

**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

July 28, 2020

5:00 P.M.

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on July 28, 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 Mayor Waites.

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 July 14, 2020.

YEAS: Alexander, Bryant, Heine, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

RECOGNITIONS

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Continue discussion on housing in the City of Baker both sides of the coin landlords and tenants (Bryant)

Council Member Bryant said this discussion is about quality housing. She stated her goal is to develop a city that anyone can come into and feel safe, comfortable, look at it as an area where they can grow and prosper and be in good health. Council Member Bryant said the CARES Act will expire at the end of the month. She suggested tenants communicate with their landlords, as well as research the Emergency Rental Assistance Program to prevent eviction. Residents can contact the East Baton Rouge branch of Volunteers of America at (225) 387-0061 for assistance. Council Member Bryant said HUD has a program for landlords in need of assistance. She thanked Mr. Georgetown for his assistance in cleaning up some areas of District 3, and reiterated the importance of home maintenance as a way to keep property values up.

PUBLIC MEETING

RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Proclamation regarding Herd Immunity in the City of Baker (Bryant)

Council Member Bryant stated the purpose of this proclamation is to help us understand the importance of getting tested. She suggested that everyone establish a baseline prior to cold and flu season. Council Member Bryant urged everyone to get tested and participate

in contact tracing efforts should they be asked.

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.

2. Proclamation declaring August 2020 National Immunization 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.

3. Proclamation declaring August 2020 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 Jackson 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.

BIDS AND PROPOSALS

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

CONDEMNATIONS

1. 13950 Plank Road (Mayor)

The Mayor asked that this item be removed from the agenda, as demolition has been completed.

2. 4742 Groom Road (Mayor)

No action was taken on this agenda item.

3. 1950 Hovey (Mayor)

4. 1556 Alabama (Mayor)

No action was taken on this agenda item.

5. 1849 Alabama (Mayor)

6. 1832 Florida (Mayor)

No action was taken on this agenda item.

7. 1850 Florida (Mayor)

The Mayor asked that this item be removed from the agenda, as the owner has obtained a building permit and is working on the property.

8. 1920 Florida (Mayor)

9. 1928 Florida (Mayor)

The Mayor asked 13950 Plank Road and 1850 Florida be removed from the agenda.

Council Member Vincent asked if all the items have been removed from the property at 13950 Plank Road. The Mayor said demolition has been completed, and any remaining issues would be addressed by Code Enforcement. He said the city has not received any complaints regarding this property.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Vincent to remove these items from 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 Heine, seconded by Council Member Bryant to demolish the property at 1950 Hovey.

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 Heine, seconded by Council Member Vincent to demolish the property at 1920 Florida.

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 Heine to demolish the property at 1849 Alabama.

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 Heine, seconded by Council Member Vincent to demolish the property at 1928 Florida.

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 if all the property owners were properly notified and if the city received any response at all. The Mayor said proper notification was sent and the city received no response.

ANNEXATIONS

REPORTS ON BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

1. Planning and Zoning Commission
2. Annexation Review Committee
3. Economic Development Team – The Baker Chamber of Commerce is currently sponsoring the “Shop Baker Shop Local” initiative.

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

Monique Butler, 1012 Sherron, asked why the time of the council meetings was changed from 6:00 to 5:00 and asked that they be held at 6:00 in the future.

Council Member Vincent thanked the Public Works Department for cutting the grass in ditches and along highways, saying it looks really nice. He asked everyone to continue their efforts to keep local business parking lots free of litter. Council Member Vincent thanked his colleagues, especially Council Member Heine who he called a great source of inspiration and information. He said he looks forward to working with newly elected council members. He wished everyone good health, asked them to continue being safe, to practice social distancing, to wear masks and to wash their hands.

Council Member Bryant thanked Council Member Heine for his friendship, wisdom and for telling her the history of Baker. She said these things helped her be the council member she needed to be for District 3. Council Member Bryant thanked Council Member Heine for his service to the City of Baker. Council Member Bryant reiterated the importance of participating in the census, saying it affects transportation, schools, healthcare, public safety, and elected officials.

Council Member Alexander thanked Council Member Heine for all he has done.

Council Member Jackson addressed the residents of Chaleur subdivision. She said, “Please know I’ve contacted Alti Source the agency regarding the maintenance concerns at the property 212 Chaleur Drive. I spoke with Mr. Juan, he provided me with a case number, and I would like to get this information out to the residents of Chaleur subdivision.”

Council Member Jackson stated information regarding 212 Chaleur Drive will be left at neighborhood homes by her or a member of her team. She said anyone wishing to speak to her regarding this matter can call (225) 773-7950. Council Member Jackson said that by working together, they can get this problem solved.

Council Member Heine thanked the Mayor and his colleagues for their comments. He said this is God’s will. He said after sixty years of being involved in Baker government he enjoyed the last eight years as much as any. Council Member Heine said if there is anything he can do for anyone, he is here. He said it has been a pleasure to serve with his colleagues the last eight years. He asked that God bless everyone and said he will continue to pray for the City of Baker.

The Mayor said he really appreciates Council Member Heine’s friendship and mentorship. He said he learned a lot from Council Member Heine, not least of all, how to serve people from the heart. The Mayor said it has been a pleasure to serve with Council Member Heine and he will always remember the lessons Council Member Heine taught him. The Mayor told Council Member Heine that his selfless service to the City of Baker will never be forgotten and he appreciates all he has done.

Council Member Jackson thanked Council Member Heine for his powerful message. She thanked him for his service to the City of Baker.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

The Mayor said Code Enforcement is working on removing cars from every district in the city.

The Mayor reported there are 598 cases of COVID-19 in the City of Baker and surrounding areas. He said this pandemic is going to challenge us financially and emotionally, so we have to continue to pray together, to move forward together and take care of our people.

ADJOURN

The motion was made by Council Members Bryant/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 July 28, 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
July 28, 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 July 28, 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 Vincent, seconded by Commissioner Jackson to approve the minutes of the meeting held on July 14, 2020.

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

Niketa King submitted a monthly sales report for May 2020 and June 2020.

The motion was made by Commissioner Heine, seconded by Commissioner Vincent to accept the sales report submitted for May 2020 and June 2020.

Commissioner Alexander stated she was unable to open the attachment containing the monthly sales report. Therefore, she will abstain from the vote.

Vote was called for.

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 Waites 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 July 28, 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
July 28, 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 July 28, 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 July 14, 2020.

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 Heine, seconded by Commissioner Jackson 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 July 28, 2020.

Angela Canady Wall, LCMC
Clerk of Council