

**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**

**November 10, 2020**

**6:00 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on November 10, 2020, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

**MAYOR**

Darnell Waites

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Glenda Bryant

Rochelle Dunn

Brenda G. Jackson

Dr. Charles Vincent

Robert Young

**CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Waites presided.

The invocation was given by Council Member Vincent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by City Attorney Fabre.

**DISPOSITION OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Dunn to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 27, 2020.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

**RECOGNITIONS**

1. Recognize and congratulate Christopher Dassau on being elected District Judge – Division G (Vincent)

Council Member Vincent led the body in recognizing and congratulating Christopher Dassau on being elected District Judge – Division G.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Bryant to accept the recognition.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

**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 initiative is about quality and affordable housing for everyone in the City of Baker. She said 2020 has been the most active storm season we've seen and she encouraged renters to obtain renter's insurance to protect their belongings. Council Member Bryant stated new homeowners should check and verify flood zone information for their property and add any necessary protection.

2. Reschedule December 2020 Baker City Council meeting (Jackson)

The motion was made by Council Member Jackson, seconded by Council Member Vincent to reschedule the December 22, 2020 City Council meeting for Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

1. Proclamation recognizing Veterans Day November 11, 2020 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: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

2. Proclamation declaring November 2020 Diabetes 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, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

3. Proclamation declaring November 2020 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 Dunn to accept the proclamation.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

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. 4742 Groom Road (Mayor)

No action was taken on this agenda item.

2. 1556 Alabama (Mayor)

No action was taken on this agenda item.

3. 1832 Florida (Mayor)

No action was taken on this agenda item.

4. 3215 Monroe (Mayor)  
No action was taken on this agenda item.

5. 1916 Florida (Mayor)  
No action was taken on this agenda item.

Council Member Dunn asked if a representative for 1832 Florida was in attendance, as the Council asked that the family provide a timeline for the restoration of the property at tonight's meeting. There was no representative present.

The Mayor stated the City would reach out to the family, so they could plan to have someone at the next council meeting.

## **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 announced the City of Baker was awarded a 2019 Community Achievement Award – Honorable Mention at the LMA awards ceremony held last night. The City was given this award for Councilman Vincent's Little Free Library in the Park initiative. He stated the project was done with a grant from Entergy through his Mwalimu Institute. Council Member Vincent thanked everyone who was instrumental in the City receiving this award. He thanked his colleagues for their support of the initiative, his wife and Councilman Vincent's Scholars and Leaders, including his grandsons Vincent Butler and Shaun Michael Vincent. Council Member Vincent also thanked Cynthia Grimes and Rebecca Bond for preparing the documents which facilitated consideration for the award.

Council Member Dunn stated she has been made aware of the problems the Jones family is having with Restore Louisiana, and the fact that the family has not received all the services they should have. She said she has spoken with the Mayor and Representative Carpenter and both have said they are going to look into the issue. Council Member Dunn suggested adopting a resolution that would allow the City to better assist residents, especially senior citizens, in need of such services. She said she will continue to work to protect residents from any entity wishing to take advantage of the community's senior citizens.

Council Member Bryant announced signs for the pedestrian crosswalk near the Baker Boulevard store have been ordered, and East Baton Rouge Parish will be responsible for putting the stripes on the street. She congratulated Asya Branch from Booneville, Mississippi for being the first black Miss USA from Mississippi. Council Member Bryant announced the Elvin Howard, Sr. pancreatic cancer virtual fundraiser is being held Friday, November 13, 2020 from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. To donate go to [www.elvinhowardfrpcf.org](http://www.elvinhowardfrpcf.org). She asked everyone to support this program.

Council Member Vincent said Baker native Aristead Clayton's daughter once participated in the Miss USA pageant. He said the Howard family is to be applauded for what they have done, and he thanked Council Member Bryant for the information regarding the Elvin Howard, Sr. fundraiser.

Council Member Young initiated discussion regarding food trucks in the City of Baker, asking if the ordinances have been changed in recent years. The Mayor stated the ordinances have not been changed. Council Member Young said this issue has been brought to his attention and it is something the City needs to take a look at. The Mayor agreed that the situation needs to be addressed. Council Member Young announced a bike ride to benefit MS is being held Saturday, November 14, 2020 from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the park located at 2388 Plank Road. The event is being hosted by the Baker Buffalo Cruisers Bike Club.

Council Member Jackson said it is her belief that all City of Baker employees, whether they are classified or unclassified, full or part time, are entitled to due process.

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

The Mayor said he is excited about what is going on in the City and he thanked council members for their work.

The Mayor stated COVID-19 numbers are surging. He reiterated the emergency declaration for health in the City of Baker is still in effect. The Mayor urged everyone to continue wearing masks, wash their hands and practice social distancing. He reminded everyone that now is not the time to get complacent, the situation is going to get worse.

The Mayor said projects are going on throughout the City. Rebecca Bond announced the process has begun to deepen and widen the north canal, which will allow stormwater to drain more rapidly and effectively out of the City.

The Mayor said the City will continue to address drainage and infrastructure issues to keep residents safe.

**ADJOURN**

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

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

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 November 10, 2020.

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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  
TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL  
Dial In: 774-220-4000  
PIN: 22537  
November 10, 2020**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, sitting as the Board of Commissioners for Hillcrest Memorial Gardens, met in regular session on November 10, 2020, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

**COMMISSIONERS**

Glenda Bryant  
Rochelle Dunn  
Brenda G. Jackson  
Dr. Charles Vincent  
Darnell Waites  
Robert Young

**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 Waites, seconded by Commissioner Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 27, 2020.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Waites, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Vincent asked to see the minutes of previous meetings of the Board of Commissioners for Hillcrest Memorial Gardens.

**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 Waites, seconded by Commissioner Dunn to adjourn.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Waites, Young

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 November 10, 2020.

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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  
TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL  
Dial In: 774-220-4000  
PIN: 22537  
November 10, 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 November 10, 2020, with the following members attending:

**COMMISSIONERS**

Glenda Bryant  
Rochelle Dunn  
Brenda G. Jackson  
Dr. Charles Vincent  
Darnell Waites  
Robert Young

**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 Young to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 27, 2020.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Waites, Young

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 Dunn, seconded by Commissioner Vincent to adjourn.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Waites, Young

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 November 10, 2020.

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Angela Canady Wall, LCMC  
Clerk of Council