

# CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.  
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

## **Weekly Update December 13, 2019**

### Administration:

The Christmas season is here and the City is looking very festive. The parade and the tree lighting ceremony were well attended despite the rain. The Community Christmas Tree is one of the best that we have had in years.

The City Council met last week for the only meeting scheduled for December. They had a full agenda which included approving the placement of artwork on the traffic box at Washington and Main Streets. The Public Arts Commission will be installing a historic picture of a local boys choir. Look for this great addition to our downtown art work in the spring.

Our local businesses are stocked full of holiday gifts and merchandise. Let's all remember to shop local and support the businesses that enhance our community throughout the year. Happy Holidays.



### Building Department:

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	2	3	0	6
Manufactured Dwelling	0	1	1	2
Electrical	0	1	5	4
Mechanical	1	5	4	8
Plumbing	2	4	0	0
Fence	0	NA	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>

#### **COMMERCIAL PERMITS:**

- 250 Campbell Street, Baker City—Alarm system upgrade
- 1050 Hughes Lane, Baker City—Commercial reroof

#### **HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW:**

Next regularly scheduled meeting is January 15, 2020, at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department.

#### **RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:**

No residential projects



## **Planning Department:**

### **Planning Commission Public Meetings**

The Planning Commission meeting on December 18, 2019, has been cancelled. The next regularly-scheduled Planning Commission meeting is set for January 15, 2020, at 6:00 pm, in the Council Chambers at Baker City Hall.

### **Land Use Applications**

- ◆ A one-year extension of time was approved for the siting of a new home at 2305 14<sup>th</sup> Street in the Residential Medium-Density (R-MD) Zone.
- ◆ An application was submitted for the construction of a 1,200 square foot storage shed at 2551 Place Street in the General Industrial (I) Zone.

### **Thank You to Planning Commissioner Alan Blair!**

**At the close of the December 4, 2019 Planning Commission meeting, Chairman Alan Blair announced his intention to resign his seat, effective December 31, 2019. Alan Blair has volunteered on the Planning Commission for 25 years, most of those as Chairman. He has led the Planning Commission through countless public hearings and land use changes over the years, and freely given his time and knowledge to train new Planning Department staff and Planning Commissioners. He was diligent in working through complex problems, and invested his time seeking long term benefits for Baker City.**

**Thank you, Alan, for your service and commitment to Baker City. We wish you the very best in retirement from this role!**

## **\*\*\*NOTICE\*\*\***

The City of Baker City is looking to fill one position on the City Council. **The City will accept applications through the office of the City Recorder beginning December 11, 2019 until January 6, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.** The individual who is appointed by a majority vote of the City Council will serve one term on the City Council through December of 2020. An applicant must be a registered voter in the State of Oregon and have resided within the City of Baker City for 12 months immediately preceding the appointment.

The Council will review applications and meet with applicants at a Work Session on January 8.

To apply go to [www.bakercity.com](http://www.bakercity.com) to download and complete the City Councilor application located on the City's home page **and** submit a letter of interest to Katie LaFavor at City Hall. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Attn: Katie LaFavor  
1655 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
Baker City, OR 97814  
Fax: 541-524-2024  
Phone: 541-524-2033  
Email: [klafavor@bakercity.com](mailto:klafavor@bakercity.com)



## **Finance Department:**

### **Utilities**

- ◆ Eight customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and ten customers disconnected service from December 6<sup>th</sup> thru December 12<sup>th</sup>. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 1 was billed December 10<sup>th</sup> and included 93 residential and 253 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 64 (18%) are signed up for direct payment and 18 (5%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Zone 6 was billed today and it includes 482 residential and 57 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 112 (21%) are signed up for direct payment and 47 (9%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Eleven residential customers (Zones 1 and 5) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due). Three were turned-off until their past due balances were paid.

### **Accounts Receivable**

Monthly accounts receivable billings were sent December 11<sup>th</sup>. The billings were as follows:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| • Cemetery - \$1,439                               | • Property and Weed Abatement - \$1,175          |
| • Wastewater Maintenance and Main Charges- \$5,321 | • Golf Course Equipment Lease Payment – \$11,064 |
| • Water Meters and Main Charges - \$2,974          | • Golf Cart Lease Payment - \$2,538              |
| • Street Cuts and Miscellaneous - \$5,394          | • Baker County EMS Support - \$5,115             |
| • Lien Searches - \$645                            | • Miscellaneous - \$1,361                        |
| • Ambulance - \$419,533                            |  |
| • Fire Cost Recovery Billings - \$18,529           | Total Billed \$ 480,546                          |
| • Airport Hangar Rent & Ground Lease - \$5,458     |  |

### **Accounts Payable**

The first of two accounts payable check runs for the month was generated December 10<sup>th</sup>

### **Payroll**

December draw checks were issued today.

## **Boards, Commissions and Committees:**

### **The City of Baker City is seeking volunteers for the following:**

- ⇒ Tree Board—2 positions available
- ⇒ Planning Commission—1 position available

Most positions are for a 3-year term. Anyone interested in volunteering should visit [www.bakercity.com](http://www.bakercity.com) to fill out a volunteer form. You may also email [admin@bakercity.com](mailto:admin@bakercity.com) or call 524-2033 for more information. The direct link to the volunteer form page is: <http://bakercity.com/2149/Boards-Commissions>



*"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*



## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

- ★ During the week, BCPD responded to over 155 incidents and opened 26 new cases, making numerous arrests for outstanding warrants and detainees.
- ★ The second annual *Shop with a Hero* was a huge success! This event, held on Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, was organized by the Baker City Police Department and included seventeen children, ranging in age from Kindergarten to sixth grade.
 

