

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail. Established 1874

Weekly Update December 29, 2017

Administration:

The New Year is just around the corner. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the City Council and the volunteers on our many boards and commissions for their hard work this year. These men and women give of their time and expertise to make our City and community a great place to live and raise our families. I would also like to thank all of the dedicated City employees who have worked hard to provide the needed services to our community.

Here is hoping that 2017 was a good year for all and that 2018 will be fruitful and prosperous for everyone. Have a great New Year's holiday and be safe.

City Council

Agenda

January 9th

- Board/Committee Appointments
- Pipe Bid Award



Finance:

Utilities

Start the New Year off right by saving money and reducing paper clutter. Register for the new paperless E-billing for utility bills. Customers that participate in this program will receive a monthly \$1.00 discount on their utility bill. The registration forms are available online at www.bakercity.com or at the Water Department. The City currently has 116 utility accounts signed up for E-billing.

- ◆ Five customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and five customers disconnected service from December 22nd thru December 28th. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 8 was billed today which includes 459 residential and 19 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 101 or 21% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Zone 4 was billed December 26th and includes 709 residential and 58 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 181 or 24% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Forty-two residential customers (Zones 3, 4 and 7) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) twelve were actually turned off until their past due balance was paid.

Payroll

Seventy employees were paid today including seven paid volunteer firefighters and the dangerous dog hearings officer. Of those 70 employees, 67 or 96% are signed up for direct deposit.



Building Department:

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	1	2	0	2
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	0
Electrical	4	5	1	6
Mechanical	1	3	4	4
Plumbing	0	3	0	3
Fence	1	NA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	7	13	5	15

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:

- None to report.

COMMERCIAL PERMITS:

- 3055 10th Street, Baker City— Addition of interior walls.

HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW:

Next regularly scheduled meeting is January 10, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department Offices.

Planning Department:

Public Meetings

- ◆ The Baker City Planning Commission held a public work session on December 20th in the Council Chambers to discuss the re-zoning of specific properties throughout the city which have existing structures and uses that are not consistent with the current zoning allowances. The purpose of this work session is to create a scope for areas that could be considered for a future re-zone.
- ◆ The Commission also discussed the development of standards and language for the possible creation of a Residential-Professional District. This district is intended to act as a buffer between the uses of the Central-Commercial district and surrounding residential zones, providing a desirable mix of residential and light commercial land uses in the center of the city.
- ◆ Once a scope of potential areas is developed, the next step will be outreach to determine interest and concerns. The next Planning Commission work session on these matters will be held on Wednesday, February 21st, 2018. The public is encouraged to attend.
- ◆ The next Planning Commission hearing will be held on Wednesday, January 17th, 2018 to consider a request by applicant, MMCO GO, Baker City, LLC, on behalf of property owners DKW, Inc. and Hat Brand Land & Livestock, LLC, for the following applications:
 - Site Design Review application to construct a ±18,919 square foot grocery store
 - Class B Variance for additional parking for the grocery store
 - Class C Variance for an increase in height and area for a proposed free-standing sign.



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

FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of December 10th through December 16th the Fire Department responded to a total of **44** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	31
Rural Calls	10
Patient Transported	36
No Patient Trip	5

TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 41



Airport Transfers	3
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	2
Out of Town Transfers Assigned	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	0
Doubles (2 calls at once)	0
Triples (3 calls at once)	2
Public Assists	0

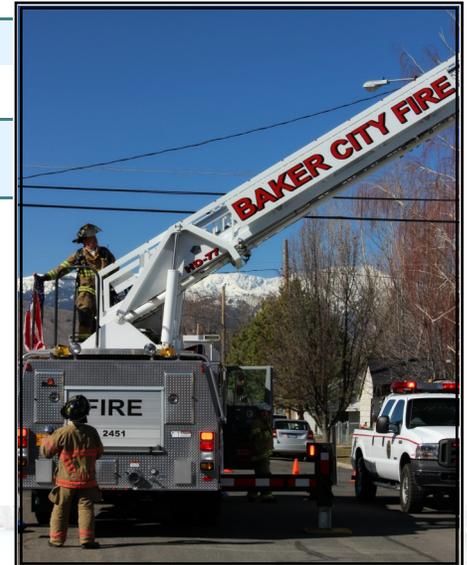
FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	1
Dispatched Alarms	2

TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES 3



- Auburn Street—Gas odor.
- 16th Street—Structure fire.
- 17th Street—Sprinkler activation, no fire.



EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	10
Persons Arrived for Cover	4
Incidents Not Covered	6

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **36** hrs of Station and Equipment Maintenance
- **25** hrs of Fire/EMS or Safety Training—FFI Training, New FF Orientation



The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am. Don't miss the next check on January 2nd.



"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

★ BCPD handled over 152 incidents and opened 38 new cases this past week. One case involved the arrest of two individuals leading to the recovery of a large amount of methamphetamine. The following press release was issued following this incident:

On December 23, 2017 at about 1121 pm Baker City Police Officer Coleton Smith initiated his emergency lights in an attempt to stop a 1983 Oldsmobile Cutlass with an obscured plate on Best Frontage Road, near H Street in Baker City. The vehicle failed to stop for the emergency lighting and continued east on H Street and then turned north into the Elkhorn Biomass (Northwest Forest Products) property, located at 41921 Best Frontage Road, and stopped near the shop.

