



# The WEEKLY

January 7, 2022

The latest news, views, and announcements of Baker City.

## INSIDE

### Boards and Commissions

Several openings on boards and commissions with the City.

### Jobs!

Fire Department is still hiring!

### Snow Removal Tips

Accumulation of snow, frozen pipes, and general information.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

January 11<sup>th</sup> – 7:00pm  
City Council Meeting  
Regular Session

January 25<sup>th</sup> – 6:00pm  
City Council Meeting  
Work Session

January 25<sup>th</sup> – 7:00pm  
City Council Meeting  
Regular Session



## City Manager's Message

Jonathan Cannon

Welcome to the New Year. 2022 is upon us with snow, rain, cold, and now pleasant skies. The snow crews have worked hard to clear streets. They are called in to work late at night and early in the morning and frequently work all night pushing snow. It is not an easy job. I appreciate their efforts and hard work.

Snow removal was not always part of a city's responsibilities. Before the mid-1800s little was done to remove snow from streets and roads. Citizens with shovels were the first to deal with snow in the streets. Then Horse Drawn snow rollers used to compact snow making it easier to roll over. Snow Plows came into play in the 1860's. After that, snow removal has become more sophisticated with specialized equipment.

Expectations have also grown with the increase in activity within cities. The expectation that snow is removed and streets are completely clear is becoming more common. In some locations cities have very specialized equipment to collect snow from streets and sidewalks. They require cars to be parked off street or they tow them. They then use blowers which throw snow into semi-trucks. The snow is hauled out of the city.

Baker City does not have this sort of equipment. Much of what we have is used to push snow. We then use front end loaders and dump trucks to pick up piles of snow. Snow removal and plowing is a very expensive endeavor for the city. Taxpayer dollars pay for the snow removal. It is important to us that we find that balance between citizen expectations and cost of removal. We appreciate your patience as our staff work diligently to handle this labor-intensive work within the city. Thank you to public works for your faithful efforts. Click [here](#) for our website with more information.



## Welcome to the new weekly update!

Dallas Brockett

Hope everyone had a great New Years! Our weekly newsletter has officially been redesigned. While designing the new weekly, we looked at various templates and options. We wanted a clean, professional look with a pop of color. As the city recorder, I strive to provide our citizens with the best product possible. This is our first phase of providing a better Weekly Update.

Our website redesign project starts next week. Thank you everyone who has participated in the survey for the website redesign. It will help our redesign team provide a more professional website as well as provide information that can be accessed more efficiently to our citizens of Baker City.

Hope everyone has a great weekend!

Dallas Brockett, City Recorder



## We are hiring!

Human Resources

We still have various jobs available at the city! Feel free to go to our website [ [www.bakercity.com](http://www.bakercity.com) ] for more information on the following job opportunities.

### Firefighter/EMT

The City of Baker City is accepting applications for the position of Firefighter/EMT in the Fire Department. For a complete announcement, position description and application, please click on the links below or contact Stacy Spriet in Human Resources. Salary range is \$4,532-\$5,098 per month plus excellent benefits.

*The City of Baker City provides employment opportunity to all qualified employees and applicants, without unlawful regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran's status, or any other status protected by applicable federal, Oregon, or local law. Our EEO policy applies to all aspects of the employment relationship—including, but not limited to, recruitment, hiring, compensation, promotion, demotion, transfer, disciplinary action, layoff, recall, and termination of employment.*

## Finance/Utilities

## Here is a list of stats for utilities from 12/23-21 to 01/05/22:

**Six customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and 10 customer disconnected service from December 23rd thru January 5th. This includes all service changes.**

- Zone 8 was billed December 24th and included 472 residential and 20 commercial accounts. Of those accounts, 131 (27%) are signed up for direct payment and 21 (4%) are signed up for ebilling.
- Zone 4 was billed December 27th and included 733 residential and 63 commercial accounts. Of those accounts, 236 (30%) are signed up for direct payment and 46 (6%) are signed up for ebilling.
- Zone 5 was billed January 3rd and included 466 residential and 17 commercial accounts. Of those accounts, 145 (30%) are signed up for direct payment and 33 (7%) are signed up for ebilling.
- 45 residential customers (Zones 3, 4 and 7) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) 14 were turned off, six have paid their past due amount and their services have been turned back on, and eight still have not yet contacted the City.



