

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail. Established 1874

Weekly Update May 29, 2015

Administration

The City Council directed the creation of a small committee to research the regulation of time, place, and manner concerning medical marijuana facilities within Baker City. The group consisted of city staff, planning department, Councilors, opponents and proponents of dispensaries. The group was able to reach consensus on some items. The information will be prepared for analysis by the Baker City Planning Commission. It is expected that some sort of Development Code amendment will eventually make its way to the City Council for approval. The process will include at least two opportunities for public comment. Presently Baker City does not allow medical marijuana dispensaries.



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Finance Department

Payroll- Seventy-three employees were paid today including twelve paid volunteer firefighters. Of those 73 employees 65 or 89% are signed up for direct deposit.

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 1.51%. These LIDs can be paid off at any time with interest charged through the payoff date.

Three 2004 Birch Street LIDs were billed today. The original assessment in 2004 for Birch Street improvements included 4 property owners for a total of \$90,416. The remaining balance outstanding is \$30,438.

Utilities:

- ◆ 12 customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and 14 customers disconnected service from May 22nd through May 28th. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 4 was billed today which includes 717 residential and 65 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 157 or 20% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ 90 late notices were sent May 26th; and 2 of 3 residential customers who were scheduled to have water turned off were actually turned off until their past due balance was paid.

City Council

Agenda Items:

- ◆ Sam-O-Swim Committee Ordinance
- ◆ Information on City Attorney Request for Proposal
- ◆ Salmon Creek Property Information
 - ◆ Budget Resolution
- ◆ Parks Master Plan





BUILDING DEPARTMENT

The Baker City Building Department provides full plan review and inspection services for building, plumbing, electrical and mechanical on new and remodel construction within Baker County. For more information please visit: www.bakercity.com/departments/building



Photo by: Base Camp Baker

COMMERCIAL PROJECTS:

Issued a permit to replace 4 antennas to a telecom tower and add a hybrid cable system at 3 Powder River Lane, Sumpter.

Issued a permit to add one new MW antenna, add two new antennas, add four new coax, remove one existing MW antenna, and remove one existing coax at 34242 Old Highway 30, Baker City.

Issued a permit to replace an existing helicopter pad at 3325 Pocahontas Road, Baker City.

RESIDENTIAL PROJECTS:

There were no residential permits issued this week.



Permits

| | Permits Issued City | Inspections City | Permits Issued County | Inspections County |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| BUILDING | 1 | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| MANUFACTURED DWELLING | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| ELECTRICAL | 2 | N/A | 4 | N/A |
| MECHANICAL | 1 | 3 | 5 | 3 |
| PLUMBING | 3 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| FENCE | 1 | N/A | 0 | N/A |
| TOTAL | 8 | 11 | 13 | 10 |

Compliance

No new compliance inspections were completed this week.

Historic District Design Review Commission

No new information this week.



PLANNING DEPARTMENT

The Planning Department mailed out postcards to all Baker City property owners this week with information about the Development Code Update. Property owners should look for the postcards to arrive sometime in the next few days.

The Baker City Development Code (BCDC) was last amended in 2009. Since then, public and staff feedback have noted typographical errors, inadvertent omissions, inconsistencies and other minor corrections needed. These types of housekeeping revisions are straightforward and do not materially alter the Code. It also has become apparent, in applying the code since 2009, that further clarification and/or additional regulation is also necessary for different land use applications. These types of revisions can be more complex and may have an impact on landowners (See table below).

- ◆ On Wednesday, June 3rd, the Baker City Planning Department will host an Open House from 4pm – 6pm at Baker City Hall to gather feedback and answer community questions about proposed updates.
- ◆ On Wednesday, June 17th, at 7:00 pm, the Baker City Planning Commission will hold a hearing on the proposed update to the Development Code.