While Officer Smith waited for a backup officer, the passenger failed to obey commands to show his hands and stay near the car. This passenger, identified as Michael Allen Payne (06/17/83) continued to move away from the vehicle and behind Officer Smith. Payne was close enough that Officer Smith was able to tell him he was under arrest for Failing to Obey the Lawful Order of a police Officer; however, Payne continued to move behind Officer Smith until Baker County Sheriff's Deputy Gabe Maldonado arrived on scene and stopped Payne. Payne resisted arrest and a Taser was deployed by Officer Smith. Deputy Maldonado was then able to take Payne into custody.

Officer Shannon Regan arrived on scene and was able to take the driver, identified as Aaron Ray Hansen (12/04/75) into custody for Attempting to Elude a Police Officer and Felon in Possession of a Restricted Weapon.

Sergeant Chastain arrived on scene and using Drug Detection Dog "Capa", conducted an open air sniff on a backpack that Payne had dropped on the ground when he walked away from the car. Capa alerted on the backpack and a search warrant was written. A subsequent search revealed approximately 50 grams of methamphetamine and other drug paraphernalia. In addition to the charge of failing to obey Officer Smith (Interfering with a Police Officer), Payne was also charged with:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <i>Possession of a Controlled Substance (Meth)</i> | <i>Delivery of a Controlled Substance (Meth)</i> |
| <i>Resisting Arrest</i> | <i>Escape III</i> |
| <i>Assaulting a Public Safety Officer</i> | |

★ BCPD would like to remind everyone to please remember to ring in the New Year responsibly by arranging to have a designated driver or calling a cab, if necessary. Please be safe.

Code Enforcement Weekly Activity

Property Maintenance:

- Followed up on 3 pending cases
- Issued 2 citations for violations

Animal Violations and Complaints:

- 1 dog at large returned to owner
- Assisted Officers with one animal case
- Followed up on one barking complaint

Parking Violations and Complaints:

- Followed up on 11 parking complaints
- Issued 1 parking citation

Found Items:

- 1 found bicycle
- 1 found tool set

Miscellaneous:

- Recovered 1 stolen bicycle



Public Works: Street Department



This week a new 25 mph speed sign was installed at the west end of Lund Lane. Drivers coming into town from North Cedar and Hughes Lane drive at a higher rate of speed. When they enter onto local residential streets the limit reduces from 35 to 25 mph. Installation of this sign will remind drivers to slow down while driving on residential streets.

A few other street signs were repaired and installed in town. A new street sign was installed at the intersection of Broadway and Clark Streets.

Jacob is lettering a new reflective street sign for Clark Street.



Street light bulbs and photocells need replaced throughout the year. Pictured left, Dennis is preparing to install a new 200 watt bulb and photocell.

The sale of Baker City Public Works items through the Govdeal.com website will be ending Friday evening. In this photo a perspective bidder is operating the Case loader under the supervision of Scott (Baker City Mechanic).





Public Works: Water Department

Jake traveled to Marble and Elk Creeks to adjust the flow of water coming to town. All of the water currently coming to town is traveling through the main pipeline which runs from Little Mill Creek to Mill Creek then to Marble Creek to Salmon Creek then to Little Salmon Creek to Elk Creek and then down the municipal aqueduct to the fore-bay structure. From the fore-bay structure on the top of the foothills the water heads down to the reservoir water treatment plant. The water that is conveyed to town down from the fore-bay structure is normally used to operate the City's hydro-electric generator unit.



Elk Creek diversion structure this Thursday. →

← The Elk Creek settling tank structure. A new metal roof was constructed years ago to cover the concrete vault structure.



Public Works: Wastewater Department

Several dozen manhole rating forms were evaluated to determine any necessary repair work. Lines were checked and cleaned as needed. A professional drain cleaner working for a local real estate company hired Public Works to video-inspect a wastewater lateral to determine the condition of the line prior to a property sale. The line was inspected and its location marked on the ground. Some roots were found to be growing inside the lateral in a few locations.

A resident on 3rd Street called Public Works to report that they are experiencing sewer problems. Rick and Jacob used the Jetter truck and thoroughly cleaned the main line which is located in the alley. The line in the alley was found to be in very good working order. Next they will video-inspect the main line and try to determine the cause of the problem.





Public Works: Ice Rink

The City’s ice rink has been filled with water, but conditions haven’t been quite cold enough to form a good ice layer. The area has natural geothermal hot springs (some of this hot water is currently used to heat Sam-o Swim Pool) which could be part of the reason that it seems difficult to get a good ice surface for skating.

Pictured here you can see some ice has formed. Thin ice is like a magnet to passing children – they love to get on the ice and break it by stomping or throwing rocks on it. Can’t really fault them – it’s nearly as fun as skating.



Public Works: Lagoon

A thick layer of ice has completely covered the 70 acre surface of pond “A” as seen from the parshall flume control structure Friday morning.



Public Works: Snow & Ice Control



Kirkway & H Streets

Matt and Craig sanded and salted intersections and steep areas of town during the early morning hours of Saturday, Sunday and Monday of Christmas weekend. Not a lot of snow fell over that time – but it was enough to make the streets slick.



Public Works: Shop



Tire chains were repaired and organized for future use.



Workers in the shop completed deferred maintenance items on the recently purchased Volvo loader this week. Pictured above, they are installing a safety arm for support of the hydraulic rams.

