

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

Weekly Update June 5, 2020

Administration:

The Baker City Budget Board spent two nights this week reviewing and ultimately approving the 2020-21 City Budget. A big thank you to the budget board members for their time and effort.

It appears that the Governor has approved Baker County to move into Phase 2 of the COVID-19 recovery plan. Hopefully, this will allow our local businesses to expand their operations to allow for more patrons in their establishments and we can all return to a bit more sense of normalcy. For more information, please go to www.bakercountycovid19.com.

Graduation is set for this Sunday for Baker High School. There will be a vehicle procession starting at approximately 3:00 pm that will proceed from 10th Street to Broadway and onto Main Street. You are welcome to come to the downtown area and cheer for our 2020 graduates unique commencement experience. Remember to maintain the social distancing guidelines and spread out. Congratulations to all the graduates and their families.

It looks like the weather will be cooling off for the weekend. Get outside and enjoy our beautiful spring.

City Council Agenda June 9th

- Watershed Update
- 2019-2020 Budget Resolution

Have you ever considered being on City Council?

The Baker City Council will have six positions on the November ballot. If you are interested in applying, please contact the City Recorder, Katie LaFavor at klafavor@bakercity.com, or at 541-524-2033. Applications are being accepted now through August 25, 2020 at 4:00 pm.

You can find the application and other related information on our website: <http://bakercity.com/2248/City-Council-Elections>

Boards, Commissions and Committees

The City of Baker City is seeking volunteers for the following:

- ⇒ Public Arts Commission—1 positions available
- ⇒ Historic District Design Review Commission—2 positions available
- ⇒ Tree Board—2 positions available

Positions are for a 3-year term. Anyone interested in volunteering should visit www.bakercity.com to fill out a volunteer form. You may also email admin@bakercity.com or call 524-2033 for more information.

The direct link to the volunteer form page is: <http://bakercity.com/2149/Boards-Commissions>



"The mission of the Baker City Police is to work in partnership with our community members, to actively promote the safety and welfare of our citizens, along with enriching their quality of life through the delivery of professional police services."



POLICE DEPARTMENT

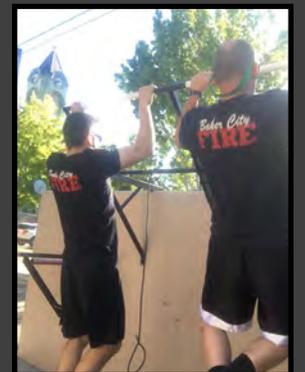
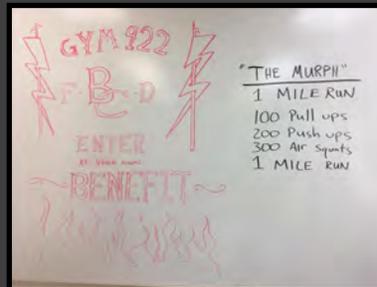
- ★ During this past week, BCPD opened 32 new cases making numerous arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers. In one incident, officers responded to a report of a stopped vehicle occupying a lane of travel with the driver passed out at the wheel. The vehicle was found running, in park, with the driver passed out and his foot on the brake pedal. After rousing the driver and conducting a brief interview, the responding officer administered a series of field sobriety tests. Subsequently, the suspect was cited and released on charges of DUII Controlled Substances/ Marijuana. The vehicle was towed from the scene.
- ★ After a brief absence, the missing metal giraffe, taken from downtown Baker City, has been found! BCPD received a report that the missing giraffe had been dumped in a vacant field and appeared to not be damaged. The wayward giraffe has since been returned to its owner and is once again, displayed on the corner of Main Street and Valley Avenue. Thank you to everyone who shared and responded to the Department's Facebook post regarding this case. We really appreciate your help!
- ★ BCPD personnel participated in several briefing trainings, including a review of various officer safety topics. Sergeant Regan's patrol team completed annual firearms training at the range.



Fire Department



May 31st, 2020 – Two of our C – Shift crew members participated in "The Murph Challenge"



In memory of Navy Lieutenant Michael Murphy, 29, of Patchogue, N.Y., who was killed in Afghanistan June 28th, 2005.

This workout was one of Mike's favorites and he'd named it "Body Armor". From here on it will be referred to as "Murph" in honor of the focused warrior and great American who wanted nothing more in life than to serve this great country and the beautiful people who make it what it is.



The mission of the Baker City Fire Department is to provide dependable and efficient emergency services.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of May 26th through June 1st the Fire Department responded to a total of **38** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	29
Rural Calls	8
Patient Transported	24
No Patient Trip	13
TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES	37

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/ FIRE PREVENTION

INSPECTIONS/ COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **48 hrs** of Station & Equipment Maintenance
- **24 hrs** of Fire Training
- **4 hrs** of EMS Training
- **2 hrs** of Fire Prevention Inspections
- **2** Burn Permits Issued



Airport Transfers	1
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	5
Out of Town Transfers Not Accepted	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1
Doubles (2 calls at once)	6
Triples (3 calls at once)	0
Quads (4 calls at once)	0
Public Assist	1

EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Request for Cover	5
Arrived for Cover	6

FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	1
TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES	1

Did you know....

Weed Complaints or yard maintenance concerns should be reported to the Fire Department at 541-523-3711 x 508 or emailed to sclinkenbeard@bakercity.com

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Fire Department is POSTPONING the free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am.

We will resume once social distancing is not required.

