

**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)  
August 12, 2025 - 6:00 p.m.**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on August 12, 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 Young.

**\*\*\* 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 Vincent, seconded by Council Member Murphy to approve the minutes of the meeting held on July 22, 2025.

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.

The mayor distributed copies of the contract for special counsel to council members.  
Aneatra Boykin introduced herself and provided an overview of her qualifications.

The motion was made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Vincent to move item “7. Presentation by Connectivity Two Designs regarding the city’s updated website (Mayor)” under New Business up on the agenda so that it falls under Recognitions.

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**

7. *Presentation by Connectivity Two Designs regarding the city’s updated website*

(Mayor)

Trinard Franklin, Connectivity Two Designs, provided an overview of the city's proposed new website and its key features.

1. Essbie Customs, LLC

Location – 14424 Plank Road, Baker, Louisiana 70714

Essbie Customs, LLC was recognized as a new business in the City of Baker.

2. Adventures Children's Learning Academy, LLC

Location – 3101 Singletary Drive, Baker, Louisiana 70714

Adventures Children's Learning Academy, LLC was recognized as a new business in the City of Baker.

## PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS

1. **Resubdivision Request:** Plank Road, Baker, Louisiana

**Owner:** Bethany Church

**Name of Applicant:** Jared Stockstill

10877 Reiger Road

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809

**Lots:** 8-A-1-A-1 & Z-1      **Subdivision:** Bethany Cooperative Community

**Create Lots:** 8-A-1-A-1-A and 8-A-1-A-1-B

**Property Zoned:** R-1

Discussion regarding the agenda item was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Collins to accept the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the resubdivision request for Bethany Church.

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.

## RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Proclamation declaring August 2025 National Eye Exam Awareness Month in the City of Baker (Vincent)

The proclamation was read by Aneatra Boykin.

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 August 2025 Psoriasis Action Awareness Month in the City of Baker (Vincent)

The proclamation was read by Aneatra Boykin.

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.

3. Resolution requesting an opinion of the State of Louisiana Attorney General on business permits for the City of Baker (Vincent)

Council Member Vincent explained the reason for seeking an Attorney General's opinion on this matter. He thinks that as the legislative body of the City of Baker the Baker City Council should be involved in a major way in the approval of all businesses coming into the city.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent to adopt the resolution.

The resolution was read by Aneatra Boykin.

Council Member Vincent's motion to adopt the resolution received no second.

The motion to adopt the resolution failed.

Extensive discussion regarding the agenda item and the city's former and present process for approving business licenses was held.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Introduce Ordinance 2025-14 Sales & Use Tax (Mayor)

Aneatra Boykin read the title of the ordinance.

The motion was made by Council Member Young, seconded by Council Member Murphy to introduce Ordinance 2025-14.

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. Introduce Ordinance 2025-15 Insurance License Tax (Mayor)

Aneatra Boykin read the title of the ordinance.

The motion was made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Members Dunn/Young to introduce Ordinance 2025-15.

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.

3. Introduce Ordinance 2025-16 Occupational License Tax (Mayor)

Aneatra Boykin read the title of the ordinance.

The motion was made by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Murphy to introduce Ordinance 2025-16.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Young

NAYS: Vincent

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-1.

4. Introduce Ordinance 2025-17 Chain Store License Tax (Mayor)

Aneatra Boykin read the title of the ordinance.

The motion was made by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Young to introduce Ordinance 2025-17.

The mayor called for public comments or questions.

Vote was called for.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Young

NAYS: Vincent

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-1.

5. Introduce Ordinance 2025-18 Alcoholic Beverage Tax (Mayor)

Aneatra Boykin read the title of the ordinance.

The motion was made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Young to introduce Ordinance 2025-18.

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.

6. Authorize mayor to execute contract with Faulk & Winkler to complete fiscal year 2025 financial audit (Mayor)

Finance Director Mary Sue Stages stated she spoke with a representative from Faulk & Winkler and they do not have the engagement letter together, however, it will be ready tomorrow. She stated that if council members would prefer to wait until the next council meeting to vote on this matter, doing so would not negatively impact the audit schedule.