Our Heroes this year consisted of members from the Baker City Police Department, the Baker County Sheriff's Office, Oregon State Police, Baker City Fire Department, Bureau of Land Management Law Enforcement and Baker County Rural Fire Department!

The Baker City Police Department partnered with Bi-Mart for local shopping who, in addition, graciously donated \$500.00 towards the event. Members of Blue Mountain Baptist Church provided a wonderful lunch; Thatcher's Ace Hardware provided all the gift wrap and bows; Community Connections provided transportation for Heroes and children to the event and Baker City Church of the Nazarene provided space for the event, with a surprise visit from Santa Claus!

Other financial contributors included various community members, the Baker City Police Officer's Association, Baker County Kids and Cops, the Baker County Sheriff's Officer Deputy Association, the Baker City Fire Association and Oregon State Police, Baker City Office.

Monetary donations provided for each child to spend \$100.00 to purchase Christmas gifts for their immediate family, bringing the gift of joy and magic to many families. We would like to thank everyone who contributed and volunteered to make this year's Shop with a Hero another wonderful event!

The Baker City Police Department is seeking further contributions for next year's event! If you wish to donate to this worthwhile cause, please feel free to drop off your donation at the Baker City Police Department.
- ★ 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.





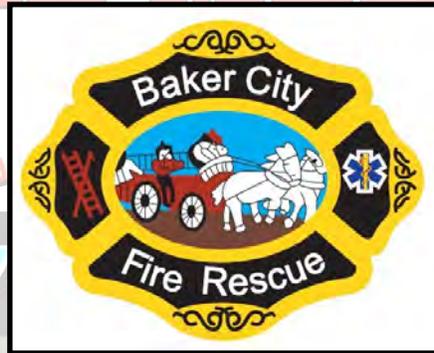
The mission of the Baker City Fire Department is to provide dependable and efficient emergency services.

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of December 3rd through December 9th the Fire Department responded to a total of **30** emergency alarms.

## AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	26
Rural Calls	6
Patient Transported	27
No Patient Trip	5
<b>TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES</b>	<b>32</b>



## FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	3
Dispatched Alarms	1
<b>TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES</b>	<b>4</b>

## EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	9
Persons Arrived for	8

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



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

- **53 hrs** of Station & Equipment Maintenance
- **2 hrs** of EMS Training
- **33 hrs** of Fire Training
- **82 hrs** of Community Events

The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am. Don't miss the next check on December 17th.



## Fire Department



Shop with a Hero Event 12.6.19



Preparing for the Twilight Parade 12.7.19

Working on a House Fire

## Public Works: Shop



We installed an inverter and wired in a shore line with battery readings on it. This truck will be done today.

We are pulling off the old hydraulics that were on this truck.



The tank had several leaks. With help from Scott and Karl, we pulled the lower water tank so it can get lined.



### Public Works: Water Department



The crew of Scott, Tommy and Craig performed detailed scheduled maintenance on UV Reactor number 1 this week. 40 Ultra Violet bulbs were changed, 20 electronic ballasts were replaced, 120 wiper blade rings were replaced and the 40 crystal sleeves were cleaned using muriatic acid.

The entire internal mechanism was removed from the reactor housing in order to perform the maintenance work.



The crew of Nate and Riley began exercising water valves this week. Jenn worked with the crew for the first part of the day to help expedite the utilization of the new GIS system for keeping track of the water valve maintenance data.

When a valve has been opened and closed, the data entered electronically into the iPad changes the valve color from blue to green.

This is the first year that the data is being collected electronically.

### Public Works: Street Department

Each year, a few of the resident deer in Baker City get hit by vehicles and sometimes trains. A new law went into effect recently which allows the salvage of deer. A salvage permit through ODFW can easily be obtained and filled out within a specific time period. The antlers must be turned in to ODFW.

If you are interested in salvaging the meat from road kill deer, please call 541-524-2047 and we will put you on a call list.





## Public Works: Street Department continued



Due to the moderate temperatures, no snow plowing took place this week.

Brian built and installed two bridge railings on 8th Street over Settler Slough this week.

Here are the before and after photos.



Justin, Blain and Nate worked to recycle concrete and asphalt materials at the city stockpile site.

The rock crusher bucket pulverized concrete chunks and asphalt grindings were screened to produce a fine base product.



## Public Works: Wastewater Department



Work continues at the new "H" Street lift station. The old lift station had only a 6" pipe entering the wet well. This picture shows the 6" line which slipped inside of the 12" main line running from 8th Drive, 9th Drive and other served areas. Because of the small pipe entering the wet well, it made cleaning of the 12" terra cotta main line near impossible using conventional methods.

Karl and Jake worked with contractors Sam, Mac and their crew to clean the entire 12" main line once the new wet well and 12" connection was made. During the cleaning, Karl and Jake and the others were able to remove approximately 50 cubic feet of rock, grit and debris.



Left: Inside the new wet well. Duplex pumps will be installed on rails attached to the sides of the vault risers.

Right: Blain helped Mac unload the control vault from the "H" Street lift station at the city stockpile site along with two salvaged sections of the wet well vault.





## Public Works: Wastewater Treatment Plant

Problems are still being encountered with the two pumps at the wastewater treatment plant. Rick, Karl and Jake ran the pumps forward and then backwashed them to remove blockages. They are still partially plugged. Cover plates will have to be removed and the pumps cleaned to remove blockages in the pumps. In preparation to clean the pumps, Wes welded heavy duty rings onto the two heavy steel flanges this week.



## Holiday Notice

### Here is the holiday schedule for City Hall:

**December 24**—There will be NO City Council Meeting and City Hall will be closing at 2pm.

**December 25**—Closed for Christmas

**December 31**—Regular Hours

**January 1**—Closed New Years Day

*Happy Holidays!*