

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

Weekly Update April 26, 2019

Administration:

Senator Merkley was in the City this week to hold his annual town hall meeting. Several Councilors were in attendance and visited with him about the Baker City Watershed and the need to protect it from wildfire. The Senator pledged to work with the City and the Forest Service to expedite and prioritize the Watershed for its protection.

The Council met this week with a full agenda. They heard from Baker Sanitary Service about the need for an increase in the waste pickup here in the City. They last raised the cost of pick up in 2006. The Council will address the issue at its first meeting in May. They also received a clean audit from Guyers and Associates for the 2017-18 fiscal year.

The spring weather is here and the grass is growing and the trees are beginning to show signs of life. Get out and enjoy the weekend.

City Council

Agenda

May 14th

- 3rd Reading of Tree Ordinance

Finance:

Finance Director:

The March financial summary is now available on the web at www.bakercity.com.

Utilities

- ◆ Eleven customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and seven customers disconnected service from April 19th thru April 25th. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 3 was billed April 23rd and included 500 residential and 51 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 116 (21%) are signed up for direct payment and 33 (6%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Zone 8 was billed today and included 467 residential and 19 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 103 (21%) are signed up for direct payment and 20 (4%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Twenty-one residential customers (Zones 3 and 7) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due). Four of those customers actually had their service turned off until their past due balance was paid.

Payroll:

Seventy-eight employees were paid today including seven paid volunteer firefighters, a part-time plumbing inspector, a part-time building inspector/plan reviewer, a part-time patrol officer and a temporary part-time police administrative assistant. Of those 78 employees, 72 or 92% are signed up for direct deposit.



Building Department:

| | Permits Issued City | Inspections City | Permits Issued County | Inspections County |
|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Building | 4 | 9 | 4 | 5 |
| Manufactured Dwelling | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Electrical | 4 | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| Mechanical | 2 | 7 | 2 | 3 |
| Plumbing | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| Fence | 2 | NA | N/A | N/A |
| TOTAL | 13 | 22 | 9 | 12 |

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:

- 36825 Alstead Ln., Halfway—Garage addition.
- 248 Austin St., Sumpter—Detached accessory building.
- 1105 Place St., Baker City—Exterior modification/addition to accessory structure.
- 3650 Indiana St., Baker City—Detached accessory building.
- 148 Auburn St., Sumpter—Detached accessory building.
- 2730 1st St., Baker City—Residential addition to detached accessory building.

COMMERCIAL PERMITS:

- 3325 Pocahontas Rd., Baker City—Interior remodel
- 921 School St., Haines—Water treatment facility.

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

Planning Department:

Public Meetings: The Planning Commission will hold a public meeting on May 15, 2019, at 6:00pm, to discuss:

- ◆ VAR-19-020: An application to construct a single-family dwelling on a parcel that is smaller than the minimum lot size for the Residential Medium-Density (R-MD) zone. The property is located at 601 Auburn Avenue.
- ◆ CU-19-046: An application to construct a ±960 square foot accessory structure with a ±14-foot eave height at 1320 D Street, Baker City, on property zoned Residential High-Density (R-HD).

Copies of the applications and work session materials will be available for inspection on or before May 8, 2019, at the Baker County Courthouse at 1995 3rd Street. All materials can be viewed for no cost, or provided at a reasonable cost; digital versions can be e-mailed for free. Comments on the proposal may be submitted prior to or at the public hearing. If you have questions, please contact the Planning Department at planning@bakercounty.org or 541-523-8219.

Land Use Decisions & Projects

- ◆ A ±2,520 storage unit (an additional unit at Saf-T-Stor) was approved in the Industrial Zone. The property is located at 3100 15th Street.
- ◆ The conversion of a vacant structure to expand an existing hotel was approved at 1916 Main Street, in the Central Commercial (C-C) Zone.
- ◆ A Floodplain Development Permit was approved for the construction of a ±2,073 square foot single-family dwelling and ±550 square foot accessory structure at 2234 Virginia Avenue, in the Residential High-Density (R-HD) Zone.
- ◆ A Floodplain Development Permit was approved for the construction of a ±2,200 square foot single-family dwelling and ±864 square foot accessory structure on Kirkway Drive, in the Residential High-Density (R-HD) Zone (address yet to be assigned).
- ◆ A ±200 square foot and a ±70 square foot addition to a ±624 square foot accessory structure was approved at 1105 Place Street, in the Residential – Medium Density (R-MD) Zone.
- ◆ A ±395 square foot accessory structure was approved at 3650 Indiana Avenue, 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 16th through April 22nd the Fire Department responded to a total of **32** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

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

TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 27

FIRE REPORTS

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| General Alarms | 0 |
| Dispatched Alarms | 5 |

TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES 5

EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Requests for Cover | 3 |
| Persons Arrived for Cover | 3 |



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



In a brief ceremony at this week's council meeting, BCFD promoted Firefighter Casey Johnson to Lieutenant.

