

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

Weekly Update June 18, 2021

Administration

After two weeks of no weekly update, we have adjusted and anticipate proceeding onward with the weekly updates. Thank you to Katie who worked every week to compile the information from all of our departments into this weekly publication. Good luck on your new endeavors. You are missed.

City staff are working hard to close out the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2021. This includes adopting the new budget which will become effective July 1, 2021. City Council will review and likely adopt this budget at their next meeting on Tuesday, June 22, 2021. The upcoming budget includes the day to day requirements of keeping the city running,. It also includes projects to improve city operations and services. Some of the projects update software. These updates improve internal communications, improved data security, streamlining financial systems, and more. Other projects continue to improve and ensure water and sewer is available and secure for the city.

Thank you to staff, the Budget Board, City Council and everyone involved in the budget process.

City Council Agenda

June 22 @ 7 pm

- Badge Pinning for Division Chiefs
- Golf Board Appointment
- Indiana Avenue Discussion
- HDDRC Appointment
- Budget Adoption

City Hall will be closed Friday, June 19 th in observance of Juneteenth.

Finance Department

UTILITIES

- Eight customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and eleven customers disconnected service from June 9th thru June 16th. This includes all service changes.
- Zone 2 was billed June 14th and included 466 residential and 14 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 106 (22%) are signed up for direct payment and 24 (5%) are signed up for ebilling.
- Zone 6 was billed June 11th and included 483 residential and 64 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 132 (24%) are signed up for direct payment and 49 (9%) are signed up for ebilling.
- Thirteen residential customers (Zones 1, and 6) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) one was actually turned off and is still off until their past due balance is paid.



Planning Department

PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on June 16th and made the following decisions:

- VAR-21-073: The Planning Commission denied a variance request for a sign to project a total of 79” from a building façade at 1828/1830 Main Street in the Central-Commercial (C-C) Zone



- ZT-21-054: The Planning Commission made recommendations to City Council to approve revisions to the Baker City Development Code and Comprehensive Plan, including adopting a new Housing Needs Analysis. The Planning Commission and City Council will hold a joint work session on July 20th, 2021 to discuss these recommendations, prior to the City Council’s first public hearing on the matter, which will be held on July 27th, 2021. For more information, review documents online at <http://bakercity.com/2157/Planning-Department>, visit the Planning Department at 1995 Third Street, or call 541-523-8219.

APPLICATIONS

- A social club with a coffee bar was approved at 1940/1948 Valley Street, on the second floor of the existing structure. The property is located in the Central Commercial (C-C) Zone.
- A deck was approved at 1420 17th Street. The property is located in the Residential – Medium Density (R-MD) Zone.
- A storage shed was approved at 2609 15th Street in the R-MD Zone.
- A performance stage for summer concerts was approved at 1790 Washington Avenue in the C-C Zone.
- A mobile vending unit was approved at 2990 10th Street in the General Commercial (C-G) Zone.
- Self-service storage units were approved on property located at the corner of 13th and C Streets in the General Industrial (I) Zone. An address is yet to be issued for this property.
- Three extension of time requests were approved for a series of property line adjustments between properties located at 3720, 3722 and 3750 Campbell Street in the R-MD Zone.
- Notices were sent to surrounding property owners concerning a re-plat request to create two parcels from property addressed as 3336 Campbell Street in the R-MD Zone. Comments may be submitted on the proposal until 5PM on June 30th.



Police Department

“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.”

Last week, BCPD opened 147 new cases and responded to 665 calls, making several arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers. BCPD staff were particularly busy responding to and investigating several major cases. The following press releases were issued during this period:

- ★ On June 9, 2021 at approximately 4:25 pm., BCPD Officers responded to a Domestic Assault call at 880 Elm Street #10, Baker City. Officers contacted the victim, Mark Brinton (husband of suspect) who had suffered a small laceration on his head and was covered in motor oil. Mark Brinton identified his wife, Valerie Jean Brinton as the assailant.

BCPD Officers contact Valerie Brinton in a travel trailer, wherein she began leaning out a window and throwing broke glass at the Officers. Valerie Brinton was removed from the travel trailer via a window and subsequently kicked one of the Officers in the face. After handcuffing Valerie Brinton, she kicked another Officer in the groin before being transported the Baker County Jail. At the Jail, Valerie Brinton assaulted a Corrections Deputy. Both BCPD Officers and Baker County Corrections Deputy suffered bruising as a result of the assaults.

