

**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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May 10, 2022 - 6:00 p.m.

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on May 10, 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 Mayor Waites.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Young.

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 April 26, 2022.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

RECOGNITIONS

1. Recognize Jared Hebert, Baker True Value, for his support during the Buffalo Festival (Mayor)

No action was taken on this agenda item, as Mr. Hebert was not at the meeting.

2. Recognize Dr. Rodolfo Manalac and his staff for their unfailing dedication to the Baker community (Bryant)

Council Member Bryant recognized Dr. Rodolfo Manalac, his family and his staff for their unfailing dedication to the Baker community.

3. Present Trailblazer Award to Carlon Simpson, the first woman to serve on the Baker City Council. Thank you for paving the way for the women of Baker, Louisiana (Jackson)

Council Member Jackson presented the Trailblazer Award to Carlon Simpson, the first woman to serve on the Baker City Council, and thanked her for paving the way for the women of Baker, Louisiana.

4. Present Trailblazer Award to Sharon J. Marshall, the second woman to serve on the Baker City Council. Thank you for paving the way for the women of Baker, Louisiana (Jackson)

Council Member Jackson presented the Trailblazer Award to Sharon J. Marshall, the second woman to serve on the Baker City Council, and thanked her for paving the way for the women of Baker, Louisiana.

5. Recognize James Hickman for his volunteerism, commitment of time and willingness to help empower and enhance our quality of life in Baker, Louisiana (Jackson)

Council Member Jackson recognized James Hickman for his volunteerism, commitment of time and willingness to help empower and enhance our quality of life in Baker, Louisiana.

6. Recognize Sandra Hickman for her volunteerism, commitment of time and willingness to help empower and enhance our quality of life in Baker, Louisiana (Jackson)

Council Member Jackson recognized Sandra Hickman for her volunteerism, commitment of time and willingness to help empower and enhance our quality of life in Baker, Louisiana.

7. Recognize Eve Williams for her assistance in facilitating the improvements made at the walking track at Baker City Park (Young)

Council Member Young recognized Eve Williams for her assistance in facilitating the improvements made at the walking track at Baker City Park.

8. Recognize Tasty Cream Donuts for being a very supportive and involved business in the City of Baker (Young)

Council Member Young recognized Tasty Cream Donuts for being a very supportive and involved business in the City of Baker.

9. Recognize O'Darrionna Finley for her mental toughness and completing the 2021-2022 Baker High School ladies' basketball season with five teammates (Young)

Council Member Young recognized O'Darrionna Finley for her mental toughness and completing the 2021-2022 Baker High School ladies' basketball season with five teammates.

10. Recognize Jordan Harris for her mental toughness and completing the 2021-2022 Baker High School ladies' basketball season with five teammates (Young)

Council Member Young recognized Jordan Harris for her mental toughness and completing the 2021-2022 Baker High School ladies' basketball season with five teammates.

11. Recognize Ne'Irae Jones for her mental toughness and completing the 2021-2022 Baker High School ladies' basketball season with five teammates (Young)

Council Member Young recognized Ne'Irae Jones for her mental toughness and completing the 2021-2022 Baker High School ladies' basketball season with five teammates.

12. Recognize Jaionna Lewis for her mental toughness and completing the 2021-2022 Baker High School ladies' basketball season with five teammates (Young)

Council Member Young recognized Jaionna Lewis for her mental toughness and completing the 2021-2022 Baker High School ladies' basketball season with five teammates.

13. Recognize TO'Bariona Parker for her mental toughness and completing the 2021-2022 Baker High School ladies' basketball season with five teammates (Young)

Council Member Young recognized TO'Bariona Parker for her mental toughness and completing the 2021-2022 Baker High School ladies' basketball season with five teammates.

14. Recognize Emerie Robetson for her mental toughness and completing the 2021-2022 Baker High School ladies' basketball season with five teammates (Young)

Council Member Young recognized Emerie Robetson for her mental toughness and completing the 2021-2022 Baker High School ladies' basketball season with five teammates.

