

# CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail. Established 1874

*Weekly Update March 30, 2018*

## **Administration:**

Tomorrow, the Saturday before Easter, the annual Easter Egg Hunt in Baker City's historic Geiser Pollman Park will take place. It will be a whirlwind of excitement with thousands of kids collecting Easter eggs and prizes in the park. Families will start gathering at 9:45 a.m. and when the horn blows at 10 a.m. its an egg hunting frenzy. There will be age categories ranging from 3 to 11. Stuffed



eggs, candy, school supplies and toys will be placed on the lawn in each area for children to scramble and gather at the sound of the horn. Cash prizes are in some eggs and grand prize slips are in other special eggs! Children can claim prizes at the "Bunnymobile". Make sure to stop by and say hi to the Easter Bunny!



**City Council**  
**Special Meeting:**  
**Goals Session**  
**April 3, 2018**  
**5:30 P.M.**  
**Council**  
**Chambers**

## **Finance:**

### Utilities:

- ◆ Nine customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and four customers disconnected service from March 23rd through March 29th. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 4 was billed today which includes 710 residential and 59 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 193 (25%) are signed up for direct payment and 31 (4%) are signed up for e-billing.
- ◆ Zone 8 was billed March 27th and included 457 residential and 19 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 98 (21%) are signed up for direct payment and 12 (3%) are signed up for e-billing.
- ◆ Twenty residential customers (Zones 3 and 8) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) seven were actually turned off until their past due balance was paid.

### Payroll:

Seventy-four employees were paid today including six paid volunteer firefighters. Of those 74 employees, 71 or 96% are signed up for direct deposit.



**Building Department:**

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	4	8	2	3
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	1
Electrical	4	13	2	5
Mechanical	4	5	2	7
Plumbing	2	7	0	1
Fence	2	NA	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>17</b>

**RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:**

- 1740 Ash Street, Baker City – Two-story residential addition
- 43901 Running Iron Rd, Baker City – Residential garage with living quarters
- 1700 4th Street, Baker City – Residential garage
- 106 Vine Street, Richland – Detached accessory building
- 3790 Baker Street, Baker City – Detached accessory building

**HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW:**

Next regularly scheduled meeting is April 25, 2018, 8:00 a.m. Building Department offices.

**COMMERCIAL PERMITS:**

- No commercial permits were generated this week.



**Planning Department:**

**Public Meetings**

- On March 21, 2018, the Planning Commission held a public work session to discuss potentially re-zoning 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 was to create a scope for areas that could be considered for a future re-zone. Once a scope of potential areas is developed, the next step will be outreach to determine interest and concerns.
- The Commission also discussed the development of standards and language for the proposed 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.
- The public is encouraged to attend future work sessions and hearings and provide input on both matters.

**Land Use Decisions & Projects**

- A lot of record status was approved for property located at 2130 9th Street in the Residential – High Density (R-HD) Zone.
- A ±2,160 square foot, two-bay structure to house a warehouse and manufacturing/production business was approved for property located at 3177 D Street in the Industrial Zone.
- An application was approved for the construction of a +60 square foot shed at 950 Idlewood Drive in the Residential - Low Density (R-LD) Zone.
- An application was approved for the construction of a +1,120 square foot greenhouse and a +36 square foot chicken coop at 1930 Clifford 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 March 20th to March 26th the Fire Department responded to a total of **32** emergency alarms.

## AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

In City Responses	24
Out of City Responses	4
Patient Transported	20
No Patient Trip	8

## TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 28

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

## FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	4

## TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES 4

Brush Fire, I-84  
 Burn Complaint, Foothill Drive



## EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	1
Persons Arrived for Cover	1
Incidents Not Covered	0



# TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/COMMUNITY EVENTS

- 114 hours of Station and Equipment Maintenance
- 34 hours of Fire / EMS or Safety Training
- 2 hours of Fire Prevention Inspections
- 4 hours 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 April 3rd.



*"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 200 incidents and opened 34 new cases this past week. Amongst those cases:

- ✪ BCPD personnel had three individuals run from them on bicycles, then "ditch" the bikes and run on foot. One of them fell and was found to be a juvenile who was subsequently cited for a curfew violation. The two other juveniles were later identified and one of them reported his bike had been stolen and that it was not him running from the police. He later confessed to lying and was criminally cited for initiating a false report.
- ✪ BCPD personnel investigated eight reported thefts and frauds.
- ✪ BCPD personnel investigated a Runaway of a 13 year old boy.
- ✪ BCPD personnel arrested two individuals for outstanding warrants.

Lt. Newman met with members of the Baker County Transportation Safety Committee.

Chief Lohner had a second meeting with a regional "Anti" Human Trafficking advocate.

Numerous BCPD Personnel attended the Memorial Service for one of our Citizen on Patrol Volunteers who passed away on March 19th. Richard "Dick" Pedersen was a faithful volunteer who donated approximately 1,000 hours of his time the past few years, helping the police department. Dick spent the majority of his time working in the Evidence Room, but also could be found walking the pathway or assisting citizens in the park during community events. Dick will be missed not only for his service, but for the friendship he offered all of us at BCPD.

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**

- Issued 2 citations for non-compliance
- Followed up with 2 pending cases
- 1 Case closed with compliance gained
- Started 1 new case

#### **Parking Violations and Complaints**

- Followed up with multiple parking violations
- Orange tagged 4 abandoned vehicles
- Issued 2 parking citations
- 1 Abandoned vehicle impounded

#### **Animal Violations and Complaints**

- 7 Dogs at large returned to owner
- Issued 1 citation for dog at large
- 1 Dog at large impounded
- Followed up on 1 barking complaint

#### **Miscellaneous**

- 2 Found items returned to owner
- 1 Found bicycle



## Public Works: Street Department

The mystery involving the sink hole on David Eccles was solved this week. Once the wooden top of the structure was removed it became obvious that it was a very large septic tank which hadn't been used for probably 50 or more years.

