

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

Weekly Update February 19, 2021

Administration:

The snow is beautiful this morning. A white blanket across the valley and mountains. We are fortunate to live in such a spectacular place. The United States is marvelous from tropical Florida to the cranberry glades in Maine, across the deserts of the west and Mediterranean feel of California. A lifetime of exploration is available in our own United States of America. What really makes America fantastic are the people. Americans come together when times are tough. Right now, the Midwest is frozen solid. Many including 14 million Texans are without electricity as wind turbines are frozen to a halt and solar panels are blanketed in snow. Water systems are frozen and boil water notices are in parts of the country not accustomed to freezing temperatures.

This week, City Council met to discuss goals for Baker City. One question posed by City Council was: How prepared is Baker City and its residents for an emergency or natural disaster? City staff, emergency responders, and many others in our community have plans in place in the event of an emergency. I encourage every individual in this city to do what you can to prepare for an emergency. Add one can of beans, bottle of water, or extra roll of toilet paper each month to your storage. Add a couple of dollars to a safe place each month. It is amazing how quickly it will grow and you will be prepared when disaster strikes.

2021-2022 City Council

Mayor:

Kerry McQuisten mayor@bakercity.com

Acting Mayor:

Lynette Perry lperry@bakercity.com

Councilors:

Shane Alderson: salderson@bakercity.com

Joanna Dixon: jdixon@bakercity.com

Heather Sells: hsells@bakercity.com

Jason Spriet: jspriet@bakercity.com

Johnny Waggoner Sr.:

jwaggonersr@bakercity.com

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City Council Agenda

February 23 @ 7 pm

- Planning Department Overview
- Res. 3880: National Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Board, Committee & Commission Appts
- TLT Intergovernmental Agency Agreement Discussion
- Ordinance #3381: Golf Board Membership
- Council Rules of Procedure Review
- Council Committee Updates



Code Enforcement Weekly Activity

Property Maintenance

- Conducted two inspections on property violations
- Followed up on four property maintenance cases
- Opened one new property maintenance case
- Issued one citation for property violations

Animal violations and complaints

- One livestock running at large complaint
- Two animal welfare checks
- Issued two citations for dog at large
- Three dogs running at large
- One barking dog complaint

Parking violations

- Tagged three vehicles for removal
- Issued two parking citations
- Followed up on four parking complaints

Miscellaneous

- One officer assist
- One agency assist
- Two community contacts



Building Department:

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	3	9	0	9
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	0
Electrical	11	14	4	11
Mechanical	5	13	5	8
Plumbing	5	8	2	2
Fence	0	NA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	24	44	11	30

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:

- 2250 Miller Street, Baker City—Demo fire damaged structure
- 3495 9th Drive, Baker City—Residential addition
- 1345 Hughes Lane, Baker City—Detached accessory structure

There are still openings for the HDDRC! Apply today!

<http://bakercity.com/FormCenter/Boards-Commissions-2/Volunteer-Form-33>

COMMERCIAL PERMITS:

None at this time.

HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW:

Next regularly scheduled meeting is February 24, 2021 at 8:00am in the Building Department Offices.



"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 opened 33 new cases and responded to 146 calls, making several arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers.
- ★ In June of 2019, Baker City Police Department began an investigation involving an elder abuse case where a theft of over \$60,000 was taken from a memory care patient, Lydia Chancy, 98 years of age, of Settler's Park.

On February 11th, 2021, Dalene Davis was taken into custody on a secret indictment warrant for 6 counts of Aggravated Theft, first degree and 6 counts of Criminal Mistreatment, first degree. She was transported to jail, processed and released due to COVID-19 restrictions.

The Oregon Department of Justice, Elder Abuse Division and the DHS Baker Branch of Adult Protective Services assisted in the investigation. Dalene Davis, age 61, 1425 Auburn Avenue, Baker City, Oregon was arrested on (6) counts of Aggravated Theft I and (6) counts of Criminal Mistreatment I.
- ★ Sergeant Chastain completed the Oregon Peace Officers' Association Background Investigator's Course and started an eight (8) week comprehensive web-based leadership course on Critical Incident Management for First Line Supervisors.
- ★ Detective Shannon Regan attended a virtual webinar entitled, *Investigating and Prosecuting No Body Homicides*, presented by the National Criminal Justice Training Center (NCJTC) of Fox Valley Technical College and taught by retired City of Madison Police Detective Marianne Flynn Statz.
- ★ Baker City Police Department is still actively working on the missing persons case of Linda Peterson. Crime Stoppers of Oregon has a link for tips and/or leads. They are currently adding \$2,500 to the reward money, increasing it to \$5,000 total for information leading to an arrest in her disappearance. Any information and/or tips can be submitted through the Crime Stoppers of Oregon website at the following link: [Oregon Crime Stoppers](#). You may remain anonymous.
- ★ Face coverings, shields and/or masks are required in the front entrance of the Baker City Police Department, which is open to the public.