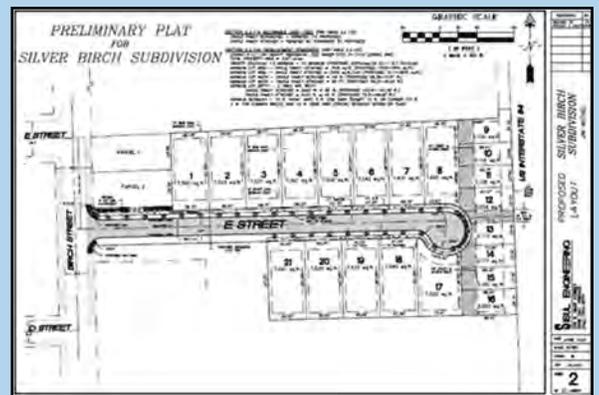


Planning Department:

PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

The Baker City Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at the **Baker County Court-house**, 1995 Third Street, Baker City, Oregon, at **6:00 p.m., on Wednesday, June 17, 2020**. This meeting will take place primarily via teleconference; however, in conformance with social distancing standards related to COVID-19, a limited number of people could be allowed to attend in person at any given time. The Planning Commission will review the following applications:

- **VAR-20-017 & LUR-20-028:** A continuation of a Class C variance request to reduce the front/street setback by ±19.5 feet and reduce the side (east) setback by ±1 foot in the Residential – Medium Density (R-MD) Zone in order to build a ±360 square foot prefabricated carport. The subject property is addressed as 2350 D Street.
- **SUB-20-050:** A request by James & Carla Michel to create a 21-lot subdivision. The property is located in the 2900 block of Birch Street in the Residential Low-Density (R-LD) Zone. Access to the development is proposed via a new public street stemming from Birch Street.



In response to COVID-19, and in the interest of public health and safety, it is recommended that *you attend via teleconference if able*. To join the teleconference, please dial: **1-877-820-7831** (toll free) and use access code **8204693** when prompted. If you are having difficulties connecting to the meeting, please call Holly Kerns at 541-239-7552. If attending in person, contact the Planning Department prior to the hearing.

APPLICATIONS

- A detached shop was approved as an accessory structure to the single-family dwelling at 375 Spring Garden Avenue, located within the Residential-High Density (R-HD) Zone.
- A parking lot was approved at 2527 7th Street as part of improvements to North Baker Elementary School. The property is located in the Residential-High Density (R-HD) Zone.
- An attached garage was approved for an existing single-family dwelling at 2115 19th Street, located in the Residential-Medium Density (R-MD) Zone.
- A cabinet manufacturing business was approved to occupy an existing building at 3325 K Street, located in the General Industrial (I) Zone.



Public Works: Wastewater Department



Karl and Jake performed a video-inspection of a private wastewater lateral on Auburn Avenue. The line was located and determined to be in excellent condition. The plumber was billed for the work.

Right: Karl and Jake performed wastewater line cleaning work in the middle of 10th Street.



Left: Rick loaded empty chemical cylinders onto a semi-truck bed at the Wastewater Treatment Facility.

Public Works: Parks Department



A contractor delivered several loads of crushed rock to the Geiser-Pollman park to be used as a base around the new playground equipment. Blain and Kris, along with College workers Logan and Hayden, worked to place the rock between the playground equipment.

A BIG THANK YOU to the Baker County Road Department for the use of their CAT Skid Steer to place the crushed rock.

Public Works: Community Interest



A few wild looking animals have showed up throughout the week.

Art Roamers is back with new animals for their 2020 Summer Display.





Public Works: Street Department



Crews have been successfully using the new Cimline combination crack fill and mastic machine. Addition training was conducted on Tuesday and crews began using the machine Thursday and Friday.



REMINDER: Property owners need to keep their trees trimmed back for visibility and safety.

Right: After working on the Mountain line installation project, Matt spent his time sweeping the City's streets.



"C" Street between 10th and 11th is scheduled to receive a Chipseal treatment this August. This concrete alley approach will need to be repaired before that happens.

Public Works: Watershed



Scott and Tom travelled to Goodrich Reservoir to check the water level, the outlet pipe extension and the retaining wall that was installed late last fall. All was found to be near perfect. Goodrich Reservoir is within 7' of being full and there is a lot of water still cascading down from the cliffs above.



Public Works: Mountain Pipeline Project



Crews continue to make excellent progress on the new 24" mountain pipeline project. The old non-steel reinforced concrete pipe was susceptible to tree and grass roots entering into the broken pipe and slowing water flow to town. Justin discovered that one section of the old pipe had the bottom broken and probably had been leaking for many years.



Brian uses the crusher bucket to create bedding for the new 24" heavy duty PVC pipe.

Right: Nate painting the pipe alignment on top of the ground so Justin will know where to continue excavating the trench for the new pipe.



Left: Once the pipe is installed, bedded, backfilled and compacted, the CAT dozer smooths out the road surface.

Public Works: Water Department



Blain and Nate replace a portion of a stormwater line that runs between two properties on Orchard Street. The line was plugged with massive roots and mud. The pipe elevation was measured to verify it would drain properly.



Public Works: Water Department



Right: Here, Hayden is photographing a meter on Settlers Loop. Meters are often difficult to find so having a visual reference can be very helpful.



Left: Hydrant flushing was completed this week. A second diffuser was borrowed from the City of North Powder to help expedite the process. This photo shows the computer screen for keeping track of the hydrants which have been successfully flushed.



Right: A resident living near the corner of 6th and Carter called to report a possible mainline break. Dennis responded and verified the leak. An emergency locate was requested and the leak was repaired using a Bell clamp.



Left: Scott and Kris worked to put up a section of security fencing at the Water Reservoir entrance.

Public Works: Shop



We installed some interior plastic molding and shortened the body dump lever.



Suspension work is finished and this rig is back to hauling pipe.



Scott is building bases for the electrical boxes beside the trees on Main Street.



We are replacing the front brake pads and rotors on this rig.



The transmission shifter broke in the column. We have ordered the parts.