15. Recognize Coach Charles Harris for being totally committed to the 2021-2022 Baker High School ladies' basketball team (Young)

Council Member Young recognized Coach Charles Harris for being totally committed to The 2021-2022 Baker High School ladies' basketball team.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS

1. Approve Business License Request – 2022-7
BrightEyz Kreations LLC
Location – 340 Main Street, Baker, Louisiana

Discussion regarding the agenda item was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Dunn to accept the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the business license request for BrightEyz Kreations 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 – 2022-8
Snowball Kraze LLC
Location – 13806 Plank Road, Baker, Louisiana

The Mayor asked that this item be tabled, as no representative was present.

3. Approve Business License Request – 2022-9
C & L White Enterprise LLC
Location – 5260 Groom Road, Suite E, Baker, Louisiana

Discussion regarding the agenda item was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Bryant to accept the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the business license request for C & L White Enterprise 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. Approve travel for Assistant Police Chief Andrew Murphy and Captain William Borneman to attend the Public Safety Technology Conference May 23-25, 2022, in Phoenix, Arizona (Mayor)

No action was taken on this agenda item.

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 – Police and Fire Departments.

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

Council Member Bryant read the mission statement. She stated Zumba classes are held at the gym on Alabama Street on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. A class featuring a more intensive workout is held from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the same location. Council Member Bryant asked Council Member Dunn if Mr. Tate had planted a summer garden. Council Member Dunn said they are in the process of getting the necessary permission to expand the garden, moving it closer to Groom Road. Council

Member Bryant asked the Fire Department if they have any carbon monoxide monitors available, saying hurricane season is approaching and people will be using their generators. A representative from the Fire Department said he would check the availability of such monitors and contact her tomorrow. Council Member Bryant said that Leland College is a historic college located in our community and it would be nice if everyone could come together and work to restore its historical value.

3. Introduce Ordinance 2022-6, City of Baker food trucks and rolling vendors business permits and licensing requirements and to provide for other matters regarding to the same (Dunn) (Young)

The motion was made by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Young to introduce Ordinance 2022-6.

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

The motion failed with a vote of 2-3.

Ordinance 2022-6 was not introduced.

Captain William Borneman stated travel approval is being requested for Assistant Chief Andrew Murphy and Captain Chris Becnel to attend the Public Safety Technology Conference May 23-25, 2022, in Phoenix, Arizona.

The motion was made by Council Member Jackson, seconded by Council Member Bryant to correct the agenda item so that it reads as follows:

Approve travel for Assistant Police Chief Andrew Murphy and Captain Chris Becnel to attend the Public Safety Technology Conference May 23-25, 2022, in Phoenix, Arizona.

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 Bryant, seconded by Council Member Jackson to approve travel for Assistant Police Chief Andrew Murphy and Captain Chris Becnel to attend the Public Safety Technology Conference May 23-25, 2022, in Phoenix, Arizona.

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

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Shawntell Parker, 1018 Sherron, asked for clarification on how funds received by the Baker School System are to be allocated and spent and who oversees these processes, especially as they relate to the rebuilding of Baker High School. Ms. Parker expressed her concerns regarding trash in the community as well.

Discussion followed.

Admon McCastle, 14056 Brantley, expressed his displeasure with the time taken to pick up trash in front of his house.

Harry Horton, 13309 Brant, initiated discussion regarding the proposed food truck ordinance the council voted not to introduce at tonight's meeting.

Thomas Bennett, 13308 Alba, spoke of establishing a civil rights museum in Baker and suggested the Leland College property would be perfect for such a project.

Denise Stevenson, 717 Sherron, expressed her opinion regarding food trucks in the City of Baker.

Council Member Bryant expressed her views on food trucks in the city and qualified her no vote on the introduction of Ordinance 2022-6. She also shared her thoughts on the future of the City of Baker and the direction she feels city leaders should be going.

The motion was made by Council Member Jackson, seconded by Council Member Vincent to extend the council meeting 30 minutes.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

Council Member Young said introducing the proposed food truck ordinance would have answered many of the questions surrounding this issue, and asked that, in the future, his colleagues have an open mind.

Nancy Thomas, 1006 Main Street, expressed her opinion regarding food trucks in the City of Baker.

