

# CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.  
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

## Weekly Update June 22, 2018

Photo: Basecamp Baker

### Administration:

Summer is officially here and downtown Baker City is busy. Last night was the third Thursday wine walk and lots of people out enjoying the weather and shopping in the downtown area. The movie in Central Park drew a big crowd and was enjoyed by all. Come on out every Thursday night to the amphitheater for a different kid's movie each week.

The City Manager presented a grant application to the Regional Solutions Advisory Committee this week and received conditional approval for resources to put power throughout the Elkhorn View Industrial Park. This will be the final piece of infrastructure to make the site shovel ready for prospective businesses.

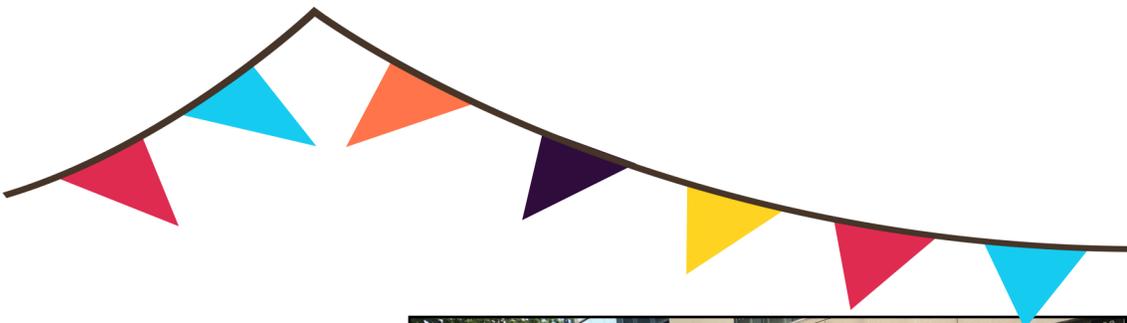
We've had a great deal of rain over the last few weeks. Good growing weather for weeds. Let's make sure that we keep them in check as the tourist season is in full swing and we want to showcase our beautiful city. Have a great weekend.

### City Council

#### Agenda

#### June 26th

- Swearing-In Ceremony for Chief of Police
- Council Appointment
- Task Order TO Engineers
- 3rd Reading of Ordinance: 3363: Prohibiting Feeding Deer
- 2nd Reading of Ordinances 3355: Establishing Criteria for Sidewalk Cafes
- 2nd Reading of Ordinance 3365: Amending Ordinance 3030: Reflecting Changes to Sidewalk Cafes.
- Public Hearing: Budget 2018-19
- Public Hearing: Possible Uses of State Revenue Sharing Dollars
- Budget Resolutions: 3813, 3815, 3816, 3817 and 3818



Mayor Mike Downing was able to attend the Grand Floral Parade in Portland.

Approximately 15 mayors from throughout Oregon attended the festival to represent their communities.





**Building Department:**

|                       | Permits Issued City | Inspections City | Permits Issued County | Inspections County |
|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Building              | 2                   | 2                | 2                     | 14                 |
| Manufactured Dwelling | 0                   | 0                | 0                     | 0                  |
| Electrical            | 9                   | 3                | 7                     | 8                  |
| Mechanical            | 3                   | 4                | 2                     | 2                  |
| Plumbing              | 0                   | 0                | 3                     | 4                  |
| Fence                 | 1                   | NA               | N/A                   | N/A                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>          | <b>15</b>           | <b>9</b>         | <b>14</b>             | <b>28</b>          |

**RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:**

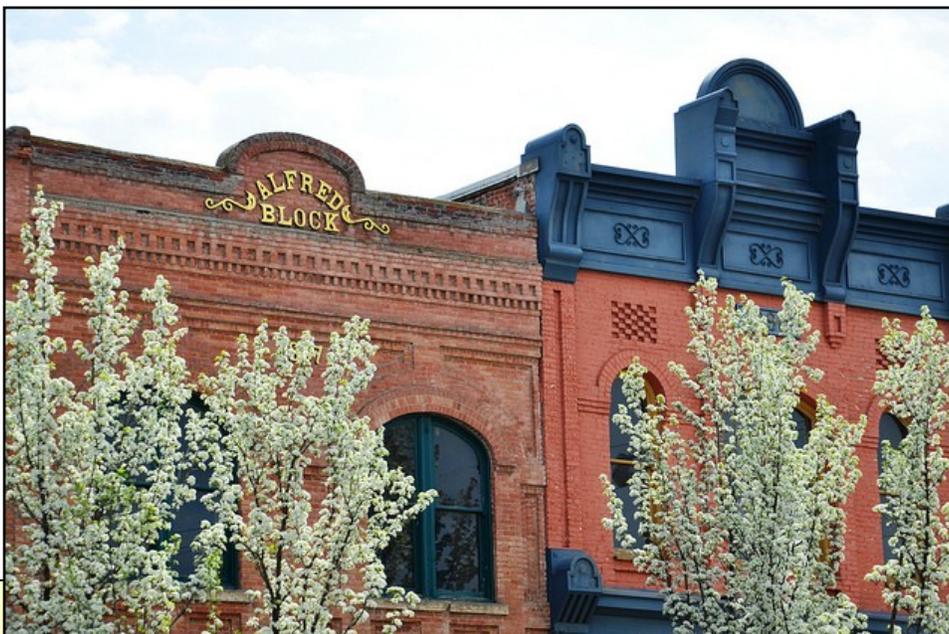
- 44531 Dear Haven Road, Baker City—New residence.
- 47490 Slaughterhouse Road, Halfway—2 detached accessory structures.
- 425 Spring Garden Road, Baker City—Detached accessory structure.

