

**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**

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

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on November 26, 2024, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

**MAYOR**

Darnell Waites

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Desiree Collins

Dr. Charles Vincent

Robert Young

**ABSENT**

Rochelle Dunn

Cedric Murphy

**CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Waites presided.

The invocation was given by Mayor Waites.

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 Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on November 12, 2024.

YEAS: Collins, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Dunn, Murphy

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

**RECOGNITIONS**

1. Recognize Apostle Eric Williams and Restore Church (Mayor)

The Mayor asked that this agenda item be addressed later in the meeting, as Apostle Eric Williams had not yet arrived.

2. Recognize Rosebud Healthcare and Training for bringing innovative workforce development opportunities to the City of Baker (Collins)

Council Member Collins recognized Rosebud Healthcare and Training for bringing innovative workforce development opportunities to the City of Baker.

3. Recognize the Castle family for providing continuous after-school meals for the District 3 students of Baker schools (Collins)

Council Member Collins recognized the Castle family for providing continuous after-school meals for the District 3 students of Baker schools.

**PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS**

**RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

1. Proclamation declaring November 2024 Bladder Health 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 Young to accept the proclamation.

YEAS: Collins, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Dunn, Murphy

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

2. Proclamation declaring November 2024 National Healthy Skin 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 Young to accept the proclamation.

YEAS: Collins, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Dunn, Murphy

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Introduce Ordinance 2024-32, an ordinance to amend Ordinance 2018-7 and reenact Baker Code of Ordinances Part I, Chapter 5 (Buildings and Building Regulations) and Appendix A, Article IV, Section 31 – Building Permit Fees relative to implementation of traffic impact fees (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Young, seconded by Council Member Collins to introduce Ordinance 2024-32.

YEAS: Collins, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Dunn, Murphy

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

**PUBLIC MEETING**

1. Adopt Ordinance 2024-30, an ordinance to enact Baker Code of Ordinances, Part I, Chapter 25 (Utilities), Section 25-14 to be titled 'Water and Gas Service Fees for New Construction' and Reenact Baker Code of Ordinances, Part I, Chapter 25 (Utilities), Appendix A, Article X, Section 92 and 100.2, relative to same, respectively (Mayor) (Introduced 11/12/2024)

Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Young, seconded by Council Member Vincent to adopt Ordinance 2024-30.

YEAS: Collins, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Dunn, Murphy

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

2. Adopt Ordinance 2024-31, an ordinance to amend Ordinance 2018-11 and reenact Baker Code of Ordinances, Part I, Chapter 25 (Utilities), Appendix A, Article X, Section 92 and 100.2, relative to Installation Fees of New Gas and Water Meters, respectively (Mayor) (Introduced 11/12/2024)

Public meeting was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Young, seconded by Council Member Vincent to adopt Ordinance 2024-31.

YEAS: Collins, Vincent, Young  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Dunn, Murphy  
ABSTAIN: None  
The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS**

1. Fire Department staff test for cancer from hazards in fighting fires (Vincent)  
Council Member Vincent asked if the city was doing anything as far as testing firefighters for cancer, as they have an increased risk of being exposed to hazardous conditions due to the nature of their job.

2. Congratulations to Mayor and Dr. Machen on city’s brownfield EPA grant (Vincent)  
Council Member Vincent congratulated the Mayor and Dr. Machen on the city receiving a brownfield EPA grant. These grants are used to remove underground gas tanks and clean surrounding areas.

3. Award to Keep Baker Beautiful efforts (Dr. Ebony Iheanacho and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday litter pickup (Vincent)  
Council Member Vincent announced that Dr. Ebony Iheanacho won an award from Keep Louisiana Beautiful for her efforts to beautify the City of Baker through the Keep Baker Beautiful initiative. He stated he is very proud of the work she is doing and all she has accomplished. Council Member Vincent reminded everyone of his Friendly Neighbor Keeper initiative and that he is out every third Saturday picking up litter in District 1, saying you lead by example.

Council Member Vincent asked if the Mayor had spoken to anyone regarding a sign with area business names to be placed on Highway 19 near the zoo so that motorists are aware of what is available in the City of Baker. The Mayor stated he met with representatives from various entities regarding said signage.

Council Member Vincent thanked the Public Works Department for all the work they do.

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

Administrative Officer Angela Machen stated the city is working on the Keep Louisiana Beautiful grant and asked that council members submit two locations in their districts where they would like to have trash receptacles placed as soon as possible.

The Mayor announced that the Christmas Parade and Toy Give-Away will be held Saturday, December 21, 2024.

*Recognize Apostle Eric Williams and Restore Church (Mayor)*  
The Mayor recognized Apostle Eric Williams and Restore Church.

**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 Collins, seconded by Council Member Vincent to adjourn.

YEAS: Collins, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Dunn, Murphy

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

**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 November 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  
November 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 November 26, 2024, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

**COMMISSIONERS**

Desiree Collins  
Dr. Charles Vincent  
Darnell Waites  
Robert Young

**ABSENT**

Rochelle Dunn  
Cedric Murphy

**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 November 12, 2024.

YEAS: Collins, Vincent, Waites, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Dunn, Murphy

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

**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 Young to adjourn.

YEAS: Collins, Vincent, Waites, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Dunn, Murphy

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

**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 November 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  
November 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 November 26, 2024, with the following members attending:

**COMMISSIONERS**

Desiree Collins  
Dr. Charles Vincent  
Darnell Waites  
Robert Young

**ABSENT**

Rochelle Dunn  
Cedric Murphy

**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 Collins to approve the minutes of the meeting held on November 12, 2024.

**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 Vincent to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned.

**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 November 26, 2024.

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Angela Canady Wall, LCMC  
Clerk of Council