Council Member Vincent qualified his no vote on the introduction of Ordinance 2022-6. Council Member Vincent stated he sees trash and debris on every street, everywhere he goes, and does his best to keep the community clean. He reiterated that all any resident need do is contact him regarding their concerns and he will address them. Council Member Vincent stated he serves on the committee that has submitted many items for the civil rights trail in Louisiana that are being looked into. He said the civil rights trail here is a work in progress, and anyone interested in more information can contact him to be put in touch with the individuals working on that project. Council Member Vincent said his non-profit organization has put thousands of dollars worth of educational materials into the school system over the last two decades. He stated he considers it an honor and a privilege to serve the public.

Council Member Dunn said she is disappointed that the food truck ordinance was not introduced, and the owner is not being afforded an opportunity to support her family.

Council Member Bryant stated her opinions regarding the standard that needs to be upheld in our community and the need for larger businesses in the City of Baker to truly realize a discernable amount of economic growth and development. She reiterated she is not against any entrepreneur or their efforts to support their families. Council Member Bryant reminded everyone to have an evacuation plan and supplies as hurricane season is approaching. She also reminded residents who plan to use generators during power outages of the importance of carbon monoxide detectors. Council Member Bryant spoke of wastewater testing for information on the prevalence of COVID in the City of Baker as we move forward. She asked again that the pipes, debris, etc., near the well on Debra Drive be removed, as they pose a safety issue. Council Member Bryant stated she is looking forward to having a downtown Baker, that we need a focal point, a place for tourists to focus on when they come here.

Council Member Young said people have got to learn to respect one another. He said any kind of growth requires change and people have to be willing to make those changes in order to realize growth. He expressed his disappointment with the failure to introduce the food truck ordinance.

Council Member Jackson stated she believes in following rules and procedures and when you don't follow rules and procedures, sometimes things happen. She asked everyone to pray for former Mayor and Council Member Pete Heine's family. His grandson passed away. She asked everyone to keep former Mayor Dr. Leroy Davis and his family in their prayers, as they recently lost their daughter-in-law.

RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Proclamation declaring May 21, 2022, National Kids to Parks Day in the City of Baker (Mayor)
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, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

2. Proclamation declaring May 2022 National High Blood Pressure Education 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

Council Member Bryant said the condemnation list is not to destroy property, she said that is not the objective. The condemnation list is a way of getting the attention of property owners. It is a way for the city to let property owners know their immediate attention to the issues with their property would be greatly appreciated. Council Member Bryant said it is important for them to realize the state of their property affects their neighbors as well as property values in the neighborhood.

1. 1556 Alabama (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Vincent to demolish the structure at 1556 Alabama.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

2. 1832 Florida (Mayor)

3. 1916 Florida (Mayor)

4. 3226 Polk (Mayor)

5. 2235 Chamberlain (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Vincent to demolish the structure at 2235 Chamberlain.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

6. 1984 Chamberlain (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Vincent to demolish the structure at 1984 Chamberlain.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

7. White house next door to 1984 Chamberlain (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Vincent to demolish the white house next door to 1984 Chamberlain.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

8. 5803 Biscayne (Bryant)

9. 4451 Baker Boulevard (Bryant)

10. 4509 Baker Boulevard (Bryant)

11. 2116 E. Azalea (Dunn)

12. 5804 Biscayne (Mayor)

13. 14235 Blairstown (Mayor)

14. 2845 Groom Road (Mayor)

15. 1302 Hazeloak (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 Jackson, seconded by Council Member Vincent 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 May 10, 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
3325 GROOM ROAD
BAKER, LA 70714
May 10, 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 May 10, 2022, 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 Commissioner Jackson to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 26, 2022.

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

Niketa King submitted a monthly sales report for April 2022.

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

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Waites, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

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 Commissioners Dunn/Jackson 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 May 10, 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
3325 GROOM ROAD
BAKER, LA 70714
May 10, 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 May 10, 2022, 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 Commissioners Jackson/Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 26, 2022.

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 Jackson 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 May 10, 2022.

Angela Canady Wall, LCMC
Clerk of Council