Planning Department:

PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

The next regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting is March 17, 2021.

APPLICATIONS

- A new home, detached garage and shed were approved at 1350 D Street in the Residential High-Density (R-HD) Zone.
- The conversion of a garage to living space was approved at 1625 Hughes Lane. The property is located in the Residential Low-Density (R-LD) Zone and is within the floodplain.



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

FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of February 9th through February 15th the Fire Department responded to a total of **38** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS		EMERGENCY CALL BACKS		FIRE REPORTS	
City Calls	27	Request for Cover	5	General Alarms	2
Rural Calls	4	Arrived for Cover	1	Dispatched Alarms	5
Patient Transported	18			TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES	7
No Patient Trip	13			TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/ FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/ COMMUNITY EVENTS	
TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES	31			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11 Burn Permits Issued • 31 hrs of Station & Equipment Maintenance • 13.5 hrs of Fire Training • 14 hrs of EMS Training • 0 hrs of Safety Training • 0 hrs Community Events • 0 hrs Fire Prevention Inspections 	
Airport Transfers	1			<div style="background-color: black; color: yellow; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>New Year, New Burn Permit</p> <p>FREE burn permits are available in person at the Fire Station.</p> </div>	
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	2				
Out of Town Transfers Not Accepted	4				
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1				
Doubles (2 calls at once)	6				
Triples (3 calls at once)	0				
Quads (4 calls at once)	0				
Public Assist	0				

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.

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



Finance Department



Dog Licenses

Due to COVID-19, the City has extended the discount period for 2021 dog licenses through March 31, 2021. Dog licenses are used to help reconnect dogs at large to their owners and are required by Ordinance for all dogs residing in the City limits. Licenses are valid through the calendar year and can be purchased for one, two or three years as long as the rabies vaccination is valid into the year the license is issued for.

2021 Dog Licenses



Available until March at a reduced cost:

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

Current Rabies Vaccination Required

2022 and 2023 licenses are also available with valid rabies vaccination.

Public Works: Shop



We replaced the shift cable eyelet grommet on this rig. It is back in service.



This equipment was serviced and checked over.



We are replacing the upper and lower grill on the front end loader.



We are installing running boards and a company radio on this rig.





Public Works: Public Service



Public Works assisted Baker County by supplying traffic cones and directional arrows for the recent COVID Vaccination Clinic held at Baker High School.



Right: Work continues at the Public Works facility to cleanup and organize materials.

Public Works: Wastewater Department



Left: The CIPP lining contractor from Montana is continuing work this week to line the inside of old active wastewater collection lines. They expect their work to be completed by the end of Friday.



Right: Steps are being fabricated for use in the new trench shielding. Long, heavy ladders are difficult to maneuver and insert over and through shielding supports. Mounted steps will be safer and easier to access.

Public Works: Water Department



The hydrant in front of the Fire Station was repaired. Internal parts had become worn out from use and were replaced. It is now back in service!



It is important that all water meters be accessible for maintenance and for turning on/off as needed. Water meters are turned off and on for a variety of reasons, sometimes under emergency situations as when a water line breaks inside a house.

It is important to make sure your meters are accessible in case an emergency arises.



Public Works: Street Department



Snowfall this week resulted in Public Works crews salting, sanding and plowing Baker City streets.



A four-man crew plowed Saturday and Monday. A four-man plow crew and a five-man snow haul crew began work at midnight Monday (Tuesday am) to plow and haul away snow from the downtown corridor streets.



By Tuesday afternoon the temperature had risen high enough that the remaining berms on Campbell, 10th and Broadway Streets could be broken up by the road grader and backhoes to help facilitate melting. All the berms were gone by the end of the day.

Snow covered icy roads often result in property damage caused when vehicles travel faster than conditions allow. The street light top shown near the intersection of Kirkway and Hughes Lane will be retrofitted with a new solar powered luminaire.



Additional sanding rock was hauled from the ODOT facility to the Baker City warehouse for use on State Highway routes through town.

Depending upon the depth and consistency of the snow on the Leo Adler Pathway, either a hydraulic broom or a plow blade is used to clear the snow.





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!

*****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.