

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.
Established 1864. Incorporated 1874

Weekly Update June 26, 2020

Administration:

Our local business community is dealing with unprecedented challenges as they try to deal with safety regulations, lack of foot traffic and profitability issues surrounding reduced capacity. There is only so much they can do in this environment to be profitable. We believe that it is incumbent on all of us to help them through these challenging times. With the recent outbreak in Union County and Western Idaho, the virus is not going away. Whether you believe that COVID is a hoax, no worse than the flu, that it is terrifying or just tired of dealing with it, our local businesses really need our help. They MUST adhere to the State, Federal and CDC regulations and it is up to all of us to help them. Please continue to social distance, wear a mask to protect your family and friends and keep following the cleanliness guidelines. As the tourist season picks up, they need our visitors to feel safe and welcomed.

Get out and enjoy the sunshine and have a great weekend.

Have you ever considered being on City Council?

**The Baker City Council will have
six positions on the November
ballot.**

If you are interested in applying, please contact the City Recorder, Katie LaFavor at klafavor@bakercity.com, or at 541-524-2033. **Applications are being accepted now through August 25, 2020 at 4:00 pm.**

You can find the application and other related information on our website: <http://bakercity.com/2248/City-Council-Elections>



City Hall will be closed on July 3, 2020 in

observance of Independence Day.

There will not be a weekly update for July 3, 2020.



Planning Department:

PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

The Baker City Planning Commission will hold a public hearing in Council Chambers at Baker City Hall, 1655 1st Street, Baker City, Oregon, at 6:00 p.m., on Wednesday, July 15, 2020. The public is invited to attend this meeting in person, or via teleconference. In conformance with social distancing standards related to COVID-19, a limited number of people could be allowed to attend in person at any given time. The Planning Commission will review the following:

- ◇ **ZT-20-013**: Proposed revisions and additions to the Baker City Development Code, the economic section of the Baker City Comprehensive Land Use Plan, and zoning maps for the City of Baker City.

APPLICATIONS

- A re-plat was approved to create two parcels in the Residential High-Density (R-HD) Zone. The property is currently addressed as 1380 D Street. The appeal period for this decision ends at 5PM on July 7, 2020.
- A new single-family dwelling and shop were approved on Reservoir Road, located within the Residential-Medium Density (R-MD) Zone.
- A new single-family dwelling and temporary use permit (allowing occupancy of an RV) were approved at 3610 Baker Street, located within the Residential-Medium Density (R-MD) Zone.
- A residential addition to was approved at 625 Broadway Avenue, in the Residential – Medium Density (R-MD) Zone.

Finance Department:

Utilities

- ◆ Six customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and one customer disconnected service from June 19th thru June 25th. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 3 was billed June 23rd and included 500 residential and 54 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 120 (22%) are signed up for direct payment and 34 (6%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Zone 8 was billed today and included 477 residential and 19 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 123 or 25% are signed up for direct payment and 19 (4%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ This week 19 residential customers (Zones 3 and 7) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) four of those were turned off until their past due balance was paid. Three have now paid and their service has been reinstated and one has not yet contacted the City.

Payroll

- Eighty-two employees were paid today including a part-time plumbing inspector, a part-time building inspector/plan reviewer, a part-time patrol officer, 6 Public Works temporary summer workers, and 6 paid part-time “volunteer” firefighters. Of those 82 employees, 70 or 85% are signed up for direct deposit.



"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 this past week, BCPD was particularly busy, opening 40 new cases. In one case, officers responded to a report of the theft of a companion dog belonging to a local resident. At the conclusion of this case, the suspect was cited and released on a charge of Theft I upon relinquishing the animal to officers in response to being presented with a Search Warrant to search the suspect's residence for the missing dog.
- ★ Chief Duman attended the City of Baker City Council meeting this past week. During this meeting, the 2020-2021 City budget and the Baker City Police Department Association contract were approved.
- ★ BCPD staff and administration would like to take this opportunity to thank our community for the support and encouragement we've received over the past week. It is our honor to serve the citizens of the community and we are very thankful for your support.

