

# CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.  
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

## ***Weekly Update November 15, 2019***

### **Administration:**

The City Council met this week with a very busy agenda. They decided to start the process to assess how to move forward with a railroad quiet zone. The City will now file a Notice of Intent with the Federal Rail Authority which will start the analysis of the additional safety measures and the costs involved. A full room of citizens were on hand to give input to the Council.

The Council also approved the sale of 14.28 acres of property in the Industrial Park for a fertilizer distribution plant to Simplot AB Retail. They will have 90 days to do the due diligence on any issues associated with the sale.

A lively discussion about Economic and Community Development took place. The Council received a good deal of input and will have further discussions in the future.

The nice fall weather appears to be sticking around for a while longer. Get out and enjoy this unseasonably warm November weather.

### **Code Enforcement**

#### **ANIMALS:**

- Impounded 7 dogs
- 10 animal at large calls
- 5 animal welfare checks
- Followed up on 10 dog bites
- 3 kennel permit requests/complaints
- Followed up on 5 dog barking complaints
- Followed up on 8 previous dog complaints

#### **PARKING:**

- Responded to 16 complaints
- Followed up on 7 previous complaints
- Issued 2 citations
- 1 camping complaint
- 1 verbal warning

#### **PROPERTY MAINTENANCE:**

- Followed up on 8 previous complaints
- Responded to 4 new complaints
- Opened 2 new cases
- Closed 2 cases

#### **FOUND ITEMS:**

- 2 items founds

#### **MISCELLANEOUS:**

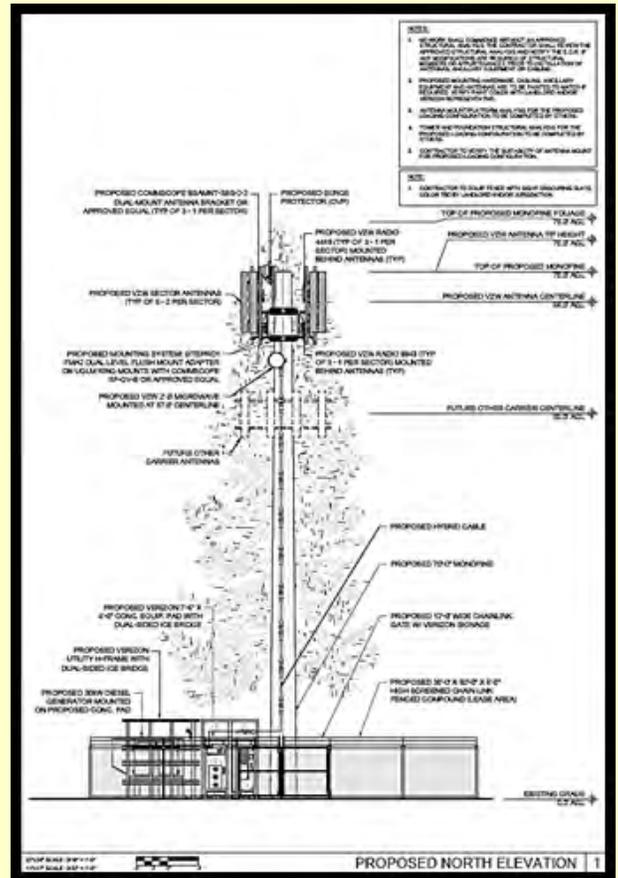
- 12 community service stops
- 21 misc. community contacts
- 2 officer assists
- 2 park checks



## Planning Department:

### Public Meetings

- ◆ The Planning Commission held a public hearing on November 13, 2019 and rendered the following decisions:
  - ◆ Approval of Conditional Use Permit request CUP-19-114 for a new ±1,920 square foot accessory structure with a ±14-foot eave height at 505 Valley Avenue in the Residential High Density Zone.
  - ◆ Continuation of the public hearing for Conditional Use Permit request CUP-19-101, an application submitted by Verizon Wireless requesting approval for a ±70-foot-tall cell tower within the 1400 Block of D Street. A request was made during the public hearing for additional time to review an alternative tower design (mono-pine) proposed by the applicant. The Planning Commission granted this request and new testimony relating to the mono-pine design may be submitted by the public to the Planning Department until 5:00PM on November 20, 2019. A 7-day rebuttal period will then be provided to the applicant, ending at 5:00pm on November 27, 2019. The Planning Commission will reconvene on **December 4, 2019, at 6:00 pm** in the Council Chambers at Baker City Hall to make a final decision on the application. Everyone is invited to attend this hearing; however, no additional written or oral testimony will be accepted during the hearing. Only testimony relating to relevant approval criteria are considered by the Planning Commission in the decision-making process. Contact the Planning Department for information about these criteria and submitting relevant testimony prior to the November 20, 2019 deadline.



