

**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](http://www.youtube.com/@bakerforward)  
May 12, 2026 - 6:00 p.m.**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on May 12, 2026, 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 Vincent.

**\*\*\*Public comment shall be observed before a vote is taken on any agenda item. 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 Members Collins/Murphy to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 28, 2026.

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.

**RECOGNITIONS**

**PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS**

**RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

1. Proclamation declaring May 2026 ALS 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. Proclamation declaring May 2026 Lupus 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 Dunn 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**

The mayor provided an overview of the proposed budget, and initiated discussion regarding same.

Council Member Vincent stated that he would abstain from voting on the budget ordinances, as he has not had adequate time to review the proposed budget.

1. Introduce Ordinance 2026-14, an ordinance to adopt the operating budget of general fund revenues and expenditures City of Baker, Louisiana, fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Murphy to introduce Ordinance 2026-14.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Vincent

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

2. Introduce Ordinance 2026-15, an ordinance to adopt the operating budget of special revenue funds revenues and expenditures City of Baker, Louisiana, fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Dunn to introduce Ordinance 2026-15.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Vincent

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

The motion was made by Council Member Collins, seconded by Council Member Murphy to go back to item number one under New Business.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Young, Vincent

NAYS: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

1. Introduce Ordinance 2026-14, an ordinance to adopt the operating budget of general fund revenues and expenditures City of Baker, Louisiana, fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Murphy to introduce Ordinance 2026-14.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

2. Introduce Ordinance 2026-15, an ordinance to adopt the operating budget of special revenue funds revenues and expenditures City of Baker, Louisiana, fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Dunn to introduce Ordinance 2026-15.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

3. Introduce Ordinance 2026-16, an ordinance to adopt the capital budget and capital program of governmental funds City of Baker, Louisiana, fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Young to introduce Ordinance 2026-16.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

4. Introduce Ordinance 2026-17, an ordinance to adopt the budget of utility fund revenues, expenditures and capital improvements City of Baker, Louisiana, fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Dunn to introduce Ordinance 2026-17.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

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

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

5. Introduce Ordinance 2026-18, an ordinance to adopt the budget of cemetery fund revenues, expenditures and capital improvements City of Baker, Louisiana, fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Murphy to introduce Ordinance 2026-18.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Young

NAYS: Vincent

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

6. Introduce Ordinance 2026-19, an ordinance to adopt the budget of sewer revenue fund revenues, expenditures and capital improvements City of Baker, Louisiana, fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Dunn to introduce Ordinance 2026-19.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Young

NAYS: Vincent

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

7. Introduce Ordinance 2026-20, an ordinance amending Chapter 14, Article III, Section 14-103, "Disturbing the Peace," to expand prohibited conduct, increase penalties, provide for enhanced enforcement, and otherwise provide with respect thereto (Vincent)

Council Member Vincent provided an overview of the proposed ordinance, saying the amendments strengthen the existing ordinance.

Aneatra Boykin read a portion of the ordinance.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Collins to introduce Ordinance 2026-20.

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.

Council Member Young left the meeting.

## **PUBLIC MEETING**

### **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

The mayor announced the city received a letter from DOTD and Lavey Lane will soon belong to the City of Baker. The mayor stated they plan to decrease the speed limit on Lavey Lane.

The mayor stated the process has started to initiate the sidewalk project on Lavey Lane and the curb and gutter project on Chamberlain Avenue.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS**

1. District 3 announcements: Election Day is May 16, 2026, the Diontreya Claiborne Stop the Violence 5K Run and 1 Mile Walk is being held May 30, 2026, the City of Baker Recreation Association is currently accepting new athletes ages 4-15 to play baseball, and/or NFL flag football (Collins)

Council Member Collins stated Election Day is May 16, 2026, and encouraged everyone to exercise their right to vote. She announced the Diontreya Claiborne Stop the Violence 5K Run and 1 Mile Walk is being held May 30, 2026, and asked that everyone support this worthwhile event. Council Member Collins congratulated Shanna Claiborne who was recently named Citizen of the Year. She stated the City of Baker Recreation Association is currently accepting new athletes aged 4-15 to play baseball, and/or NFL flag football. For more information contact the City of Baker Recreation Association or Gerald Collins.

2. District 2 announcements (Dunn)

Council Member Dunn announced the annual fishing tournament will be held June 13, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. to noon. She stated the ribbon cutting for the baseball field at the park on N. Magnolia will be held that day as well from noon to 1:00 p.m. Council Member Dunn reiterated the importance of voting.

3. Baton Rouge Black History Hall of Fame for the Lincoln Theare fundraiser “An evening of jazz and blues” Friday, May 15, 2026, at Manship Theater – Shaw Center for the Arts has been cancelled and will be rescheduled at a later date, thanks to Public Works staff for work on unstopping sewer lines, cones and water meters on various streets, etc. (Vincent)

Council Member Vincent stated he agrees wholeheartedly with his colleagues and stressed the importance of exercising the right to vote. He announced that the Baton Rouge Black History Hall of Fame for the Lincoln Theare fundraiser “An evening of jazz and blues” Friday, May 15, 2026, at Manship Theater – Shaw Center for the Arts has been cancelled and will be rescheduled at a later date. He thanked the Public Works Department for all they do, and especially their work on unstopping the sewer lines in portions of Parkwood Terrace and repairing water lines in other areas. He asked for cones so that he can mark areas in need of repair on streets in District 1. Council Member Vincent reported that residents of Feliciana subdivision are still having problems with noise from the event center located in Plank Road Crossing. He thanked the mayor and his staff for all they do as well.

Council Member Murphy, on behalf of Council Member Young, stated the 12<sup>th</sup> annual safest cities report listed the City of Baker as the seventh safest city in Louisiana. He distributed copies of the report to the assembly.

#### **APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

#### **CONDEMNATIONS**

1. 1916 Florida (Mayor)
2. 2235 Chamberlain (Mayor)
3. 1984 Chamberlain (Mayor)
4. White house next door to 1984 Chamberlain (Mayor)
5. 12979 Wedgewood (Mayor)
6. 1008 Epperson (Mayor)
7. Chamberlain Avenue at John Marks (Mayor)
8. 2441 Ray Weiland (Mayor)

9. 4331 Amerest

**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 Murphy to adjourn.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Young

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 May 12, 2026.

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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  
May 12, 2026**

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 May 12, 2026, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

**COMMISSIONERS**

Desiree Collins  
Rochelle Dunn  
Cedric Murphy  
Dr. Charles Vincent  
Darnell Waites

**ABSENT**

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 April 28, 2026.

Commissioner Waites called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Waites

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Young

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 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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Young

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 Norman E. "Pete" Heine Memorial Gardens held on May 12, 2026.

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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  
May 12, 2026**

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 12, 2026, with the following members attending:

**COMMISSIONERS**

Desiree Collins  
Rochelle Dunn  
Cedric Murphy  
Dr. Charles Vincent  
Darnell Waites

**ABSENT**

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 Dunn to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 28, 2026.

Commissioner Waites called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Waites

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Young

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 Waites, seconded by Commissioners Dunn/Vincent to adjourn.

Commissioner Waites called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Waites

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Young

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 May 12, 2026.

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Angela Canady Wall, LCMC  
Clerk of Council