

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

Weekly Update January 4, 2019

Administration:

Welcome to 2019. We look forward to a very productive year. Ken Hall, the Baker City Building Official/Building Inspector has retired. Dawn Kitzmiller will assume the Building Official duties while continuing to serve as the Building Department Tech. Kim Corn, who has been working part time as a Building Inspector, will assume the full time Building Inspector duties. We believe that this will be a smooth transition and the Building Department will continue to provide great service to our contractors and the public.

First Friday in Downtown Baker City is tonight. Get out and support our local businesses and enjoy the winter weather. Have a great weekend.

City Council Agenda January 8th

- Councilor Oath of Office
- Mayor/Vice Mayor
- Board/Commission Appointments
- Budget Resolution
- Amending Ordinance 3366
- Central Building Update

Finance:

Utilities

- ◆ Six customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and six customers disconnected service from December 28th thru January 3rd. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 1 was billed today and includes 93 residential and 252 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 64 (19%) are signed up for direct payment and 11 (3%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Nine residential customers (Zone 8) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due). Two of those customers actually had their service turned off until their past due balance was paid.



Anthony Lakes Ski Resort



Building Department:

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	0	5	1	1
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	0
Electrical	3	3	4	5
Mechanical	2	6	1	2
Plumbing	4	5	1	2
Fence	0	NA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	9	19	7	10

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:

- None to report.

COMMERCIAL PERMITS:

- 280 S Main St., Halfway— Installation of exterior garage door to building.

HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW:

Next regularly scheduled meeting is January 9th at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department Offices.

Planning Department:

Public Meetings

- ◆ The next Planning Commission meeting will be on January 16th at 7:00pm. The meeting will be a work session to continue the discussion about updates to the development code.

Land Use Decisions & Projects

- ◆ A ±400 square foot attached garage and a ±1,728 square foot single-family dwelling were approved at 92 9th Street, in the Residential Medium-Density (R-MD) Zone.

Baker City is looking to fill vacancies on the Planning Commission (5 vacancies) with terms expiring in January 2020 and January 2023. For summaries of board operations please visit: <http://www.bakercity.com/2149/Boards-Commissions>.

Anyone interested in volunteering for appointment to the above board may contact Julie Smith at City Hall, 541-524-2033 or juliesmith@bakercity.com. Applications may be submitted electronically through www.bakercity.com by clicking on the Boards and Commissions page.

Baker City operates under an equal opportunity policy and complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act.



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

FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of December 25th through January 1st the Fire Department responded to a total of **33** emergency alarms. The breakdown for the responses are as follows:

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	22
Rural Calls	11
Patient Transported	23
No Patient Trip	10

TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 33



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

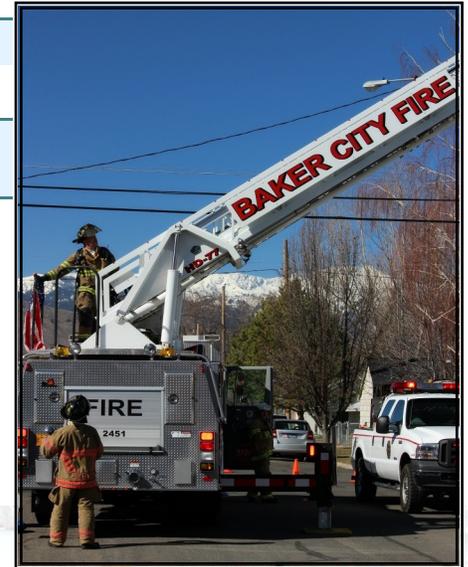
FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	0

TOTAL FIRE 0



Pictured above, Firefighter/Paramedic, BJ Lynch is making his way through a training exercise.



EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	3
Persons Arrived for Cover	2
Incidents Not Covered	1

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/COMMUNITY EVENTS

- 54 hrs of Station and Equipment Maintenance.
- 22 hrs of Fire Training.



The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center. Don't miss the next check on Tuesday, January 8th at 11 a.m.



"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

- ★ During the past week, BCPD handled over 168 incidents and opened 27 new cases, making numerous arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers. Of note, an arrest of an individual during the New Year’s holiday, for suspected DUII, yielded a breathalyzer sample of 0.13% BAC (Blood Alcohol Content), more than one and half times the legal limit. The suspect was also charged with Reckless Driving, Reckless Endangering and Hit and Run with property damage.
- ★ The Baker County Grand Jury indicted a Baker City couple on charges of Manslaughter and Criminally Negligent Homicide on December 27, 2018. The following press release was issued by the Baker County District Attorney’s Office in relation to this case:

On December 29, 2018, Peter Mankins (dob 10/05/1985) and Diana Goodman (dob 02/04/1986) of 1905 Birch St. Baker City, were arrested on warrants relating to indictments issued by a Baker County Grand Jury on December 27, 2018.