### Land Use Applications

- ◆ A Land Use Review was approved for an ±800 square foot garage at 2239 9<sup>th</sup> Street in the Residential High-Density Zone.
- ◆ An Extension request for a Land Use Review was approved for a new single-family dwelling at 2305 14<sup>th</sup> Street in the Residential Medium-Density Zone.



**Building Department:**

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	0	7	3	7
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	1
Electrical	0	3	5	10
Mechanical	2	6	2	7
Plumbing	1	5	1	2
Fence	1	NA	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>27</b>

**COMMERCIAL PERMITS:**

- 26321 Malheur Line Lane, Huntington—Cell tower modification

**RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:**

- 44919 Pine View Road, Baker City—Residential addition
- 39872 Old Hwy 30, County—Multiple attached roof cover additions

**HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW:**

Next regularly scheduled meeting is November 20, 2019, at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department.





**Finance:**

**Finance Director**

The City has started receiving 2019-20 property tax collections. As of November 6<sup>th</sup>, the City has received \$589,785 in current year property taxes and \$48,537 in prior years' property taxes.

**Utilities**

- ◆ Seventeen customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and seventeen customers disconnected service from November 8<sup>th</sup> thru November 14<sup>th</sup>. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 6 was billed November 12<sup>th</sup> and included 484 residential and 57 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 114 (21%) are signed up for direct payment and 45 (8%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Zone 2 was billed today and it includes 460 residential and 13 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 100 (21%) are signed up for direct payment and 27 (6%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Four residential customers (Zone 1) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due). All four paid prior to their service being turned off.

**Accounts Receivable**

Monthly accounts receivable billings were sent November 12<sup>th</sup>. The billings were as follows:

Cemetery - \$4,817	Golf Course Equipment Lease Payment – \$10,900
Wastewater Maintenance and Main Charges - \$3,697	Golf Cart Lease Payment - \$2,500
Street Cuts and Miscellaneous - \$5,789	5J SRO Contribution - \$17,797
Lien Searches - \$2,165	Baker County Economic Development Support - \$15,000
Ambulance - \$476,792	Industrial Park Farm Land Rental - \$2,700
Fire Cost Recovery Billings - \$19,292	Miscellaneous - \$1,940
Airport Hangar Rent & Ground Lease - \$10,837	
Property and Weed Abatement - \$1,195	Total Billed \$ 575,421

**Accounts Payable**

The first of two accounts payable check runs for the month was generated November 12<sup>th</sup>



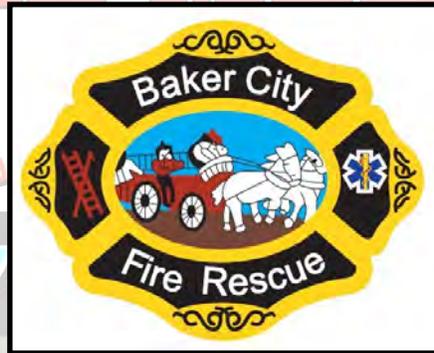
The mission of the Baker City Fire Department is to provide dependable and efficient emergency services.

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of November 5th through November 11th the Fire Department responded to a total of **25** emergency alarms.

## AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	15
Rural Calls	6
Patient Transported	19
No Patient Trip	2
<b>TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES</b>	<b>21</b>



## FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	4
<b>TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>EMERGENCY CALL BACKS</b>	
Requests for Cover	3
Persons Arrived for	3

Airport Transfers	2
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	2
Out of Town Transfers Not Accepted	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1
Doubles (2 calls at once)	5
Triples (3 calls at once)	0
Quads (4 calls at once)	0
Public Assist	0



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

- 40 hrs of Station & Equipment Maintenance
- 33 hrs of Fire Training
- 8 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 November 19th.



