

# CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.  
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

*Weekly Update February 7, 2020*

## Administration:

What an interesting week of weather. Some of the heaviest, wettest snowfall of the season followed by a bit of rain and unseasonably warm weather. Our public works crew did an amazing job of clearing the major arteries of snow over the last two nights.

The City Council will meet on Tuesday for a short Council meeting followed by a work session for work on goals for the upcoming fiscal year.

Tonight is First Friday downtown with some great art work being displayed throughout the City. Come on downtown and enjoy the weather and take in all that the Historic district has to offer.

## Planning Department:

### Planning Commission Public Meeting

The Baker City Planning Commission will hold a public hearing & work session at **6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 19, 2020**, in the Council Chambers at the Baker City Hall, 1655 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Baker City, Oregon, to consider the following:

- ◆ Two applications submitted by Simplot:
  - ◇ **SDR-20-008:** A Site Design Review application to construct a new Simplot Grower Solutions facility, including an office, truck scale, maintenance shop, package warehouse, fertilizer storage area, and rail spur; and
  - ◇ **CUP-20-009:** A Conditional Use Permit request to construct an ±85-foot-tall fertilizer elevator with leg transfer equipment.



- ◆ The Planning Commission will also complete their review of materials for proposed revisions to the Baker City Development Code, as well as potential re-zoning of select areas in the city.

### Applications

- ◆ A single-family dwelling was approved on a newly-created piece of property in the 2900 block of Birch Street in the Residential Medium-Density Zone.
- ◆ A land use review application was submitted to build an accessory structure at 3750 Campbell Street in the Residential Medium-Density Zone.
- ◆ A final plat was signed to partition one parcel into two in the 2600 block of Walnut Street.



**Finance Department:**

**Utilities**

- ◆ Five customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and two customers disconnected service from January 31<sup>st</sup> thru February 6<sup>th</sup>. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 1 which includes 93 residential and 253 commercial accounts was billed February 4<sup>th</sup>. Of those accounts 65 (19%) are signed up for direct payment and 19 (5%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Zone 5 was billed today which includes 462 residential and 16 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 131 (27%) are signed up for direct payment and 35 (7%) are signed up for ebilling
- ◆ Eight residential customers (Zones 4 and 8) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due). Four were turned-off until their past due balances were paid. Two additional water services were turned off - one for failing to meet payment arrangements and one for a payment returned for nonsufficient funds.

**Accounts Receivable**

Monthly accounts receivable billings were sent February 6<sup>th</sup>. The billings were as follows:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| • Cemetery - \$4,090                              | • Baker County Economic Development Support - \$7,556                   |
| • Street Cuts and Miscellaneous - \$5,062         | • Baker School District 5J – School Resource Officer Support - \$18,277 |
| • Wastewater Service and Miscellaneous - \$10,517 | • Baker County EMS Support - \$5,365                                    |
| • Lien Searches - \$1,440                         | • Miscellaneous - \$2,420   |
| • Ambulance - \$456,206                           |   |
| • Airport Hangar Rent & Ground Lease - \$7,899    | <b>Total Billed \$ 519,887</b>  |
| • Property and Weed Abatement - \$1,055           |   |

**2020 CENSUS**

**The US Census is hiring!!!**

The US Census is looking for people to help get an accurate count for Baker County. Starting pay is \$16-\$17.50 an hour + mileage. Training starts mid-March.

If interested, please contact WorkSource Oregon, 1575 Dewey Avenue, Baker City. 541-523-6331



*"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 past week, BCPD opened 36 new cases. BCPD responded to a report of a subject being dragged by a vehicle. The victim sustained minor injuries and the suspect was later arrested by officers and charged with Assault II. In an unrelated incident, a suspect was arrested for Felon in Possession of a Restricted Weapon when an investigation led to the discovery of a taser in the suspect's possession.
- ✪ The Hearings Officer heard a case involving a potentially dangerous dog. The dog involved in this case was deemed dangerous and as a result, the owner will be required to comply with all the restrictions for the keeping of a Dangerous Dog in the City Limits as found in Ordinance § 90.39, Dangerous and Vicious Dogs Within the City Limits.
- ✪ 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.



### **Upcoming Rabies Clinic**

The annual rabies clinic will be held at the Baker County Fairgrounds Event Center on **Wednesday, February 12, 2020 from 2pm -4pm**. The cost will be \$10.00 per patient and must be paid at the time of service. Baker City Dog licenses will also be available for purchase at a reduced rate. Altered dogs are \$4.50 and unaltered dogs are \$6.00 per calendar year. Multi-year licenses are available for purchase. The price to license your dog increases after February 29, 2020.

