

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

Weekly Update May 4, 2018

Photo: Basecamp Baker

Administration:

Senator Ron Wyden was in Baker City this week for one of his many Town Hall meetings. During the meeting, the topic of the Baker City Watershed was discussed. Senator Wyden told the group that he would meet with the Interim Head of the Forest Service this week and stress the importance of conducting healthy forest restoration in the Watershed and the areas surrounding it. This will fit in with the City's goal of bringing all the partners together to brainstorm ways to protect the Watershed and adjacent lands.

The City Manager attended a benefit for Baker County's veterans held at the Harvest Christian School. As part of the event, a Chinook Helicopter from the Air Force landed near the parking lot. In addition to the helicopter, the veterans were presented with hand written cards and pins thanking them for their service. In attendance were at least seven veterans from World War II.

Councilor Jim Thomas brought a one thousand dollar check to the City for the Veterans section of Mt. Hope Cemetery. This was given by the Baker Valley Shuffleboard organization and was one of five one thousand dollar donations to deserving charities in Baker City. My hat is off to the men and women of this group.

It looks like summer weather may be upon. Have a great weekend.

City Council

Agenda

May 8th

- Wildfire Awareness Proclamation
- Poppy Day Proclamation
- Update from Parks & Recreation Adv. Board
- ODFW: Wildlife in Baker City



Finance:

Finance Director

The first budget committee meeting will be May 14th at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. There will be a public hearing at this meeting.

Utilities

- ◆ Spring is here and the City is once again reading meters. Meters are read once every other month and any water usage above 3 units (2,250 gallons) each month will be billed equally over the next two billing cycles.
- ◆ Twenty-one customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and thirteen customers disconnected service from April 27th thru May 4th. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 1 was billed today and includes 95 residential and 253 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 64 or 18% are signed up for direct payment and 8 or 2% are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Zone 4 was billed May 1st which included 714 residential and 64 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 196 or 25% are signed up for direct payment and 33 or 4% are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Twenty residential customers (Zones 4 and 8) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non pay (over 60 days past due) nine of those were actually turned off until their past due balance is paid.



Building Department:

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	3	11	3	2
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	2
Electrical	2	6	8	4
Mechanical	1	3	2	1
Plumbing	6	4	0	1
Fence	2	NA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	14	24	13	10

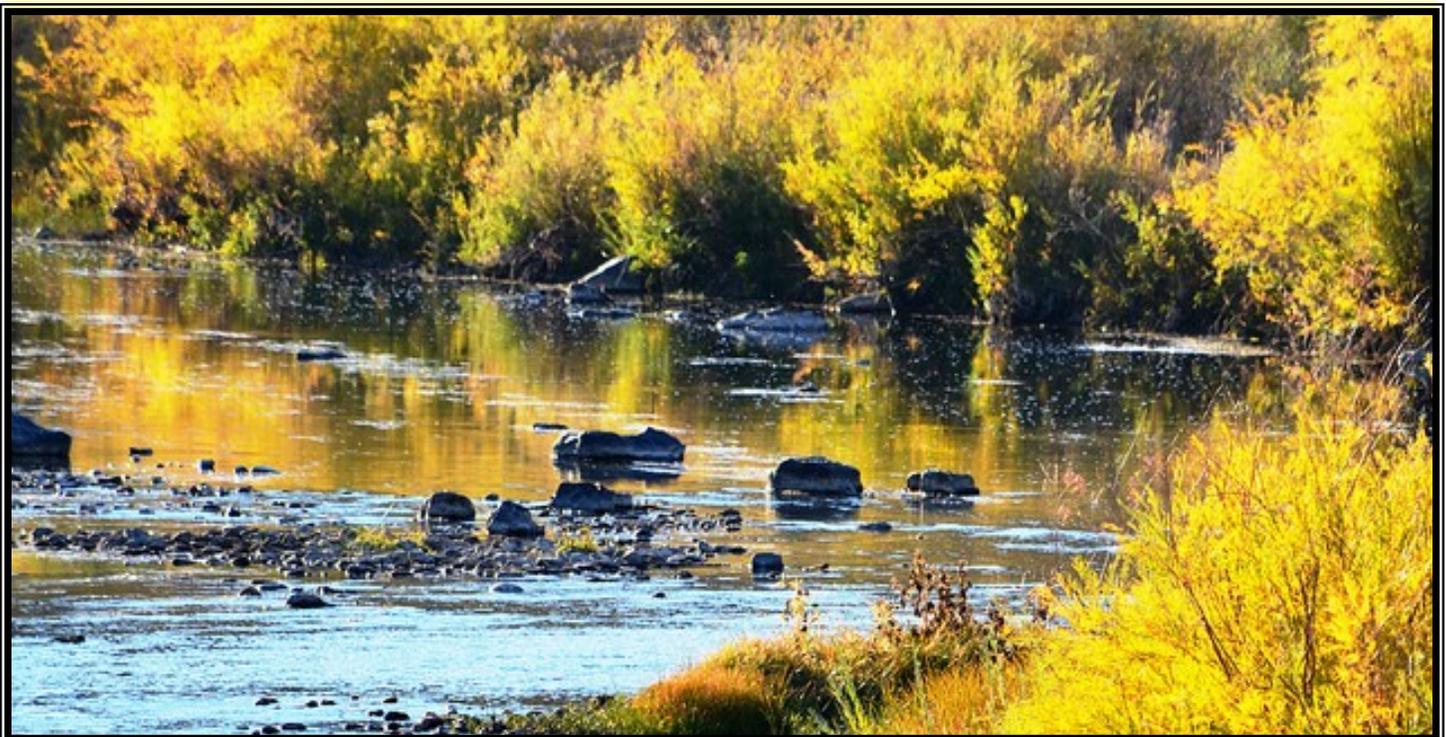
RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:

