

**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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October 22, 2024 - 6:00 p.m.

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on October 22, 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 Michel Woods.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Vincent.

DISPOSITION OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The motion was made by Council Member Young, seconded by Council Member Murphy to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 21, 2024.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

RECOGNITIONS

1. Recognize Ms. Faith V. Woods as the 94th Miss Southern University (Mayor)
The Mayor recognized Ms. Faith V. Woods as the 94th Miss Southern University. City Attorney Fabre read a proclamation honoring Miss Woods.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member 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. Recognize Shalanda White-Kaufman for her commitment and service to the Baker community (Dunn)

Council Member Dunn recognized Shalanda White-Kaufman for her commitment and service to the Baker community.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Murphy to accept the recognition.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

3. Recognize Jamie's Way for winning Non-Profit of the Year from Baton Rouge Community Votes (Collins)

Council Member Collins recognized Jamie's Way for winning Non-Profit of the Year from Baton Rouge Community Votes.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS

1. Approve Business License Request – 2024-19
Push No Mower Lawn Care and Inflatables, LLC
Location – 3425 Buchanan 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 Push No Mower Lawn Care and Inflatables, LLC.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Proclamation declaring October 2024 Healthy Lung 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.

2. Proclamation declaring October 2024 Sudden Cardiac Arrest 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 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.

3. Proclamation declaring November 2024 Pancreatic 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 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.

4. Members of Elvin Howard, Sr. Pancreatic Cancer Advocacy Foundation to speak about Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month and events the foundation will be hosting during the month of November (Mayor)

The Mayor introduced and welcomed Elvin Howard, Sr. Pancreatic Cancer Advocacy Foundation (PCAF) representative Bertha Howard. Mrs. Howard provided an overview of the foundation and its work. She stated the foundation's mission is to put information out regarding pancreatic cancer and its signs and symptoms in an effort to reduce pancreatic cancer deaths.

Veronica Howard Sizer, Elvin Howard, Sr.'s daughter, invited everyone to join the Elvin Howard, Sr., Pancreatic Cancer Advocacy Foundation for its eighth annual fundraiser on Friday, November 8, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at Boudreaux's. She announced the foundation is partnering with the City of Baker and together they will host a 5K run/1 mile walk on Saturday, November 2, 2024, at 8:00 a.m. at City Hall.

The Elvin Howard, Sr. PCAF can be found on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube and at www.elvinhowardsrpcf.org. Ms. Sizer asked for everyone's support as they continue to raise awareness and help pancreatic cancer patients and their families as they go through this horrible disease.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Schedule informational work session regarding sewer impact fees and other fees (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Murphy to schedule an informational work session to discuss sewer impact fees and other fees on Wednesday, November 6, 2024, at 4:45 p.m.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

2. Schedule work session to meet the auditor (Dunn)

The motion was made by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Murphy to schedule a work session to meet the auditor on Wednesday, November 6, 2024, at 5:15p.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 2024-28, an ordinance to designate and declare certain City of Baker assets to be surplus and scrap for related matters (Mayor) (Introduced 10/8/2024)

Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Murphy to adopt Ordinance 2024-28.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS

1. Elvin Howard, Sr., Pancreatic Cancer Advocacy Foundation event in November (Vincent)

Council Member Vincent reminded everyone of the upcoming banquet and walk being held by the Elvin Howard, Sr. Pancreatic Cancer Advocacy Foundation. The banquet will be held Friday, November 8, 2024, and the walk will be held Saturday, November 2, 2024.

2. Voting – www.geauxvote.com (Vincent)

Council Member Vincent referred anyone with questions regarding voting to www.geauxvote.com and reiterated the importance of voting. He said the upcoming election is the election of a lifetime and urged everyone to get out and exercise their right to vote.

3. Litter, Baker Buffalo Festival, football, etc. (Vincent)

Council Member Vincent said they were out on the third Saturday and the city is getting much cleaner and thanked the citizens for their efforts. He said the Keep Louisiana Beautiful Conference starts tomorrow. He announced the Baker Buffalo Festival is being held this weekend, the parade is on Saturday. Council Member Vincent stated the Baker High School football team is doing very well and asked that everyone support them. He thanked the Mayor for cutting along Thomas Road and cutting the ditches along Lavey Lane, saying both areas look beautiful.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Update on COBRA programs

Gerald Collins provided an update on various City of Baker Recreation Administration programs.

Council Member Collins recognized Andrea D. Lee, Sr. for his service to the Baker community through assistant coaching and mentorship to the youth of Baker through the Baker Jr. Buffs Youth Football Association from 2006-2013. She stated Mr. Lee's homecoming celebration will be held this Saturday and asked that everyone keep the family in their prayers.

2. Update on new playground equipment

The Mayor provided handouts showing the proposed layout of the new playground and equipment to be placed there.

3. Update on new fire station on west side of the city

The Mayor said work on this project continues and that the city is currently waiting on the plans to be completed.

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

ADJOURN

The motion was made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Dunn 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 October 22, 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
October 22, 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 October 22, 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 Murphy to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 8, 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 Collins 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 October 22, 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
October 22, 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 October 22, 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 Murphy to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 8, 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 Dunn 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 October 22, 2024.

Angela Canady Wall, LCMC
Clerk of Council