

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

Weekly Update March 2, 2018

Photo: Basecamp Baker

Administration:

The City Council met this week. They heard citizens concerns about the number of wildlife (especially deer) that have taken up residence within the City. Concerns were brought up about the feeding of the deer. The Council will be communicating with ODFW about these concerns but it would be helpful if people did not feed the deer. Remember where deer congregate, cougars and other predators may follow.

Winter has returned to Baker City. We are once again plowing snow. Please check our Facebook page and City Website for snow plowing schedules.

Have a great weekend and be careful on the icy roads.

City Council

Agenda

March 13th

- 2017 Financial Audit
- Tree Ordinance



Finance:

Accounts Payable

The second of two accounts payable check runs for the month was generated February 27th.

Utilities

- ◆ Nine customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and eight customers disconnected service from February 23rd thru March 1st. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 4 was billed February 27th and included 709 residential and 59 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 188 or 24% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Eight residential customers (Zones 8) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) one was actually turned off until their past due balance was paid.





Building Department:

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	4	5	0	4
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	1	1
Electrical	4	2	1	6
Mechanical	2	9	1	1
Plumbing	2	2	0	2
Fence	2	NA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	14	18	3	14

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:

- 1595 11th Street, Baker City—Addition of 672 sq. ft. covered porch.

COMMERCIAL PERMITS:

- 3665 17th Street, Baker City— Installation of new fire suppression system for Ripscan building.
- 3665 17th Street, Baker City—Extension of fire suppression system, Building A attachment.
- 2295 Windmill Road, Baker City— Alteration to interior to add premade structure.

HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW: Next regularly scheduled meeting is March 14, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department Offices.

Planning Department:

Public Meetings

- ◆ On March 21st, 2018, the Planning Commission will hold 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 public is encouraged to attend future work sessions and hearings and provide input.

Land Use Decisions & Projects

- ◆ An application was approved for retaining walls, totaling ±384 square feet, for gravel storage at 2100 13th Street in the Light – Industrial (L-I) Zone.





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

FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of February 20th through the 26th the Fire Department responded to a total of **36** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	21
Rural Calls	13
Patient Transported	26
No Patient Trip	8

TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 34



Airport Transfers	2
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	0
Out of Town Transfers Assigned	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	0
Doubles (2 calls at once)	7
Triples (3 calls at once)	0
Public Assists	1

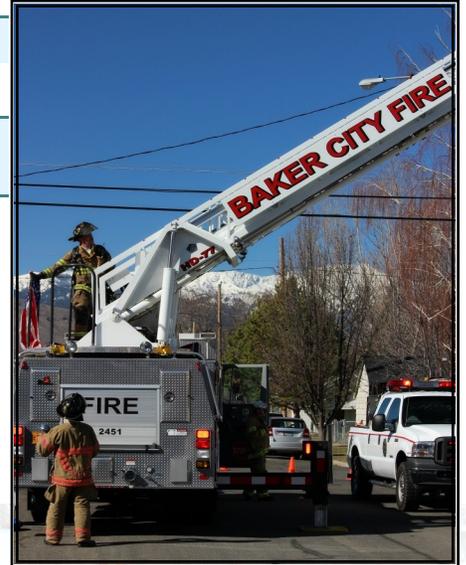
FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	2

TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES 2



Church Street—Smoke Investigation



EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	6
Persons Arrived for Cover	5
Incidents Not Covered	1

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **66** hrs of Station and Equipment Maintenance
- **104** hrs of Fire/EMS or Safety Training



The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am. Don't miss the next check on March 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 160 incidents and opened 39 new cases this past week. Among those cases:

- ◆ BCPD personnel arrested 5 people and seized over 10 grams of methamphetamine, along with other drug paraphernalia, in the process of completing a traffic stop and serving a search warrant where BCPD Drug Canine "Capa" was utilized for 2 deployments.
- ◆ BCPD personnel investigated four reported thefts and frauds.
- ◆ BCPD personnel arrested three individuals for outstanding warrants and two others for probation violations.