**COMMERCIAL PERMITS:**

- 297 Campbell Street, Baker City—Fire suppression system.

**HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW:** Next regularly scheduled meeting is June 27th at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department Offices.

**Notice of grant opportunity for structures in the Historic District:** Every two years, due to our City’s status as a “Certified Local Government”, we have the opportunity to award funds to property owners for repair/maintenance on historic properties. This is a matching grant opportunity with specific guidelines, and the application window is now open.



For more information, please visit the Baker City website, and go to the Historic District Design Review Committee page. You are also welcome to join us at any HDDRC meeting, or call the Building Dept. at 541-524-2054.



## **Planning Department:**

### **Public Meetings**

- ◆ The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on July 2, 2018, at 7:00p.m., in City Hall, to consider a major modification to an existing Conditional Use Permit at 2500 E Street. The applicants request approval to install four new 60-foot-tall light poles at an existing soccer field at the Baker Sports Complex. The Baker Sports Complex was approved through a Conditional Use Permit in 1996.
- ◆ On June 20, 2018, the Planning Commission held a public hearing to consider five applications. The following decisions were rendered:
  - VAC-18-043: The Planning Commission made a recommendation that City Council approve a petition to vacate a ±10-foot-wide by ±375-foot-long portion of F Street immediately abutting property addressed as 3050 F Street. The petition was submitted by Baker County, the owner of the property at 3050 F Street.

Three applications for the redevelopment of the old Churchill School were approved:

- HOP-18-049: A Home Occupation Permit to operate a personal art studio and ±13 art studio spaces for lease.
- SDR-18-050: A Site Design Review for two residences.
- CUP-18-051: The creation of a community event center, a short-term vacation rental and a bike hostel.



A fourth application for a variance was denied:

- VAR-18-052: A request for a variance to increase the number of guests that can stay at a “Bed and Breakfast” from 8 to 20.

### **Land Use Decisions & Projects**

- ◆ A ±320 square foot addition to an existing residence was approved at 1835 17<sup>th</sup> Street. The property is located in the Residential Medium-Density (R-MD) Zone.
- ◆ A complaint regarding a property addressed as 3450 Broadway Avenue was resolved.
- ◆ A final partition plat was approved and recorded for 1100 H Street, dividing one parcel into two.



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

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of June 12th through June 19th Fire Department responded to a total of **33** emergency alarms.

## AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

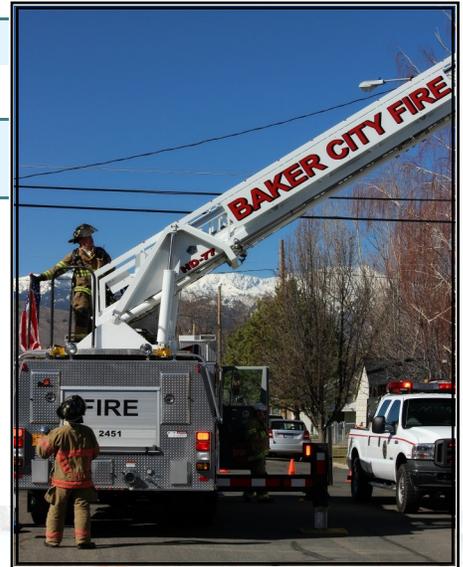
|                     |    |
|---------------------|----|
| City Calls          | 26 |
| Rural Calls         | 7  |
| Patient Transported | 25 |
| No Patient Trip     | 8  |

**TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 33**

## FIRE REPORTS

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| General Alarms    | 0 |
| Dispatched Alarms | 0 |

**TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES 0**



|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Airport Transfers              | 1 |
| Out of Town Transfers Accepted | 2 |
| Out of Town Transfers Assigned | 0 |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents        | 0 |
| Doubles (2 calls at once)      | 4 |
| Triples (3 calls at once)      | 0 |
| Public Assists                 | 2 |



## EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Requests for Cover        | 9 |
| Persons Arrived for Cover | 9 |
| Incidents Not Covered     | 0 |

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

- 74 hrs of Station and Equipment Maintenance
- 63.5 hrs of Fire/EMS or Safety Training
- 22 hrs Community Events
- 11 Burn Permits Issued



The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am. Don't miss the next check on June 26th.



