

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

Weekly Update February 2, 2018

Administration:

For our followers from out of Baker City, I can report that we are in the midst of a warm weather pattern that is nearly unprecedented. To put it in perspective, the Quail Ridge Golf Course here in Baker City will have all 18 holes open for the season on Saturday. This will be the earliest opening in a long time.

The Baker City Budget Board will be having a work session on Tuesday night to hear an update from staff on the status of the 2017-18 budget, a discussion of fund balances, a presentation by the auditor and to create a budget calendar for the 2018-19 budget.

Tonight is 1st Friday in Baker City. Many businesses will be open late. Come on down and enjoy the balmy weather and check out what local shops have to offer. Have a great weekend.

City Council Agenda

February 13th

- BCD Update
- Golf Course Update & Cart Bid Approval
- Elkhorn View Industrial Park

Finance:

An interim budget meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. in the Baker City Hall Council Chambers on Tuesday, February 6th. The agenda includes:

- 2017-18 Year-to-Date Status and Discussion
- General Fund Forecasting
- Discussion of Fund Balance Purpose and Standards for Determining Reserves
- Presentation by the Auditors

Please note the interim budget meeting is not an official 2018-19 budget meeting; therefore, discussion is limited to general discussions, current year updates and general projections.

Accounts Payable

The second of two accounts payable runs for January was generated January 30th.

Utilities

- ◆ Five customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and ten customers disconnected service from January 26th thru February 1st. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 8 was billed January 30th and included 458 residential and 19 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 102 or 21% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Twenty-four residential customers (Zones 4 and 8) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) four were actually turned off until their past due balance was paid.



Building Department:

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	2	3	1	27
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	0
Electrical	2	1	4	12
Mechanical	2	2	3	5
Plumbing	1	1	1	2
Fence	0	NA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	7	7	9	46

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:

- 42921 Ponderosa Drive, Baker City—Pole barn.
- 1990 Chestnut Street, Baker City—Replacement dwelling.

COMMERCIAL PERMITS:

- 2925 10th Street, Baker City—Interior wall alteration.

HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW:

Next regularly scheduled meeting is February 21, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department Offices.

Planning Department:

Public Meetings

- ◆ The Planning Commission meeting will hold a public work session on Wednesday, February 21st, 2018 at 7:00 PM in City Hall to discuss the potential 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 will also discuss 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 Zone 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 public is encouraged to attend this work session and provide input.

Land Use Decisions & Projects

- ◆ An application was approved for a +720 square foot accessory building at 3318 Birch Street in the Residential – Low Density (R-LD) Zone.



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

FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of January 23rd through January 29th the Fire Department responded to a total of **25** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	17
Rural Calls	4
Patient Transported	11
No Patient Trip	10

TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 21



Airport Transfers	2
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	0
Out of Town Transfers Assigned	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1
Doubles (2 calls at once)	2
Triples (3 calls at once)	0
Public Assists	2

FIRE REPORTS

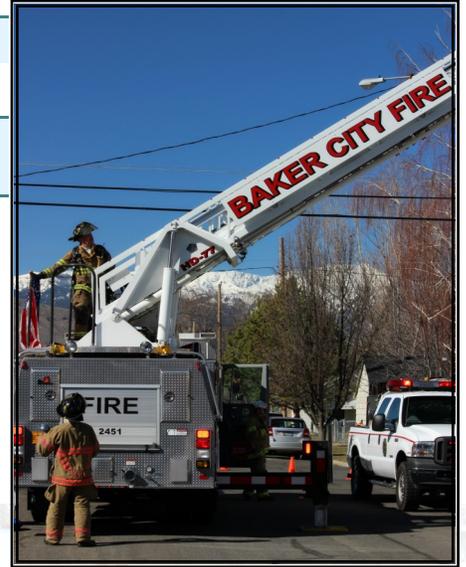
General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	4

TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES 4



Cherry Street—Burn complaint.

Sunridge Lane—False alarm.

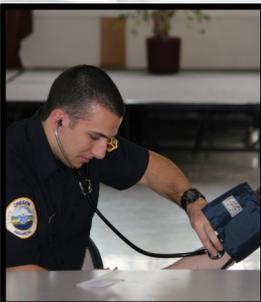


EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	2
Persons Arrived for Cover	2
Incidents Not Covered	0

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/COMMUNITY EVENTS

- 58 hrs of Station and Equipment Maintenance
- 104 hrs of Fire/EMS or Safety Training
- 4 hrs of Fire Prevention Inspections
- 8 hrs of Community Events



The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am. Don't miss the next check on February 6th.