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **55 hrs** of Station & Equipment Maintenance
- **60 hrs** of Fire Training
- **47 hrs** of EMS Training
- **2 hrs** of Fire Prevention Inspections
- **27** 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 30th.

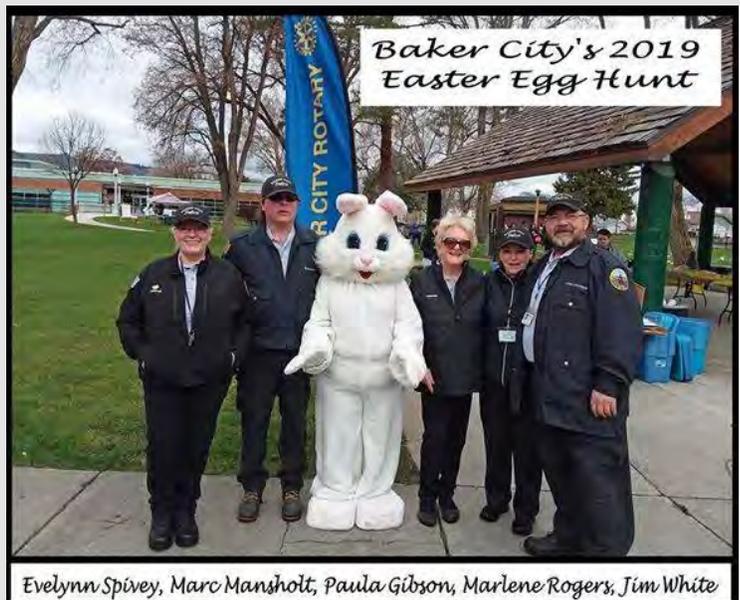
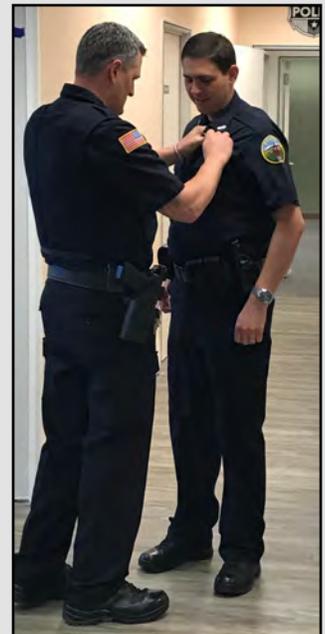


"The mission of the Baker City Police is to work in partnership with our community members, to actively promote the safety and welfare of our citizens, along with enriching their quality of life through the delivery of professional police services."



POLICE DEPARTMENT

- ★ During the previous week, BCPD handled over 185 incidents and opened 26 new cases, making numerous arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers.
- ★ Renovations to the front lobby area of the Police Department, which include the placement of a counter and window inside the front entry way for added security and new flooring throughout the lobby and adjacent hallway, continued through this previous week and are nearing completion.
- ★ Congratulations to Code Enforcement Officer Mark Powell who was **recently selected as the Department's newest Patrol Officer recruit.** Powell, who has over five years of service as a Reserve Officer in addition to his time working in Code Enforcement for the Department, will start the Basic Police Academy in May. He was sworn in early this week.
- ★ COP (Citizens on Patrol) volunteers assisted Baker City Rotary and other community members during the annual Easter egg hunt held at the Geiser Pollman Park this previous weekend. What a great group of volunteers we have working in support of the Department and our community!
- ★ Sergeant Wayne Chastain and Office Manager Phoebe Wachtel completed the G0290 Basic Public Information Officer Course/ G0291 Joint Information Center Course, a standardized curriculum developed by FEMA, which introduces participants to key components of working as a Public Information Officer within the structure of a Joint Information System/ Joint Information Center as typically activated during natural disasters and other such catastrophic events. This training was held in Baker City and sponsored by Baker County Emergency Management.
- ★ 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/>.



Evelynn Spivey, Marc Mansholt, Paula Gibson, Marlene Rogers, Jim White



Public Works: Water Department



Justin and Brian continued work on the Clifford Street waterline this week. However, there was a grade conflict between the designed new waterline and three existing sewer laterals.

The crew worked this week to replace and lower the three laterals.



Two of the relocated sewer laterals. →

Heavy snows and seasonal runoff has created some issues for Public Works. Scott discovered that a 12" diameter culvert had plugged along the pipeline road on Wednesday. Water from snowmelt had accumulated to the point where it was running across the road and would have eventually washed out the road and a portion of the pipeline between Little Mill and Mill Creeks.

Justin used the D-5 CAT dozer to plow snow from the road so the area could be accessed. →



The accumulated snow melt water was approximately 6 feet deep over the culvert end. Two pumps were used to pump the water across the road so the end of the culvert could be located and cleared of debris.

Snow depth at the Marble Creek gate.