*"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 363 incidents and opened 74 new cases during the previous two weeks. Of these cases, several arrests were made for outstanding warrants and detainers. Most notably, two subjects were arrested for DUII in separate incidents. One subject gave a BAC (Blood Alcohol Content) level of 0.16%, double the legal limit, and the second subject gave a BAC level of 0.21%, nearly three times the legal limit.
- ❖ Interim Chief Dustin Newman was recently appointed Chief of Police by City Manager Fred Warner. The following press release was issued regarding this appointment:

*Effective immediately, City Manager Fred Warner has appointed Dustin Newman to Police Chief. Newman was appointed to the Interim Police Chief Position on May 11, 2018. Warner said "After a lot of consideration, I believe that Chief Newman has the ability, commitment and leadership qualities to lead our Police Department into the future. Chief Newman is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and has been in law enforcement for over nineteen years. He has worked for the Department for over four years, and as Lieutenant for three years." My goal for the Department is stability. I believe that Chief Newman will bring that stability and my working relationship with him over the last couple of months have been refreshing and extremely positive. We share similar philosophies and we both seek collaborative solutions. I believe that Chief Newman is up to the challenge and with his leadership and our dedicated officers working together, we can provide the law enforcement services our citizens expect."*



Please join the staff of BCPD in congratulating Chief Newman on his newly appointed position.

- ❖ Officer Shannon Regan was selected to oversee the Department's Reserve Police Officer Program. The previous Reserve Commander, Jerry Boyd, resigned in April and under his direction, the Reserve Program had grown to nine reserve officers in early 2017 and realized 1,361 volunteer hours given in support of the Department during that year. We welcome Officer Regan to the ranks of the Reserve Program. Currently, there are six reserve police officers serving our community.
- ❖ 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.



### Public Works: Golf Course



The asphalt project is complete at Quail Ridge. The cart parking area and parking lot entrance path were paved on Wednesday. The project was funded by the golf social board and the Baker City Golf Board.



Golf carts arrived on Thursday and they are ready to rent! →

### Public Works: Cemetery

Wednesday night's storm did significant damage to some of the trees at Mt. Hope Cemetery.



A large conifer in the Catholic Circle Section sustained severe damage when the majority of the top broke and came down.



Arborist, Michael Curtiss climbed the tree, assessed the damage and removed the remainder of the top as well as several compromised branches. Miraculously, none of the Bishop's monuments or other headstones sustained damage.

A small tree in the Masonic Section was uprooted and had to be removed entirely.





### Public Works: Trees

Property owners need to be aware of hazards resulting from trees and other shrubbery obstructing visibility and or causing damage to personal property.

On Main Street a motor home struck an overhanging branch causing damage to the motor home. The owner of the motor home is seeking compensation for the damages.



Dennis set out temporary traffic control so that no other tall vehicles would strike the overhanging branch.

A tree trimming company was hired immediately by the property owner to remedy the situation.



← In this photo you can see where overgrown vegetation on a South Baker intersection is obstructing visibility for pedestrians and drivers.

Maintaining trees and other vegetation within the street right of way is the responsibility of the property owner.

### Public Works: Water Department



Tommy worked to decommission a water service on Campbell Street which had previously served a house on 2nd Street.



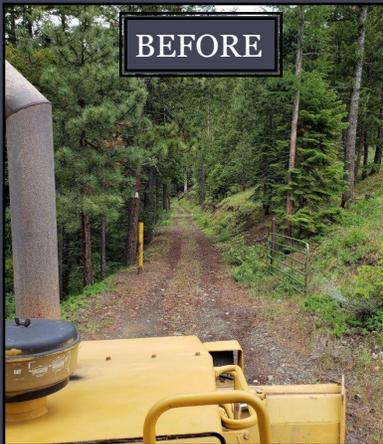
# Public Works: Water Department Continued



Goodrich Reservoir

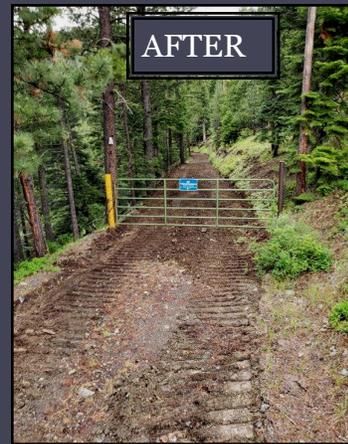
Efforts to clear and improve roadways that provide access to the watershed continue to be an ongoing concern.