The motion was made by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Murphy to table authorizing the mayor to execute a contract with Faulk & Winkler to complete the fiscal year 2025 financial audit.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

7. Presentation by Connectivity Two Designs regarding the city's updated website (Mayor)

This agenda item was previously addressed.

**PUBLIC MEETING**

1. Adopt Ordinance 2025-6, regulations regarding automobile repair work and oil changes in residential and subdivision areas and to provide for other matters regarding to the same (Mayor) (Introduced 7/22/2025)

Public meeting was held.

Aneatra Boykin read a portion of the proposed ordinance.

Discussion regarding the proposed ordinance was held. Several residents expressed their concerns regarding the wording used in the ordinance and asked that the verbiage be changed so that homeowners are not penalized.

The motion was made by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Collins to defer Ordinance 2025-6.

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.

The motion was made by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Young to add schedule a work session to discuss Ordinance 2025-6 to the agenda.

YEAS: Collins, Dunn, Murphy, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

The motion was made by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Collins to schedule a work session to discuss Ordinance 2025-6 on Monday, August 18, 2025, at 4:45 p.m.

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. Adopt Ordinance 2025-13, an ordinance to regulate unauthorized camping, lodging, and/or squatting on public property and to provide for other matters regarding to the same (Mayor) (Introduced 7/22/2025)

Public meeting was held.

Aneatra Boykin read a portion of the proposed ordinance.

Dr. Toni Jackson, 931 Husband, expressed her concerns regarding the wording of the proposed ordinance and asked that the council consider tabling this agenda item as well so that the current language can be assessed.

Discussion regarding the proposed ordinance and the concerns raised followed.

The motion was made by Council Member Young, seconded by Council Member Dunn to adopt Ordinance 2025-13 subject to legal review.

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.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS**

1. New programming at Alabama Street park (Collins)

Council Member Collins provided an overview of the new programs being offered at the facility on Alabama Street. Some of the programs offered include Pickleball, Zumba, ballroom and line dancing. Council Member Collins encouraged everyone to take advantage of these new opportunities.

Admon McCastle, 14056 Brantley Drive, commended the mayor and council for the work being done on Lavey Lane.

2. District 2 announcements (Dunn)

Council Member Dunn thanked everyone who participated in the Fish & Fun Day, Hooked on Fishing with Families. She thanked all the sponsors who helped make the event possible and the committee that worked diligently to facilitate such a successful endeavor. Council Member Dunn expressed her gratitude for all that was done to bring this wonderful event to the citizens of Baker.

Council Member Vincent congratulated the mayor on being elected first vice-president at the recent LMA meeting. He announced the 10<sup>th</sup> annual sickle cell anemia event Ryan's Run is being held Saturday, August 23, 2025. He distributed 16-month calendars to all that were interested.

Council Member Dunn asked Kamari Stinson to speak about an upcoming event in District 2. He announced volunteers will be in Bakerfield subdivision on Thursday, August 14, 2025, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in an effort to collect signatures so that speed bumps can be placed throughout the neighborhood.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

The mayor reminded everyone that dogs are to be kept behind fences and on leashes when out. He said residents should call Animal Control to deal with problems concerning animals.

The mayor announced they met with Waste Pro and again asked that residents not put woody waste in the trash cans.

The mayor implored everyone to sign up for GovDelivery, saying it is the most efficient way to remain up to date on all information regarding the City of Baker. Text LA Baker Updates to 888-401-5972.

The mayor announced the Buffalo Festival will be held September 18 – 20, 2025.

### **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 Vincent, seconded by Council Member Murphy to adjourn.

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.

**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 12, 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  
August 12, 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 August 12, 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 Murphy to approve the minutes of the meeting held on July 22, 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 for the Hillcrest Memorial Gardens held on August 12, 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  
August 12, 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 August 12, 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 Dunn to approve the minutes of the meeting held on July 22, 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 August 12, 2025.

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Angela Canady Wall, LCMC  
Clerk of Council