

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail,
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

Weekly Update February 14, 2020

Administration:

Happy Valentines Day!! The City Council met this week for a short Council meeting which was followed by a work session that focused on goals for the coming fiscal year. These goals help staff develop a budget based on priorities of the City Council. More work will be forthcoming by the Council before they formally adopt their prioritized goals.

The City will be closed on Monday in observance of President's Day. The skiff of snow reminds us that winter is still here. The days are getting longer so get out and enjoy the weekend.



NOTICE

The City of Baker City is looking to fill one position on the City Council. **The City is currently accepting applications until March 2, 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.

To apply go to 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 1st Street

Baker City, OR 97814

Fax: 541-524-2024

Phone: 541-524-2033

Email: klafavor@bakercity.com





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 1st 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 new shop was approved at 3750 Campbell Street in the Residential Medium-Density (R-MD) Zone.

Building Department:

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	1	10	1	14
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	0
Electrical	3	3	3	12
Mechanical	3	11	1	6
Plumbing	3	6	1	7
Fence	1	NA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	11	30	6	39

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:

- 305 Dawson Street, Halfway—Detached accessory structure
- 1685 Balm Street, Baker City—New residence

COMMERCIAL PERMITS:

None at this time

HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW:

Next regularly scheduled meeting is March 4, 2020, at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department.



Finance Department:

Finance Director

- ⌘ Budgets and financial reports are available on the City’s website at <http://www.bakercity.com/2155/Finance>.
- ⌘ Register today for paperless E-billing and receive a monthly \$1.00 discount on your utility bill. Registration forms are available at the Water/Finance Department or online at www.bakercity.com.

Accounts Payable

The first of two accounts payable runs for February was generated February 12th.

Utilities

- ◆ Seven customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and six customers disconnected service from February 7th thru February 13th. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 2 was billed February 11th and included 453 residential and 13 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 101 (22%) are signed up for direct payment and 29 (6%) are signed up for e-billing.
- ◆ Zone 6 was billed today and included 480 residential and 56 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 113 (21%) are signed up for direct payment and 47 (9%) are signed up for e-billing.
- ◆ Fifty-two residential customers (Zones 1, 2, 5, 6, 7 and 8) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due). Ten were turned-off until their past due balances were paid.

Payroll

February draw checks were issued today.



2020 Dog Licenses

Available in February at a reduced cost:

- Spayed/Neutered **\$4.50**
- Not Spayed/Neutered **\$6.00**

Current Rabies Vaccination Required

Two and three year licenses are also available with valid rabies vaccination.



"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 41 new cases making numerous arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers. One incident involved the arrest of a subject who after staying the night at a local residence, refused to leave when requested by the tenant. He was also asked to leave by law enforcement and was charged with Criminal Trespass. Another individual was arrested for Driving While Suspended, a misdemeanor, when during a routine traffic stop, it was determined that the suspect's driving privileges had been suspended.
- ✪ BCPD staff assisted with selling dog licenses at the annual rabies clinic. If you weren't able to get to the rabies clinic, dog licenses are still available for sale at a reduced rate through the end of February! Spayed or neutered dogs are \$4.50 per year and unaltered dogs are \$6.00 per year. Dog licenses can be purchased from the water department at City Hall and you must provide proof of rabies vaccination. All dogs that have a set of permanent canine teeth and whose owner or caretaker resides within the city is required to be licensed per Ordinance §90.38.
- ✪ Here it is! The new K9 Chevy Tahoe, Unit 77, is all wrapped and ready for patrol! A big shout out goes to ERS (Emergency Responder Services) in Nampa, Idaho for the build, Oregon Sign Company for the graphics, and to all of our awesome donors and supporters for their outpouring of support which makes the K9 program possible and the purchase of this vehicle, a reality. K9 Capa is definitely riding in style! See pictures below.
- ✪ Chief Duman attended a regular session of City Council followed by a work session to begin the goal setting process for the upcoming budget negotiations.
- ✪ 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 February 4th through February 10th the Fire Department responded to a total of **29** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS	
City Calls	24
Rural Calls	5
Patient Transported	25
No Patient Trip	4
TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES	29

