

# CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.  
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

*Weekly Update December 20, 2019*

## **Administration:**

It appears that we may have a White Christmas here in the City. City Hall will be closing at 2 pm on Christmas Eve and closed all day on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Anthony Lakes will be opening this Saturday for the season and the snow should be great.

City staff has been very busy interviewing candidates for various job openings and completing a lot of year end activities.

Here is hoping that you and your family have a great holiday season. Have a great weekend and as you move about the holiday season, be extra careful.



## **Planning Department:**

### **Planning Commission Public Meetings**

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

### **Land Use Applications**

- ◆ An appeal of the Planning Commission's decision to deny the construction of a 70-ft cell tower in the 1400 block of D Street was submitted this week. The appeal will be heard by City Council during a public hearing on January 7, 2020, at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers at Baker City Hall.
- ◆ A Land Use Review was approved for a ±1,200 square foot addition to an existing accessory structure to be used for pipe storage by the Baker City Public Works Department, located in the General Industrial (I) Zone.



**Building Department:**

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	1	10	1	2
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	0
Electrical	4	2	4	0
Mechanical	3	9	1	1
Plumbing	1	4	0	0
Fence	0	NA	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>

**COMMERCIAL PERMITS:**

- 695 Campbell Street, Baker City—Replacement of two exterior structural walls

**RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:**

- 197 Cracker Street, Sumpter—Pole barn

**HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW:**

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



**\*\*\*NOTICE\*\*\***

The City of Baker City is looking to fill one position on the City Council. **The City is currently accepting applications 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.

Attn: Katie LaFavor, City Recorder  
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)



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 **38** emergency alarms.

## AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	29
Rural Calls	5
Patient Transported	23
No Patient Trip	11
<b>TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES</b>	<b>34</b>



## FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	2
Dispatched Alarms	2
<b>TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES</b>	<b>4</b>

## EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	5
Persons Arrived for Cover	9

Airport Transfers	1
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	4
Out of Town Transfers Not Accepted	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1
Doubles (2 calls at once)	6
Triples (3 calls at once)	1
Quads (4 calls at once)	0
Public Assist	3



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

- **26 hrs** of Station & Equipment Maintenance
- **5 hrs** of Fire Training
- **9 hrs** of EMS Training
- **33 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 24th.



## Fire Department



Saturday, December 12:  
Food boxes with  
Salvation Army

## Finance Department:

### Utilities

- ◆ Eight customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and twelve customers disconnected service from December 13<sup>th</sup> thru December 19<sup>th</sup>. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 2 was billed December 17<sup>th</sup> and included 458 residential and 13 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 98 (21%) are signed up for direct payment and 27 (6%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Zone 7 was billed today and includes 558 residential and 25 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 163 (28%) are signed up for direct payment and 36 (6%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Thirty residential customers (Zones 2 and 6) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due). Nine were turned-off until their past due balance was paid.

