

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF BAKER
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
3325 GROOM ROAD, BAKER, LOUISIANA 70714
ZOOM**

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Telephone Conference Call

Dial In: 646-558-8656

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March 8, 2022 - 6:00 p.m.

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on March 8, 2022, 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 Dunn.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Vincent.

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 February 22, 2022.

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 Young, seconded by Council Members Dunn/Vincent to add Robert Kelly 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

Council Member Young recognized Mr. Robert Kelly, BREC's Pickleball Coordinator and a pickleball coach, for his hard work and commitment to the City of Baker and surrounding communities.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS

1. Approve Business License Request – 2022-5
Rosebud Healthcare and Training, LLC
Location – 3207 Lavey Lane, Baker, Louisiana
Discussion regarding the agenda item was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Vincent to accept the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the business license request for Rosebud Healthcare and Training, LLC.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

2. Approve Business License Request – 2022-6
Premier Lab Testing, LLC
Location – 3209 Lavey Lane, Baker, Louisiana
Discussion regarding the agenda item was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Jackson to accept the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the business license request for Premier Lab Testing, LLC.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discuss Louisiana state-local government opioid litigation settlement (Mayor)
City Attorney Fabre provided an overview of the Louisiana state-local government opioid litigation settlement.

2. Approve travel for Chief Dunn to Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police mid-year conference March 8-10, 2022, in Kinder, Louisiana (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Dunn to approve travel for Chief Dunn to Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police mid-year conference March 8-10, 2022, in Kinder, Louisiana.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

3. 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 – Police and Fire Departments.

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

Council Member Bryant said anyone in need of assistance with establishing a garden at their home should contact her at (225) 773-7135. She announced LaTonya Rounds, Holistic Fitness, has added a 7:00 p.m. low-impact class to her schedule. Classes are held at the gym on Alabama Street. She announced the Fire Department has smoke detectors to distribute for residents that need them. She thanked the Baker Police Department for their visibility in District 3, saying we need this in our community to ensure residents remain safe. Council Member Bryant asked that the resident at 4320 Wimbish be given special consideration regarding notices received concerning the state of their property. She stated the individual has been diligent about addressing the issues at this address, but is now extremely sick and has been for some time.

4. Discuss and accept proposed changes to the City of Baker's City Council meeting agenda (Jackson)

Council Member Jackson stated the proposed changes would create a more informative agenda that would better address citizen's concerns and thereby inspire confidence in elected officials.

Council Member Jackson initiated discussion regarding the proposed changes to the City of Baker's City Council meeting agenda.

5. Introduce Ordinance 2022-6, City of Baker food trucks and rolling vendors business permits and licensing requirements (Dunn) (Young)

The Mayor asked that this agenda item be tabled.

6. Introduce Ordinance 2022-7, an ordinance to adopt Louisiana revised statutes relative to laws applicable to bicycle riders (Young)

Council Member Young provided a brief explanation of the proposed ordinance.

City Attorney Fabre read a portion of the ordinance.

The motion was made by Council Member Young, seconded by Council Member Dunn to introduce Ordinance 2022-7.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Alteen Profit, 1957 Hovey, addressed the City Council saying she has never seen council members that were so disrespectful and angry, getting nothing done. She reminded council members they work for the citizens, the community, and said she is tired of this, that it is ridiculous. Ms. Profit stated council members need to work together. She also stated residents on/near Hovey Avenue do not want property in that area rezoned.

Mrs. Wiltz asked if the City of Baker has thought about lanes for bicycles. The Mayor stated the city has a bike/pedestrian plan in place for every road that is redone.

Council Member Vincent stated earlier comments regarding council members do not apply to him. He said being elected is a sacred trust and he is honored to represent the citizens of Baker. Council Member Vincent said he has always tried to serve in an efficient and professional way and during his tenure the Baker City Council has had many accomplishments. For example, he has provided Baker students with thousands of dollars' worth of school supplies over the years. Council Member Vincent announced his Friendly Neighbor Keeper initiative will be city-wide Saturday, March 19, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. with participants scheduled to meet at City Hall. He reminded everyone to continue participating in the initiative every third Saturday of the month by picking up trash in neighborhoods, as well as throughout the city and surrounding areas. Council Member Vincent presented the Mayor the Proclamation of Condolences for the Honorable Judge Christopher R. Dassau presented by Justice of the Peace Tracy Batieste-Wood and her staff at last month's memorial service.