The public has been invited to attend both events, as the Planning Department would like to hear the public's thoughts, questions, additions and concerns relating to proposed updates and information provided.

| MINOR EDITS | REVISIONS | ADDITIONS |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Punctuation • Grammar • Reference correction • Clarifications on definitions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modify child care definitions • Allow parking lots in commercial zones with Conditional Use Permit • Revise fence requirements to include variances • Adjust noise level • Allow existing residences in commercial/industrial zones as permitted uses • Add medical hardship criteria for temporary occupancy of motor home | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add a Revocation of Conditional Use Permit section • Add Radio Frequency Transmission Facilities section • Add Compensation Claims Section |

Baker City was nominated this year to be eligible for \$100,000 for a dog park. You can vote daily on petsafe.net/barkforyourpark or on the Baker City Bark for Your Park page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Bark-for-Your-Park-Vote-for-Baker-City/731689873606964>. Give it a "like" and it will be easy to vote daily!

PetSafe
protect. teach. love.

BARK FOR YOUR PARK

"Sometimes I just need a little more..." **SPACE TO BE ME.**

Vote for your community to win **\$100,000** for a dog park!

Plus, 4 other lucky communities will win **\$25,000!**

petsafe.net/barkforyourpark



FIRE DEPARTMENT

The mission of the Baker City Fire Department is to protect the community through quality preparation and excellent service.



Last week the Fire Department responded to a total of **29** emergency alarms.

FIRE REPORTS

| | |
|----------------|---|
| General Alarms | 0 |
| Still Alarms | 2 |

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES | 2 |
|-----------------------------|----------|



- ◆ Fire - Campbell St.
- ◆ Power line hazard - Story Lane

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

| | |
|---------------------|----|
| Rural Calls | 6 |
| City Calls | 21 |
| Patient Transported | 20 |
| No Patient Trip | 7 |

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES | 27 |
|------------------------------|-----------|



| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Out of Town Transfers | 1 |
| Airport Transfers | 3 |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents | 0 |
| Simultaneous Calls | 3 |

TRAINING/ MAINTENANCE

This week the BCFD completed **27** hours of in-house training during the week.

- Fire – Rapid intervention
- EMS – Chart review, Alzheimer's training for 1st responders

MAINTENANCE/OTHER

67 hours of station, apparatus, equipment maintenance, and other activities including:

- Station, apparatus and equipment maintenance
- Daily medication and equipment checks and maintenance

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Additional Services to the community:

- BP checks at senior center.
- Fire prevention inspections.

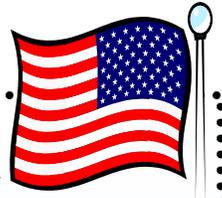


The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11am. Don't miss the next check on June 2nd.



POLICE DEPARTMENT

"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."



During a very busy week, BCPD handled over 220 incidents, opening 52 new cases to include 6 arrests for outstanding warrants; 2 burglary cases, 7 theft cases and an aggravated harassment case that resulted in an arrest of a man who spit on a police officer. BCPD officers also dealt with several subjects who displayed signs of mental illness.

- Chief Lohner attended the Baker County Transportation Safety Committee meeting.
- Chief Lohner attended the local Mental Health Advisory Council meeting.
- 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 new complaints
 Closed out 2 new cases
 Followed up on 7 old cases
 Started 1 new case

Dangerous Dog
 Followed up on 1 case

Animal Complaints
 2 dogs at large impounded
 2 dogs at large returned to owner
 Conducted 1 animal welfare check
 Followed up on 1 animal complaint
 Investigated 1 animal abandonment case

Dog License
 Started 1 new case

Parking Violations
 Issued 4 parking citations
 Followed up on 3 parking complaints

Found Items
 1 found bicycle
 1 found pair of license plates

Weed Complaint
 Followed up on 6 new weed complaints

Building Violation
 Issued 1 citation for failure to comply with a building ordinance.