## 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

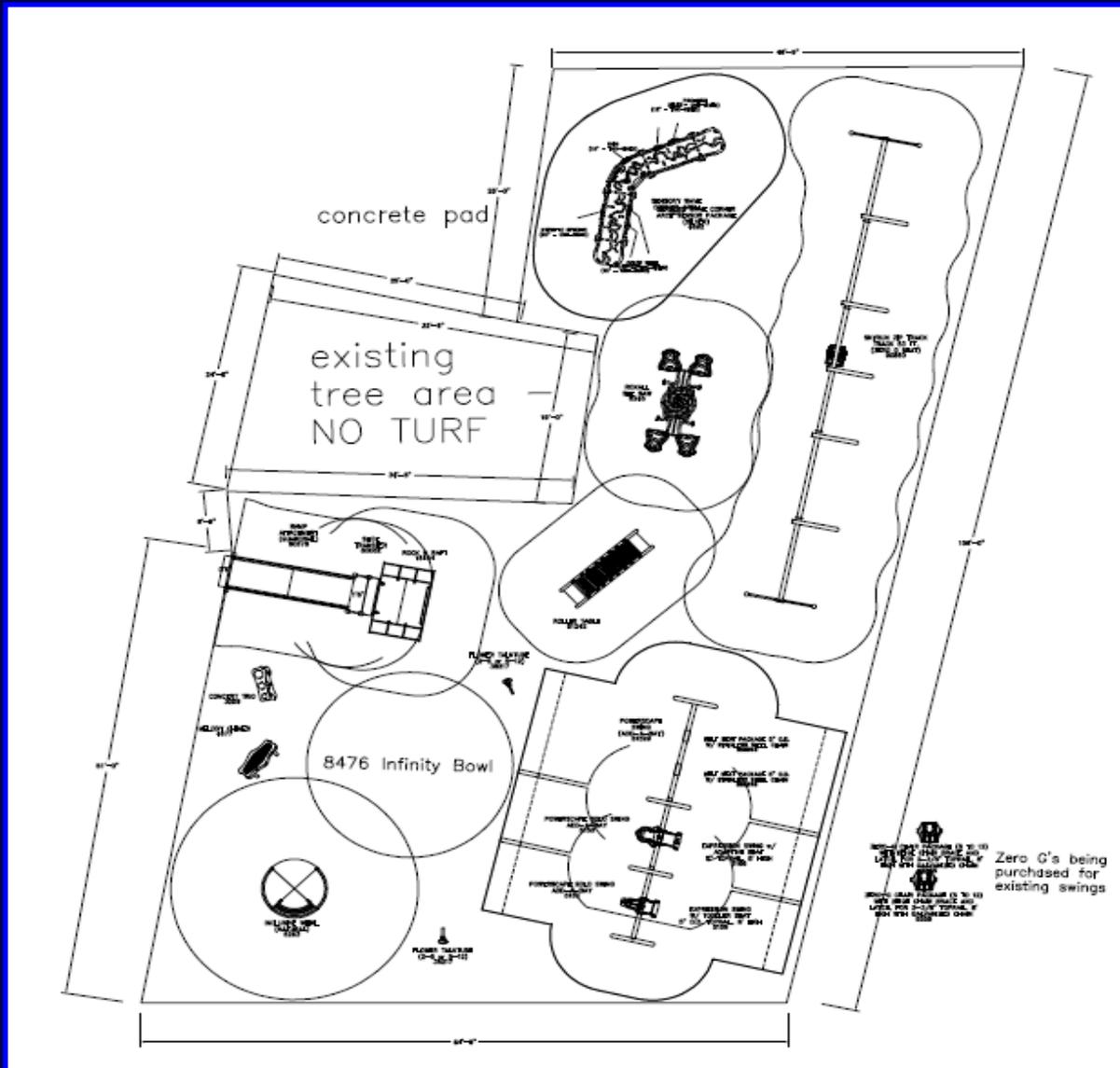
Most positions are for a 3-year term. Anyone interested in volunteering should visit [www.bakercity.com](http://www.bakercity.com) to fill out a volunteer form. You may also email [admin@bakercity.com](mailto:admin@bakercity.com) or call 524-2033 for more information. The direct link to the volunteer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



## All-Inclusive Playground Update!

Baker City received notification that our upcoming All-Inclusive Playground project has been selected by PlayCore as a National Demonstration Site for Inclusion! This recognition is based on implementing best practices and principles of inclusive design to make a play space in which all children, all families, everyone can play together!

The playground, slated for installation in May of 2020, is nearing full funding. Committee members are continuing efforts to raise the remaining \$15,000+/- of the estimated \$300,000 project. Equipment sponsorships of varying levels as well as donation opportunities are available for anyone wishing to support this worthwhile effort. Contact the Baker City Parks Department at (541) 524-2046 for more information or to make a donation.





*"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 week, BCPD responded to over 137 incidents and opened 24 new cases, making numerous arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers.
- ✪ The fourth annual BCPD Drug Prevention K9 Fundraiser was a huge success, raising over \$45,000 for the BCPD K9 program and K9 Capa! A big thank you to our community and local and regional businesses that supported this year's event. We are truly humbled by the amount of support our community has shown the Baker City Police Department and it is our honor to continue to serve the members of this community. Also, thank you to everyone who lent of their expertise, talent and energy to make this event possible! We couldn't do it without you.
- ✪ 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.



