

# CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.  
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

*Weekly Update October 23, 2020*

## **Administration:**

The City Council will meet next week to discuss the adoption of an “excessive force policy” that is a requirement for the City to be able to receive a 1.5 million dollar grant from Business Oregon to build a new wellness center for clients of New Directions Northwest. The Council will also be looking at the potential purchase of property adjacent to Central Park off Resort Street. This parcel will allow vehicular traffic and parking for the downtown area. This has been a project the City has been pursuing for a number of years.

The overnight temperatures have been dipping to more normal fall weather. The leaves are falling and it is truly picturesque here in the City. Get out and enjoy the crisp weather and keep up the COVID-19 protocols so we can keep our kids in school and our neighbors safe.

### **City Council Agenda**

#### **October 27th**

- Excessive Force Policy
- Budget Resolution # 3875
- Liquor License: Little Pig
- CRF Update
- Central Park Property
- Watershed Project

## **Planning Department:**

### **PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING**

The next regularly scheduled Baker City Planning Commission meeting is November 18, 2020.

### **APPLICATIONS**

- A single-family dwelling was approved at 890 Scenic Vista Lane in the Residential Low-Density (R-LD) Zone.
- A single-family dwelling was approved at 295 Elm Street in the Residential Low-Density (R-LD) Zone.

### **Did you know....**

**\*\*\*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.



### **Building Department:**

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	6	14	2	9
Manufactured Dwelling	1	0	0	0
Electrical	7	11	6	9
Mechanical	8	8	6	6
Plumbing	3	1	0	3
Fence	0	NA	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>27</b>

#### **COMMERCIAL PERMITS:**

- 3425 13th Street, Baker City—Cover/Gazebo structure

#### **RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:**

- 1685 Balm Street, Baker City—New residence
- 529 Park Street, Sumpter—Raised deck
- 1625 Hughes Lane, Baker City—New garage addition
- 16556 Triple Ranch Lane, County—Detached accessory structure
- 2336 Auburn Avenue, Baker City—New garage addition
- 1435 6th Street, Baker City—Home addition
- 2700 Campbell Street, Baker City—Structural specialty inspection

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

Next regularly scheduled meeting is **October 28 at 8am** in the Building Department offices

**REMINDER—There are still openings for commissioners on the HDDRC Board!**

**ATTENTION :** If you own a structure in the Historic District, watch your mail and check out the HDDRC website for an exciting grant opportunity for your building! (See Pg 8)

### **Finance Department:**

#### **Utilities**

- Twelve customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and eighteen customers disconnected service from October 16<sup>th</sup> to October 22<sup>nd</sup>. This includes all service changes.
- Zone 3, which included 502 residential and 54 commercial accounts, was billed October 19<sup>th</sup>. Of those accounts 121 (22%) are signed up for direct payment and 36 (6%) are signed up for ebilling.
- Zone 8, which includes 476 residential and 19 commercial accounts, was billed today. Of those accounts 126 (25%) are signed up for direct payment and 20 (4%) are signed up for ebilling.
- Over the past two weeks, 40 residential customers (Zones 2, 5, 6 and 7) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) and six of those were actually turned off until their past due balance was paid. Of those six, five have paid and their service has been reinstated and one has not yet contacted the City.