Valerie Jean Brinton, dob: 06/04/1968 was arrested and lodged on the following charges; Resisting Arrest, Assault 4th Degree, Reckless Endangering x2 and Assaulting a Public Safety Officer.

- ★ In the early morning hours of June 15, 2021, officers with the Baker City Police Department conducted extra patrol walk-throughs of the Quail Ridge Golf Course located at 2801 Indiana Avenue, Baker City, Oregon. As the officers approached the cart house area, they observed one male adult exiting one of the cart houses. They detained the subject and determined that he had broken into a total of six cart houses and stole various articles of property. The officers arrested the below named subject and he was lodged in the Baker County Jail. Upon arrest, officers found further evidence consisting of burglary tools they believed were used in the burglaries.

Quail Ridge Golf Course has had over 20 breaks-ins in the past several months, not including the current charges and BCPD believes Slaney is responsible for most if not all of the burglaries and thefts. At this time, there is not a dollar loss value from the crimes. The following person was arrested as a result of the investigation: Timothy Kelly Slaney, dob: 02/02/1989, was arrested and lodged on the following charges: Burglary in the Second Degree – x6; Theft in the Second Degree; Possession of Burglary Tools and Criminal Trespass in the Second Degree. The investigation is ongoing. If you find your cart house recently broken into, please contact Detective Zachary Thatcher at 541-524-2014.

- ★ On June 10, 2021, officers were dispatched to a graffiti call at Geiser Pollman Park in Baker City, Oregon. When officers arrived, they found black marker had been used to mark up the play equipment in the park, and black paint had been spread on the sidewalk. It is estimated that over \$1,000 in damages and clean-up costs were done to the equipment and sidewalks. Video



Police Department

recordings recovered by the recently installed video equipment at the park captured the criminal activity.

- ★ On June 14, 2021, officers were dispatched to another graffiti call behind the Dollar Tree located at 2300 Resort Street, Baker City, Oregon. During that investigation, three female juveniles were detained and questioned about their activities. A city employee arrived and recognized two of those females from the video surveillance captured on June 10, 2021. As a result, two female juveniles, an eleven-year-old and twelve-year-old, were cited into juvenile court for Criminal Mischief in the First Degree (a class C felony) and then they were released back to their parents. The Baker City Police Department does not publicly release names of juveniles involved in crimes.
- ★ Code Enforcement Officer Dallas Brockett licensed bicycles during the Bike for the Health of It event held at Central Park this past weekend. This free family-friendly event hosted by Trailhead, in partnership with the Baker 5J School District, included guided bike rides for all abilities, basic bike maintenance clinics and a bicycle obstacle course for kids. Bicycle licenses are available free of charge from the Baker City Police Department. Registering your bicycle helps us identify your bike should we recover it, which greatly assists with the return of your bicycle. Come by the Police Department Monday thru Friday between 8:00am and 5:00pm, closed during the lunch hour, to register your bicycle!

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

www.bakercity.com

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

- ⇒ **HDDRC: 2 positions**
- ⇒ **Golf Board: 2 positions**
- ⇒ **Planning Commission: 1 position**
(remainder of 4-year term expiring 1/2024)



Applications are due by June 14, 2021.

Positions are for a 3-year term unless noted. Anyone interested in volunteering should visit <http://bakercity.com/2149/Boards-Commissions> to fill out a volunteer form.

The direct link to the volunteer form page is: <http://bakercity.com/FormCenter/Boards-Commissions-2/Volunteer-Form-33>



Building Department

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	1	23	6	30
Manufactured Dwelling	0	2	0	1
Electrical	15	12	10	16
Mechanical	5	10	4	9
Plumbing	2	11	1	1
Fence	4	NA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	27	58	21	57

COMMERCIAL PERMITS:

- 1928 Court Street, Baker City – Commercial reroof
- 42056 Best Frontage Road, Baker City – Structure replacement

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:

- 44903 Lansford Lane, Baker City – New dwelling
- 875 NW Ajax Street, Sumpter – Detached accessory structure
- 44874 Whitetail Lane, Baker City – New dwelling
- 44879 Barbara Circle, Baker City – Detached accessory structure

HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW:

Next regularly scheduled meeting is July 7, 2021, at 8:00am in the Building Department Offices, if needed.

