

**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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Passcode: 217106

Telephone Conference Call

Dial In: 646-558-8656

Webinar ID: 860 3233 0393

Passcode: 217106

July 26, 2022 - 6:00 p.m.

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on July 26, 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 Pastor Alice Sanders.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Waites.

**DISPOSITION OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Young to approve the minutes of the meeting held on July 12, 2022.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

**RECOGNITIONS**

**PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. BREC Superintendent Corey Wilson to speak about park and recreation updates in the Baker area (Mayor)

Due to the power outage at City Hall resulting in tonight's council meeting being held virtually, the Mayor asked BREC Superintendent Corey Wilson to give his presentation at the next council meeting. Mr. Wilson did speak briefly, answering Council Member Vincent's question regarding BREC's property along Lavey Lane.

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 and stated it is meant to build a strong, resilient, and productive community. Council Member Bryant announced they are ready to start on the community garden at the First United Methodist Church and asked the Mayor for assistance in preparing the site for planting. She stated that anyone struggling, whether it be with suicidal thoughts, drug or alcohol addiction, any type of mental illness, can call 988 for help. This number is for families of those in need of help as well and can save a life. Council Member Bryant said once again there are problems with Republic Services and garbage pick-up all over the city. She stated she has reported the issue to the Mayor and his Administrative Assistant. She said when dealing with contracts such as the one the city has with Republic Services, it is important to make sure the city is getting its money's worth.

3. Discuss proposed subdivisions in the City of Baker (Bryant)

Council Member Bryant asked for an update on the subdivisions on Lavey Lane and Sunshine Road. The Mayor stated work is being done at both locations. He suggested she call the builders/developers in order to get specific answers to questions posed by her constituents. Council Member Bryant asked that contact information for both developments be sent to all council members. She stated she has been asked about the work being done on Baker Boulevard as well. Council Member Bryant said residents need to know what's going on in their community, they need to be informed, and that is why she is asking.

4. Discuss what is old business and what is new business for the agenda (Dunn)  
Council Member Dunn asked that this item be tabled.

5. Mr. Ed Bush to give a presentation on the American Red Cross (Jackson)

Council Member Jackson stated Mr. Bush plans to reschedule his presentation for a later date.

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

Council Member Vincent asked about the possibility of using the 1.1 + million-dollar credit the city is to receive from DOTD as part of the Lavey Lane road transfer for sidewalks along Lavey Lane. The Mayor stated the ultimate goal is to have a sidewalk on Lavey Lane from Highway 19 to Sunshine Road. Council Member Vincent asked if the city is currently working to have the iron structure on Groom Road, the former Rose's Florist, torn down as it is unsightly. The Mayor said they are trying to find someone to purchase the property. Council Member Vincent reminded residents and business owners that this is their city and encouraged them to continue doing all they can to keep their property up. He reminded everyone of the importance of taking pride in their city. Council Member Vincent thanked the Mayor and city employees for keeping the grass cut.

Council Member Bryant asked the administration to address the problem with homeless people at 2511 McHugh Road. She said they have moved the trash from the front yard into the house and have put up their tents in the back yard. She asked that the overgrown lots in District 3, many of which have been reported previously, be cut. She expressed her concerns about inmates being brought to Jetson. Council Member Bryant stated high grass and junk vehicles can become a public safety hazard by offering inmates a place to hide should they escape. She said this is more motivation to clean up the city and she is concerned for citizens' safety.

Council Member Young thanked the residents of District 4 for their patience and understanding. He also thanked Republic Services for doing their job. He explained a route in District 4 was recently missed because the driver of the truck was shot at. However, Republic Services had a truck out the next day to complete pick-up on that route.

Council Member Jackson asked for an update on the canal in Parc Chaleur subdivision, saying work on the canal was scheduled to go out for bid two years ago. The Mayor stated the city tries to cut the canal once a year. Council member Jackson asked for an

update on the building on Plank Road that was placed there without proper licensing or permitting. The Mayor said it is being worked legally.

**RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

1. Proclamation declaring July 2022 Parks and Recreation Month in the City of Baker (Mayor)

City Attorney Fabre read the proclamation.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Members Jackson/Young 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 August 2022 Minority Donor Awareness Month in the City of Baker (Vincent)

Council Member Vincent asked that this item be tabled.

3. Proclamation declaring August 2022 Psoriasis Awareness Month in the City of Baker (Vincent)

Council Member Vincent asked that this item be tabled.

Council Member Vincent asked about the possibility of the ditch on Lavey Lane behind Felicity being cleaned out. The Mayor said the city will assess the situation at that location.

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**BIDS AND PROPOSALS**

**APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

**CONDEMNATIONS**

1. 1556 Alabama (Mayor)

2. 1832 Florida (Mayor)

The Mayor stated this property is scheduled for demolition.

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)

13. 14235 Blairstown (Mayor)

The Mayor stated this property is scheduled for demolition.

14. 2845 Groom Road (Mayor)

15. 1302 Hazeloak (Mayor)

The Mayor stated this property is scheduled for demolition.

**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 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 July 26, 2022.

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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  
3325 GROOM ROAD  
BAKER, LA 70714  
July 26, 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 July 26, 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 Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on July 12, 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

The motion was made by Commissioner Waites, seconded by Commissioner Vincent to accept the Cemetery Fund report.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

Discussion regarding the Cemetery Fund report followed.

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 Vincent/Young 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 July 26, 2022.

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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  
July 26, 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 July 26, 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 Commissioner Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on July 12, 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

The motion was made by Commissioner Waites, seconded by Commissioner Vincent to accept the Utility Fund report.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

Discussion regarding the Utility Fund report was held.

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 July 26, 2022.

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Angela Canady Wall, LCMC  
Clerk of Council