*"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**

- ★ Last week, BCPD opened 37 new cases and responded to 179 calls, making several arrests for outstanding warrants and detainees.
- ★ BCPD offers searched areas of South Baker, including in and around South Baker Intermediate School, after an employee at the Sinclair gas station, on Highway 7, reported seeing a cougar in the vicinity. Officers from BCPD and Oregon State Police searched the area, but didn't find any sign of a cougar.
- ★ BCPD has an opening for a Code Enforcement Officer! More information, including job description and information on how to apply, can be found on the City of Baker City's employment page: <http://bakercity.com/2241/Human-ResourcesEmployment-Opportunities>. Application deadline is October 30, 2020 at 4:00pm.
- ★ BCPD occasionally receives calls from concerned citizens reporting the latest version of a telephone scam or spam-type call with hopes that this information can be used by local law enforcement to somehow track down the scammers and hold them accountable for defrauding and stealing from the most vulnerable members of our community. Unfortunately, the ability to fully investigate these crimes isn't available to local law enforcement as the numbers used to call our cell phones countless times a day, are, in all reality, probably originating from outside the United States and by spoofing the phone numbers used, these calls can appear to be either local numbers or from a legitimate government agency, further masking the scammers identity. But there is something you can do! The Federal Trade Commission has launched a new fraud reporting website: <https://reportfraud.ftc.gov/#/>. You can report a scam, a company for bad businesses practices or even unwanted spam calls! This information, when gathered, helps investigators build cases and spot trends used by scammers to help educate the public to better avoid becoming a victim. Check it out today.
- ★ Face coverings, shields and/or masks are required in the front entrance of the Baker City Police Department, which is open to the public. This policy is in response to Governor Kate Brown's order requiring face coverings be worn in public indoor spaces by anyone 5 years of age and older.

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION  
ReportFraud.ftc.gov

ReportFraud.ftc.gov is the federal government's website where you can report fraud, scams, and bad business practices.

**ReportFraud.ftc.gov**



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

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of **October 13th** through **October 19th** the **Fire Department** responded to a total of **25** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS		EMERGENCY CALL BACKS		FIRE REPORTS	
City Calls	19	Request for Cover	1	General Alarms	1
Rural Calls	3	Arrived for Cover	1	Dispatched Alarms	2
Patient Transported	15			<b>TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES</b>	<b>3</b>
No Patient Trip	7				

## TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/ FIRE PREVENTION

TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES		INSPECTIONS/ COMMUNITY EVENTS	
Airport Transfers	1	• 25 Burn Permits Issued	
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	0	• 28 hrs of Station & Equipment Maintenance	
Out of Town Transfers Not Accepted	1	• 11 hrs of Fire Training	
Motor Vehicle Accidents	0	• 38 hrs of EMS Training	
Doubles (2 calls at once)	3	• 0 hrs Community Events	
Triples (3 calls at once)	0	• 0 hrs Fire Prevention Inspections	
Quads (4 calls at once)	0		
Public Assist	0		

**The Burn Ban has been Lifted!**  
**Remember, you still need a FREE permit, available in person at the Fire Station.**

**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](mailto:sclinkenbeard@bakercity.com)

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: Shop



Three Above: We were replacing the scraper on this rig when we found a bad lower bearing that had caused the lower roller to go bad. We are replacing both upper and lower bearings and the upper roller.



Left: We installed a new air cylinder and de-winterized this rig for use.

Right: We pulled and replaced the old propane hosing.



## Public Works: Wastewater Department



A local drain cleaner hired Public Works to clean a business' parking lot drain lines on Tuesday. Additional work is planned for next week.

A new wastewater lateral was installed on Reservoir Road Thursday. Advance warning signs were put out the day ahead to inform local residents that the road would be closed for the day.



Right: The chip seal surface was cut along the white line.



Left two: Several underground utility were encountered during the installation of the lateral. A special 8" x 8" x 4" 22 1/2 degree fitting was used to make the final connection onto the 8" main line.



## Public Works: Wastewater Department continued



A 6" wastewater main line on "H" Street was extended by 100' this week. A new wastewater lateral was installed at the end of the extension. The depth of the trench required the use of trench shielding to protect workers.



Buried utilities were uncovered while the new wastewater main was being installed.

The majority of the wastewater trench was backfilled and compacted by the end of the day Wednesday.



## Public Works: Stormwater Department



Work on the First Street stormwater project is progressing well. The large 21" diameter pipe has been laid all the way from "D" Street to "B" Street.



Right two: Here you see Justin and Nate working to compact the backfill material.



