

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF BAKER
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
3325 GROOM ROAD, BAKER, LOUISIANA 70714
www.youtube.com/@bakerforward
October 28, 2025 - 6:00 p.m.**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on October 28, 2025, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

MAYOR
Darnell Waites

COUNCIL MEMBERS
Desiree Collins
Rochelle Dunn
Cedric Murphy
Dr. Charles Vincent
Robert Young

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Waites presided.
The invocation was given by Council Member Murphy.
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Young.

***** Public comments will be allowed on all agenda items. Such comments shall not exceed 3 minutes and shall be confined to the agenda item and any proposed disposition thereof.*****

DISPOSITION OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Murphy to approve the minutes of the meetings held on October 14, 2025 and October 21, 2025.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.
YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Christopher Toombs, a representative from the Office of Mayor-President Sid Edwards, provided an overview of the Thrive! Program. Mr. Toombs asked everyone to consider supporting the program during the upcoming election on November 15th by voting to renew millages for the East Baton Rouge Parish Library, Mosquito Abatement and the Council on Aging. He said renewing the millages will help avoid cutbacks as well as loss of services, thereby allowing the parish to continue to move forward.

RECOGNITIONS

1. Proclamation declaring October 2025 Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the City of Baker (Vincent)

The proclamation was read by Aneatra Boykin.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Murphy to accept the proclamation.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

2. Recognize Metro-Councilwoman Twahna Harris and the Butterfly Society (Mayor)
Metro-Councilwoman Twanna Harris, The Butterfly Society, spoke about domestic violence in Baton Rouge, the surrounding areas, and across the country. Ms. Harris stated domestic violence is a crisis and it is imperative that the community take a stand. She reminded everyone that while October is recognized as Domestic Violence Month, domestic violence is a problem all the time. Ms. Harris explained a number of the resources and services provided by The Butterfly Society and reiterated the importance of being involved and offering support to domestic violence survivors and their families. She said outreach is a specialty of the Butterfly Society and asked that anyone needing assistance contact them. She reminded everyone that domestic violence is a community concern and that it takes each and every one of us to do something in order to make a difference.

3. Proclamation declaring November 2025 Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month in the City of Baker (Vincent)

The proclamation was read by Aneatra Boykin.

Council Member Vincent recognized the Howard family and the Elvin Howard Pancreatic Cancer Foundation, and asked family representative Veronica Howard Sizer to speak. Ms. Sizer provided an overview of the foundation and its work. She stated the foundation's mission is to put information out regarding pancreatic cancer and its signs and symptoms in an effort to reduce pancreatic cancer deaths. She invited everyone to join the Elvin Howard, Sr., Pancreatic Cancer Advocacy Foundation for its ninth annual fundraiser on Friday, November 14, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at Boudreaux's. She announced the foundation is partnering with the City of Baker and together they will host a 5K run/1 mile walk on Saturday, November 8, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at City Hall.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Murphy to accept the proclamation.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

4. Recognize the Howard family and the Elvin Howard Pancreatic Cancer Foundation (Vincent)

This agenda item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

5. The Chill Zone Snoballs

Location – 3269 Groom Road, Baker, Louisiana

The Chill Zone Snoballs was recognized as a new business in the City of Baker.

6. Cash 2 U

Location – 330 Main Street, Baker, Louisiana

Cash 2 U was recognized as a new business in the City of Baker.

7. Take 5 Oil Change

Location – 14614 Plank Road, Baker, Louisiana

Take 5 Oil Change was recognized as a new business in the City of Baker.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS

RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Proclamation declaring October 2025 Pastor and Clergy Appreciation Month in the City of Baker (Murphy)

The proclamation was read by Aneatra Boykin.

The motion was made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Collins to accept the proclamation.

Council Member Murphy recognized Bishop Ezra Shannon.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

The mayor invited Bishop Ezra Shannon to speak. Pastor Shannon thanked the mayor and council for recognizing Pastor and Clergy Appreciation Month and reiterated the importance of these individuals and faith communities in the lives of all those seeking God's direction in their lives.

2. Proclamation declaring November 2025 Diabetes Awareness Month in the City of Baker (Vincent)

The proclamation was read by Aneatra Boykin.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Murphy to accept the proclamation.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Introduce Ordinance 2025-22, an ordinance authorizing the City of Baker to amend the Baker Municipal Code of Ordinances, Part II, Chapter 5, buildings and building regulations related to charges and fees for roofing construction inspections and permits and other matters in furtherance (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Vincent to introduce Ordinance 2025-22.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

2. Change November 11, 2025 council meeting date (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Members Collins/Murphy to change the date of the November 11, 2025 council meeting to Monday, November 10, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

PUBLIC MEETING

1. Adopt Ordinance 2025-6, regulations regarding automobile repair work and oil changes in residential and subdivision areas and to provide for other matters regarding to the same (Mayor) (Introduced 10/14/2025)

Public meeting was held.