Pictured right, Scott is cutting a down tree from a section of the Elk Creek Road. →



BEFORE

Justin used the CAT dozer to maintain a section of roadway leading to the Elk Creek diversion.



AFTER



Pictured here, Blain and Nate are working to repair the hydrant that was damaged by a driver earlier this month.

Finished hydrant. →





## Public Works: Wastewater Department Continued

An old 2" galvanized water line on the gravel portion of Place Street began leaking substantially earlier this week. Although the line was scheduled for replacement during the next fiscal year, the project had to be "fast tracked" to eliminate the problem. An emergency underground locate was requested and work began Wednesday morning. Justin, Blain and Nate worked on the project.



← A section of the old corroded galvanized pipe.

Steve measured the location of the new line so that it can be accurately shown in the water database. →



**Mountain Line Project:** Justin, Blain and Nate worked laying new 20" ductile iron pipe through a portion of the U.S.F.S. owned section of the project.



Justin excavates the pipe bedding area and then sets each pipe section carefully into place at the precise grade and alignment with the assistance of his "ground man" Nate.



Blain using one of the rented Volvo track hoes to backfill material around the new pipe.



### Public Works: Wastewater Department



A resident on Ash Street had been suffering from a plugged wastewater lateral. Recently they paid to have their wastewater lateral replaced.

The wastewater lateral line serving the residence was replaced and back in service before noon the same day the repair work began.



### Public Works: Storm Water

Heavy rains the over the past two weeks has resulted in plugged storm water catch basin tops, surcharged lines and debris flowing across a few roadways.



Hundreds of catch basin tops were covered with debris similar to this one on Indiana Avenue (pictured left). Public Works summer workers Ryan, Cayn, Shane and Dillon worked three days removing and hauling off debris from catch basin tops.

Silt, gravel and other debris ran across sections of Indiana Avenue near the City's water reservoir site.



Catch basins at the intersection of Auburn and 4th Streets would not drain. Karl and Jacob video inspected the line.

← As shown on the computer monitor screen a huge mass of roots had grown into the storm water main line. They had to use the hydraulic root saw back and forth several times inside the line to remove the root mass.



## Public Works: Street Department

A dump truck traveling through town had its tailgate open unexpectedly just south of the intersection of Main and Auburn Streets dumping a considerable amount of 1.5" diameter rock onto the roadway.

Upon receiving a phone call from the driver requesting assistance, Public Works responded to the site, flagged traffic and assisted the driver in cleaning up the spilled rock.

Pictured right, Justin is using the backhoe to scoop up the loose rock and Matt is using the Elgin Crosswind sweeper to pick up the remaining material.



Public Works assisted with traffic control for a project where a contractor is in the process of rebuilding two approaches into the Baker Sanitary business parking lot.



Baker City Public Works crew crack filled this week using the ODOT crack fill machine. It has an onboard compressor and a heated hose so start-up and shut-down procedures are much easier and quicker—increasing productivity.



Ryan prepares the section by blowing debris out of the cracks.



Dillon uses hot tar to fill cracks and other small voids in the roadway.



### Public Works: Street Department Continued

O TEC assisted Public Works by removing a power pole on Court Street recently.

Blain and Nate jack hammered the concrete around the pole base so it could be more easily removed.



Dennis worked to replace more of the metal halide lights on Windmill Lane with more emergency efficient LED light bulbs.



### Code Enforcement:

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Property Maintenance:            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Started 1 new case</li> <li>• Followed up on 3 pending cases</li> <li>• Followed up on 1 graffiti violation</li> <li>• Followed up on multiple grass and weed violations</li> </ul>   |
| Parking Violations & Complaints: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Orange tagged 4 abandoned vehicles</li> <li>• Followed up on 8 parking complaints</li> <li>• Issued 1 parking citation</li> </ul>   |
| Animal Violations & Complaints:  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 dogs at large returned to owner</li> <li>• Followed up with 1 barking complaint</li> <li>• 3 dogs at large impounded</li> <li>• Started 1 new dangerous dog case</li> <li>• Closed out 1 pending dangerous dog case</li> <li>• Followed up with 1 pending dangerous dog case</li> </ul> |
| Miscellaneous:                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issued 2 citations for DWS violations</li> </ul>  |