

# CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.  
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

## Weekly Update April 12, 2019

### Administration:

The Council met this week in a marathon session and received a lot of good input about various topics. The Council did approve the fee schedule for the next fiscal year which will aid in the budgeting process that will begin in mid May. The Council also approved the Baker City Tree Guide for trees in the City right of way and the first reading of the Street Tree Ordinance.

Springs like this bring home the importance of having Phillips Lake for flood control. Rivers all over Oregon are near flood stage and though the Powder River is running high, we have little chance for flooding in Baker City. The moisture is great for our ag partners but a little sunshine would be welcome. Have a great weekend.

### City Council Agenda April 23rd

- TBD

### Finance:

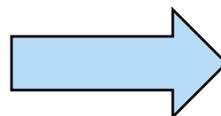
**Finance Director:** The Finance Department is excited to welcome Jennifer Spencer to our office. Jennifer has a business degree which includes a full year of college level accounting courses and years of work experience in payroll, accounts payable and bookkeeping. Jennifer will be replacing Georgia Brown who is **retiring after almost nineteen years as the City's Accounting Technician. Georgia will be greatly missed but we are excited for her to spend more time enjoying the outdoors, spending time with her grandchildren and getting to ride her new power bicycle.**

As of April 2<sup>nd</sup> the City had received current year property taxes of \$3,032,948 and prior year taxes of \$82,489.

#### Utilities

- ◆ Five customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and two customers disconnected service from April 5<sup>th</sup> thru April 11<sup>th</sup>. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 1 was billed April 9<sup>th</sup> and included 94 residential and 251 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 62 (18%) are signed up for direct payment and 13 (4%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Zone 6 was billed today and included 481 residential and 56 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 122 (23%) are signed up for direct payment and 26 (5%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Six customers (Zones 1, 5) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due). One of those customers actually had their service turned off until their past due balance was paid.

**Accounts Receivable:** Monthly accounts receivable billings were sent April 9<sup>th</sup>. The billings were as follows:



Cemetery	\$3,327
Wastewater Maint. & Property Lease	\$4,946
Street Cuts & Misc.	\$4,654
Lien Searches	\$1,201
Ambulance	\$365,897
Airport Rent & Ground Lease	\$3,000
Property & Weed Abatement	\$1,559
Golf Course Equipment Lease	\$5,456
Golf Cart Lease Payment	\$1,250
Baker Co. Economic Development	\$22,000
Baker 5J Resource Officer Support	\$19,597
Baker Co. EMS Support	\$4,219
Miscellaneous	\$748
<b>Total Billed:</b>	<b>\$437,854</b>



**Finance Continued:**

**Accounts Payable:** The first of two accounts payable check runs for the month was generated April 10<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 2.75%. These LIDs can be paid off at any time with interest charged through the payoff date.

- Four 2006 Elm Street LIDs were billed April 10<sup>th</sup>. The original assessment in 2006 for Elm Street improvements included 21 property owners for a total of \$252,888. The remaining outstanding balance including interest is \$18,934.

**Building Department:**

	Permits Issued City	Inspec-tions City	Permits Issued County	Inspec-tions County
Building	0	10	2	5
Manufac-tured Dwelling	0	0	0	0
Electrical	4	6	2	1
Mechanical	2	8	5	0
Plumbing	3	2	3	0
Fence	4	NA	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>

**RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:**

- 1119 Cole Street, Haines—Detached accessory structure.
- 2042 East Street, Baker City— Detached accessory structure.

**COMMERCIAL PERMITS:**

- None to report this week.

**HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW:** Next regularly scheduled meeting is May 8, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department Offices.

**Planning Department:**

**Public Meetings**

The Planning Commission held a public meeting on April 10, 2019, at 6:00pm, to discuss the following:

- ◆ Work Session: The Planning Commission and Baker City Council discussed economic opportunities and employment land strategy for Baker City as the beginning of an update to the Baker City Comprehensive Land Use Plan. A discussion of potential re-zoning of properties within the City was also held.
- ◆ CU-19-018: Approval was granted for the construction of a ±2,400 square foot accessory structure at 85 David Eccles Road, Baker City.

**Land Use Decisions & Projects**

- ◆ A ±768 square foot accessory structure was approved at 3815 Pocahontas Road, in the General-Commercial (C-G) Zone.
- ◆ A lot of record was approved at 2390 Clark Street, in the Residential Medium-Density (R-MD) Zone.



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

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of April 2nd through April 8th the Fire Department responded to a total of **21** emergency alarms.

## AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	13
Rural Calls	4
Patient Transported	12
No Patient Trip	5

## TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 17

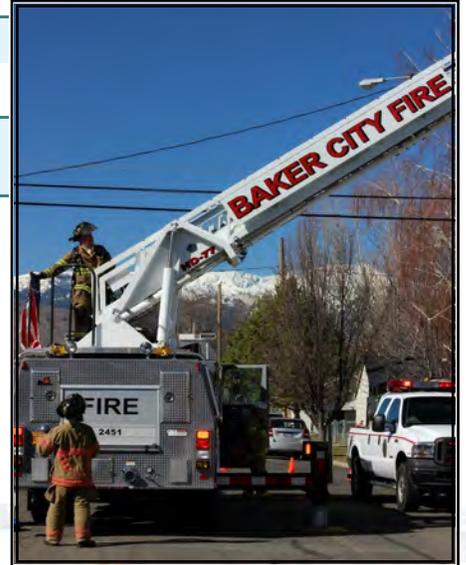


Airport Transfers	0
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	3
Out of Town Transfers Assigned	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1
Doubles (2 calls at once)	3
Triples (3 calls at once)	0
Public Assists	0

## FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	4

## TOTAL FIRE 4



## EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	7
Persons Arrived for Cover	6

# TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **56 hrs** of Station & Equipment Maintenance
- **96 hrs** of Fire Training
- **35 hrs** of EMS Training
- **1 hr** of Fire Prevention Inspections
- **12 hrs** Community Events
- **26** 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 April 16th.



*"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 153 incidents and opened 39 new cases, making numerous arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers.
- ✪ **BCPD, after asking for the public's help, located and arrested Jace Prowell who had multiple warrants for his arrest.** Prowell is also a person of interest relating to various stolen vehicles, at least one vehicle pursuit, multiple thefts, multiple burglaries and Possession of Methamphetamine.
- ✪ During this past week, staff from the Public Works Department began the renovation of the front lobby area of the Police Department which includes the placement of a counter and window inside the front entry way for added security and new flooring throughout the lobby and adjacent hallway.
- ✪ Chief Dustin Newman attended the OACP (Oregon Association Chiefs of Police) Annual Conference in Bend, Oregon this week.
- ✪ 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.



**The Baker City Police Department is currently making some changes to the front lobby of their building.**

**Business will continue as usual however access to the building may be limited at times.**

**We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.**

**We are very excited to make these improvements and hope to share them with you soon. Thank you.**





### Public Works: Street Department



A new ADA curb was constructed this week at the intersection of Cherry and Washington Streets.

Justin and Kris removed the old high curb Friday, then poured the new ADA compliant curb on Monday.



### Public Works: Wastewater Department

A new sewer connection was installed last Friday for a residence on 12th Street. The existing lateral was completely packed with roots growing from a nearby tree.



← The volvo mini-excavator worked perfectly within the small confines of the alley.

An insert-a-tee connection was used for the new lateral.

Pictured right, Karl is using the tap tap taparoo technique to install the fitting into the rubber boot resulting in a secure connection.



← Blain, Karl and Nate are preparing the trench line for the new PVC pipe.

Both an 11 1/4 and 22 1/2 degree fittings were used to provide the exact angle necessary for a precise fit.

Here you can peer into the end of a piece of the old orangeburg pipe which is completely packed with roots.



← The completed installation ready to be bedded with even graded washed rock and then backfilled.



## Public Works: Wastewater Department Continued

One of the most vital pieces of equipment when performing wastewater lateral or main line repairs is the vactor truck.

Pictured here, Brian is repairing a spot on the vactor which had rusted and a hole had formed.

The repair was done in a timely fashion and the equipment was back in service for use the same day.



A resident on 4th Street requested a new sewer lateral connection after their lateral quit working. Fees were paid and an underground utility locate was requested before the project could begin.



← Blain, Karl and Jake are using the vactor (which Brian had just finished repairing) to hydro-excavate around the fragile 6" terra cotta (vitrified clay) pipe (visible behind the vertical vactor tube).

The pipe in foreground is a 4" cast iron water main line.

Trench shielding was lowered into the excavation to protect workers from any potential cave-ins.



The romac saddle was properly secured to the terra cotta main line. Next Karl began drilling a series of holes through the pipe so that the entire 4" diameter hole would be created. Finishing touches were performed using a hammer and chisel.



← Pipe lengths were "dry fitted" and checked for proper slope.

Pictured right, the new lateral is installed between the main line and the curb. A contractor will work in conjunction with a plumber to complete the installation to the house on Monday.



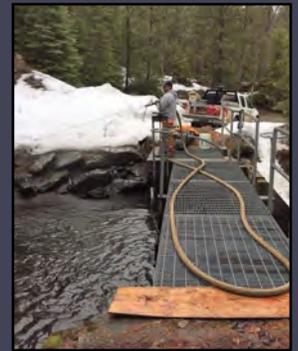


## Public Works: Water Department



Scott and Tommy worked Thursday to remove sediment that had built up in the Goodrich Creek diversion structure.

A high pressure hose was used to loosen sediment which was flushed out the drain valve.