## DOXO Update

### 12/23/21 to 01/05/2021:

Doxo online utility payments were first introduced on 9/17/2021, and to date 629 customers have signed up to make their payments online. We will continue to update this number weekly.

For a two-week period, a total of 71 payments, in the amount of \$7,402.43, have been made.

### To pay your utility bill online:

1. Visit [www.bakercity.com](http://www.bakercity.com)
2. Locate the "Pay Your Bill" icon on the homepage
3. Small fee for credit cards/debit cards – No fee for checking accounts!

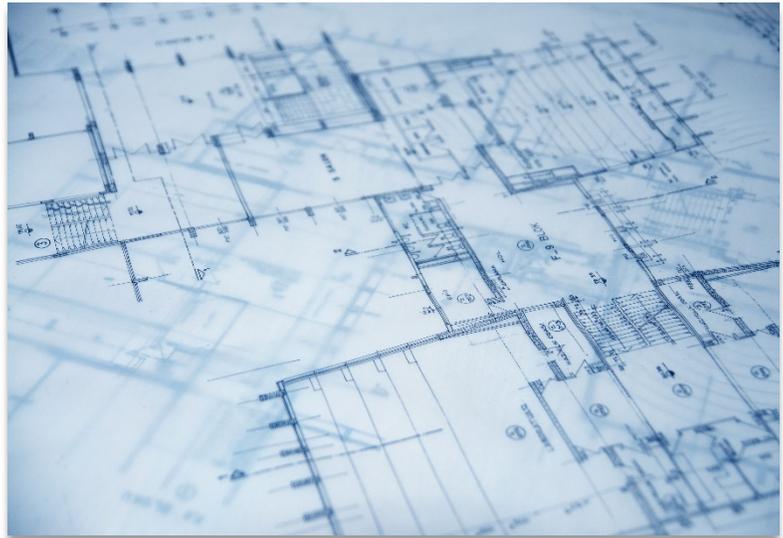
## Planning Department

### PUBLIC HEARINGS

The regularly scheduled Planning Commission hearing for January 19, 2022, was cancelled.

The Planning Commission and City Council will hold a joint work session on January 25, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., to discuss the Northern Baker Transportation Improvement Plan (NBTIP) and associated updates to both the Baker City Development Code and Comprehensive Plan. This meeting will be held in the City Council Chambers at Baker City Hall, 1665 1st Street, Baker City.

For more information, please visit: <http://bakercity.com/2289/NBTIP>.



### APPLICATIONS

- A Property Line Adjustment to eliminate a common boundary line between two parcels, was approved at 1400 Dewey Ave, in the Residential-High Density (R-HD) Zone.
- An accessory structure was approved at 1760 Church Street, in the Residential-High Density (R-HD) Zone.
- An accessory structure relocation was approved at 2801 Indiana Avenue, in the Residential-Low Density (R-LD) Zone.

### Now Hiring!

We're hiring a Planner! If you have an interest in shaping the community, enjoy working in a dynamic environment and have a passion for helping people, check out our job announcement at

<http://www.l.bakercounty.org/JobPostings.nsf/xView.xsp>.

Police Department



**K9 Drug Prevention Fundraiser**

There is still time to purchase raffle tickets for the Baker City Police Department K9 Drug Prevention Fundraiser, but they are going fast!

Purchase a ticket in support of the BCPD K9 program and drug prevention efforts in our community, for a chance to win.

Grand Prize, a 2021 Can-Am Maverick XDS RR Turbo!

Second place prize is a Tikka 300 Win. Mag hunting rifle, donated by Patton Excavation, complete with a Vortex Viper® 6.5-20x50 Rifle Scope donated by D&B Supply.

Third place prize is a Traeger Pro 780 donated by Lew Bros Les Schwab.

Only 500 tickets will be sold, \$100.00 per ticket, and can be purchased at the Baker City Police Department, Cliff's Saws and Cycles and Carole's Mad Dog Restaurant and Saloon in Sumpter, Oregon. Must be 18 or older to purchase ticket. The drawing will be held February 13, 2023.

**BCPD Weekly Report**

**12/23/2021 to 01/05/22**

- From December 23, 2021, thru January 5, 2022, BCPD opened 41 new cases and responded to 240 calls, making several arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers.
- Congratulations to BCPD Officer Will Mercado who graduated from the DPSST (Department of Public Safety Standards and Training) Basic Academy on December 28, 2021! We're excited to have Officer Mercado back and on regular patrol as he completes Field Training. Welcome back!



