



# The WEEKLY

January 28, 2022

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

## INSIDE

### Boards and Commissions

Several openings on boards and commissions with the City.

### Jobs!

New openings across several departments!

### Snow Removal Tips

Accumulation of snow, frozen pipes, and general information.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

February 8th – 7:00pm  
City Council Meeting  
Regular Session

February 22<sup>nd</sup> – 7:00pm  
City Council Meeting  
Regular Session



Photo taken by public works staff – Historic Goodrich Cabin

## City Manager's Message

Jonathan Cannon

City Council met this week. They reviewed the Quiet Zone as requested by Councilor Guyer. The citizen group was given authorization to fundraise and proceed with pursuing the Quiet Zone. Based on the motion made, the Quiet Zone construction costs will be covered by fundraising efforts and not taxpayer dollars. Once the minutes are approved by Council the language of the motion will be available to the public. The video of the meeting is available on the city website if you would like to watch the discussion.

We have received reports on some mornings regarding black ice in different locations across the city. When those reports are received in public works, they try to address those isolated spots. The sun frequently takes care of that faster than we can even on these cold mornings. Be careful, especially first thing in the morning.

We are in the heart of winter and the temperatures are cold. It is always a good idea to keep something warm in your car in case of breakdown. A warm coat, a warm blanket, and extra socks can make all the difference if you are broken down on a roadside or need to walk to find help. We have also seen some fire activity as people try to keep warm. Fire safety in your home can make the difference between a loss of life and property or a good night's rest. Space heaters should be plugged into outlets with enough amperage and circuit breakers to handle the load. Keeping paper, trash, and wood debris clear from a wood or gas stove will reduce the likelihood of fire. Speak to our fire department if you need ideas for fire safety. They are always willing to help you reduce the chance of fire in your home.

I hope everyone has a wonderful weekend.

Jonathan Cannon—City Manager

# 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 visit our website or contact Stacy Spriet in Human Resources. Salary range is \$4,532-\$5,098 per month plus excellent benefits.

## Cashier/Accounts Receivable Specialist- Open until filled

The City of Baker City is accepting applications for the position of Cashier/Accounts Receivable Specialist in the Finance Department. For a complete announcement, position description and application, please visit our website or contact Stacy Spriet in Human Resources.

## Utility Worker II- Closing February 9, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

The City of Baker City is accepting applications for the position of Utility Worker II in the Public Works Department. For a position description and application please visit our website. Please submit a resume and job application to Stacy Spriet in Human Resources.

## Water Specialist I - Meter Reader- Closing February 9, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

The City of Baker City is accepting applications for the position of Water Specialist I (Meter Reader) in the Public Works Department. For a position description and application please visit our website. Please submit a resume and job application to Stacy Spriet in Human Resources.

*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 01/20/22 to 01/26/22:

- 11 customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and 11 customer disconnected service from January 20th thru January 26th. This includes all service changes.
- Zone 3 was billed January 21st and included 501 residential and 52 commercial accounts. Of those accounts, 128 (23%) are signed up for direct payment and 37 (7%) are signed up for ebilling.
- Zone 8 was billed January 24th and included 472 residential and 20 commercial accounts. Of those accounts, 132 (27%) are signed up for direct payment and 21 (4%) are signed up for ebilling.
- 27 residential customers (Zones 2 and 7) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) 23 customers paid their bills, four have been turned off for no pay, and of those four, two have paid their bills and had their services reinstated and two have not yet contacted the City.



## DOXO Update

### 01/20/22 to 01/26/2022:

- As of 1/19/22 there were 651 customers who had signed up to use DOXO to pay their utility bills, as of 1/26/22, there were 661 total customers signed up.
- From 1/20-1/26, a total of 65 payments, in the amount of \$5,504.10, were 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!

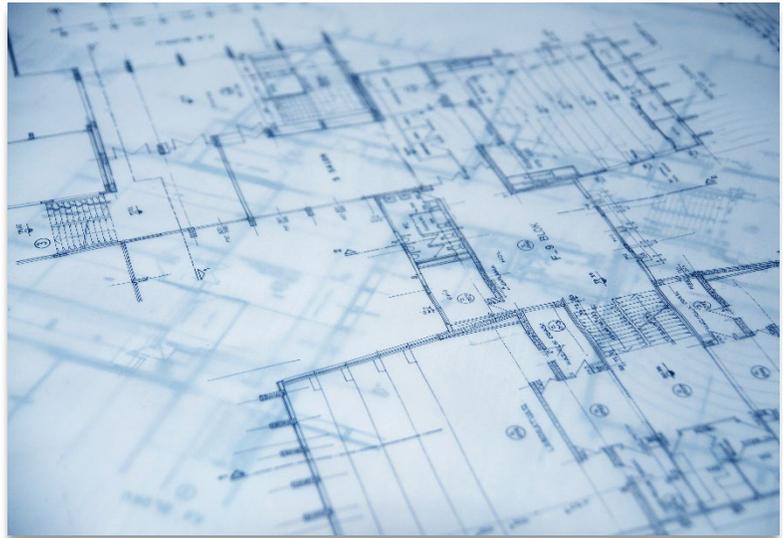
## Planning Department

### PUBLIC HEARINGS

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

The Planning Commission and City Council held 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.

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



### APPLICATIONS

- A ±600 square foot home addition was approved at 2400 20th Street in the Residential-Medium Density (R-MD) 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



- This past week, BCPD opened 24 new cases and responded to 136 calls, making several arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers.
- BCPD officers responded to a report of a man kicking in the front door of a Baker City home, pointing a handgun at the woman who lives there and threatened to kill her if she called 911. Subsequent to the initial investigation and following a brief pursuit outside of Huntington, Tyler Anders (32) was arrested on charges of Burglary, 1st Degree and Unlawful Use of a Weapon. Additional charges are pending out of Malheur County relating to the pursuit.
- BCPD welcomed Police Officer Recruit Mason Powell to our ranks! Mason Powell is a graduate of Baker High School and had previously worked as a Reserve Marine Deputy for Jefferson County. Powell will attend the Basic Police Academy at DPSST (Department of Public Safety Standards and Training) in Salem, Oregon beginning in June, so if you see Officer Powell out and about, be sure to say hello! Congratulations Mason!