Public Works: Water Department Continued



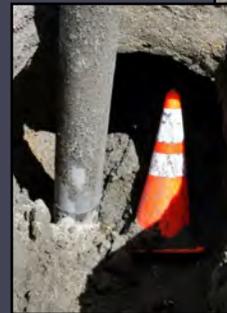
It normally isn't a good sign when water begins bubbling up in an alley. That was the case last weekend.

There was no written record of any water line existing in the alley. Even though it didn't appear to be a large water leak an emergency underground utility request was made.



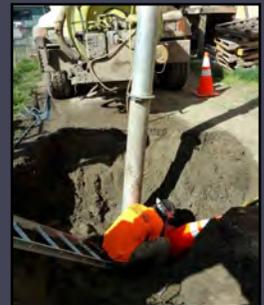
← Tommy and Riley used a backhoe and vac truck to expose the source of the leak.

The water spray was so strong that it began to undermine the alley and would have continued all the way to a building wall if a traffic cone hadn't been placed over the stream of 90 P.S.I. water. →



It was strange that this same line had been previously repaired in the same location using 4 different clamps.

Riley attached the 5th clamp (the shiny one) in the middle to temporarily stop the leak. Tuesday Jay connected onto the old steel line and traced it 100 feet north to where it was found to be connected onto the 12" cast iron water main line. When the line connection was uncovered it was discovered that there was a second, what we call "spaghetti line" running north down the next block.



Both connections (corp. valves) were turned to the off position so that those 2 pipes will never leak again.





Public Works: Wastewater Department



Last week a resident called City Hall to report that their wastewater lateral was not functioning properly.

Tom and Nate responded to the location and discovered that the line was plugged right at the manhole.

The material was quickly washed down the line which full restored flow.

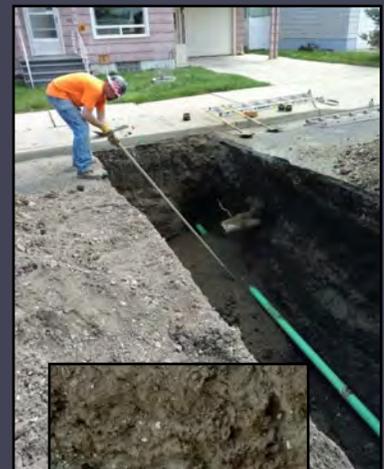


As a preventative measure a resident on East Street paid to have their orangeburg wastewater lateral replaced with P.V.C. pipe.



The asphalt was ground using the "zipper". Blain, Karl and Brian performed the work.

Material was tamped around the new pipe and a secure fitting made near the main line.





Public Works: Street Department

Matt swept on Washington Street after the waterline trenches were patched.



Public Works personnel attended safety training on Confined Space and Trench Safety Wednesday.

A sink hole developed in a church parking lot recently. Dennis responded to the request for advice and barricaded the area until a contractor could be contacted and the area repaired.



A local surveyor requested Public Works' help to uncover a street intersection monument at 9th and "F" Streets. Even though "F" Street is vacated - the street intersection controls the block corners in the area. Tom worked with the surveyor and Blain and Kris jack-hammered the asphalt to uncover the monument which was inside a steel box.

Public Works: Parks and Recreation Department



Kris and Blain formed and poured concrete at the park located at the east end of River Park Drive Thursday.

Boards were set and base rock placed before the concrete was poured.





Public Works: Parks and Recreation Department Continued

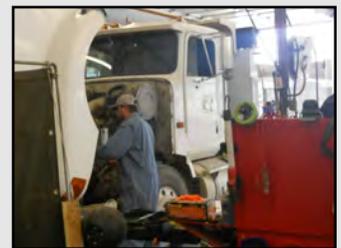
Matt worked with Joyce to refinish the large Geiser Pollman Park sign this week. The new colors look very great!



Public Works: Shop



Nate is pictured here repairing the tail gate, air latch, replacing the hydraulic line, and servicing and repairing lights. The truck is finished and is back in service.

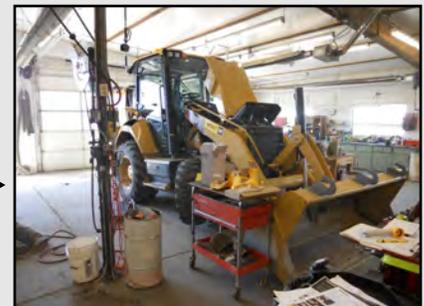


Matt and Kris have been getting the fire extinguishers serviced and back in the vehicles and buildings they came from and we are good for another year.



Wes and Scott went to Boise to check out a new 30 ton trailer for hauling our equipment. The City purchased it and it is a great addition to the fleet.

Scott performed a 500 hour service on this backhoe, and took oil samples on the complete machine to stay in compliance with the warranty from Cat.



The wiring was cut for the control box that controls the zipper. Scott is pictured here splicing the wiring so it would be ready this morning.



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