- 36783 Beaver Cr., Baker City—New residence.
- 10934 Rattlesnake Ln., Sumpter—Detached accessory structure.
- Indiana Ave., Baker City—Detached accessory structure.
- 334 Main St., Halfway—Foundation and structural updates.

COMMERCIAL PERMITS:

- 3055 10th St., Baker City—Interior modifications.
- 1 Sunridge Ln., Baker City—Interior modifications.

HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW: Next regularly scheduled meeting is May 9, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department Offices.





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

FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of April 24th through April 30th the Fire Department responded to a total of **40** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	26
Rural Calls	5
Patient Transported	25
No Patient Trip	7

TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 31



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

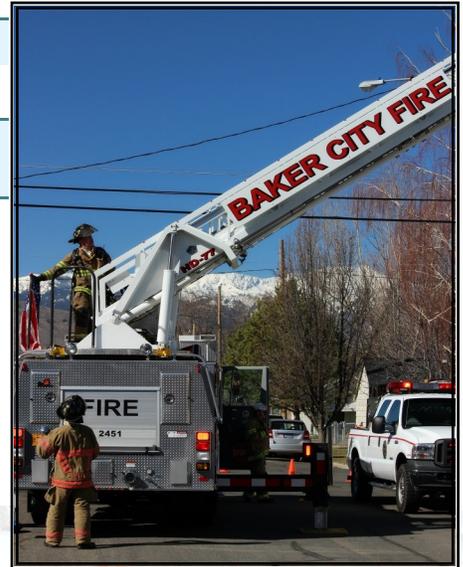
FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	9

TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES 9



7th Street: Structure fire.
Campbell Street: Burn complaint.
10th Street: False alarm.
Pocahontas Road: Vegetation fire.
9th Street: Burn complaint.
Campbell @ Railroad Tracks: Debris fire.
Auburn @ Railroad Tracks: Vegetation fire.
17th Street: Fire sprinkler activation.



EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	2
Persons Arrived for Cover	1
Incidents Not Covered	1

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/COMMUNITY EVENTS

- 67 hrs of Station and Equipment Maintenance
- 71 hrs of Fire/EMS or Safety Training
- 4 hrs of Fire Prevention Inspections
- 6 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 May 8th.