**\*\*\*Dogs must be on a leash and cats must be secured in cat carriers.**



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

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of January 28th through February 3rd the Fire Department responded to a total of **35** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS	
City Calls	29
Rural Calls	5
Patient Transported	22
No Patient Trip	12
<b>TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES</b>	<b>34</b>

FIRE REPORTS	
General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	1
<b>TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES</b>	<b>1</b>



Our Cadet explorers start with their bloodborne pathogens training

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

EMERGENCY CALL BACKS	
General Alarms	5
Dispatched Alarms	5



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

- **43 hrs** of Station & Equipment Maintenance
- **13 hrs** of EMS Training
- **9 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 February 11th.



## Code Enforcement Weekly Activity

### Property Maintenance

- Responded to three new complaints
- Followed up on nine open cases
- Made one preventative contact
- Closed two open cases
- Responded to two RV/camping concerns
- Opened one new case
- Issued three property maintenance citations

### Miscellaneous

- One community service stop
- Fifteen miscellaneous community contacts
- Nine found items
- Two officer assists

### Parking violations

- Orange tagged five vehicles
- Responded to thirteen complaints
- Followed up on four previous complaints
- Issued one written warning
- 

### Animal violations and complaints

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



**\*\*\*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: Parks Department



A Public Works crew began preparing the site for the new playground equipment that will be installed later this spring.

Tommy and Riley used the vector truck to hydro-excavate around the broken concrete post at Geiser-Pollman park. The base can now be removed and the newly poured post can be installed.



### Public Works: Street Department



Enough snow fell this week to warrant crews to plow Baker City streets. A crew began plowing Wednesday afternoon after at least 6" of snow was on the roadways.

Baker County Road Department loaned us one of their graders which was a great help toward the effort.

**THANK YOU BAKER COUNTY!**



A 4-person crew began plowing downtown streets at midnight and continued until 8am. A second crew of 5 also started at midnight to begin hauling snow to the stockpile site near Leo Adler Field.

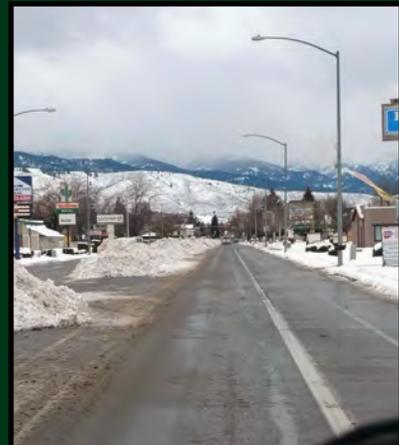


Left: Here is the snow berm on Washington Street near the Courthouse is being loaded and transported to the snow dump site.



Left: With the heavy snow having been plowed from the street surface, it allowed the melting water to run into the stormwater catch basins.

Right: Temperatures moderated enough so that the majority of the streets will not require plowing.





### Public Works: Street Department continued



Tommy and Riley assisted OTEC with the hydro-excavation of buried power lines which supply power to the street lights on Kirk way.



### Public Works: Sam-o Swimming Pool



Preliminary work was done this week on the repair to the heat exchanger unit in the mechanical room. Dismantling the old and corroded pipe proved to be quite a challenge.



Right: Here the heat exchange unit for the pool has been partially removed from its vessel.

Left: The cap, which must be sealed when the new unit is installed, will have to be cleaned of all mineral deposits.

The hot water from Sam-o-Springs is used to heat the city water which fills the pool. Using the natural geothermal water saves Sam-o the cost of heating the water by other means.



### Public Works: Wastewater Department

A report of a wastewater problem was received for a home on Park Street.

After some searching, the manhole located at the end of the line was found between the utility pole and the shrub.

The wastewater line was found to be working properly.





## Public Works: Wastewater Department continued



The new "H" Street lift station project is nearly complete.

Left: Looking down into the abyss.



Right two: Operational training for the lift station is scheduled for next week. This unit is expected to operate with very little maintenance for many years.

## Public Works: Shop



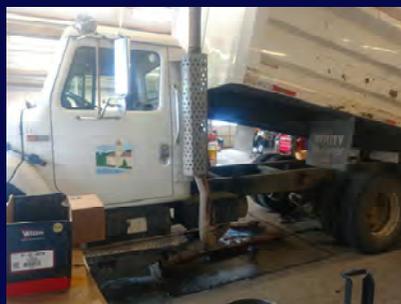
We installed a block heater and new studs on the front tires to help grip the ice on the streets.



Scott installed the decals on the service truck.



We found an oil leak was due to a seeping rear main seal. We will replace the seal after the snow season.



We pulled apart the tailgate release and oiled the air valve. Now it should work great for the rest of the season.



We found the fuel system flow control module needs replacing. The parts are ordered and should be here Monday.



We installed new front and rear brakes and rotors. We also installed a toggle switch to turn off the back up beeping mechanism.