Council Member Dunn stated she is willing to work with all her colleagues for a better Baker. She said she is always striving to be a better person and looking for solutions to problems, that her goal is to help citizens in the community. Council Member Dunn said council members must be persistent and do the foot work. She said council members must put their differences aside and work together.

Council Member Bryant wished everyone a happy International Women's Day. She read the following quote from Booker T. Washington, "A lie doesn't become true, wrong doesn't become right, and evil doesn't become good just because it's accepted by the majority." She asked again for an explanation of the charge on resident's DEMCO bill that says City of Baker. Keba Coleman, Director of Utility Billing, said the charge is a tax put on the bill by DEMCO. It is not a charge from the City of Baker. Council Member Bryant said she has suggested factories for semi-conductors be located in Baker. These conductors are used in cars, computers and cell phones and such facilities would provide jobs for residents in the community. She stated wastewater testing for COVID is being done in cities around the country and the results help leaders make educated decisions about moving forward in the pandemic. Council Member Bryant said the rainy season is

here and reminded everyone to be aware and be prepared. She also asked residents to be mindful of trash pick-up days and put trash out as close to these days as possible. Council Member Bryant reiterated her belief that the city's infrastructure can be improved one street at a time. She suggested improving an area's infrastructure when new projects begin in that location.

Council Member Young applauded Ms. Profit for her comments. He stated District 4 expects him to be professional and accountable. He said he has a lot to learn, and he looks to Council Member Vincent as a mentor. Council Member Young said council members must conduct themselves like leaders.

Council Member Jackson said it is always a time to do what's right. She reiterated that nothing is personal. She asked her colleagues and the listening audience to know we won't always agree, but she will advocate on behalf of the people of Baker. She said she does not believe in micro-management and that she does communicate. Council Member Jackson stated she believes in accountability, transparency and integrity for elected officials.

Council Member Jackson left the meeting due to an emergency.

RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Resolution regarding Baker School District litigation (Mayor)
City Attorney Fabre provided an overview of the resolution.

City Attorney Fabre read a portion of the resolution.

Discussion regarding the proposed resolution followed.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Dunn to adopt the resolution.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Vincent, Young
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Jackson
ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

2. Resolution regarding Main Street Business Economic District (Mayor)
City Attorney Fabre read a portion of the resolution.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Young to adopt the resolution.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Vincent, Young
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Jackson
ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

3. Resolution regarding redistricting consultant (Vincent)
Council Member Vincent provided an explanation of the resolution.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Dunn to adopt the resolution.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Vincent, Young
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Jackson
ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

4. Proclamation declaring March 2022 Bleeding Disorders 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 Young to accept the proclamation.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Jackson

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

5. Proclamation declaring March 2022 Women's History 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, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Jackson

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

The Mayor asked for a motion to table all remaining agenda items.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Young to table all remaining agenda items down to Administrative Matters.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Jackson

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

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)
12. 5804 Biscayne (Mayor)

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
 - e. Main Street District Committee

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

ADJOURN

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

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Jackson

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 March 8, 2022.

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
March 8, 2022**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, sitting as the Board of Commissioners for Hillcrest Memorial Gardens, met in regular session on March 8, 2022, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

COMMISSIONERS

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

ABSENT

Brenda G. Jackson

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 February 22, 2022.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Vincent, Waites, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Jackson

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NEW BUSINESS

OTHER NECESSARY BUSINESS

1. Monthly Business Report

Niketa King submitted a monthly sales report for February 2022.

The motion was made by Commissioner Waites, seconded by Commissioner Vincent to accept the sales report submitted for February 2022.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Vincent, Waites, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Jackson

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

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, Vincent, Waites, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Jackson

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 Hillcrest Memorial Gardens held on March 8, 2022.

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
March 8, 2022**

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 March 8, 2022, with the following members attending:

COMMISSIONERS

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

ABSENT

Brenda G. Jackson

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 February 22, 2022.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Vincent, Waites, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Jackson

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NEW BUSINESS

OTHER NECESSARY BUSINESS

1. Monthly Business Report

The motion was made by Commissioner Dunn, seconded by Commissioner Waites to accept the six-month Utility Fund report.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Vincent, Waites, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Jackson

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

2. Other Reports

3. Items Requiring Action

ADJOURN

There was no other business to come before the commission. The motion was made by Commissioner Vincent, seconded by Commissioner Waites to adjourn.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Vincent, Waites, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Jackson

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 March 8, 2022.

Angela Canady Wall, LCMC
Clerk of Council