

**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
September 8, 2026 - 6:00 p.m.**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on September 8, 2026, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

MAYOR
Darnell Waites

COUNCIL MEMBERS
Desiree Collins
Rochelle Dunn
Cedric Murphy

ABSENT
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 Dunn.

*****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 Dunn, seconded by Council Member Murphy to approve the minutes of the meeting held on August 25, 2026.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.
YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Vincent, Young
ABSTAIN: None
The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

The motion was made by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Murphy to add C. Denise Marcelle to the agenda under Recognitions.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.
YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Vincent, Young
ABSTAIN: None
The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

RECOGNITIONS

1. *C. Denise Marcelle*
C. Denise Marcelle, candidate for Justice of the Peace District 4, introduced herself and provided an overview of her qualifications and platform.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS

RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Proclamation declaring September 2026 Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month in the City of Baker (Vincent)

The proclamation was read by Aneatra Boykin.

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

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Vincent, Young

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

2. Proclamation declaring September 2026 Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in the City of Baker (Vincent)

The proclamation was read by Aneatra Boykin.

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

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Vincent, Young

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

3. Proclamation declaring September 2026 Sickle Cell Anemia Awareness Month in the City of Baker (Vincent)

The proclamation was read by Aneatra Boykin.

The motion was made by Council Member Collins, 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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Vincent, Young

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC MEETING

1. Adopt Ordinance 2026-28, an ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Baker by adding a new article to Chapter 27, Zoning, to establish the Baker Commercial Corridor Overlay Zoning District (CCO); providing for purpose, applicability, boundaries, development plan review, prohibited uses, lot and bulk standards, design standards, landscape and buffer requirements, additional design review standards, administration, severability, and an effective date (Mayor) (Introduced 8/25/2026)

Public meeting was held.

Anetra Boykin read the title of the ordinance.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

The motion was made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Dunn to adopt Ordinance 2026-28.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Vincent, Young

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS

1. District 3 announcements (Collins)

Council Member Collins announced that Saturday, September 12, 2026, is Grandparents Day.

Council Member Collins announced that the Rotary Club of Baker and Interact Greater Baton Rouge in partnership with the City of Baker will begin its free ACT prep on Monday, September 14, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. with a family and student informational session in the Civic Room in the Municipal Auditorium. This resource is available for 9th – 12th graders.

Council Member Collins announced the Rotary Club of Baker hosted Rotary's District 6200 Governor Margaretta Mayes. Ms. Mayes provided an overall scope of the expectations for the district and checked in on the Baker club as well.

Council Member Collins invited everyone to join them for dinner under the big tent on Wednesday, September 16, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at 4331 Jefferson Street. The topic for Wednesday's dinner – No judgement, just grace: understanding addiction and supporting recovery.

Council Member Collins announced a Meet the Candidates forum will be held on Wednesday, October 7, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the Baker Municipal Center. The event is being hosted by Representative Barbar Carpenter and moderated by Senator Regina Barrow.

Council Member Collins announced the 13th Annual Rebirth Magazine Legend Awards will be held Saturday, October 31, 2026.

Council Member Collins reminded everyone of the Chick-fil-A Community Scholarship program. Applications are now being accepted.

Council Member Collins announced basketball signup will be held in two weeks.

Council Member Collins reminded everyone interested in being a vendor at the Buffalo Festival or participating in the Buffalo Festival parade to signup as soon as possible.

2. District 2 announcements (Dunn)

Council Member Dunn congratulated the Baker Jr. Buffs for their wins on Saturday. She encouraged everyone to come out and support the youth of our community.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

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 Collins, seconded by Council Member Murphy to adjourn.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Vincent, Young

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

**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 September 8, 2026.

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
September 8, 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 September 8, 2026, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

COMMISSIONERS

Desiree Collins
Rochelle Dunn
Cedric Murphy
Darnell Waites

ABSENT

Dr. Charles Vincent
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 Collins to approve the minutes of the meeting held on August 25, 2026.

Commissioner Waites called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Waites

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Vincent, Young

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

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.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Waites

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Vincent, Young

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by 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 Board of Commissioners for the Norman E. “Pete” Heine Memorial Gardens held on September 8, 2026.

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
September 8, 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 September 8, 2026, with the following members attending:

COMMISSIONERS

Desiree Collins
Rochelle Dunn
Cedric Murphy
Darnell Waites

ABSENT

Dr. Charles Vincent
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 August 25, 2026.

Commissioner Waites called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Waites

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Vincent, Young

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

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, Waites

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Vincent, Young

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by 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 Board of Commissioners of the Baker Consolidated Utility System held on September 8, 2026.

Angela Canady Wall, LCMC
Clerk of Council