"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 130 incidents and opened 33 new cases this past week. Among those cases:

- BCPD personnel issued another citation for Minor in Possession of Marijuana. From 2014 – 2016 (Pre and Post Measure 91) citations for this offense in Baker City rose 76% and last year's numbers show another 23% increase.
- BCPD investigated a reported criminal mistreatment of a 7 year old Baker City boy.
- BCPD personnel investigated nine reported thefts and frauds.
- BCPD personnel arrested one individuals for an outstanding warrant and one for a probation violation.
- BCPD personnel investigated another report of a juvenile runaway.

- ★ BCPD personnel met with the Oregon Department of Justice and other law enforcement entities at an information sharing meeting, held here in Baker City.
- ★ Chief Lohner attended the quarterly meeting of the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council.
- ★ Lt. Newman met with other law enforcement entities at the Transportation Safety Meeting.
- ★ BCPD personnel participated in several briefing trainings, including a review of various officer safety topics.
- ★ BCPD Administrative Assistant / Car Seat Technician Phoebe Wachtel continues to assist families with car seat installations each week.

Code Enforcement Weekly Activity

Property Maintenance:

- Followed up with 1 pending case
- Followed up with 1 new complaint

- 1 dog at large impounded

Parking Violations and Complaints

- Issued 2 parking citations
- Followed up on 6 parking complaints
- Orange tagged 2 abandoned vehicles

Animal Violations and Complaints:

- Followed up with 3 problem pet owner cases
- Denied 1 kennel permit
- Approved 1 kennel renewal
- Followed up on 4 animal complaints
- Followed up on 1 Animal Abuse II case
- Followed up on 1 barking complaint

Miscellaneous:

- 1 agency assist



Public Works: Water Department



Jake went into the Elk Creek Diversion to check the water flow.

The last 1/4 mile had to be walked to in order to avoid getting stuck in the snow.

Snow level is approximately 50% of normal.



Justin and Jake worked Thursday to plow snow into the Goodrich Diversion and into Marble Creek so that these diversions can be quickly accessed to adjust the flow of water coming to town.



Public Works: Parks Department



A pedestrian on the Leo Adler Memorial Pathway is seen approaching some mule deer bucks near "H" Street.



Public Works: Street Department

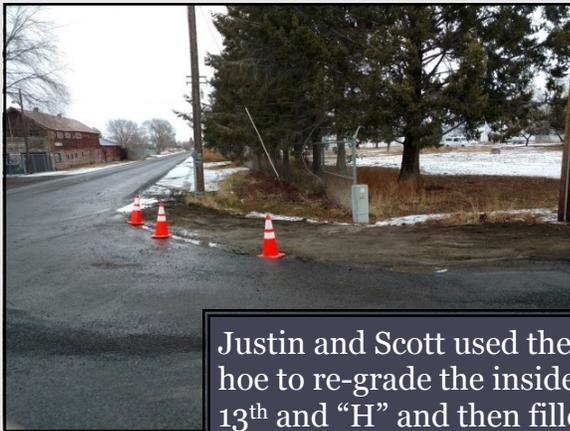


BEFORE

To avoid heavy traffic the three man crew of Justin, Craig and Scott started work early in the morning (4 a.m.) Tuesday to grade the gravel shoulders along Pocahontas Road. Justin used the CAT grader to scrape excess shoulder material onto the asphalt surface. Scott then used the Volvo loader to scrape up the material and load it into the dump truck Craig was driving. This work was done so that water will be able to fun off of the roadway and not puddle along the shoulder causing potholes.



AFTER



Justin and Scott used the mini track hoe to re-grade the inside corner at 13th and "H" and then filled the low area with asphalt grindings.

A citizen called to report a problem where a snow plow had plowed gravel onto a section of the D.O.T. pathway along Hwy. 7. Tom was joined by a passing O.D.O.T. employee, Casey, who assisted cleaning up the debris.



Sight distance is limited on Indiana Avenue as you approach the City Golf Course and the Hillcrest neighborhood. A new warning sign will be installed there soon to inform drivers of the potential hazard.



Public Works: Street Department Continued



Matt and Tommy continued to sweep streets this week.

In these photos you can see that Tommy wasn't able to get next to the curb with the Elgin sweeper because of overhanging tree branches along "H" Street. Hundreds of trees throughout town need trimmed so that Public Works can properly clean the streets.

This truncated dome was damaged this winter by someone plowing a sidewalk at the intersection of 2nd and Valley.

It appears as if a blade, perhaps from a 4-wheeler, caught an edge of the detectable warning plate and pulled the screws completely out of the concrete.



No, the Public Works backhoe isn't on fire. Tommy was using the steam cleaner to remove the winters dirt.



Public Works: Wastewater Department

A wastewater problem was reported on Hillcrest Circle earlier this week. Public Works responded to inspect the line where the homeowners lateral connects. This line was installed by a contractor back when the Hillcrest area was being developed for residential use. The main line is made from a material called orangeburg. It is less than desirable. Over time this line has become irregular in shape and has allowed tree roots to enter.