Both Mankins and Goodman were charged in the indictments with Manslaughter in the Second Degree, Criminally Negligent Homicide, Unlawful Possession of Methamphetamine, two counts of Endangering the Welfare of a Minor, and Reckless Endangerment. The Manslaughter and Negligent Homicide charges stem from the death of the defendants’ child Liam Mankins (dob 09/21/2016) on November 4, 2018.

At approximately 11:00 a.m. on November 4, 2018, Liam sustained a gunshot wound to the head. He was transported to Saint Alphonsus Hospital in Boise where he died later in the day.

The investigation indicated that Liam got control of a loaded handgun and caused the gun to discharge. The gun had not been secured in a safe place in the home. Both parents were in the home at the time the gun was discharged.

Methamphetamine was found in the home which resulted in the Unlawful Possession of Methamphetamine charge. The Endangering the Welfare of a Minor charges stem from drug activity in the home while in the presence of Liam and his sibling. The Reckless Endangerment charge stems from methamphetamine being accessible to Liam in the home.

The Grand Jury considered all evidence available including information provided by the Ada County Coroner’s Office, toxicological results, evidence submitted from the crime lab and witness interviews. Mankins and Goodman will be arraigned in Baker County Circuit Court on December 31, 2018.

In light of this recent tragedy, we would like to remind everyone that gun locks are available upon request from the Baker City Police Department, located at 1768 Auburn Avenue. These locks, donated courtesy of Project ChildSafe, are available during regular business hours. Please note, the lobby is closed during the lunch hour. More information about Project ChildSafe can be found at <https://www.projectchildsafe.org/>.

- ★ BCPD personnel participated in several briefing trainings, including a review of various officer safety topics.



Public Works: Street Department

So far snowfall events in Baker City have been relatively light. For the month of December Baker City Streets have been salted, sanded and the pathway cleared of snow 12 times. Over half of the 26 tons of salt received this fall has been used. Most of the sanding rock supplied by O.D.O.T. for sanding State Highway routes through town has also been used.



Earlier this week Blain and Riley hauled another 100 cubic yards of sanding rock to the City Yard for future use this winter.

Pictured left, Blain is pushing up some of the sanding rock inside the City's equipment shed to conserve space.

It is important to keep the rock dry to keep it from freezing into chunks that will plug the sander and salter units.

Many signs are damaged each winter. This stop sign located at the intersection of 5th and Broadway is the responsibility of O.D.O.T.



They performed temporary repair work this week and plan to replace the sign and post in the spring.

Public Works: Water Department

Dennis received a phone call from police dispatch late Wednesday night about a possible water leak coming from under the Main Street concrete. Justin met Dennis on site and they discovered that there was indeed a major water leak on the east side of Main Street between Baker and Madison Streets.

Main line control valves in the area were turned down to the point where there was just enough positive pressure so that there was no chance outside ground water or other contaminants could enter the line through the break. All valves worked properly and the leak was isolated.

Only two residents were without water due to the break. Dennis attempted to contact occupants of both houses by knocking on their doors.



Public Works: Water Department Continued

An emergency underground utility locate was requested around 10 p.m. Wednesday evening. Main Street is not actually a "City Street". It is owned by the State of Oregon as part of their highway system. O.D.O.T. was contacted and informed of the emergency water repair. They gave verbal approval for the repair work.

Main Street was constructed with 10" of concrete over 8" of crushed rock, a layer of structural fabric and 6" of lime treated base. The concrete is too thick for a normal concrete construction saw to cut through effectively. It was time to call in the "big guns" of concrete demolition.

A-core from Boise was called - unfortunately they didn't have an opening to come do the work for at least two weeks. Fortunately Jeff from A-core offered his mechanic to come over and do the saw cutting for us since it was an emergency situation. Saw cutting went well but the water leak itself was difficult to locate. Additional concrete was cut and the leak finally located. The repair clamp was slightly undersized for the repair. It was designed to repair 10" steel lines. This was a 10" cast iron line.

