

# CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.  
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

## **Weekly Update December 27, 2019**

### Administration:

We hope that everyone had a Merry Christmas. The New Year is fast approaching and here at the City we are looking forward to a wonderful new year.

The City Council has one vacancy that will be filled at the January 14 council meeting. If you live in the City and are interested in serving on the Council, check the City website or come down to City Hall and pick up an application. Applications are due by January 6, 2020 at 4pm. The Council will also be conducting an appeal hearing regarding the Planning Commission's denial of a conditional use application for a 70+ foot cell tower within the City. This hearing will be held on January 7, 2020 at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers.

City offices will be closed on New Year's Day. Have a great weekend and enjoy the remaining holiday season.

## Holiday Schedule for City Hall

**December 31—Regular Hours 8am—5pm**

**January 1—Closed New Year's Day**

### Building Department:

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	1	8	0	0
Manufactured Dwelling	0	2	0	0
Electrical	0	3	3	6
Mechanical	4	5	1	6
Plumbing	0	0	2	1
Fence	1	NA	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>13</b>

#### **RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:**

- 2470 20th Street, Baker City—Detached accessory structure

#### **COMMERCIAL PERMITS:**

None at this time

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

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



## **Finance Department:**

### **Utilities**

- ◆ Two customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and two customers disconnected service from December 20<sup>th</sup> to December 26<sup>th</sup>. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 3, which included 498 residential and 49 commercial accounts, was billed December 26<sup>th</sup>. Of those accounts 110 (20%) are signed up for direct payment and 40 (7%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Zone 8, which includes 466 residential and 19 commercial accounts, was billed today. Of those accounts 112 or 23% are signed up for direct payment and 25 (5%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ This week 8 residential customers (Zones 6 and 7) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) five of those were actually turned off until their past due balance was paid.

### **Payroll**

Eighty-two employees were paid today including nine paid volunteer firefighters, two part-time assistants for the fire department, a part-time plumbing inspector, a part-time building inspector/plan reviewer, a part-time administrative assistant for the building department, a part-time patrol officer, and the dangerous dog hearings officer. Of those 82 employees, 74 or 90% are signed up for direct deposit.

## **Code Enforcement Weekly Activity**

### **Property Maintenance**

- Responded to one new complaint
- Followed up on five open cases

### **Animal violations and complaints**

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

### **Parking violations**

- Orange tagged one vehicle
- Responded to three complaints
- Followed up on five previous complaints

### **Miscellaneous**

- Two community service stops
- Five miscellaneous community contacts

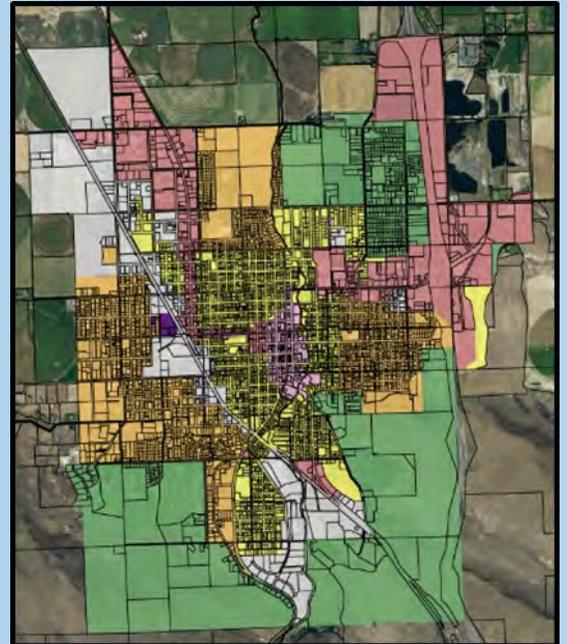




**Planning Department:**

**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. The Planning Commission will review materials for proposed updates to the Baker City Development Code and the economic section of the Baker City Comprehensive Land Use Plan, as well as to discuss potential re-zoning of select areas of the city.



**Housing Needs Analysis**

The Department of Land Conservation and Development has conditionally awarded a grant for funding to conduct a housing needs analysis and related update to the Baker City Comprehensive Plan. The grant is scheduled to be discussed by City Council during a public hearing on January 14, 2020, at 7:00 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.

