

**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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August 27, 2024 - 6:00 p.m.

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on August 27, 2024, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

MAYOR

Darnell Waites

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Desiree Collins

Rochelle Dunn

Cedric Murphy

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 Murphy.

DISPOSITION OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Murphy to approve the minutes of the meeting held on August 13, 2024.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

Presentation by Daniel Piatkiewicz – Director of East Baton Rouge Parish Animal Control & Rescue Center (Mayor)

Director of the East Baton Rouge Parish Animal Control & Rescue Center, Daniel Piatkiewicz, provided an overview of the organization’s services and how residents can utilize these services.

Discussion followed.

RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Proclamation declaring September 2024 National Sickle Cell Anemia 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 Members Collins/Murphy to accept the proclamation.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

2. Proclamation declaring September 2024 Prostate Cancer 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: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS

1. Approve Business License Request – 2024-16
Scott's Car Wash & Detail, LLC

Location – 2002 Main Street, Baker, Louisiana

Discussion regarding the agenda item was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Collins, seconded by Council Member Young to accept the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the business license request for Scott's Car Wash & Detail, LLC.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Schedule work session to discuss selection of auditor for FY2024 (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Young, seconded by Council Members Collins/Murphy to schedule a work session to discuss the selection of an auditor for FY2024 on Tuesday, September 3, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

PUBLIC MEETING

1. Adopt Ordinance 2024-16, City of Baker food truck business permits and licensing requirements and to provide for other matters regarding to the same (Dunn) (Young) (Introduced 8/13/2024)

Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Dunn to adopt Ordinance 2024-16.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Young

NAYS: Vincent

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-1.

2. Adopt Ordinance 2024-18, an ordinance to amend, supplement and re-enact City of Baker Code of Ordinances Article V, Section 44, concerning civic center and municipal building lease/rent fees and to provide for other matters regarding the same (Mayor) (Introduced 8/13/2024)

Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Young, seconded by Council Member

Murphy to adopt Ordinance 2024-18.

Council Member Vincent asked to abstain from voting on this agenda item.

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

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

Council Member Vincent abstained.

Council Member Dunn voted yes.

Council Member Collins voted yes.

Council Member Young voted yes.

Council Member Murphy voted yes.

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS

Morris Anderson, 4506 Fausse, stated he wants to work with Council Members Vincent and Dunn on beautification efforts in the city. Mr. Morris is specifically interested in planting trees in the community and asked that all interested parties become involved.

Admon McCastle, 14056 Brantley, thanked the Mayor and Public Works Department for cutting the grass on Lavey Lane. He asked that, in the future, chemicals not be sprayed on ditch banks, as the chemicals kill the grass and contribute to erosion.

1. District 3 Announcements – Baker Chamber of Commerce in partnership with the Magnolia Rose Foundation presents a Special Education Resource Fair Thursday, September 5, 2024, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Baker Municipal Center (Collins)

Council Member Collins announced this event has been postponed until December.

2. District 3 Announcements – Community Celebration, Sunday, September 8, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. at the Municipal Auditorium (Collins)

Council Member Collins announced Joyful Generations – A Community Celebration will be held Sunday, September 8, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. at the Baker Municipal Auditorium. The event will feature live music and free food. Everyone is invited to attend.

Council Member Collins announced a District 3 Community Meeting will be held Thursday, September 12, 2024, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Redemption Life Fellowship located at 2400 Debra Drive.

Council Member Collins announced a “Let’s Talk District 3” meeting will be held Thursday, October 10, 2024, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at New Beginnings Baptist Fellowship Church located at 5825 Groom Road.

Council Member Collins announced “Habla Español” a meeting which will focus on the Hispanic community in the city will be held Thursday, November 7, 2024, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at 4761 Groom Road.

3. District 2 – Council Member Dunn – Announcements

Council Member Dunn announced a District 2 Community Meeting will be held Thursday, September 26, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Municipal Auditorium.

Council Member Dunn thanked the Mayor and Finance Director Mary Sue Stages for the

work being done on the N. Magnolia park project.

4. District 5 Community Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 12, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. at the Municipal Center (Murphy)

Council Member Murphy announced a District 5 Community Meeting will be held Thursday, September 12, 2024, from 5:45 to 7:00 p.m. at the Baker Municipal Center. Everyone is invited to attend.

5. Registration and voting (Vincent)

Council Member Vincent asked that everyone to register to vote if they've not already done so and reiterated the importance of exercising the right to vote. He provided an overview of voter registration deadlines as well as information on how to register to vote. He encouraged everyone to read "Free At Last: A History of the Civil Rights Movement and Those Who Died in the Struggle" by Sara Bullard.

Council Member Vincent thanked the Public Works Department for their timely response to a sewer issue in his rear yard, saying they are greatly appreciated.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

The Mayor said the city is on its way with LED lights.

The Mayor stated Entergy has been notified about the need to trim tree limbs in Leland College subdivision.

The Mayor announced Waste Pro has been notified about the trash on John Marks.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

CONDEMNATIONS

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

Mrs. Freeman, 1404 Johnston, expressed her concerns regarding code enforcement in the city.

Council Member Young announced his birthday is September 8th.

Council Member Murphy stated the streetlights on E. Myrtle are still out. The Mayor said Entergy has an underground issue in that area and once it's addressed the streetlights should be functional. The Mayor went on to explain the city's process for reporting streetlights that are out and having them repaired.

ADJOURN

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

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, 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 August 27, 2024.

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
August 27, 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 August 27, 2024, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

COMMISSIONERS

Desiree Collins
Rochelle Dunn
Cedric Murphy
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 August 13, 2024.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, 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/Murphy to adjourn.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, 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 August 27, 2024.

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
August 27, 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 August 27, 2024, with the following members attending:

COMMISSIONERS

Desiree Collins
Rochelle Dunn
Cedric Murphy
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 August 13, 2024.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, 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 Murphy to adjourn.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, 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 August 27, 2024.

Angela Canady Wall, LCMC
Clerk of Council