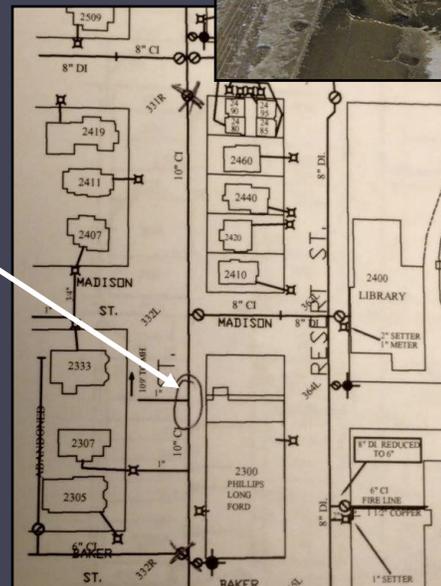
Fortunately an Emergency Repair Kit was purchased many years ago by a former Water Foreman. Justin was able to locate the kit, determine which combination of repair clamps to use and the leak was successfully stopped.



← Justin trying to locate the sound of running water coming from the broken pipe.

Fortunately there was a storm water catch basin at the corner of Main and Madison Streets for the water to drain into.

This is a map showing the approximate location of the water line break (circled area) and control valves in the area.



When we have a water main line break it reminds us how important it is to have an active water valve maintenance program wherein the valves get closed and then re-opened at least once every two years to keep them operable.



Public Works: Water Department Continued



Early Thursday morning all of the equipment was taken to the repair site and then the crew worked on other projects until A-core arrived to do the saw cutting. The saw cutting had to occur before any excavation work could be done.

A-core cutting the concrete with their industrial strength saw.



Water seemed to be coming from just a little further to the south after the first excavation was performed.

The water was pumped from the trench and the pipe examined.

Justin operated the Case 160 excavator to break-up the concrete and excavate around the water line.



Blain searching for the leak under the concrete.

The emergency repair kit came in very handy for the repair.

The chart described the combination of bands needing to be used when repairing a pipe the size of the 10" cast iron in Main Street.



As required by O.D.O.T. specifications - CLSM (Controlled Low Strength Material) a very low strength concrete, was used as backfill for the repair. Justin and Brian are pictured here helping with the repair.

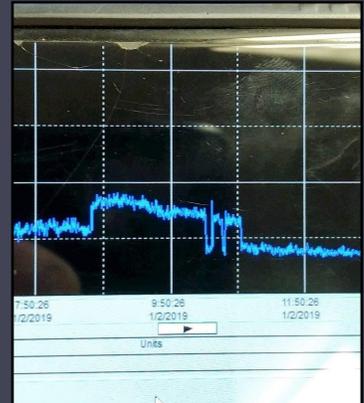
Insulation blankets are used to cover the repair while the CLSM cures.



Public Works: Water Department Continued

In this photo you can see the precise hour that the water leak on Main Street started. Each horizontal line on the graph represents 1,000,000 gallons of water per 24 hours flow (or approximately 700 gallons per minute).

Each vertical line represents one hour of time. The leak began around 8:43 p.m. The leak was discovered and reported to police dispatch. Dennis and Justin arrived on the scene and worked to close valves around 10:20 p.m. The leak was turned off around 11:00 p.m.



Scott is adjusting a valve at the Elk Creek settling tank to bring additional water to town Thursday morning.

Public Works: Wastewater Department

A wastewater problem was reported by a property manager for a duplex on 9th Street. The main line in the street may have been partially blocked. Karl and Jacob cleaned and video-inspected the line and the lateral. The main line is now scheduled to be video-inspected weekly to determine what may be causing the problem.

Cascade Natural Gas called to report that they had been receiving calls about a natural gas smell in the River Park Drive neighborhood area. Public Works responded to the site and checked 3 sewer manholes in the area which were all found to be operating properly.





Public Works: Wastewater Department Continued



To check the footage accuracy of the video-inspection camera this week Karl and Jacob measured distances of 100, 200, 300, 400 and 500 feet. Then the camera was operated along the edge of the measured distances. It was accurate at 100 feet but became less accurate as the camera approached 500 feet.



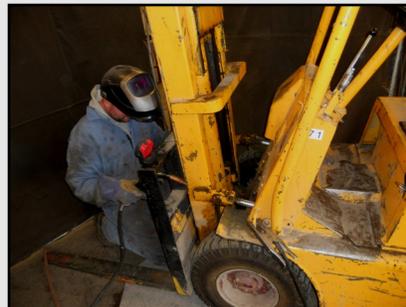
Here you can see where the gear which measures the length of the cable being pulled through the measuring device has grooves worn into it. Replacement parts have been ordered.



Public Works: Shop



Nate replaced the front brakes and rotors on this vehicle. It is now back in service.



Wes and Scott repaired a crack in the frame of the forklift and fish plated it.



Nate serviced, cleaned, and checked over the shop truck. It is now back in service.



Scott replaced the headlight and tested both the battery and alternator. ←

Wes and Scott replaced the passenger side headlight harness on this cruiser. →