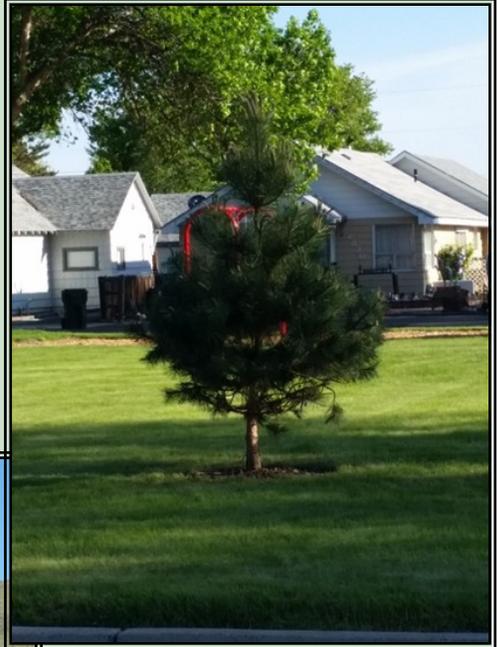
Prescription Drug Drop Box

Since December 2013, a prescription drug drop box has been installed in the lobby at the Baker City Police Department, allowing citizens to drop off outdated or unneeded prescription drugs at any time. This new option is in addition to the BCPD bi-annual prescription drug take back program, initiated by the Drug Enforcement Administration.





PUBLIC WORKS Parks Department



The Parks Department would like to send out a big thank you to the Tree Board and Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for their work on a cooperative tree planting at South Baker Park. Hats off to the volunteers who gave their time to see this project through: Clair Button, Mike Clark, Linda Collins, Larry Wood, Tim Collins and Steve Schauer. The trees planted are Class III and include an Austrian Pine, Queen Maple and Purple Ash.



PUBLIC WORKS Tech Services

Each year the City is required to complete a survey of sludge depths in the wastewater treatment lagoons. The survey is completed using GPS with **shots taken on a 100' grid**. Shots are taken in the same location each year and compared with readings from prior years to determine the rate at which sludge is accumulating in the lagoons and to calculate how much volume remains available in the ponds for storage of effluent. This survey is **required as part of the City's permit** with the State to operate the treatment lagoons. Above, surveyors from Tech Services are using a small boat to access the center of **Pond 'D'**.





PUBLIC WORKS Water Department

Goodrich Reservoir filled this week. The snow has been melting fast enough to satisfy downstream irrigation usage and allow for the City to store water. The valve at the dam is now **shut and all melt water will go into the "Glory Hole."** The picture to the right was taken May 27th.

Update from last week:

A City crew finished relocating the fence above Elk Creek, so cattle will not be able to graze within the Watershed.



PUBLIC WORKS Street Department



Heavy rains recently plugged catchbasins and temporarily overwhelmed storm water collection pipes. The rains can also cause small sink holes to appear in streets. One such sink hole appeared on 6th Street. Low spots in the asphalt allows rain water to collect and slowly percolate through the asphalt saturating underlying base materials. Occasionally a void will form under the asphalt. With no support for the asphalt it simply "falls" into the hole. This sink hole was temporarily repaired by compacting asphalt grindings into the hole. It will be patched with hot asphalt later this summer.



PUBLIC WORKS

Wastewater

The cleaning and video-inspection work that was requested by the engineering firm working for the town of North Powder was completed early last week. The cost of the work was tabulated and reported to the engineer. They then requested that the remainder of the lines in town also be cleaned and video-inspected. This additional work began Tuesday morning and is expected to take approximately 5 days. Before going to North Powder to work on their collection system Karl cleaned the collection line serving the house on Ash Street. No obstruction was found in the main line.



A resident on Balm Street experienced a wastewater problem this week but it was determined that it was not caused by a main line blockage. The owner hired a drain cleaning professional to clear the lateral. After the lateral was cleared, the drain cleaner contacted Public Works to video-inspect and trace the lateral location. Through the use of the push-cam and the Duct Hunter units, the line was located and it was determined that the line type is Orangeburg Pipe. The condition of the line is less than optimum. Over time (60+ years) being in the ground this type of pipe will begin coming apart (delaminating). In this particular lateral there were locations where "blister" type obstructions have formed. These irregularities on the inside of the pipe cause material to "catch" or "hang-up" in the pipe and lead to blockages. The owner plans to replace the pipe with more durable plastic pipe.



PUBLIC WORKS City Shop

The new heated dump box for R-54 is just about complete. Wes and Doug are pictured checking the new paint and discussing what to do next to finish up the installation. The tires need to be installed and some decals need to be added. The truck should be up and running next week.



The crew out at the shop completed the body work and the paint job on one of the older pickups. This truck is mostly used by the summer help and was in pretty bad shape body wise. There are a few minor details to complete and then it will be ready.