

# CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.  
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

## Weekly Update March 16, 2018

Photo: Basecamp Baker

### Administration:

The City Council met this week and approved the 2018 Pavement Management Plan and the 2018 Capital Plans for water, wastewater and storm water. I would like to thank the Public Works Advisory Committee for their input and expertise in reviewing the myriad of plans. The City also received the annual audit presentation from Kent Bailey of Guyer and Associates. The City's finances are in good order and overall it was a very clean audit.

Tom Busciglio briefed the Council on a planned event for August 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. He is organizing the Eastern Oregon Tributefest which will be a festival featuring tribute bands such as Led Zeppelin, Heart, Tom Petty, Pat Benatar and many more. This event promises to bring many people to town to fill our motels, restaurants and shops.

Have a good weekend and stay safe.

### City Council

#### Agenda

#### March 13<sup>th</sup>

- Fee Resolution
- Budget Resolution
- Airport Commission
- Award of Excavator Rental



### Finance:

#### **Utilities:**

- ◆ Ten customers signed up for new water/sewer service and four customers disconnected service from March 9<sup>th</sup> to March 15<sup>th</sup>. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 2 was billed today which includes 458 residential and 13 commercial accounts. Of those accounts, 99 or 21% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Zone 6 was billed on March 13<sup>th</sup> and included 486 residential and 54 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 116 or 21% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Fifteen residential customers (Zones 1 and 6) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) six were actually turned off until their past due balance was paid.

**Payroll:** Draw checks were issued March 15<sup>th</sup>.

**LID Billings:** LIDs are billed every six months over a twenty year period. Interest is charged at the Local Government Investment Pool Rate plus 1% which is currently an annual rate of 2.62%. These LIDs can be paid off at any time with interest charged through the payoff date. One 2007 G Street Wastewater Extension LID was billed March 12<sup>th</sup>. The original assessment in 2007 included one property owner for a total of \$69,541. The remaining balance outstanding including interest is \$35,226.



**Building Department:**

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	4	0	2	7
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	0
Electrical	5	4	3	6
Mechanical	7	2	2	5
Plumbing	7	2	1	2
Fence	0	NA	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>20</b>

**RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:**

- Banzette Street, Greenhorn—14x14 seasonal log cabin.
- 1242 Dewey Avenue, Baker City—Foundation repair.

**COMMERCIAL PERMITS:**

- 3055 10th Street, Baker City—Fire sprinkler system installation.
- 160 N Mill Street, Sumpster—Fire suppression system.
- 2295 Windmill Lane, Baker City—Fire suppression system.
- 2015 1st Street, Baker City—interior remodel.

**HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW:** Next regularly scheduled meeting is March 28, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department Offices.



Happy  
St. Patrick's Day!



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

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of March 6th through March 12th the Fire Department responded to a total of **38** emergency alarms.

## AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	25
Rural Calls	8
Patient Transported	26
No Patient Trip	7

## TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 33



Airport Transfers	0
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	1
Out of Town Transfers Assigned	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2
Doubles (2 calls at once)	5
Triples (3 calls at once)	1
Public Assists	0

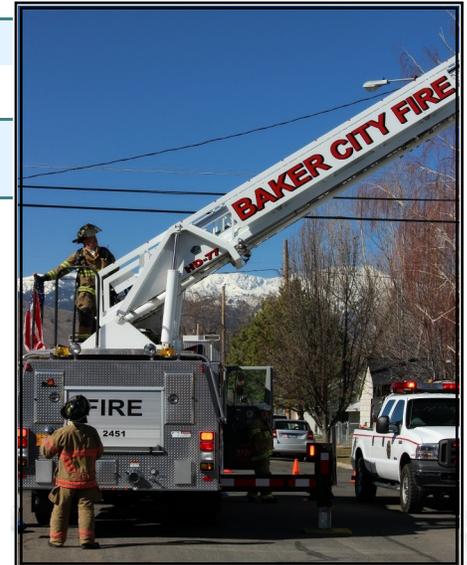
## FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	5

## TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES 5



- North Baker School—Gas Leak
- Miller Street—Trash Fire
- Main Street—False Alarm
- Colorado Place—Burn Complaint



## EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	7
Persons Arrived for Cover	3
Incidents Not Covered	4

## TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/COMMUNITY EVENTS

- 74 hrs of Station and Equipment Maintenance
- 42 hrs of Fire/EMS or Safety Training
- 2 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 March 20th.



*"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 180 incidents and opened 29 new cases this past week. Among those cases:

- BCPD personnel began an investigation into the posting of a video, displaying sexual contact by local juveniles.
- BCPD personnel investigated four reported thefts and frauds.
- BCPD personnel investigated another runaway of a 15 year old girl.
- BCPD personnel arrested three individuals for outstanding warrants.
- BCPD personnel investigated three reported vandalism cases.
- BCPD personnel had multiple contacts with a local woman who suffers from mental illness, which leads to criminal conduct. Personnel ultimately placed her on a Peace Officer's Hold and transported her to the hospital for evaluation.