- ⊛ BCPD personnel participated in a meeting facilitated by the Oregon Department of Justice, along with other law enforcement entities in our region.
- ⊛ Several BCPD Officers participated in a Mental Health First Aid training, sponsored by Baker County Total Health.
- ⊛ 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 on 2 pending cases

Animal Violations and Complaints

- 1 dog at large impounded
- 3 dogs at large returned to owner

Parking Violations and Complaints

- Orange tagged 2 abandoned vehicles
- Followed up on 6 parking violations

Miscellaneous

- Assisted with 1 search warrant



Public Works: Street Department

The snowfall Sunday evening was significant. City streets were checked around 5 p.m. Sunday night and it was determined that no snow plowing would be needed. Once that was decided Mother Nature decided otherwise! By 7:30 p.m. enough snow had fallen that an 8 man team was mobilized to come in and begin snow plowing efforts. The O.D.O.T. grader was brought in to town from the O.D.O.T. maintenance facility. Soon thereafter both graders were chained-up and ready to run on the midnight shift. Justin, Tommy, Dennis and Jay began plowing downtown streets Sunday at midnight. A crew of Rick, Craig, Scott and Brian came in at 1 a.m. and began hauling away snow berms from downtown streets. Downtown streets were plowed by 8 in the morning. Most of the routes 1, 2 and 3 were plowed during the remainder of the week. By Thursday afternoon we reached a point of diminishing returns where plowing snow wasn't of much benefit for residents so plowing ceased.

Thank you to Baker County and Rob Ellingson for allowing the City to deposit snow from downtown streets onto the Ellingson Property on Broadway and the County property near the D and Clark Street intersection.



This is how Auburn Street appeared Sunday afternoon.

This is how Auburn Street appeared Monday morning after the heavy snowfall and the midnight crew plowed.





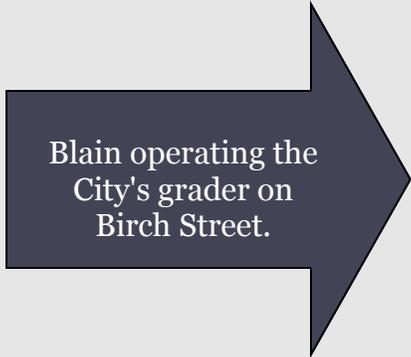
Public Works: Street Department Continued



Broadway Avenue on Monday morning.



Karl operating R-221 on Birch Street.



Jacob and Nate removing snow from street intersections and staked driveways.



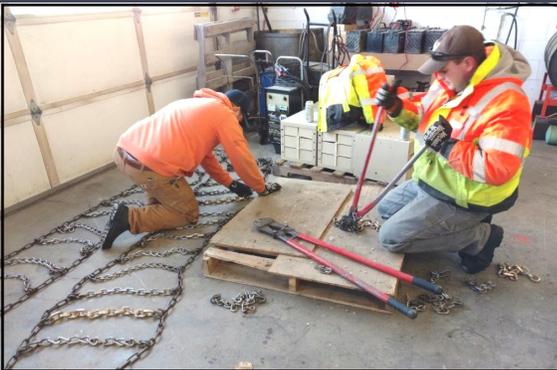
Karl and Blain plowing north on Cedar Street Monday.



Public Works: Street Department Continued

Special effort was made to plow snow from streets around Baker High School earlier this week in preparation for the State 1A Basketball Tournament which began this week.

This is the view of "E" Street showing several cars parked along the edges of the road while games were underway.



Truck and grader chains need repaired on a regular basis . Pictured left, Jacob and Nate work to repair chains in the city shop.

Crews hauled snow Monday from 1 a.m. to 9 a.m., Tuesday from 12 a.m. to 8 a.m., Wednesday from 12 a.m. to 8 a.m. and Thursday from 4 a.m. to 7 a.m. to remove all of the snow berms.

Pictured below, Scott is operating the City Volvo loader in the early morning hours.





Public Works: Street Department Continued



Snow hauled to deposit areas was pushed up this week to allow for additional dumping space. Here Justin and Blain operate the City Volvo loader and Cat dozer to consolidate the snow piles.

By pushing the snow into taller piles it makes additional room near access roads which increases efficiency and lessens the possibility for dump trucks becoming stuck.



Public Works: Water Department



Justin used the Volvo mini-excavator to jackhammer the trench line on Estes Street in preparation for the installation of a new ductile iron water-line. Of course with the heavy snowfall Sunday night this project was postponed until early March.

Last Friday Tommy and Nate rebuilt the rock wall surrounding the water meter located on Eldon Street. →



Several water meters had to be uncovered this week so that accurate readings could be recorded. This is necessary so that when a water account is transferred from one users name into another users name each will only be paying for the water they use.



Public Works: Wastewater Department



Karl and Jacob worked on 5th Street where a wastewater problem was reported last Friday.