Several hundred feet of the trench line has been patched using approximately 50 tons of hot asphalt.

In addition to the new larger pipe and manholes, four new catch basins and surrounding concrete curbs will be replaced.





# Public Works: Stormwater Department



The Baker County Road Department assisted on the First Street stormwater project by using their asphalt grinder to grind out a trench 40" wide and 4" deep. The asphalt is loaded from the grinder directly into dump trucks which travel just ahead of the grinder.

**THANK YOU TO BAKER COUNTY FOR THE ASSISTANCE!**

The original 15" diameter pipe in this section of storm line is not large enough to handle the flow of water whenever there is significant rain. To compound problems, there are tree roots which grow through the joints of the pipe. Once the roots gain entry into the pipe they grow large enough to block the flow of water. The new 21" diameter PVC pipe will not allow the intrusion of roots and will carry a much greater quantity of water.



Left two: The temporary connection from 2019 was excavated and disconnected so the new 21" line could be extended down to "B" Street.



Right two: Installation of the new pipe continued this week between "C" and "D" Streets.



Left two: The old manhole at the intersection of First and "C" was removed and a new precast manhole set in it's place. The First Street trench line between "D" and "C" is planned to be patched today.



## **HDDRC Grant Opportunity**

Dear Historic District Property Owner;

### **Notice of grant opportunity for structures in the Historic District:**

Every two years, due to our City's status as a "Certified Local Government", we have the opportunity to award funds to property owners for repair/maintenance on historic properties. This is a matching grant opportunity with specific guidelines, and the application window is now open. For more information, please visit the Baker City website, and go to the Historic District Design Review Committee page. You are also welcome to join us at any HDDRC meeting, or call the Building Dept. 541-524-2054.

We are personally reaching out to all property owners within the Historic District to notify you all of the above opportunity. We know that times are tough right now, and you may not have planned for any building maintenance/repairs. But if the opportunity to receive at least some of that money back was available --- (which it is!) --- maybe you would want to consider doing it!

Please contact the Building Department for an application form for the initial review of any proposed project. While a more detailed application is required should your project be selected, you will have additional time to pull that together. We are looking for your basic project description and costs for consideration. We have \$12,000 to award to historic qualifying properties.

If you have a project to submit for approval, please complete the application and email it to:

[dkitzmillier@bakercity.com](mailto:dkitzmillier@bakercity.com) or mail/deliver it to Baker City Hall. Questions? 541-524-2054

This could be a wonderful opportunity for you. We look forward to working with you!

*Dawn Kitzmiller – On Behalf of the Historic District Plan Review Commission*





## Public Works



# It's that time of year again!

In prep for this year's snow plow season, Baker City Public Works is asking citizens to help our snow removal crews by **removing all travel or utility trailers, non-working or infrequently used vehicles and any other miscellaneous items currently being stored on the street or directly next to the street.** Our citizens play a key role in the success of our snow removal program!



## **Public Works: Watershed Hunting Access Permits**

### **Baker City Watershed Hunting Access Permits**



Permits are available at the Baker City Public Works Department at City Hall front entrance

- Hours to request a permit are: **Monday through Friday, 11:30 AM—12:30 PM and 4:00 PM—5:00 PM.** A mask is required.
- Outside of the above hours permits can be requested through email at [bakercitywatershedhunting@gmail.com](mailto:bakercitywatershedhunting@gmail.com). The required items listed below will need to be sent in along with the request. This process may take 1-2 business days to complete.

The following information will be required when applying for a permit (either in person or via email):

1. Hunter's name, address and phone number
2. Hunting ID #
3. Hunting tags (will need to see electronic tags)
4. Vehicle make/model and plate number you will be driving to the watershed
5. If you will have a non-hunting companion – that individual's name, address and driver's license #

Permits will not be issued until Forest Service fire classification is no longer at high or extreme. If you have questions please call (541) 524-2047. Permits will be issued no sooner than 3 business days prior to your hunt.