

**MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF BAKER, LOUISIANA  
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
3325 GROOM ROAD, BAKER, LOUISIANA  
TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL  
Dial In: 774-220-4000  
PIN: 22537  
November 9, 2021  
6:00 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on November 9, 2021, 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 Bryant.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Dunn.

**DISPOSITION OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Jackson to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 28, 2021.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Bryant to add item “2. Greg Williams” under Recognitions to the agenda.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

**RECOGNITIONS**

1. Recognize family and founders of the Elvin Howard, Sr., Pancreatic Cancer Advocacy Foundation (Vincent)

Council Member Vincent introduced Veronica Howard Sizer, Elvin Howard, Sr.’s daughter, who provided an overview of the foundation and its work. Mrs. Sizer invited everyone to join the Elvin Howard, Sr., Pancreatic Cancer Advocacy Foundation on Friday, November 12, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. for its virtual fundraiser. The fundraiser can be found on the foundation’s website – [www.elvinhowardsrpcf.org](http://www.elvinhowardsrpcf.org), Facebook Live, and YouTube. The event will be simulcast on all three platforms. For those so inclined, there are several ways to donate to the foundation – text to give, scan the QR code to give, or by mailing a check to P.O. Box 991, Baker, Louisiana 70704. For more information contact the Elvin Howard, Sr. PCAF at 225-800-7448.

2. *Greg Williams (Vincent)*

Greg Williams, Greater First Church Baptist, 4669 Groom Road, will host a vaccination event Thursday, November 18, 2021, from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The event is being co-sponsored by Albertsons and preregistration is encouraged. The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines will be available – first dose, second dose, and boosters. The event will offer COVID-19 vaccinations for 5-11 year-olds and flu shots as well.

**PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS**

1. Approve Business License Request – 2021-14  
Royal Upholstery LLC  
Location – 12734 Middlewood, Baker, Louisiana  
Discussion regarding the agenda item was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Young to accept the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the business license request for Royal Upholstery LLC.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Vincent, Young

NAYS: Jackson

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-1.

2. **Resubdivision Request:** McHugh Road, Baker, Louisiana  
**Owner:** National Holy Trinity Baptist Fellowship Association, LLC  
**Name of Applicant:** National Holy Trinity Baptist Fellowship Association, LLC  
1700 McHugh Road  
Baker, Louisiana 70714

**Lot:** 15-B-1

**Subdivision:** Wyatt Property

**Property Currently Zoned:** R-2

**Proposed Use:** Lot 15-B-1-A will be used as existing property use – church/worship. Lot 15-B-1-B will be used for a cemetery.

Discussion regarding the agenda item was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Young to accept the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the resubdivision request for Holy Trinity Baptist Fellowship Association, LLC.

The motion died due to lack of a second.

Discussion regarding the agenda item resumed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Introduce Ordinance 2021-27, an ordinance to annex that certain 6.205 acre tract or parcel of ground designated as Tract C-2, Sections 28 & 29, T-5-S, R-1-E, Greensburg Land District, located in the Parish of East Baton Rouge, State of Louisiana, being designated according to the official map of the Parish of East Baton Rouge on file and of record in East Baton Rouge Parish Clerk of Court, being owned by the East Baton Rouge Council on the Aging, Inc.; and directing the changing of the boundaries of the City of Baker, Louisiana, to reflect and include the annexation and to provide for the zoning of said property (Mayor)  
Tasha Amar, East Baton Rouge Council on Aging, provided an overview of the organization’s plans for this property.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Bryant to introduce Ordinance 2021-27.

Council Member Vincent voted yes.

Council Member Dunn voted yes.

Council Member Bryant voted yes.

Council Member Young voted yes.

Council Member Jackson asked to abstain from voting, due to her concerns regarding the rules and procedures of introducing an ordinance.

The motion was made by Council Member Jackson, seconded by Council Member Dunn to allow Council Member Jackson to abstain from voting on this agenda item.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

Council Member Jackson abstained.

Council Member Jackson stated this is much needed. She said she wants citizens to know she is not against it, but she believes in following rules and procedures, and referred everyone to Section 3-12 of the City of Baker's charter.

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

Council Member Bryant initiated discussion regarding the legality of the Mayor placing an ordinance on the agenda.

2. Update on quality and fair housing in the City of Baker for all tenants, landlords and homeowners (Bryant)

Mission Statement

A. To provide a healthy lifestyle through community gardens and exercise availability.

B. To provide a safe environment through communication with each other & law enforcement.

C. To provide all neighborhoods with a sense of pride & integrity.

Council Member Bryant read the mission statement. She said WBRZ did a piece on the community garden located on College Avenue in Leland College subdivision Friday night. The clip stressed the importance of having a community garden. Council Member Bryant encouraged residents to report speeding in their neighborhoods to the police department. She reminded everyone to be mindful of what they place in their trash cans, as some items can damage the trucks and/or equipment. And these damages can result in increased wait time for trash pick-up/removal.

