ordinances.

Council Member Vincent stated his motion to discuss the Buffwood Club property at this time was still on the floor.

The Mayor called for the vote on the motion made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Jackson to discuss the Buffwood Club property now.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Vincent

NAYS: Alexander, Jackson

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 3-2.

Council Members Alexander and Jackson stated the reason for their vote. Both council members believe the people of Buffwood deserve the opportunity to be heard.

The Mayor provided an overview of how the City of Baker came to own the Buffwood Club property and initial plans for the facility.

The Mayor asked City Attorney Fabre to read a rebuttal letter, written in response to Council Member Alexander's letter to the editor, regarding the Buffwood Club property.

Council Member Alexander responded to City Attorney Fabre, stating for the record, "Bless your heart."

Extensive discussion regarding the Buffwood Club property and the city's plan for the facility followed.

## **RECOGNITIONS**

### **PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS**

1. Mays Miracle Day Care Learning  
Location – 2545 Groom Road, Baker, LA (Mayor)

Discussion regarding the agenda item was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Jackson to accept the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the business license for Mays Miracle Day Care Learning.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Introduce Ordinance 2020-15, an ordinance to designate and declare certain City of Baker Fire Department assets surplus and scrap and for related matters (Mayor)  
Discussion regarding the proposed ordinance was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Jackson, seconded by Council Member Heine to amend Ordinance 2020-15 to include Unit 22 a 2006 Spartan fire truck – VIN 4S7HT2B976C03785.

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 Members Bryant/Jackson, seconded by Council Member Heine to introduce Ordinance 2020-15.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

2. Discuss renaming Workforce Development Center (Alexander)  
Council Member Alexander asked that this agenda item be withdrawn until further notice.

3. Discuss landlord and tenant responsibilities (Bryant)

Council Member Bryant said she has received calls from tenants living in substandard housing. She said she is aware this is a civil matter. However, she would like her colleagues to provide input and make suggestions on how they can assist people with moving into suitable housing. Council Member Bryant stated she would like to discuss this matter after her colleagues have had a chance to meditate on the situation.

4. Approval for selection of The Advocate for Official Municipal Journal for fiscal year 2020-2021 (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 2020-2021.

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 Member 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.

*Resolution adopting the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for the year ending June 30, 2020*

Finance Director Mary Sue Stages explained the resolution.

City Attorney Fabre read the resolution.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, 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.

**PUBLIC MEETING**

1. Adopt Ordinance 2020-9, an ordinance adopting the capital budget and capital program of governmental funds for the City of Baker, Louisiana for fiscal year 2020-2021 (Mayor) (Introduced 5/12/2020)

Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Vincent to adopt Ordinance 2020-9.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Alexander

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

2. Adopt Ordinance 2020-10, an ordinance adopting the operating budget of general fund revenues and expenditures for the City of Baker, Louisiana for fiscal year 2020-2021 (Mayor) (Introduced 5/12/2020)

The Mayor read a letter sent out today which explained that money included in the proposed budget for an increase in the Mayor's salary is being removed.

The Mayor requested that the operating budget be decreased to provide only for the salary that is currently in place for the position of Mayor. Expenditures of the administrative department of the General Fund will be reduced by \$17,500 to \$317,150, resulting in total general fund operating expenditures of \$11,705,114.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Vincent to adopt Ordinance 2020-10 as amended.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Bryant to adopt Ordinance 2020-10 with amended portion being part of the ordinance.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Alexander

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

3. Adopt Ordinance 2020-11, an ordinance adopting the budget of sewer revenue fund, expenditures and capital improvements for the City of Baker, Louisiana for fiscal year 2020-2021 (Mayor) (Introduced 5/12/2020)

Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Jackson to adopt Ordinance 2020-11.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Alexander

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

4. Adopt Ordinance 2020-12, an ordinance adopting the budget of cemetery fund revenues, expenditures and capital improvements for the City of Baker, Louisiana

for fiscal year 2020-2021 (Mayor) (Introduced 5/12/2020)  
Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Members Bryant/Heine, seconded by Council Member Vincent to adopt Ordinance 2020-12.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Alexander

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

5. Adopt Ordinance 2020-13, an ordinance adopting the operating budget of special fund revenues and expenditures for the City of Baker, Louisiana for fiscal year 2020-2021 (Mayor) (Introduced 5/12/2020)

Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Vincent to adopt Ordinance 2020-13.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Alexander

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

6. Adopt Ordinance 2020-14, an ordinance adopting the budget of utility fund revenues, expenditures and capital improvements for the City of Baker, Louisiana for fiscal year 2020-2021 (Mayor) (Introduced 5/12/2020)

Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Vincent to adopt Ordinance 2020-14.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Alexander

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

## **RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

1. Proclamation declaring June 2020 Alzheimer's and Brain 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: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Alexander

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

2. Proclamation declaring June 2020 Men's Health 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: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Alexander

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

3. *Resolution adopting the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for the year ending June 30, 2020*

This agenda item was previously addressed.

## **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.
4. 1556 Alabama (Mayor)  
No action was taken on this agenda item.
5. 1849 Alabama (Mayor)  
No action was taken on this agenda item.
6. 1832 Florida (Mayor)  
No action was taken on this agenda item.
7. 1850 Florida (Mayor)  
No action was taken on this agenda item.
8. 1920 Florida (Mayor)  
No action was taken on this agenda item.
9. 1928 Florida (Mayor)  
No action was taken on this agenda item.

## **ANNEXATIONS**

### **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**

Council Member Vincent thanked the Mayor for giving them the opportunity to discuss the Buffwood situation and letting the residents know the city will not move forward without their input. He also thanked the Mayor, Chief of Police and city employees for all the work being done with COVID-19 and said if there is anything he can do, to let him know. Council Member Vincent said to the citizens of Baker to be well, be safe and wear your masks.

Council Member Heine reminded everyone to wear their masks, wash their hands and be safe.

Council Member Bryant offered her condolences to all those who have lost family members or friends to COVID-19. She announced the work being done on Highway 19 is for the Comite River Diversion Canal.

Council Member Jackson thanked her colleagues and the Mayor for clarification regarding the Buffwood Club property. She thanked the Mayor for making the necessary changes to the budget regarding the Mayor's salary. Council Member Jackson again thanked her colleagues for giving the residents of Buffwood an opportunity to be heard regarding the Buffwood Club property. She said she looks forward to working with Council Member Alexander and Buffwood residents as they proceed with plans for the Buffwood Club property.

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

The Mayor asked everyone to pray for him and his family.

**ADJOURN**

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Jackson to adjourn.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Alexander

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 May 26, 2020.

---

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  
TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL  
Dial In: 774-220-4000  
PIN: 22537  
May 26, 2020**

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 26, 2020, 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 May 12, 2020.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent, Waites

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Alexander

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 March 2020 and April 2020.

The motion was made by Commissioner Vincent, seconded by Commissioner Bryant to accept the sales report submitted for March 2020 and April 2020.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent, Waites

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Alexander

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 Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Heine to adjourn.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent, Waites

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Alexander



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 May 26, 2020.

---

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  
TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL  
Dial In: 774-220-4000  
PIN: 22537  
May 26, 2020**

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 26, 2020, 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 Vincent, seconded by Commissioner Jackson to approve the minutes of the meeting held on May 12, 2020.

YEAS: Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent, Waites

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Alexander

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: None

ABSTAIN: Alexander

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 May 26, 2020.

---

Angela Canady Wall, LCMC  
Clerk of Council