For COVID-19 Updates: www.bakercountycovid19.com

Weed Complaint and Abatement

Weed Complaints or yard maintenance concerns should be reported to the Fire Department at 541-523-3711 x 508 or emailed to sclinkenbeard@bakercity.com

Code Enforcement Weekly Activity

Property Maintenance

- Responded to two new complaints
- Followed up on seven previous complaints
- Three abatement follow ups
- Made five preventative contacts

Parking violations

- Issued two orange tag
- Responded to four new complaints
- Followed up on two previous complaints
- Issued one written warning

Miscellaneous

- Seventeen miscellaneous community contacts
- Two community service stops
- FIVE FOUND ITEMS

Animal violations and complaints

- Responded to seven animals running at large
- Followed up on seven previous complaints
- Responded to two dog feces complaints
- Impounded three dogs
- Two animal welfare checks



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

FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of June 16th through June 22nd the Fire Department responded to a total of **43** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	29
Rural Calls	7
Patient Transported	23
No Patient Trip	13
TOTAL MEDIC	36

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/ FIRE PREVENTION

INSPECTIONS/ COMMUNITY EVENTS

- 50 hrs of Station & Equipment Maintenance
- 23 hrs of Fire Training
- 77 hrs of EMS Training
- 5 hrs of Community Events
- 5 Burn Permits Issued



Airport Transfers	2
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	3
Out of Town Transfers Not Accepted	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1
Doubles (2 calls at once)	10
Triples (3 calls at once)	3
Quads (4 calls at once)	0
Public Assist	1

EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Request for Cover	13
Arrived for Cover	7

FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	7
TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES	7

Did you know....
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Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Fire Department is POSTPONING the free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am.
We will resume once social distancing is not required.



Public Works: Street Department



Friday of last week, Blain and Nate excavated crushed rock from a previous water leak repair to prepare it for the placement of hot asphalt.



The long water trench across Washington Avenue was dug out and patched Thursday.



Repairs were also performed Thursday on those streets which are scheduled for this year's chipseal project.



Downtown garbage receptacles were emptied on Thursday (bottom right)



Here a crew is crackfilling on "H" Street.



Did you know....

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

- ⇒ Public Arts Commission—1 positions available
- ⇒ Historic District Design Review Commission—2 positions available
- ⇒ Tree Board—2 positions available

Positions are for a 3-year term. Anyone interested in volunteering should visit www.bakercity.com to fill out a volunteer form. You may also email 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>



Public Works: Goodrich Reservoir



Tom travelled to Goodrich Reservoir to check on conditions. Water was free flowing over and into the glory hole. A makeshift hook was used to pull floating debris away from the protective fencing. Flow from the seeps were consistent with those observed the previous week.



Public Works: Mountain Line Department



The crew made very good progress on the Mountain Line project this week. They have gone past the south prong of Washington Gulch and are headed for the middle prong. A rotating laser level is used to maintain proper grade. Several cast iron fittings are being used on the sections they are working on, and the crusher bucket was used almost continuously to make specific bedding material for the new pipe. Here you see one of the construction stakes that the crew uses to determine the alignment and grade of the new pipe. While it looks like gibberish to most, it gives the crew very precise details for this project.



Public Works: Geiser Pollman Park



Remaining preparatory work was completed on Tuesday and the new concrete for the dumpster pad was poured Wednesday.

The bucket on the Volvo mini-excavator was reversed and used to move several yards of concrete to spots where the truck chute could not reach. It was much more effective than a wheel barrow!



Public Works: Shop



We installed a 100' hose reel on this water truck for future jobs.



This police car got a tune up and is back in service.



After repining the head, we are now working on the hydraulics.



We trimmed the ends of the blade to be able to plow the dirt off the road up at Elk Creek.