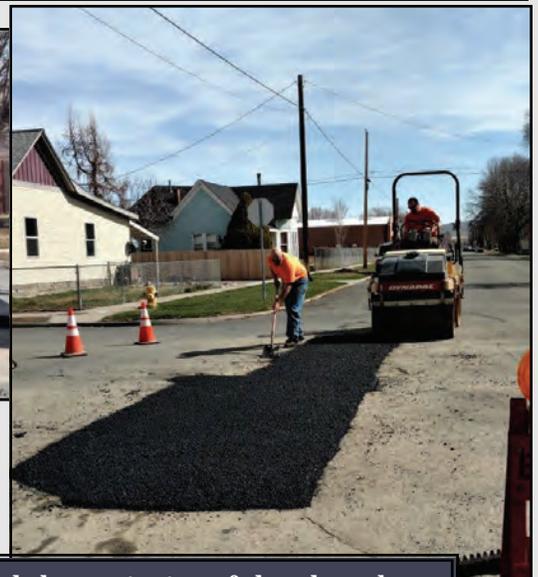


Karl and Jacob removed the wooden walls and roof, loaded them into a dump truck and hauled them to a pile to be burned at a later date. The 6" pipe connected into the old septic tank is also visible. This could have been in use in the early years of the lumber mill which operated in the area many years ago.



After removal of the old wood, the hole was backfilled and compacted using normal rock and soil fill material to eliminate the hazard.

Public Works crew patched streets both Wednesday and Thursday of this week. This is the earliest in recent memory that Public Works has patched streets with hot asphalt.

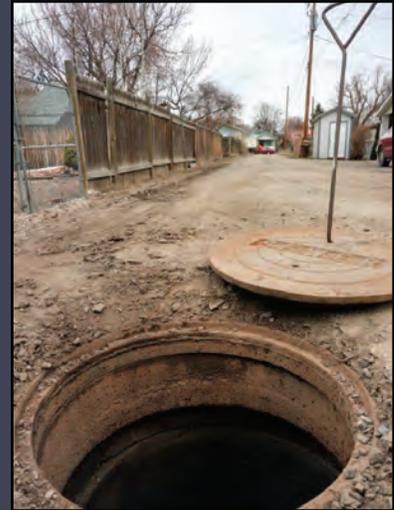


Jake performed the majority of the shovel and rake work while Craig drove the truck and operated the roller. Jake is a skilled asphalt worker.



## Public Works: Wastewater

A wastewater problem was reported to Public Works on Tuesday of this week. Tommy and Nate responded to the call and cleaned the main line which is located in an alley between Valley and Court Streets. There was no blockage in the main line. Below, Tommy and Nate set up on 5th Street to begin cleaning the line.



The line ends approximately 300 feet west from 5th Street at the open manhole in the foreground.



Here you can see the "Jetter" nozzle entering into the dead end manhole. Strangely enough there was a piece of metal conduit in the manhole. It was easily fished out using one of the tools kept on the Jetter truck.





## Public Works: Water Department

Public Works crews made good progress on the Estes Street water line this week. The majority of the 8" ductile iron main line was installed between the Powder River and Elm Street (State Hwy. 30). The City of LaGrande was hired to install an 8" "hot-tap" connection onto the 12" cast iron main line lying under Elm Street. A portion of the new 8" ductile iron line was then installed across Elm Street. Proper permits through O.D.O.T. were attained and the project continued as scheduled. Flaggers, a special "T" shaped asphalt cut and CLSM (Controlled Low Strength Material) trench backfill material were all required under the O.D.O.T. permit.

Scott and Jacob performed most of the flagging duties on the project (Jacob is pictured to the right).



1" thick trench plates were then placed over the trench to allow for the CLSM to cure.

Here the crew is placing cold mix around the edge of the steel plates to make a smoother transition and to help lock the plates into place.





## Public Works: Water Department (Cont.)



To provide for the "T" cut - Brian saw cut an additional 12" wide strip of asphalt, Blain operated the mini-excavator to pulverize asphalt while Justin loaded the asphalt into a dump truck.



To the left is the end of a joint of pipe. Any dirt or debris is removed from the end of the pipe before the next joint is inserted. The entire line will be disinfected and a large volume of water will be flushed through the line to further clean it before any service lines to houses are connected.

## Public Works: Water Treatment Plant

A consultant was onsite this week to examine the exterior coatings on the water tanks at the water treatment plant and to help make recommendations for proper treatment to help ensure their long-term viability. Below, the consultant is checking the soundness of the existing coatings on the side of the 4.5 MG tank.



The consultant brought a commercial "wet blaster" to conduct a trial run and see how much effort will be required to properly prep the exterior of the 3 MG tank for a new coating. The wet blaster combines medium-pressure water with a sand abrasive to help remove the existing coatings. This method creates less surface damage to the concrete tank than traditional sand blasting. The consultant will use information gleaned during this visit to help prepare a scope of work for future reservoir maintenance needs.



**2018  
Annual  
Mt. Hope  
Cemetery  
Cleanup**

**April 9 - April 20**

Please remove all decorative items during this time. Items may be placed on grave sites again beginning April 21st.

Thank you for your cooperation.