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## BRONZE SPONSORS

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Oregon Trail Livestock Supply**

**State Farm Insurance  
Grumpy's Repair Inc.**

**OTEC  
Charley's Deli & Ice Cream**



## Public Works: Wastewater Department



The new, larger wet well at the "H" Street lift station is nearly complete. The control panel and electrical lines still need to be installed for it to be fully functional.

A call was received about a plugged wastewater lateral serving an apartment complex on "C" Street.

Karl and Jake video inspected lines on College and 5th Streets to determine that the complex was connected to the 5th Street line.

A cleanout was discovered on the west side of the building and may now be cleaned by a professional drain cleaner.



Both pumps at the wastewater treatment plant were cleaned out this week.

The heavy steel access plate was safely removed and supported using the newly welded bracket and chain hoist.

To unplug the pumps, fibrous materials (rags, wet wipes, rugs, etc.) must be cut and physically pulled from the impeller. Here you see a cleaned out pump.



### \*\*\*Reminder\*\*\*

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



While the crew was working on the abandoned water valves near the intersection of "H" Street and Best Frontage Road, it was noticed that there was an oil sheen on the surface of the irrigation ditch.

Upon further inspection, a substantial amount of a liquid smelling like diesel was found in the culvert. The spill was reported to DEQ and to the Oregon Emergency Response System.

The crew of Karl, Tommy and Jake worked to mitigate the situation and additional clean up efforts will continue.

The cause and source of the spill has not been determined at this time.



Left: Wednesday night left a dusting of snow over Baker City. Jake and Craig started at 4am to sand and salt selected streets. The steeper Reservoir Road was treated with a mixture of sand and salt.

Right: Kris built a charging station for the headsets that crews use when working on various projects.



Left: Clean up work continued at the City's stockpile site.

Right: Scott and Riley inspected the surface of the zipper drum. Brian replaced some of the teeth and welded a broken piece of the drum.



### Public Works: Water Department



Water valve cases from a previously abandoned water line near the intersection of "H" Street and Best Frontage Road were excavated and removed to clean up the area.



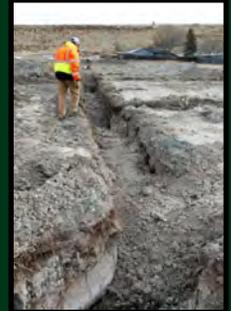


## Public Works: Water Department continued



The developer for the Park Spring subdivision hired Public Works to pressure test and disinfect the main water line. Afterwards they installed 25 water service lines.

The City of LaGrande assisted with the disinfection by providing their water truck and operator.



The crew of Justin, Blain and Nate were able to complete the 25 service line taps and install the 3/4" copper service lines in less than one day.

Right: Justin looking at the service line locations.



Installation of "corp stops" into main line.



Right four: Connecting the 3/4" copper service lines to the "corp stops" and laying out the lines.



Left two: If the tapper isn't attached in exact alignment or has a breach, water can begin to spray out with a force of 90+ psi.

Right three: Dennis measured the residual chlorine content of the water after disinfection was completed. He then sampled the water for laboratory analysis.





## Code Enforcement Weekly Activity

### Property Maintenance

- Responded to two new complaints
- Followed up on eleven open cases
- Responded to one preventative case
- Opened one new case

### Animal violations and complaints

- Impounded two dogs
- Responded to ten animals running at large
- Performed three animal welfare checks
- Followed up on five dangerous dogs
- Followed up on one dog bite

### Parking violations

- Issued one written warning
- Issued seven verbal warnings
- Orange tagged one vehicle
- Issued fifteen citations
- Responded to seventeen complaints
- Followed up on fourteen previous complaints

### Miscellaneous

- Two community service stops
- Twenty-nine miscellaneous community contacts
- Two officer assists
- One found items



## 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!*