### 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.

Fire Department



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

|           |                                 |
|-----------|---------------------------------|
| 32.0 Hrs. | Station and vehicle maintenance |
| 31.0 Hrs. | Fire training                   |
| 3.0 Hrs.  | EMS training                    |
| 0 Hrs.    | Safety training                 |
| 0 Hrs.    | Fire Prevention/Inspections     |
| 0 Hrs.    | Community Events                |

01/18/2021-01/24/2022

**EMERGENCY RESPONSES**

The Baker City Fire Department responded to a total of 42 emergency alarms detailed as follows:

|                                |    |
|--------------------------------|----|
| <b>FIRE REPORTS</b>            | 02 |
| General alarms                 | 0  |
| Dispatched alarms              | 02 |
| <b>EMERGENCY MEDICAL</b>       | 40 |
| In-City Responses              | 35 |
| Out of City Responses          | 05 |
| Transports                     | 31 |
| No Transports                  | 06 |
| Airport Transfers              | 04 |
| Out of town transfers accepted | 01 |
| Out of town Transfers rejected | 00 |
| MVA's                          | 00 |
| Doubles (2 simultaneous)       | 08 |
| Triples (3 simultaneous)       | 00 |
| Quads (4 simultaneous)         | 00 |
| MCI's                          | 00 |
| Public assist                  | 00 |
| <b>Emergency Call Back</b>     |    |
| Requests for cover             | 16 |
| # of staff requested           | 16 |
| Staff response for cover       | 07 |
| No staff response for cover    | 09 |

**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:

**Wastewater Dept.:**

Each year the public Works Department replaces several sewer laterals made of Orangeburg Pipe.



This photo shows what happens with Orangeburg pipe over time. Originally, the pipe was perfectly round, thick and durable. Over time the material will lose its shape and begin to delaminate. Ultimately, the inside of the pipe will become so irregular that it can no longer function and plugs.

Public Works worked in conjunction with a local contractor and plumber to repair a sewer lateral connection in an alley.



Public Works:

One wastewater main line is located across several residences' properties.

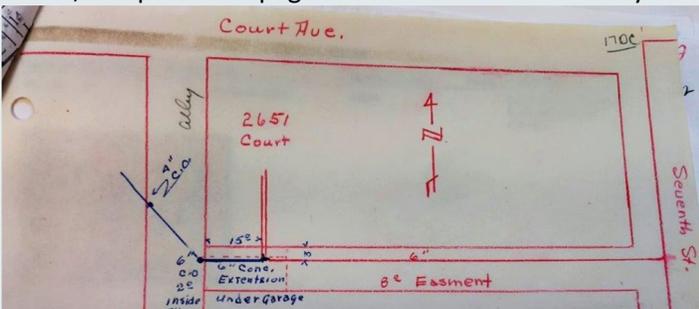


This view is looking directly south where this line runs across private properties. A resident who is connected onto this line had been experiencing sewer problems.



Because of the location of the manhole, the Push-cam was used to inspect the main line and look for any roots or other blockages.

The line was determined to be in good condition and functioning properly. Some records from 1960 was recently discovered at City Hall showing sewer lateral and minor main line locations. While most of the information is no longer useful, this particular page shows the location of a city sewer line which did not exist in the Wastewater database.



Public Works

**Street Dept.:**

As the winter season continues ice ruts can develop on city streets.



This week a mixture of sand (small crushed rock) and salt was spread on several city streets to help speed up the melting process and improve vehicular traction.



Snow melt has led to some puddled water along Clark Street where a new development was just completed. Once the snow melts, some regrading of the shoulder area will need to be done to remedy the problem.

Public Works is installing a more secure gate at the main entrance into the Equipment yard.



Public Works

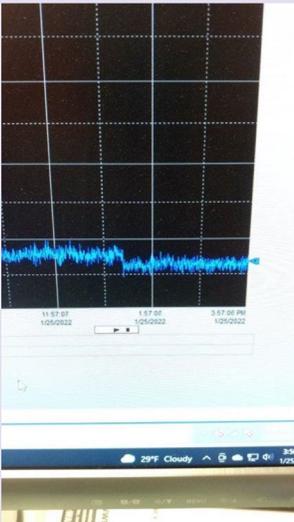
**Water Dept.:**

Water usage has been unusually high the last three weeks.

Personnel in the water department suspected that there was a water leak somewhere in the system, but no water leaks had been found. That all changed Wednesday when Police Department Personnel responded to a (non-water emergency) call at a vacant commercial building on Campbell Street and discovered that the property was undergoing a large water leak.



The water meter was turned off as soon as Public Works responded to the site.



On this computerized chart you can see how the water usage dropped immediately once the broken line was turned off. Each horizontal line represents 1,000,000 gallons of water over a 24-hour period. Each vertical line represents one half hour of time.

Public Works

A two-man crew traversed the Baker City Mountain line route Thursday and cleaned any debris that was stopping the flow of surface water into the pipeline collection system



Goodrich Reservoir



The Historic Goodrich Cabin



Little Salmon Creek Diversion



Little Mill Creek Diversion

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

## Public Works

## 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 (2 available)
- Public Works Advisory Committee (2 available)
- Tree Board (1 available)
- Public Arts Commission
- Planning Commission (1 available)



## 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)