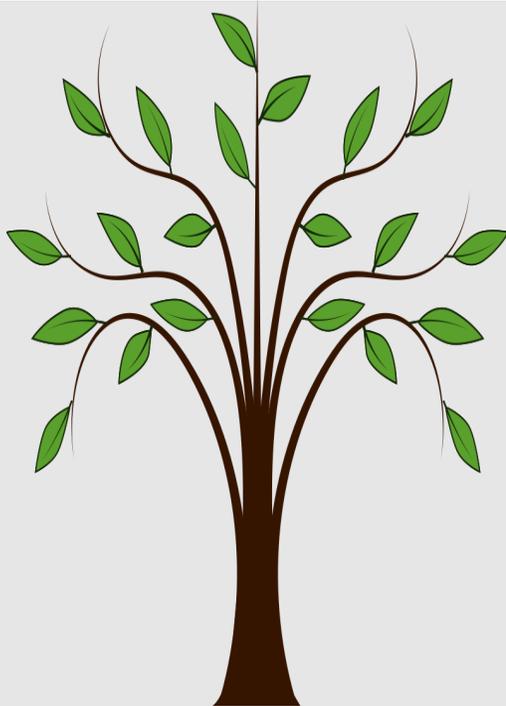
Even though this wastewater collection line was lined (several years ago) roots were able to penetrate into the main line through a lateral connection. The line was root cut last Friday.

5.0	FLOW SOUTH
3/23/2018 8:13 AM 65.4 FE Upstream Node: 013 Downstream Node: 012 Can Dir: Reverse TV MOUNTING SOURCE - 143 340 KILGORE ROAD	
47.8	Lateral
47.8	STOP

A wastewater lateral problem was reported for one of Baker City's retail stores Monday. Tom responded and performed the lateral inspection using the push-cam unit. It was determined that a portion of a cleanout cap had become lodged near the connection between the lateral and the main line. After this discovery was made the problem was addressed by the drain cleaning professional and the blockage was successfully removed.



Public Works: Silvers Tree Program



2017/2018 Street Tree Grant Applications for Downtown Projects are now available!

Grant applications will be accepted by the Baker City Public Works Department March 1, 2018 through March 30, 2018. Grant funds are only available to plant street trees and/or improve or construct tree wells within the downtown district within the public right-of-way area. Downtown project grant applications will be evaluated by the Tree Board and approved projects will be eligible for reimbursement. Property owners must provide a \$150 match in funds for the overall project to be considered eligible.

For a full application please click here: [2017-18 Silvers Street Tree Grant Application](#).



Public Works: Shop



Wes and Scott rebuilt the right side out-rigger cylinder and this backhoe is back to work.

The grader had blown a hydraulic hose. It was replaced and the plow ring was tightened.



The bucket truck was having a hard time starting in the cold weather. The block heater was burnt out and it has been replaced.

Wes and Scott replaced the step motor on the ambulance and it is back in service.



The sander was brought into the shop for a safety check. It is now back in service.



Announcements:

Safety Focus of the Month

March 2018

Brought to you by: Baker City Safety Committee

It's time to think about cleaning up our streets! Our roads are utilized by the local public, emergency services, visitors, Public Works and utility/construction services; we all have some responsibilities in keeping them clean and accessible. Obstacles can block traffic, water runoff and public services like water service, sewer maintenance, street sweeping and emergency equipment. Below are the most common scenarios posing safety risks.

LEVEL OF WORK REQUIRED		
EASY	MODERATE	HARDER
Keep trash cans behind the curb <u>before</u> and <u>after</u> pickup Move street parked cars daily Absolutely NO long-term parking without a permit Remove wooden blocks / ramps after driving over curb	Relocate trailers or equipment to off-street parking (storage) Prune and dispose of brush / small, low hanging limbs extending over the curb Keep basketball hoops well behind the curb when not in use	Prune large limbs and decorative shrubs that extend over the curb (see Baker City Ordinance 3298 below). Consult the city tree board, and dispose of dead / rotten trees. This may require a professional tree service!

Baker City Ordinance No. 3298 Section 94.11

"Every owner of any tree overhanging any street or right-of-way within the City shall prune the branches so that such branches shall not obstruct the light from any street lamp or obstruct the view of any street intersection or traffic control device, so that there shall be clear space of at least **eight (8) feet** above the surface of the sidewalk and **twelve (12) feet** above the surface of the street. The owner shall remove all dead, diseased or hazardous trees, or broken or decayed limbs, which constitute a menace to the safety of the public."

Work together and take pride in our streets!!!