

**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**

**March 26, 2024 - 6:00 p.m.**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on March 26, 2024, 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 City Attorney Fabre.

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 Members Dunn/Young to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 12, 2024.

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. 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 our neighborhoods quality representation of integrity and tenacity.

Council Member Bryant read the mission statement. She stated there are no updates at this time.

2. ANNOUNCEMENT: Miranda Georgetown-Riley on the Magnolia Rose Run – April 6, 2024 (Vincent)

The Mayor said this agenda item will be revisited when Mrs. Georgetown-Riley arrives.

3. ANNOUNCEMENT: “Love the Boot” city-wide cleanup – April 20, 2024, 9:00 a.m. to noon (Vincent)

Council Member Vincent expressed his disappointment regarding trash, litter, and blight in the city. He announced that a city-wide cleanup will be held on Saturday, April 20, 2024, in conjunction with the state’s Love the Boot campaign which runs from April 20, 2024, through April 28, 2024. Volunteers are asked to arrive at City Hall by 8:30 a.m. so that work can begin at 9:00 a.m. The city-wide cleanup will last from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Council Member Vincent encouraged everyone to participate in this worthwhile endeavor and to keep Baker beautiful. He asked that residents and business owners continue to be vigilant in their efforts to keep their city beautiful. Dr. Vincent stated now marks the beginning of a new term in office and he plans to work diligently with the Mayor’s Office and Code Enforcement officers to combat blight in the city.

*ANNOUNCEMENT: Miranda Georgetown-Riley on the Magnolia Rose Run – April 6, 2024 (Vincent)*

Mrs. Miranda Georgetown-Riley provided an overview of the Magnolia Rose Foundation for Autism Acceptance and the Rose “Color” Run. She said April is Autism Acceptance Month and announced the third annual Rose “Color” Run will be held Saturday, April 6, 2024, at City Park from 8:00 a.m. to noon. The fee is \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for kids, and everyone is invited to participate. To register visit the Magnolia Rose Foundation Facebook page.

**RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

1. Proclamation honoring women (Bryant)  
City Attorney Fabre read the proclamation.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member Vincent 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 March 2024 Multiple Sclerosis 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, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

**PUBLIC MEETING**

1. Adopt Ordinance 2024-2, an ordinance to designate and declare certain assets surplus and scrap for related matters for fiscal year 2023-2024 (Mayor) (Introduced 2/29/2024)

Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Young to adopt Ordinance 2024-2.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Vincent, Young

NAYS: Jackson

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-1.

Council Member Jackson said she stands on principle and clarified her vote. She stated her No vote is due to rules and procedures. She referred everyone to Article 3 Sec. 3-12 of the

city's charter.

The Mayor called for the vote on the motion made by Council Member Vincent and seconded by Council Member Young to adopt Ordinance 2024-2.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Vincent, Young

NAYS: Jackson

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-1.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

The Mayor asked Administrative Officer Angela Machen and Finance Director Mary Sue Stages to provide an overview of the process being utilized for contracting waste disposal services for the city. Ms. Machen stated the city received bids from Repulic Services, Waste Management, Waste Pro, and Richards Disposal detailing the cost to provide basic trash pickup, bulk waste pickup and recycling services to the residents of Baker.

Discussion regarding the bids received concerning waste disposal services for the city followed.

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

Council Member Vincent reminded everyone about the city-wide cleanup being held on Saturday, April 20, 2024, in conjunction with the state's Love the Boot campaign.

Volunteers are asked to arrive at City Hall by 8:30 a.m. so that work can begin at 9:00 a.m. Council Member Vincent encouraged everyone to participate in this worthwhile endeavor. He thanked the Public Works Department for the work they do and asked that the ditches on Thomas Road not be forgotten when grass cutting begins.

Council Member Bryant asked when the fallen tree next to the Debra Street well will be removed. The Mayor said the issue is being addressed. She also asked for an update on the canal behind Jefferson Street, saying the water there is still not draining. Council Member Bryant asked that this issue be addressed as well.

Council Member Young encouraged everyone to work together for a better Baker. He asked that residents assist the city by keeping catch basins and ditches free of leaves, grass clippings, and other debris. Doing so helps to alleviate high water during rain events and decreases the threat of flooding.

Council Member Jackson said, "With a thankful heart and sincere appreciation, I thank all supporters and the 620 voters who exercised their right to vote and chose me as their preferred candidate. Your belief in my leadership abilities has made a significant impact, and I am forever grateful."

Joyce Burges thanked the Mayor and his staff for working with the school board and putting notifications regarding the school board on utility bills. She announced a Taste of Baker Schools is being held tomorrow at 3:00 p.m. at Baker High School. She also announced Baker High School was recognized for 100 years of accreditation.

#### **BIDS AND PROPOSALS**

#### **APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

#### **CONDEMNATIONS**

#### **ANNEXATIONS**

#### **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 Jackson, seconded by Council Members Dunn/Vincent/Young 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 March 26, 2024.

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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  
March 26, 2024**

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 26, 2024, 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 Dunn to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 12, 2024.

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 for the Hillcrest Memorial Gardens held on March 26, 2024.

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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  
March 26, 2024**

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 26, 2024, 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 Dunn/Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 12, 2024.

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 March 26, 2024.

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Angela Canady Wall, LCMC  
Clerk of Council