**\*\*\*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 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 137 incidents and opened 37 new cases, making numerous arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers.
- ⊛ BCPD took numerous reports of packages being stolen from front porches in various locations throughout the city. In response to this uptick in mail theft, BCPD initiated a sting operation in hopes of catching the culprits. This operation was successful, resulting in the arrest of one adult and two juvenile suspects on charges of Mail Theft, a Class C Felony. Eliannah Elise Banister, transient, was cited in lieu of custody and given an appearance date for arraignment in Baker County Circuit Court. The two male juveniles were cited and information will be forwarded to the Baker County Juvenile Department so a court date for their appearance can be set.
- ⊛ While more common during the holiday season, mail theft of packages and envelopes from the porch or front stoop of residences occurs year-round. Here are some tips for avoiding becoming a victim of "porch pirates:"
  - ⇒ Have your package delivered to your work.
  - ⇒ Track your packages and know when they are delivered.
  - ⇒ Have your package delivered to the home of a relative or friend that you'll know will be home. Some carriers such as UPS MyChoice allow you to change delivery location, such as to a neighbor's house.
  - ⇒ Request that your package has signature confirmation upon delivery.
  - ⇒ Ask your carrier to place the package in an area out of plain view.
  - ⇒ Other options include installing a camera security system or renting a post office box.
- ⊛ 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.

### **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 Fire Department is to provide dependable and efficient emergency services.

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of December 17th through December 23rd the Fire Department responded to a total of **49** emergency alarms.

## AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	35
Rural Calls	10
Patient Transported	28
No Patient Trip	17
<b>TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES</b>	<b>45</b>



## FIRE REPORTS

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

## EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	14
Persons Arrived for	13

Airport Transfers	3
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	4
Out of Town Transfers Not Accepted	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	4
Doubles (2 calls at once)	9
Triples (3 calls at once)	2
Quads (4 calls at once)	0
Public Assist	3



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

- **42 hrs** of Station & Equipment Maintenance
- **4 hrs** of EMS Training
- **4 hrs** of Fire Training

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 31st.



### Public Works: Water Department

A new water service was installed for a residence on Grace Street. The water meter box and service line was relocated from near the reservoir to Grace Street. A contractor will install a new service line from the meter box to the house.



### Public Works: Street Department



Once Indiana Avenue extends beyond the westerly city limits, it becomes a private road. The owners of the road requested that new signage be installed at the point where the road becomes private.



A pothole began to show it's ugly head on 4th street just south of Broadway Avenue. A request was made to ODOT to see if they could patch the pothole using their gap-seal product the next time they were out patching. They were able to fill this pothole, and we are grateful.



### \*\*\*Deer/Elk Reminder\*\*\*

Another deer was hit and killed recently at the intersection of 17th and Campbell Streets. A Public Works employee happened to be driving by and removed the animal from the road.

It is legal to salvage road killed deer and elk.

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



Water surface clean-up work was completed this week at the new home ditch.

Two oil absorbent booms were also installed across the ditch.



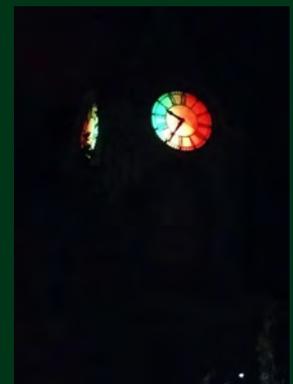
There are now 4 booms in place across the open ditch, and one inside a stormwater manhole.



The water storage tank on the vector truck started to leak recently. The tank was removed and taken to a local repair shop so that it could be lined inside. The plumbing was rerouted so that the truck remains available for use on specific projects.

Dennis installed the festive colored lights in the Baker City Hall clock tower to shine out through the Christmas Season.

**Here's to a wonderful and happy new year!**





## Public Works: Shop



The crusher bucket broke a spring causing the adjusting rod to bend and the nut to rip loose. We took it apart and ordered parts. It should be back together next week.



We replaced the driver door latch on this rig.



Brian and Justin installed new front and rear tires.



We replaced the upper and lower ball joints, serviced the transmission and gave this rig an alignment.



The driver's side hinge pin and bushing were worn out. The machine shop built a new steel bushing and Scott replaced the worn parts.