



The WEEKLY

March 25TH, 2022

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

INSIDE

Website Redesign Photo Contest

The City is looking for photos for the new website!

Jobs!

The City is hiring for Code Enforcement Officer

UPCOMING MEETINGS

April 12th –
7:00pm
City Council Meeting
Regular Session

City Manager's Message

Jonathan Cannon

On Tuesday night, City Council voted to send a notification letter to the Baker County Board of Commissioners stating Baker City would cease serving as the Ambulance Service Provider for Baker County as of September 30, 2022. A copy of the letter, the staff report, and Frequently Asked Questions are included with this weekly update.

Ambulance Service Plans and the selection of Ambulance Service Providers is the sole responsibility of Baker County. General statute chapter 682 and state administrative rules OAR-333-260-0700 regulate ambulance service in the state giving counties responsibility to administer the service throughout the entire county including within the Baker City limits.

Baker City has provided ambulance service for 2100 square miles of Baker County on a handshake for many years. This area includes the majority of the entire County. Over the last decade, the cost has increased greatly. Baker City recognized the unsustainable nature of the increases and continued to provide the service to Baker County without contractual financial support. The problem became very apparent in 2016 to city officials and discussions of sustainable funding sources were pursued. In response, Baker County released a Request for Proposals to find another service provider in 2018. Baker City and Baker County agreed before the 2018 Request For Proposal was awarded that Baker City should continue to provide the service without being awarded the contract. A contract was not established, nor funding commitment made to cover the cost of the service.

This meant that City Taxpayer property tax dollars were required to sustain the operations. City taxpayer dollars are the funding that keeps the ambulances rolling into the County. After starting in my position in January 2021, I began meeting with County officials in order to arrive at some sort of contract that would supply funding. A contract was not closed before the fiscal year beginning July 2021, was to start, however, the County agreed to include \$100,000 in the current fiscal year budget to assist the city with ambulance service. The city has received \$75,000 of those funds and anticipates the remaining will arrive before the fiscal year closes. We thank the County for providing those funds.

I continued to pursue a contract and in August 2021, city representatives presented a funding formula to the Baker County Board of Commissioners that could be used to determine a contract obligation for funding from Baker County. City and County officials also discussed having a contract in place as early as January 2022 so the county and city could prepare for the upcoming 2022-2023 fiscal year. Baker County was to seek and determine how to fund the service which might include a Ballot Measure specific to ambulance services in November of 2021 or May 2022. In January of 2022, I presented a contract to Baker County for consideration that the city felt represented the discussions from 2021. At that time the County was told that Baker City could not continue to provide a service funded by Baker City taxpayers for Baker County without assistance. Even the

requested amount was not a permanent long-term solution to the problem, but it was a good place to start.

I met with County officials to answer questions related to that contract and waited for a County response. In the meantime, the city diligently worked to complete the audit for the previous fiscal year and better understand the revenues and expenses of the ambulance service. That data did not improve the picture for the city and revealed that City axes alone cannot fund ambulances in the county.

As a result, we arrive at the decision City Council faced on March 22, to notify Baker County the city can no longer provide ambulance service to Baker County.

I have been asked hypothetical questions as to what the city will do if Baker County offers a contract or seeks discussions. My response is that Baker City has provided notification and will proceed towards the September 30, 2022, timeframe as stated. If Baker County provides a contract offer or some other documentation, of course, the city will receive that and review it on the merits of what is presented. It should be clear though Baker City is proceeding as presented.

My sincere hope at this point is that Baker County moves forward quickly in seeking a quality replacement provider. Citizens of Baker City and Baker County may ask if Baker City is no longer the service provider, does this mean there will not be any ambulance service? The answer is that Baker County by state law is required to address this in their ambulance service area plan. OAR 333-260-0700 states. The [County] plan must address and consider a process for: (d) Maintaining the existing level of service after notification that a provider is vacating an ASA.

Jonathan Cannon—City Manager

For more information from March 22nd's meeting regarding ambulance service, please see the corresponding pages.



BAKER CITY, OREGON CITY COUNCIL MEETING STAFF REPORT

MAYOR Kerry McQuisten
COUNCILORS Shane Alderson Johnny Waggoner Sr. Joanna Dixon Jason Spriet Dean Guyer
CITY MANAGER Jonathan Cannon

Report Date: March 21, 2022

CITY STAFF REPORT - CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING March 22, 2022

AGENDA ITEM: CITY MANAGER PRESENTATION TO CITY COUNCIL

Report:

Mayor and City Council. Thank you for the opportunity to present information to you this evening. My intention this evening is to move through a lot of information very quickly. I am happy to answer questions from City Council throughout the presentation.