Public Works: Street Department



A new ADA compliant concrete curb was installed at the intersection of 5th and Court. It has a very short radius.

A STOP sign somehow disappeared from its designated location at the intersection of Cedar Street and Lund Lane. Once that was discovered, it was quickly replaced.





Public Works: Street Department



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Public Works: Water Department



A water leak occurred on private property near the Maverik Station. The water service was turned off while repairs could be made.



Nearly all the fire hydrants in town have been flushed.

Public Works: Wastewater Department



The Wastewater Main Line on Auburn Avenue was successfully installed. 570 feet of 10" P.V.C. line, two manholes and two service lines were installed between June 1st and June 10th.

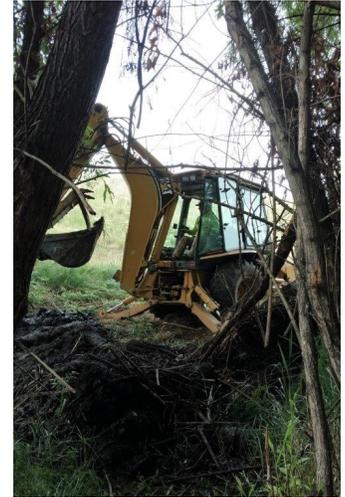
The Wastewater lateral connecting the County Museum to the sewer main line in Campbell Street was inspected using the Vi-Vax Push-cam. That portion between the clean-out and the main line was found to be 6" Terra Cotta Pipe in good condition.





Public Works: Golf Course

A large diameter irrigation pipe was temporarily installed across the Golf Course grass to convey ground water into the Indiana Drainage. The drainage area downstream from Indiana Ave. was cleared of debris so that the test water could flow unimpeded.



Public Works: Airport

A new Septic Tank was installed at the Airport. The existing one had become damaged by the growth of a large Spruce Tree causing it to no longer work properly.

Trouble Paying your Water and Wastewater bills?

Baker City has resources to help:

- Community Connections 541-523-6591
- Catholic Church 541-523-4521
- OR Dept. of Human Resources 541-523-5846
- Christian Church 541-523-5425
- Salvation Army 541-523-5853
- First Presbyterian Church 541-523-5201

Please call directly for details.



WATER SYSTEM CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM

- ✓ **Required by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Drinking Water Regulations and the EPA**
- ✓ **Backflow devices are required by state and federal law to be tested annually**
- ✓ **Keeps drinking water clean and safe for you and your neighbors**

FAQs

WHY DO I NEED BACKFLOW PROTECTION?

Irrigation systems are considered non-potable water systems. Backflow protection stops animal waste, fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides from entering your drinking water system.

HOW CAN IRRIGATION WATER ENTER MY DRINKING WATER SYSTEM?

The most common way contaminated water enters a drinking water system is by back-siphonage. This can occur when water pressure is reduced during times of high volume use, ie, a shower, clothes washer and dishwasher all operating at the same time.

HOW DOES BACKFLOW PROTECTION STOP CONTAMINATION?

A properly installed and maintained backflow preventer will allow water to flow in only one direction.

WHAT IS BACKFLOW?

Backflow is the undesired reversal of the flow of liquids such as irrigation water into the drinking water system. The two forms of backflow are:

Back-siphon— the action of flow reversal caused by a reduction in line pressure

Back-pressure— the increase of water pressure caused by elevation or mechanical pumping

The installation of a backflow preventer will protect drinking water systems from possible contamination from irrigation systems.

COMMON CROSS- CONNECTION EXAMPLES

These common household and commercial connections to the public water system pose a threat to our clean water if not protected by the appropriate Backflow Prevention Assembly.





North Baker Transportation Improvement Plan

Wanted: Your thoughts about 10th Street

Visit www.bakercity.com

We need your thoughts about how upgrades to 10th Street can best serve the businesses & our community. Idea diagrams are available on www.bakercity.com, and we'd appreciate your thoughts on points you do or don't like, and feedback about whether you'd like:

- Improvements to any intersections
- Sidewalks all along 10th
- A multi-use path for pedestrians and bikes
- Bike lanes
- Safer pedestrian crossings
- Parking along the street
- Aesthetic improvements like lighting or vegetation
- Other?

All design ideas can be modified to meet our community's needs, and we need to know what is important to you! Comment on the website or by emailing mowen@bakercity.com

Questions? Call Michelle Owen at 541-524-2031 or Holly Kerns at 541-523-8219