Dr. Toni Jackson provided an overview of changes to the proposed ordinance that she submitted to the mayor and council prior to the meeting. Dr. Jackson asked that the council consider implementing said recommendations prior to adopting the proposed ordinance.

Discussion followed.

The motion was made by Council Member Collins, seconded by Council Members Dunn/Murphy to adopt Ordinance 2025-6 subject to legal review.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS

1. District 3 announcements (Collins)

Council Member Collins reminded everyone that the Magnolia Rose Foundation will host its 4th annual Magnolia Masquerade “Gatsby Gala” on Saturday, November 1, 2025 from 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. in the Municipal Auditorium. Tickets for the event are \$40.00. She invited everyone to join her for the District 3 walk Thursday, October 30, 2025 at 5:00. Council Member Collins provided an overview of the new programs being offered at the facility on Alabama Street. Some of the programs offered include Pickleball, Zumba, ballroom and line dancing. She encouraged everyone to take advantage of these new opportunities.

2. District 2 announcements (Dunn)

Council Member Dunn thanked the mayor for his continued support and for coming to her church on Sunday and presenting her pastor a proclamation on his 23rd anniversary at Shady Grove First Missionary Baptist Church. She thanked the Public Works Department for always responding when called. She also thanked Jermaine for the condition of the walking track. Council Member Dunn said the work at the park on N. Magnolia is going well. She thanked David and his team for providing transportation for the speed bump walk. She stated volunteers will be in the neighborhood again on Thursday working to procure signatures, so that the speed bump project can move forward.

Council Member Collins announced there was a groundbreaking ceremony held earlier today on Groom Road for the MoveBR project.

Council Member Vincent thanked the Public Works Department for picking up trash on Highway 19. He thanked Future Seed for taking care of the yard on Driftwood that was in need of cleanup. Council Member Vincent announced that the Lions Club is considering establishing a food pantry in the City of Baker in partnership with Rock Zion Baptist Church. He announced the Louisiana Book Festival is being held Saturday, November 1, 2025 at the State Capitol. He also reminded everyone that daylight savings time begins this

week. Council Member Vincent thanked the mayor and his employees for helping him with the numerous requests he receives from constituents.

Council Member Young invited everyone to the next Cheer and Chat meeting on Thursday, November 6, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at Baker High School. The meetings provide an opportunity for students, parents, all interested parties, to discuss issues regarding Baker schools. He announced that the mayor and council are aware of the roots pushing up sections of the walking track and that the situation is being addressed.

Council Member Murphy encouraged everyone to tell their clergy and pastors that they are appreciated, as October is Pastor and Clergy Appreciation Month, he also thanked Pastor Shannon for attending tonight's meeting.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

The mayor commended council members for their willingness to work with him and one another.

The mayor reminded everyone to vote on November 15th.

CONDEMNATIONS

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
 - e. Main Street District Committee

ADJOURN

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

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, 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 October 28, 2025.

Angela Canady Wall, LCMC
Clerk of Council

**MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
NORMAN E. “PETE” HEINE MEMORIAL GARDENS
CITY OF BAKER
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA
3325 GROOM ROAD
BAKER, LA 70714
October 28, 2025**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, sitting as the Board of Commissioners for Norman E. “Pete” Heine Memorial Gardens, met in regular session on October 28, 2025, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

COMMISSIONERS
Desiree Collins
Rochelle Dunn
Cedric Murphy
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 Murphy to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 14 2025.

Commissioner Waites called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.
YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, 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 Waites, seconded by Commissioners Dunn/Murphy to adjourn.

Commissioner Waites called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.
YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, 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 October 28, 2025.

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
October 28, 2025**

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 October 28, 2025, with the following members attending:

COMMISSIONERS

Desiree Collins
Rochelle Dunn
Cedric Murphy
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 Commissioners Murphy/Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 14, 2025.

Commissioner Vincent thanked the mayor and his staff for the recent notice that was sent to residents regarding utilities.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, 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 Waites, seconded by Commissioner Dunn to adjourn.

Commissioner Waites called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, 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 October 28, 2025.

Angela Canady Wall, LCMC
Clerk of Council