Baker City hired the City Of LaGrande to perform two "hot-taps" on Washington Street Thursday. Troy (LaGrande Public Works) worked with Justin and Brian to install the connections and new valves.

Using the "hot-tap" technique allows for the installation of a large pipe connection (in this case 6") without having to cut through live main lines, then drain them and use expensive tees and solid sleeves. It also avoids having any disruption in service to customers while eliminating any chance of exposing contaminants.



← Brian attaching the 6" tapping sleeve onto the live water main line.

The sleeve securely fastened to the pipe with the flange in the proper vertical position. →

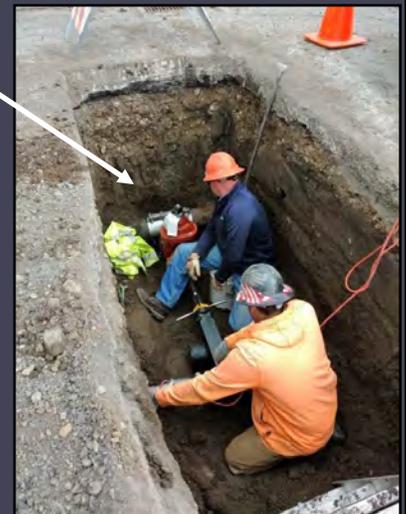


Justin and Troy using the high torque low RPM tapping tool to drill through the existing ductile iron pipe.



← Troy has removed the "coupon" from the hole saw bit part of the "hot-tap" tool.

All this work is done on the water line while it is still under complete pressure (90 lbs. +/-). New ductile iron water lines will be connected to these valves and lines installed beginning this month.





## Public Works: Shop



The truck which Tom normally drives suddenly quit running Monday afternoon. Fortunately it stopped running only a couple hundred feet from the City Warehouse/Shop Facility. Jake and Riley assisted pushing the short distance to the City Shop. The fuel pump had quit working and had to be replaced....sounds like an easy task. The fuel pump is mounted on the top of the fuel tank. Access to the fuel pump is obtained by either lowering the fuel tank or removing the pick-up bed. The bed was removed and the pump replaced. The truck is now back in service.

## Public Works: Remodeling

Work began this week on the remodeling of the Police Department entry area. Kris and Nate are performing the work.



## Announcements:

*Please join us in celebrating the 110th  
Anniversary of the Carnegie Library*

**Saturday, May 4, 2019 • 10:00am to 2:00pm**

2020 Auburn Avenue, Baker City

*Auburn Avenue from 1st to 2nd Street will be closed for the celebration.*

**Free Family Friendly Event**

**For more information please visit [www.crossroads-arts.org](http://www.crossroads-arts.org)**





# Parks and Recreation Department



## MODA HEALTH – TRAIL BLAZERS ASSIST



NUMBER OF ASSISTS

1,887



Representatives from the Baker City Parks Department and Parks & Recreation Advisory Board attended the Trail Blazer Game on April 7 to accept the award!



**THANK YOU BAKER CITY FOR YOUR VOTES!!!**



# Safety Committee:

Baker City Safety and Wellness Committee

## Lets Take A Walk

### Work Stress Prevention



- The American Institute of Stress Reports...**
- In 2014, the number one cause of stress was work including coworker tension, bosses, & work overload
  - 40% of workers reported their job was very or extremely stressful
  - 25% view their jobs as their number one stressor
  - 80% of workers feel stress on the job, nearly half say they need help in learning how to manage the stress, and 42% say their coworkers need help
  - Job stress is more strongly associated with health complaints than financial or family problems

- Monthly Safety Focus
- Committee Members**
- Joyce Bornstedt: Chair
- Jason Jacobs: Vice Chair
- Matt McBride
- Meagan Paoletti
- Julie Smith
- Phoebe Wachtel
- Fred Warner: City Manager

- Signs You're Stressed**
- Headaches
  - Muscle / Tension Pain
  - Chest pain
  - Anxiety
  - Fatigue
  - Sleep problems
  - Upset stomach
  - Restlessness
  - Lack of motivation/focus
  - Irritability or anger
  - Sadness or depression
  - Overeating or under eating

**Why Take Breaks?**

- Movement breaks are good for your health

It helps reduce the negative health affects from too much sitting

- They can prevent decision fatigue
- Breaks restore motivation

Our long term goals feel the affect of this when we come back to them after a break

- An increase in productivity and creativity

We refresh our minds and decrease stress and exhaustion

- Waking rest helps memory and improve learning

Our brains review the information we have learned

- April 3rd is**
- NATIONAL WALKING DAY!**
- An encouraged break to take is a walk. There are many benefits to taking that short walk.
1. It will make you more creative
  2. It will help you stay healthy
  3. It will help you be more productive
  4. It's a great way to communicate with others
  5. You will follow suite of some of the most innovative brains of companies

### How to Manage Stress



Get good sleep



Exercise



Eat healthy



Do something you love



Good time management