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

FIRE REPORTS	
General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	0
TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES	0

EMERGENCY CALL BACKS	
Request for Cover	4
Arrived for Cover	3



Tuesday Drill Night with the paid part-time Firefighters



Our Explorer Cadets

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/ FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/ COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **32 hrs** of Station & Equipment Maintenance
- **15 hrs** of EMS Training
- **54 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 18th.



Public Works: Water Department



Scott and Justin travelled to the watershed inlet structures to adjust the flow of water coming to Baker City.

Left: Here Scott is in the Elk Creek settling tank performing maintenance.



Right: Scott also took ground water measurements at some of the surrounding wells which share the same aquifer as the Baker City well located at the water treatment plant.



Left: This photo shows the snow level at the Elk diversion structure.

Public Works: Street Department



Several truckloads of snow were hauled from City Streets and State Highways to an area that is owned by Baker Sanitary Service. Hauling the snow to this local stockpile saves the City money. We are grateful to Baker Sanitary Service to allow us use of their property.



Temperatures warmed up enough that the remaining snow berms could be broken up using the CAT grader and backhoe. Justin and Blain shaved off portions of the berms into smaller pieces so traffic could further break down the snow. By days end, the berms were completely gone.



Public Works was called with a request for the street sweeper to come to the intersection of Campbell and Main Streets. The intersection contained broken glass which was reported to have fallen out of the back of a pick-up. Two Baker City Police Officers kept traffic from driving through the glass until Matt arrived in the Elgin mechanical sweeper to clean up the mess.





Public Works: Wastewater Department



Drainage facilities within the Public Works warehouse property were thoroughly cleaned and plumbing improvements were completed.

Here, Riley is being lowered into one of the man-holes to cap a horizontal outlet pipe. This will force the silt to settle out before water travels out the vertical tee.



A drain cleaner reported that a residence on 5th Street was having wastewater drainage problems. The interior plumbing was configured so that the drain cleaner was unable to snake the line. Public Works video-inspected inside the main line and was able to determine that the lateral coming from the house was plugged with roots.



The contractor, the lift manufacturer's representative and Baker City's contract engineer gathered at the new "H" Street lift station to go over operation & maintenance procedures with Public Works personnel. The new pumps in the wet well vault are 3-hp submersible pumps attached to a sliding rail system.

Left: Here, the pump manufacturer's representative is using his boom truck to hoist the #2 pump from inside the wet well vault.



Right: Here you see where the pump slides between the two rails for easy removing during maintenance procedures.

Left: Here Jake is assisting the pump representative in dismantling the pump to check for any water intrusion.





Public Works: Wastewater Department continued



Left: These are the floats which sit near the bottom of the wet well. As the fluid level in the vault rises, the floats change orientation and cause the pump(s) to automatically turn on. Then as the levels drop, the floats again change orientation causing the pump(s) to turn off.

Right: Here, the pump representative and the City's engineer go over the details of the control panel.



Last Friday, a report was received that a downtown building had a wastewater backup. Public Works responded, and worked with a professional drain cleaner to resolve the problem. It was determined that the blockage was in the lateral and not in the city maintained main line. It was discovered, however, that the terminus of the 6" diameter main line pipe needed to be repaired. The line, which was installed around 1960, needed to have a new cap installed over the end.



Left: The push-cam was used to inspect and locate the end of the line.

Right: Here's the view of the end of the pipe. It appears as if the cap has almost completely deteriorated.



An underground utility locate was requested and a notice posted to inform the surrounding property owners of the upcoming work.



Justin, Blain and Karl excavated down to the depth of the 6" line and installed a new PVC cap. They used concrete blocks to secure the connection. They were able to complete the job in half a day.