"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 206 incidents and opened 33 new cases this past week. One case involved the arrest of a subject found to be loitering/ camping in a public restroom and upon contact with law enforcement, was discovered to have a warrant for a probation violation and was in possession of methamphetamine and a schedule IV controlled substance.
- ★ Officer Shannon Regan attended the 32nd Annual Western States Hostage Negotiators' Association Training Seminar and Competition in Reno, Nevada. Officer Regan is an active member of the Northeast Oregon Regional SWAT team as part of the Crisis Negotiations Team.
- ★ Sergeant Wayne Chastain, with K9 Capa, was the special guest speaker at the D.A.R.E. Program graduation for Mr. Alder's 6th/7th grade class at Huntington School. Congratulations to these students who completed the 10 week program taught by Baker County Sheriff Deputy Adam Robb!
- ★ Evidence Technician Lynn Magnuson, Reserve Officer Justin Phlaum and Reserve Officer Mark Powell participated in the 15th National Prescription Drug Take Back Day held in partnership with the (DEA) Drug Enforcement Administration at the Baker City Police Department on Saturday, April 28th. This successful event netted 74 pounds of unwanted and/or expired prescription drugs. Another National Prescription Drug Take Back Day event will be held later this fall.
- ★ BCPD personnel participated in a Distracted Driving Awareness event in recognition of April as Distracted Driving Awareness month. We would like to remind everyone that distracted driving takes many forms and for your safety and those on the road, please keep your eyes on the road and your hands on the wheel. Thank you to the following sponsors for their support: Baker County Transportation Traffic Safety Commission, Baker Truck Corral, Verizon Wireless, US Cellular, Bi-Mart, Thatcher's Ace Hardware, Elkhorn Media Group, Oregon State Police, Baker County Sheriff's Office and Oregon Department of Transportation.
- ★ 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 3 pending cases
- Followed up on 1 new complaint
- Followed up with 1 smell complaint
- Followed up with 2 weed violations
- Followed up with 1 right-of-way complaint
- Followed up with 1 DEQ complaint

- Follow up with 2 livestock permits
- Followed up with 1 dog bite case
- Followed up with 1 barking complaint

Parking Violations and Complaints

- Followed up with multiple parking complaints
- Orange tagged 1 abandoned vehicle
- 1 parking written warning

Animal Violations and Complaints:

- 1 dog at large returned to owner
- 3 dogs at large impounded
- 1 chicken at large impounded
- Followed up on 2 animal complaints

Miscellaneous:

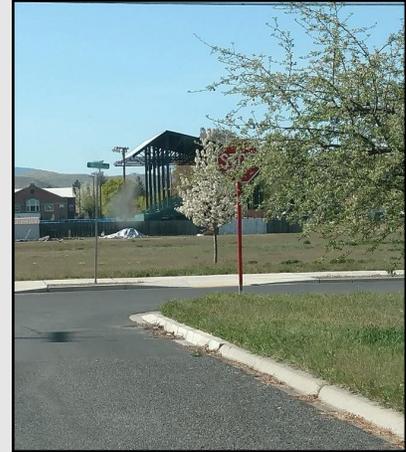
- 1 found bicycle



Public Works: Street Department

Residents are reminded to keep their trees trimmed so that street signage will be visible to vehicular traffic.

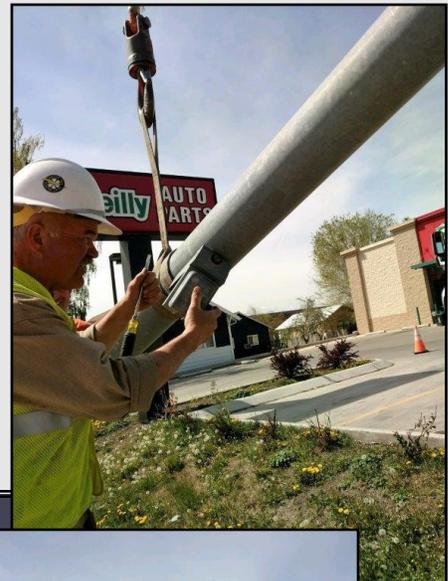
Here is a photo from this week of the stop sign at the intersection of "D" and Elm Streets.



Public Works: Street Lights



Dennis worked on Street lights Thursday.



O TEC and Public Works combined their efforts to reinstall the street light on Campbell Street near the Maverik Fuel Station on Thursday.

Tim from O TEC provided the boom truck while Blain and Brian provided ground support.

Final adjustments were made before leaving the site. The cobra head light is planned to be installed on Friday. It took a long time to get the necessary repair parts before this street light repair work could be completed.





Public Works: Stormwater Department

A stormwater drain was enlarged to increase capacity at a site on 9th Drive.

The vactor truck was used to excavate the site. Blain and Brian then installed a plastic infiltration chamber.

The infiltration chamber was surrounded using drain rock and covered with filter fabric before being covered with more free draining rock.