Tonight, I would like to update City Council on four items related to Ambulance Service:

1. History of Ambulance Service in Baker City and Baker County
2. The amendment status of the Baker County Ambulance Service Area Plan
3. Contract negotiations between Baker City and Baker County
4. Staff preparations for the FY 2022-2023 budget as it relates to Ambulance Service.

At the end of the updates, I intend to make a recommendation and a request for instructions from the City Council.

First, the history of the ambulance service in Baker City as far as I can tell begins in 1936. 'Baker City began operations in 1936, with its first ambulance which at the time was called a First Aid car. Four years later in 1940, the Elks Lodge purchased a first aid car for the Baker City fire department. Baker City enjoyed the generous donations of the Elks Lodge again in 1947. Also in 1947 Baker City passed a 1 million dollar levy to pay for the operations of the ambulance service and the fire department. 1 million dollars in 1947 was no small amount. In 1950 the Elks Lodge purchased the first Cadillac Ambulance for Baker City. The photo on the screen is a typical 1950 Cadillac Ambulance. I do not have a photo of our specific ambulance. Throughout the time the First Aid cars and ambulances began, Baker City ran calls into the county. The record indicates that Baker County paid for those services on a per-call basis. It seems that the payments ceased in the 1960s. In 1964 and 1969, Leo Adler purchased and gifted Cadillac ambulances to Baker City. In 1974 Leo Adler purchased the first Dodge Van Ambulance for the city. In 1974, 1978, 1981, 1986, and 1991 Leo Adler continued to purchase ambulances for the Baker City Fire Department. In 1997 the Leo Adler Community Trust Fund purchased an ambulance for the Baker City Fire Department. In 2003 a Type I 4WD Fire medic ambulance was placed in service. In 2006 another Type I 4WD Fire medic ambulance was placed in service and is still operational today. Again in 2012 and 2018 additional ambulances were purchased. Until we arrive at our most recent purchase in 2020 where city funds combined with Leo Adler Community Trust funds to purchase a Type III 4WD ambulance. The recounting of this history I think shows that we as a city owe deep gratitude to the Elks Lodge, Leo Adler as the individual, and the Leo Adler Community Trust for all of the ambulances purchased and gifted to

the city. They certainly have made an impact on this community. We can also see that for almost 86 years Baker City has sought to provide ambulance service. Baker City has dedicated significant resources to this end. My appreciation goes out to all who have contributed in any fashion.

Tonight, my gratitude primarily is focused on our Baker City taxpaying citizens. They have primarily shouldered the load of ambulance service for Baker City and Baker County. Let me explain why with some facts and some educated presumptions about past operations. I will not guarantee my analysis is 100% accurate but it certainly can explain how we arrived at where we are today. And today's story is accurate.

Baker City has chosen to operate an Ambulance Service within our Fire Department. The Fire Department is paid for through the General Fund. The General Fund has several revenue sources which can be found in our budget. The lion's share of the revenue is City Taxpayer Property Tax dollars. The city also receives significant revenue from franchise fees and Ambulance Billings.

In the past fire calls in the city were generally low, and you likely have staff available in a station with downtime. You also had a demand for First Aid from citizens which those firefighters had time and ability to provide. Baker City likely saw the opportunity to consolidate costs and provide additional services to its residents. The County saw that in the mid-1900's as an opportunity as well and paid for that same service on a per-call basis. It likely was a real winner for Baker City and Baker County. It was a winner for Baker City because if a city is able to find other duties for those staff members which are already on the payroll then you better utilize that human capital. The fact you can then turn that downtime into a revenue source through insurance payments means that you have reduced the cost of that downtime. It does not matter if the revenue covers the full cost because the city is paying for the downtime out of taxpayer dollars regardless of whether you offer an additional service. I see reflections of this argument in the discussions over the last decade between Baker City and Baker County.

Somewhere in history, the story changes. I do not know exactly when the table flipped but at some point in the past, the revenue to likely offset downtime losses turned into a subsidy to cover medical expenses for Baker City residents and Baker County residents. Some events that changed in history which contributed to this include Oregon Statutes, rising costs, rising call volumes, rising personnel costs, Medicaid and Medicare payments, and other issues.

I would like to illustrate three examples.

Example 1. The State of Oregon began regulating Ambulance Service as early as the 1960s. It may have been sooner, but Chapter 682 of the Oregon Revised Statute references 1961. In the 1990s and the early 2000s, it appears that a shift was made in the responsibility of the Ambulance Service. That shift began to place the responsibility on Counties and only allowed Cities to regulate ambulance service if the County had no plan or in certain circumstances gave permission to the City.