*"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 responded to over 169 incidents and opened 53 new cases, making numerous arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers. One case involved the arrest of a suspect for the alleged Theft of a Motor Vehicle and includes a charge of Recklessly Endangering Another Person for causing risk to another individual who jumped into the bed of the stolen vehicle in an attempt to stop the theft in progress. Additional charges which stemmed from this incident included Reckless Driving and Assault IV.
- ★ Tickets for the 4th Annual Baker City Police Department K9 Drug Prevention Fundraiser coming up on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at the Baker County Event Center are available at the [Baker City Police Department](#), Barley Brown's Tap House and Thatcher's Ace Hardware. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$10 for kids 12-6 and under 6 are free. One featured auction item is this awesome Wine Country Getaway in Amity, Oregon. You don't want to miss this great event for a great cause!



Visit Amity, Oregon

### **Wine Country Getaway**






Escape the ordinary with a 3-night stay in this new one bedroom vacation home located in Amity, OR, the heart of wine country.

This tranquil home is fully stocked and provides everything you will need.

Enjoy the stunning vineyard views from your private patio and partake in country life by collecting fresh eggs for your breakfast from the chicken coop.

Included are wine tastings for 2 from the following nearby vineyards: Brooks, Bjornesen, Christom, Stoller, Anne Amie and Zerba.

Test your shooting skills at Rich's Shootin Gallery. Admission for 4 .

Come and relax all of your cares away!

PLEASE NOTE:

Dates must be arranged with Krystal at 503-260-3910. Expires Dec, 14th, 2020.

- ★ 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: Water Department



Left: A small pool of water was seen on Court Street between 4th and 5th Streets. It had not rained in several days.



Right: Matt swept the water from the surface using the Elgin Crosswind Sweeper.



Left: Water could be seen coming up to the surface between the asphalt and the concrete curb. Justin and Brian excavated the location and located the water leak. They “repacked” the pipe connection and installed a bell clamp to stop the flow of water. This section of water line has had several leaks in the past and is scheduled to be replaced during the 2019-2020 fiscal year.



At the water reservoir site, Justin and Brian have been constructing an access route so that the area can be better maintained.

Right: They made a level area next to the property line fence and will place eco-blocks to form a retaining wall.



Above: Reclaimed chipseal rock is being placed over weed-proof fabric to form a firm driving surface.

### Public Works: Wastewater Department



The contractor is working on the Park Springs subdivision development south of the Sam-O pool.

Here, the contractor has connected onto the 8” PVC pipe which Public Works installed last week.

Public Works installed an 8” bladder into the end of the new pipe to stop the flow of groundwater into the manhole while construction work is being done.



## Public Works: Street Department

Matt continues to sweep leaves from Baker City streets. He will be completing the east side of Baker City on Tuesday.



A resident called City Hall last week to report a piece of steel cable that was sticking out of the surface of David Eccles road. The cable wasn't actually connected to anything and was simply pulled out and disposed.

The crackfill/pothole patching machine was utilized this week by both the Baker County Road department and Baker City Public Works department.

Wednesday and Thursday, the Public Works department crackfilled and patched potholes on Campbell Street between the railroad tracks and 21st Street.



Left: Campbell Street was closed to traffic during the work and while the crackfill material cooled.

Right: Nate was crackfilling while Riley prepares to load more tar blocks into the melting pot.



Left: When patching potholes, the tar is mixed with heated 1/4" aggregate using an auger. The mixture then travels down an electric heated chute into the pothole.

Right: The material is then spread out to fill the hole to the proper height. This location is at the northwest corner of 17th and Campbell Streets.



Once the material cools, vehicles can drive across the filled cracks and potholes.



### Public Works: Parks Department

Public Works is wrapping up a couple of sidewalk projects at Geiser Pollman Park this week. A 95' section of 6' wide sidewalk was replaced adjacent to the Lion's shelter. This section was broken and heaved and contained many trip hazards.



Two bollards were installed at the park entrance at Campbell and Grove. This was done to prevent vehicle entry at that location. Several instances of irrigation, turf and sidewalk damage occurred during the past summer due to vehicles entering there.

These improvements were funded by the portion of the Sidewalk Utility Fund which is designated for City projects. Thank you to our Public Works crew for another job WELL DONE!

### Public Works: Shop



We changed the final drive oil and this rig is back to work.



We had a hydraulic leak on the main water pump. We resealed it and had to repair an electrical short in the front control panel. This truck is back in service.



We replaced the heater core and are ready for winter.



We tuned this engine and performed a safety check on this Jeep.



The 4-wheel drive was causing problems. We repaired the issue and this rig is back out on the road