Public Works: Water Department

PIPELINE WORK:

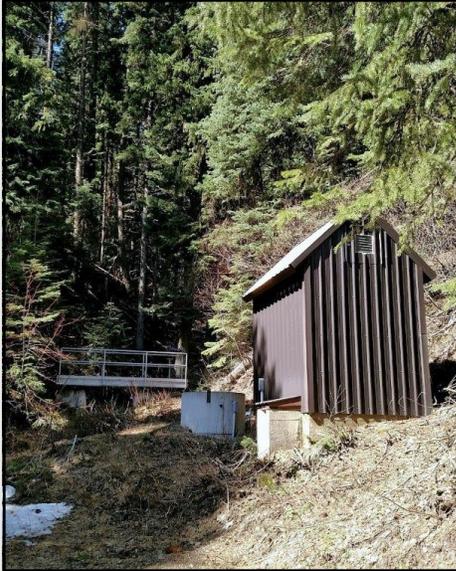
Road work continued this week in preparation for the installation of the new 20" diameter Class 53 ductile iron water pipe.

Pictured below, Justin is carefully marking the old existing waterline location so they can carefully avoid damage to it while the new line is being installed.



The Cat grader and this old log bunk trailer will be used to transport the new pipe from the stockpile site for installation.

Public Works: Water Department Continued



Jake and Scott worked this week to clean debris and sediment from several diversions.

Scott is just out of view in this picture, working inside the diversion at Little Marble Creek.



A water service was repaired on 8th Drive this week. The water service line was frozen to prevent the flow of water while the meter setter and connections could be upgraded.

Pictured above, you can see the extremely cold leads connected onto the copper line creating a solid ice plug while the work was being done.

Blain worked in cramped quarters with help from Brian above.





Public Works: Water Department Continued

A phone call was received Friday afternoon from a concerned resident living along Auburn Avenue about a wastewater back-up.



Tom, Rick and Craig responded immediately to the area. Several manholes were filled above their normal level.

Rick had to clean the line multiple times on Friday and then again on Saturday to restore proper flow in the lines.



Blain and Brian responded to the scene and helped remedy the problem by using the vacor truck to pump wastewater from one of the surcharged manholes.



The line was thoroughly video-inspected to help determine the cause of the problem. The line was found to be in very good condition.

There was a large quantity of "wet wipes" found in the line which had created a "dam" plugging one of the downstream manholes. Wet wipes are not flushable as they are advertised....sure they will flush but they won't dissolve like regular toilet paper. Other items discovered in the line were 3 toy cars, one toilet paper roll center piece, rags, a coke cup and several sticks.

A complete and thorough cleaning of the line was accomplished this week.

Public Works: Wastewater Department Continued



Advance warning signs were put up along the truck route to improve safety for a contractor who was excavating for a wastewater stub on Thursday.



Public Works: Parks and Recreation

This water bowl is activated by using a human foot, probably not a dog's foot, to depress a valve and fill the bowl with water.

The water then drains at a really slow rate so that the dog(s) can drink.

Reminder: The Grand Opening of the Dog Park will be held Saturday, May 5th beginning at 10am.



Public Works: Public Art Installation



Blain and Brian worked Thursday to prepare the base for an "Art On Loan" metal art piece which will be installed Friday morning.

Four holes were excavated using the vactor truck. Shortened railroad ties were then firmly secured into the holes. Lag bolts will be used to attach the art piece to the wooden base posts.



Photo Credit: Timothy Bishop



Public Works: Shop



Work continues on this backhoe. The hydraulic line was replaced and the backhoe lift cylinder was repaired. It should be back in service early next week.



This ambulance was serviced and a safety check was performed.



The throttle spring had failed on this truck. It has been replaced and is back to work.



The steering column needed to be repaired on this vehicle. Parts have been ordered and it should be back in service next week.



This pickup was taken to LaGrande for a safety recall. Airbags were fixed and it is back in service.



The transmission and rear differentials were serviced on this police vehicle and it is now back in service .



May 5, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.
 Fetch your friends and join us to Celebrate the
 Official Opening of the
PARTNERS FOR PAWS DOG PARK

Sam-O Park—580 Baker Street—Additional Parking behind Truck Corral



What is a dog park?

Wikipedia definition:
 “A dog park is a park for dogs to exercise and play off leash in a controlled environment under the supervision of their owners.”

In celebration of National Dog Park Day on May 5th we will have the official ribbon cutting at Baker City’s Brand New Dog Park

- To help us celebrate, PetSafe (petsafe.net) has generously donated some great give-away items as well as AWESOME Grand Opening drawing prizes!

Partners for PAWS wants to extend...

Special thanks to the PetSafe Bark for your Park program for their very generous \$25,000 award to build this park. Thank you as well to Baker City, local businesses and community members for their support of this great addition to our parks system!

For more information, contact Gail: gduman@live.com