Karl and Jacob used the push-cam to inspect the orangeburg mainline at the point where the homeowners lateral connects. There was not a problem at that location. However further inspection of the line led to the discovery of a heavy root mass another 35 feet downstream from the lateral connection. This line is scheduled for rehabilitation work this year. In order for the line to be relined using the CIPP process the existing roots will have to be removed. Unfortunately the downstream manhole is located in the backyard of a house on Indiana Avenue.

The jetter hose must be pulled over a fence and across the yard to access the manhole. The grade of the orangeburg wastewater line is so steep that the water pressure exerted through the hose and out the jet ports of the cleaning nozzle is barely enough to pull the hose up the line.

Once roots are encountered in the line the speed of the advancing hose slows to a snail's pace. Another day of cleaning and root cutting is scheduled for Friday.



An underground utility locate was requested by both the plumber and Public Works in case the lateral needs to be repaired or replaced. Pictured left, Steve is in the process of marking the City water and wastewater lines within the requested area.

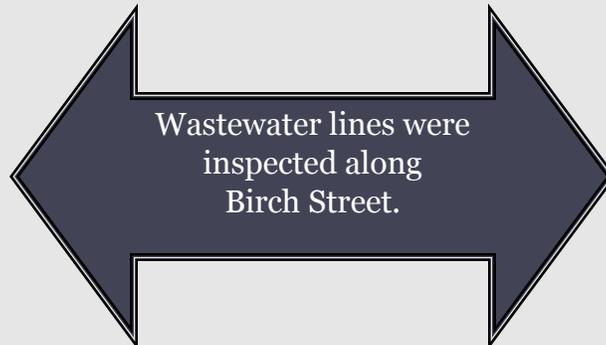


Public Works: Wastewater Department Continued

This section of wastewater line under 5th Street was constructed around 100 years ago.

When the work was performed they used an excess amount of grout to seal the pipe joints. So much grout was used that the hardened grout protruding into the pipe area prevents the regular video-inspection camera from passing down the line.

Karl and Jacob are using the smaller manual push-cam to inspect the line.



Wastewater lines were inspected along Birch Street.



Public Works: Airport



AIRPLANE HANGARS

AVAILABLE

The Baker City Municipal Airport has hangars available for lease beginning February 1, 2018.

Please call contact

Michelle Owen, Public Works Director at 541-524-2031 for details.



Public Works: Shop



Caterpillar will be taking a link out of the track on the right side and repairing the track tension.

Wes and Scott are adjusting the broom on this sweeper for a better sweep pattern.



Work continues on the bumper for the utility truck.



The battery was replaced in this police vehicle and it is back in service.



Public Works: Shop Continued

Wes and Scott changed the cutting edges on this grader. This allowed Justine to blade snow off of the road in the mountains so that Jake could get to the diversions.



Batteries are being charged on this trailer. Scott is pictured here, checking on the rest of the equipment.

Wes and Scott replaced the airbag switch and this pickup is now back in service.



This police vehicle went to LaGrande this week to address some safety recalls. It is now back in service.



Public Works: Announcements

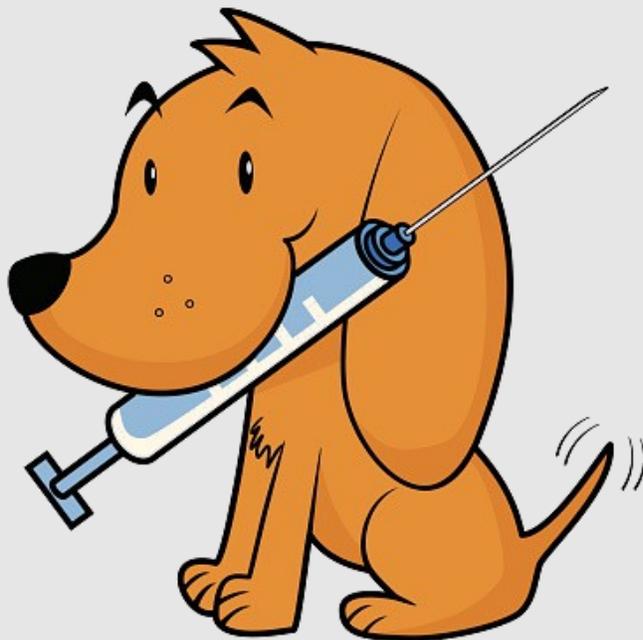


2018 Dog Licenses

Available in February at a reduced cost:

Spayed/Neutered	\$4.50
Un-altered	\$6.00

Current Rabies Vaccination Required



Low-Cost Rabies Clinic

**Wed., February 14th
from**

2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

**At the Baker City
Events Center**