★ BCPD personnel assisted with safety during the various events on Wednesday that took place as part of the National Student Walkout.

★ Chief Lohner met with an Idaho woman who has made Human Trafficking Awareness a focal point in her life and has future plans of creating a sanctuary ranch for victims here in Baker County.

★ 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 4 pending cases
- Started 1 new case
- Issued 1 citation for non-compliance

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

- Issued 3 parking citations
- Followed up on 6 parking complaints
- Orange tagged 1 abandoned vehicle

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

- 2 dogs at large impounded
- Responded to 4 animal related complaints
- 1 dangerous dog hearing

#### **Miscellaneous**

- Followed up on 1 TUP complaint

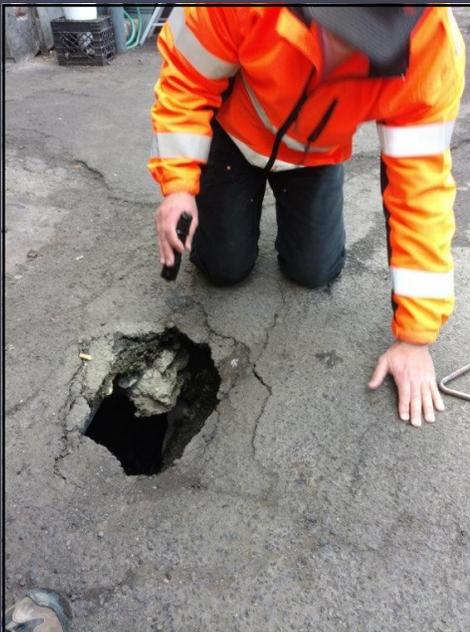


## Public Works: Street Department

Justin and Scott hauled some rock to the Lagoon access road last Friday. Pictured right, Justin is grading the road along the east side of Pond "A".



The wall from an old coal chute collapsed recently in an alley between Main and First Streets. Rainwater was able to flow into the open hole which compounded the problem.



Public Works promptly contacted the owner and barricaded the alley to stop traffic from driving through the alley and into the hole.

The owner hired a local contractor who constructed interior forms in the basement of the building and filled the vault with a low strength concrete. The alley is now open for traffic again.





## Public Works: Wastewater Department

Karl and Jacob had to use the jetter truck and the root saw to cut grease from the inside of the Estes Street wastewater line so the line could be successfully video-inspected. The line was cleaned and video-inspected simultaneously.



The old 8" concrete line that was disturbed during the "Boring" project was replaced with a new 6" P.V.C. line .



There has always been a flow problem on the inside of this manhole. With the replacement of the old 8" concrete with 6" P.V.C. pipe Karl and Rick will be able to solve this problem by installing a new P.V.C. flow line through the manhole.

Here the new piping has been installed.



The new concrete interior base will be poured Friday.





## Public Works: Water Department

Tommy and Nate continued to perform water valve maintenance within the water distribution system this week.

Those water valves which are difficult to access are raised to the surface of the ground. Pictured right are two water valve box tops on a major distribution line south of Carter Street. This picture shows them in the process of being raised.

The valve tops are now located near the ground's surface.



An old fire hydrant located at the intersection of Hwy. 30 and South Bridge Street has been known to leak at the bottom when in the "on" position.

Because of the age of the hydrant it was determined that it would be best to replace the hydrant with a new one instead of repairing it. An underground utility locate was requested and the new installation will be completed within the next week.





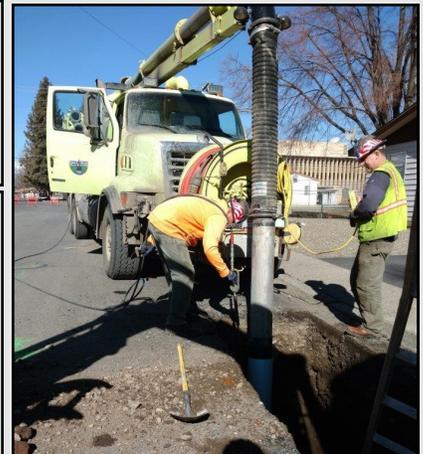
## Public Works: Water Department Continued

Work began this week on a water mainline project along Estes Street between Elm Street and Dewey. This project will increase the size of the water main in Estes Street from 4" to 8" and will also provide a looped connection across the Powder River which will greatly improve fire flows and water circulation in the area. A directional drilling contractor out of Yakima, WA was on-site this week to install an 8" HDPE pipe under the river. This pipe will provide a connection between the water lines on either side of the river which did not previously exist. HDPE pipe was used because it is flexible, extremely durable, and can be pulled into the narrow bore path without damage. Flanged connections were fused onto each end of the HDPE pipe to allow a transition back to ductile iron for the remainder of the conventional "open trench" portion of the project. Installation of the 8" HDPE pipe was successfully completed on Thursday. Construction of the remainder of the pipeline along Estes Street will continue for the next several weeks.



← Here, the contractor is seen directionally boring the 240'+/- line under the Powder River.