3. Discuss LSU Coastal Sustainability Studio's findings and how to utilize them to better the Baker community (Bryant)

Council Member Bryant read a passage from the LSU Coastal Sustainability Studio's report which suggested updating city ordinances in order to assist the City in realizing its master plan. She said updating ordinances can facilitate progress, as well as strengthen and support the City's stormwater management efforts.

4. Update on Ordinance 2021-19 (Jackson)

Council Member Jackson said she was pleased to announce anyone qualifying to run for City Council in the City of Baker will henceforth be referred to as "Council Member." All paperwork received following an election will contain this verbiage. Council Member Jackson said as of November 1, 2021, the updated information has been posted on the Secretary of State's website. She thanked her colleagues for their support of this ordinance.

5. Consider rescheduling December 2021 council meetings (Jackson)

The motion was made by Council Member Jackson, seconded by Council Member Vincent to reschedule the December 28, 2021, City Council meeting for Tuesday, December 7, 2021, 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.

**RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

1. Proclamation declaring November 2021 National Alzheimer’s Disease 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.

2. Proclamation declaring November 2021 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.

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**BIDS AND PROPOSALS**

**APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

**CONDEMNATIONS**

1. 1556 Alabama (Mayor)
2. 1832 Florida (Mayor)
3. 1916 Florida (Mayor)
4. 3226 Polk (Mayor)
5. 2235 Chamberlain (Mayor)
6. 1984 Chamberlain (Mayor)
7. White house next door to 1984 Chamberlain (Mayor)
8. 5803 Biscayne (Bryant)
9. 4451 Baker Boulevard (Bryant)
10. 4509 Baker Boulevard (Bryant)
11. 2116 E. Azalea (Dunn)

**ANNEXATIONS**

**REPORTS ON BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

1. Planning and Zoning
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

#### **NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Desiree Collins, 4715 Groom Road, said she and Council Member Dunn are organizing a Hurricane Ida Disaster Relief Rally which will benefit the City of Laplace, and asked everyone to support the initiative. The deadline for donations is Saturday, November 20, 2021. All donations will be delivered to Laplace on Monday, November 22, 2021.

Ike Davenport expressed his concerns regarding the City of Baker's millage rate and the notice printed in the paper concerning said rate. Mr. Davenport is opposed to property taxes being increased. Mr. Davenport was assured the millage rate was not going up.

Council Member Vincent reminded everyone to stay safe and get vaccinated, if they've not already done so. He also reminded everyone of the vaccination event being held Thursday, November 18, 2021, at Greater First Church Baptist, 4669 Groom Road, from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Again, both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines will be available.

Council Member Dunn said she has flyers for the Hurricane Ida Disaster Relief Rally benefiting the City of Laplace. She said the drop-off point will be New Journey Fellowship Church. Anyone wishing to participate can contact Council Member Dunn at (225) 317-8465. She also said she is assisting the Jones family as they rebuild their home and wanted to be clear that the project is not being funded by the City of Baker. The Jones home is being rebuilt by Restore Louisiana.

Council Member Bryant asked for an update on the situation with the trash at 4409 Ashland. Administrative Officer Angela Machen said the trash has not been removed because they have been unable to contact the resident. Council Member Bryant asked if the City has a street sweeper. The Mayor stated the City does have one, however, it is down at the moment. She reported she spoke with Entergy and the streetlights at the intersection of McHugh Road and Groom Road are scheduled to be repaired on November 11, 2021. Council Member Bryant announced a conference on ad valorem taxes is being held tomorrow in Gonzales at 219 Irma Boulevard. In honor of Veterans Day, she commended her younger brother, a special forces veteran with over 28 years of service, for his bravery and integrity – then and now.

Council Member Young thanked his colleagues for supporting his proclamation for Red Ribbon Week at Baker Heights Elementary and the Baker Fire Department for using their ladder truck so the Red Ribbon Week photo could be taken. He thanked the Mayor for inviting him and Council President Jackson to the meeting held today with Republic Services, he felt it was both beneficial and productive. He announced Dixon Correctional is hosting a job fair Tuesday, November 16, 2021, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at 5568 Highway 68, Jackson, Louisiana.

Council Member Jackson thanked Mr. Mike, Ms. Rachel, Ms. Sonya, Ms. Ora, Mr. Sailor and Council Member Young for all their hard work on the entrance sign to Heritage Court subdivision. She said she is looking forward to the turkey give-away she is sponsoring with Community Partners. Pre-registered Baker residents will receive their turkeys on Monday, November 22, 2021, 2:00 p.m. at Faith A.M.E. Church, 3919 Groom Road.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

The Mayor announced a breakfast honoring veterans will be served Wednesday, November 10, 2021, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. at City Hall. Veterans can pick up their breakfast in the Municipal Auditorium kitchen.

**ADJOURN**

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Jackson 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 9, 2021.

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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 9, 2021**

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 9, 2021, 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 Commissioners Jackson/Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 26, 2021.

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 Waites, 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 for the Hillcrest Memorial Gardens held on November 9, 2021.

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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 9, 2021**

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 9, 2021, 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 Waites seconded by Commissioner Dunn to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 26, 2021.

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 Waites, seconded by Commissioners Dunn/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 9, 2021.

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Angela Canady Wall, LCMC  
Clerk of Council