

**MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF BAKER  
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
3325 GROOM ROAD, BAKER, LOUISIANA 70714  
[www.youtube.com/@bakerforward](http://www.youtube.com/@bakerforward)  
July 8, 2025 - 6:00 p.m.**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on July 8, 2025, 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 Murphy.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Vincent.

**\*\*\* Public comments will be allowed on all agenda items. Such comments shall not exceed 3 minutes and shall be confined to the agenda item and any proposed disposition thereof.\*\*\***

**DISPOSITION OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**  
The motion was made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 24, 2025, with “corrections.”

Council Member Vincent asked that the following be noted as part of the minutes of the meeting held on June 24, 2025.

Council Member Vincent wanted it noted that Kellye Worley with Family Services attended the last council meeting and gave a presentation on the Department of Children & Family Services’ foster parenting program because he, Council Member Vincent, invited her to do so.

Council Member Vincent also wanted it noted that after the recognition of the City to City Riderz bike club at the last council meeting he stated that he has worked since 2011 to have bike riders in the city and to make the City of Baker a bike friendly community.

Council Member Vincent also wanted it noted that after he asked why you can no longer make a left-hand turn traveling south on Highway 19 at Greenwood Park, and the mayor expressed his surprise at this, discussion was held regarding this issue. The mayor stated the long-range plan is to put a turn lane at that location.

Council Member Vincent stated he has contacted Representative Barbara Carpenter for information regarding this situation. He stated he had a conversation with DOTD today, and they plan to put a turn lane at this location. Council Member Vincent said the project is to be let in December and the estimated completion date is March 2026.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.  
YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None  
The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

**RECOGNITIONS**

1. Recognize Troy Allen, Jr. of Chaleur subdivision as Outstanding Citizen of the Neighborhood (Murphy)  
Council Member Murphy recognized Troy Allen, Jr. of Chaleur subdivision as Outstanding Citizen of the Neighborhood and thanked him for thoughtfulness, and dedication to others and his community.

**PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS**

**RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

1. Proclamation declaring July 2025 Cord Blood Awareness Month in the City of Baker (Vincent)  
Jana Rogers read the proclamation.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Dunn to accept the proclamation.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.  
YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

2. Proclamation declaring July 2025 Healthy Vision Month in the City of Baker (Vincent)  
Jana Rogers read the proclamation.

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

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.  
YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS**

1. District 3 announcements – District 3 Community Walks (Collins)  
Council Member Collins thanked everyone who participated in the recently held District 3 Let’s Take a Walk Community Walk. She announced these walks will be held every first and third Tuesday of the month weather permitting. Everyone is invited to participate. Council Member Collins said each week the walk will be held on a different street, and that it provides an opportunity for people to check on their neighbors, address their health, build better friendships, and share resources and information with the community. Organizations that participated in the last walk include Impact Charter School, Renew Church, and The Stretch Lab. Council Member Collins thanked Metro Council Member Kenney for hosting a hurricane readiness seminar on Monday, July 14, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Jewel Newman Center, and an informational session – 311 and Me – regarding the 311 system on Monday, July 21, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. Council Member Collins thanked

everyone who participated in the recent community field trip to the Blue Zoo, and said a good time was had by all. She said the staycation is to be an annual event held every summer. She thanked the mayor, police chief, and Public Works Department for their support of the residents of District 3.

2. District 2 announcements (Dunn)

Council Member Dunn announced the Fish & Fun Day, Hooked on Fishing with Families, will be held on Saturday, August 9, 2025, at the park on North Magnolia from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The next committee meeting will be held Wednesday, July 16, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. at City Hall. Council Member Dunn presented the mayor and fellow council members with keys to Alcatraz from her recent trip to San Francisco.

3. District 1 announcements (Vincent)

Council Member Vincent said he hopes his colleagues received the list of items needed to prepare for hurricane season from Representative Carpenter and encouraged everyone to engage in recommended hurricane preparedness activities. He thanked the mayor and council clerk for the proclamation read at his mother-in-law's services this past Saturday. He said she was a great soldier and a wonderful person. Council Member Vincent asked his colleagues if they received a thank you letter from Alzheimer's Services for the proclamation done recently by the city. He said organizations really appreciate the city doing such proclamations. Council Member Vincent reminded everyone of the third Saturday litter pick-up around the city and encouraged all to do what they can to keep Baker beautiful. He thanked the Public Works Department, and especially the call-out, for being on top of their job. Council Member Vincent stated his constituents have expressed their concerns regarding Waste Pro leaving garbage cans in the road. Council Member Vincent said both the mayor and Mary Sue Stages told him that all of Lavey Lane will be completed. Council Member Vincent restated that the project to build a turn lane on Highway 19 at Greenwood Park is to be let in December and it should be completed. He said he was told there will be another road that turns off of Highway 19 and it will be called Givens. Council Member Vincent encouraged everyone to utilize the hurricane preparedness checklist provided by Representative Carpenter and engage in the recommended hurricane preparedness activities.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

The mayor asked that everyone sign up for GovDelivery by texting LA Baker Updates to (888) 401-5972 for the most up to date community information. Flyers are available in the lobby of City Hall.

The mayor encouraged residents to contact their council members with any questions or concerns they may have.

The mayor explained that as part of a road transfer program, once Lavey Lane has been completed, the road will belong to the City of Baker, and this is why ensuring that all work is done properly is imperative.

The mayor stated the street rehabilitation program has begun and asked that everyone be patient while all of the various projects are completed, as each one is for the betterment of our community.

The mayor said blight is being addressed throughout the city.

The mayor asked that residents mark and report streetlights that are out in the community.

### **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 Vincent to adjourn.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

The question was asked how residents were supposed to address the city council if there is no public comment.

The mayor stated that there are public comments for items that are on the agenda and said the council can be addressed as soon as the meeting is adjourned. He said the only things to be discussed are items on the agenda. He reiterated that constituents should call their council members prior to council meetings to have questions, concerns, and/or issues addressed.

Vote was called for.  
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 July 8, 2025.

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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 8, 2025**

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 8, 2025, 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 Young to approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 24, 2025.

Commissioner Waites called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.  
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.

Commissioner Waites called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.  
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 July 8, 2025.

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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 8, 2025**

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 8, 2025, 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 June 24, 2025.

Commissioner Waites called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.  
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.

Commissioner Waites called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.  
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 July 8, 2025.

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Angela Canady Wall, LCMC  
Clerk of Council