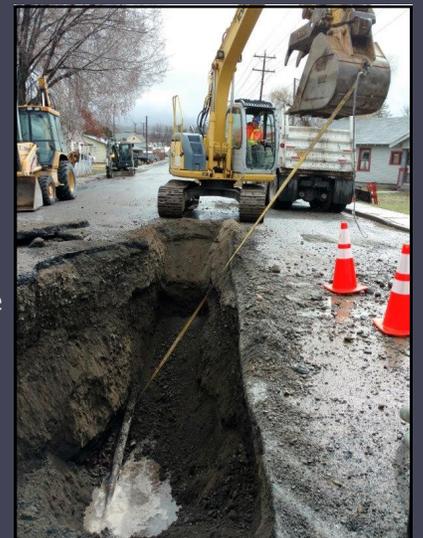
Blain and Scott used the vector truck to hydro-excavate deep under the surface of Estes Street to locate any sewer laterals which may come into conflict with the new water line. →



The cutting head came into contact with some very hard subsurface material and was veering too far North.

The Public Works Crew had to excavate down to a depth of 14 feet, hook onto the leading edge of the boring tool and coax it south for the remainder of the bore.

You may notice that the track hoe bucket is inverted in the first photo. It was reversed so that Justin could excavate more effectively under existing utilities.





## Public Works: Water Department Continued



← Ground water was pumped from the hole while excavation work was being performed on the Estes Street project. In this photo you can see a length of 8" diameter wastewater line. It had to be repaired/ replaced with a new 6" P.V.C. line later this same day.

At this point in the Boring Project the initial bore is complete and the Reamer head has been attached to the end of the Boring Rod and is ready to be retrieved back toward the boring tool base station. →



The majority of the excavation on the East Side of the Powder River was backfilled after the bore head raised from the abyss. Pictured right, Scott is dumping a load of backfill material under Blain's direction.



In these photos Blain is supporting the new 8" HDPE water pipe while slowly driving forward as the pipe is being pulled westerly under the Powder River.



A bentonite clay slurry is used to slicken up the inside of the bore hole so that the pipe can more easily slide through the bore hole on its way back to the boring machine.





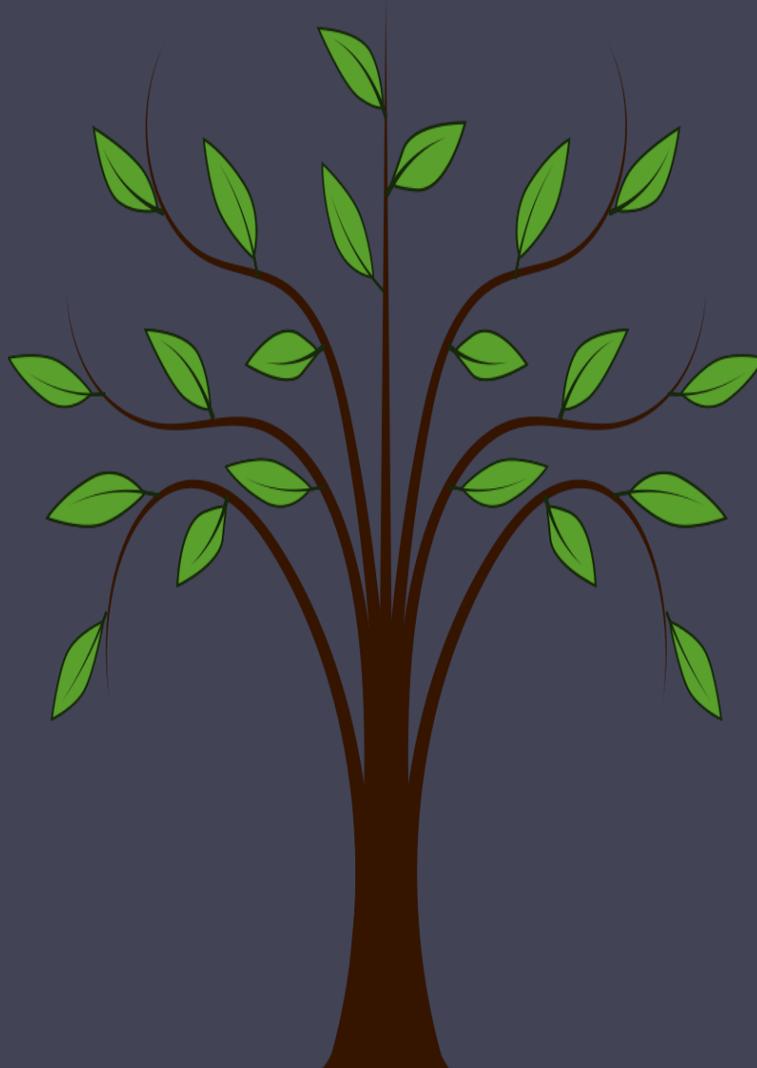
## Public Works: Silvers Tree Program

### 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.](#)





## 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 <b>Absolutely NO long-term parking without a permit</b>  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!!!*