Fire Department



**MAINTENANCE/TRAINING/ FIRE PREVENTION – INSPECTIONS/ COMMUNITY EVENTS**

16.0 Hrs.	Station and vehicle maintenance
12.0 Hrs.	Fire training
7.0 Hrs.	EMS training
0 Hrs.	Safety training
0 Hrs.	Fire Prevention/Inspections
0 Hrs.	Community Events

12/28/2021-01/03/2022

**EMERGENCY RESPONSES**

The Baker City Fire Department responded to a total of 41 emergency alarms detailed as follows:

<b>FIRE REPORTS</b>	08
General alarms	03
Dispatched alarms	05
<b>EMERGENCY MEDICAL</b>	33
In-City Responses	23
Out of City Responses	10
Transports	22
No Transports	11
Airport Transfers	04
Out of town transfers accepted	00
Out of town Transfers rejected	03
MVA's	01
Doubles (2 simultaneous)	07
Triples (3 simultaneous)	01
Quads (4 simultaneous)	00
MCI's	00
Public assist	00
<b>Emergency Call Back</b>	
Requests for cover	09
# of staff requested	13
Staff response for cover	04
No staff response for cover	05

## Building Department

The Building Department has wrapped up the 2021 year. We are happy to report that the Department provided services to a record number of contractors and citizens this past year, with a 6-14% increase in permit issuance over the past three years. We look forward to another great year of service to our community.

- Baker City Building Department



Public Works:

City Shop

City Shop



Public Works City Shop was very busy this last week and worked on several city vehicles.



Pictured here the shop crew is working on repairing gauges and the driver's seat.

City crew worked on this backhoe (pictured right), as it wasn't starting very well. The shop crew found the block heater was bad and ordered a new one. The parts should be coming soon to finish the repair.



Public Works:

City Shop

City Shop



**Public Works City Shop was very busy this last week and worked on several city vehicles.**



Pictured here is a police vehicle being worked on. It is extremely important to have working vehicles for public safety. Here the window regulator stopped working. Public Works Shop crew pulled it apart and verified that it was bad. They ordered the parts, which should be here Monday to complete the repair.

With the increased snowfall, working plow vehicles are very important. Pictured here is an ATV that city shop serviced and checked it over, making sure it was plow ready.



Public Works

# Helpful Reminders During the Wintertime

Please remember to clear your sidewalks of snow

**Don't shovel or plow snow into the street**

**With wintertime comes colder temperatures which can lead to frozen pipes and pipe bursts!**

**To help prevent frozen pipes/pipe bursts:**

- Consider letting your faucet drip when temperatures are below 0°.
- If pipe is frozen be careful not to heat it up too fast, this can cause the pipe to burst.

## What to do if your water is frozen:

### **During Business Hours**

Public Works Department

541-524-2047

(Monday-Friday 8-5)

**Public Works can assist by checking the meter to make sure it's not frozen and we can shut off water at the meter to prevent further water damage if there is a frozen pipe.**

### **After Hours**

Baker Dispatch

541-523-3644

## Have a great weekend!

### Boards and Commissions

#### We have vacancies!

As we begin the new year, there are several open spots on boards and commissions. You must be appointed to be on a board or commission with Baker City. To apply for any of the following boards and commissions, visit our website:

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

Here are the following open positions:

- Budget Board (4 available)
- Historic District Design Review Commission (5 available)
- Public Works Advisory Committee (2 available)
- Tree Board (1 available)
- Public Arts Commission



### Elected Officials

Mayor: Kerry McQuisten [mayor@bakercity.gov](mailto:mayor@bakercity.gov)

Acting Mayor: Joanna Dixon [jdixon@bakercity.gov](mailto:jdixon@bakercity.gov)

#### Councilors:

Shane Alderson: [salderson@bakercity.gov](mailto:salderson@bakercity.gov)

Heather Sells: [hsells@bakercity.gov](mailto:hsells@bakercity.gov)

Jason Spriet: [jspriet@bakercity.gov](mailto:jspriet@bakercity.gov)

Johnny Waggoner Sr.: [jwaggonersr@bakercity.gov](mailto:jwaggonersr@bakercity.gov)

Dean Guyer: [dguyer@bakercity.gov](mailto:dguyer@bakercity.gov)