It seems that at least since 2009 between the ORS and the accompanying OAR, Counties are fully responsible for managing ambulance service and selecting the providers of that service. For example ORS 682.062 from

Each county shall develop a plan for the county or two or more contiguous counties may develop a plan relating to the need for and coordination of ambulance services and establish one or more ambulance service areas consistent with the plan for the efficient and effective provision of ambulance services.

(2) Each person, city or rural fire protection district within the county that provides or desires to provide ambulance services shall notify the county in writing if the person, city or district wants to be consulted prior to the adoption or amendment of a county plan for ambulance services.

Additionally, OAR 333-260-0700 states (1) The county is solely responsible for designating and administering the process of selecting an ambulance service provider.

(2) The plan must address and consider a process for:

(c) Responding to notification that an ASA is being vacated; and

(d) Maintaining the existing level of service after notification that a provider is vacating an ASA.

(3) The county shall designate one emergency ambulance provider for each ASA.

The key takeaway from this example is that the city is no longer in charge and is responsible for its own ambulance service. Baker County is the responsible entity.

Example 2. Approximately 4-5 years ago, the demand for ambulance service reached a point where the city felt it necessary to hire three additional staff members to cover the volume of ambulance calls. Baker City pursued a grant to cover the cost of these staff members. Staff was hired to cover peak call volume hours. Our peak call volume is between 8 am and 8 pm. The cost for three additional paramedics is approximately \$400k per year. The grant covered that cost in its entirety during the first year of the three-year grant. The grant was a step-down grant or in other words, the second and third year of the grant only covered a portion of the cost for those three employees and no longer the entire cost. Baker County contributed funds to offset some of the expenses not covered by the grant in the second and third years. The grant is complete, and Baker City is responsible for the full cost of those employees. When the city bills insurance, Medicaid, and Medicare for a call, we do not recover enough revenue to cover the financial break-even point. The federal government recognized this problem and has incorporated additional funding through GEMT. Even with this, we are not anticipating even remotely coming close to a financial break-even for our services.

The key takeaway from this example is that in order to provide ambulance services to Baker County for the Baker ASA, City taxpayer dollars are necessary to cover the expenses not collected during the Ambulance Billing process and not provided for by Baker County.

Example 3. In 2021 the call volume reached the point where Baker City had to make a difficult decision. It became necessary for Baker City to reduce the number of interfacility transports we provided to Saint Alphonsus Hospital. An interfacility transport includes moving a patient from Saint Alphonsus Hospital in Baker City to the Hospitals in Boise. The reason for the reduction was twofold. One, the insurance payments do not cover the cost of the transport. Two, if our personnel are en route to Boise, they are not available to respond to ambulance emergencies in Baker County. The call volume for ambulance services continues to increase. The number of residents in the county is growing which places more demand on the Baker City Fire Department when the Baker City citizens are paying the bulk of the bill.

This growth trend is anticipated to continue within Baker County which will further increase the demand for services. We estimate that additional staff is needed in the near future to address the increased growth of the service.

The key takeaway from the example is that demand for Ambulance service is increasing every year requiring additional resources without a stable and consistent funding mechanism for those resources.

I think that may be enough about the History of the ambulance service. If you have any questions I am happy to answer them.

Let me now give you an update on the amendment status of the Baker County Ambulance Service Area Plan. This is number two on my list from the beginning of the presentation. Baker County is in process of updating the Baker County Ambulance Service Area Plan. Baker City in accordance with ORS 682.062 requested Baker County consult and seek advice from Baker City. Jason Yencopal with Baker County provided a copy of the draft plan to Chief Sean Lee and me. We reviewed the proposed plan and presented two primary concerns with the plan to Mr. Yencopal. He took the concerns to the Baker County Board of Commissioners for consideration. Our two concerns included:

1. The committee overseeing the quality of the service plan and its providers have been reduced in member size and its scope of responsibilities has decreased.
2. A provision is added which if Baker County deems Baker City unable to perform the service according to plan then another provider can be brought in at the expense of Baker City with no time limit or monetary cap.
3. A third provision has since been added which allows for a 5 minute response time for ambulance service Baker City. The state OAR allows for a 45 minute response time.

It appears from the Board of Commissioners' most recent meeting these three items will remain as I have described in the proposed Baker County plan which will be submitted to OHA for approval.

The third item on the list is the status of contract negotiations. Chief Lee and I began meeting with representatives from Baker County in late winter and early spring of 2021. In August, my understanding of our discussions was left that Baker County would work to prepare a Ballot measure to pursue a stable funding source for Ambulance services and we would work to prepare a contract for review and signing in preparation of the upcoming budget and fiscal year. I presented a contract with what I believe to be a very fair proposed formula for funding from Baker County. My understanding is that Baker County is reviewing the contract and working on a response. Baker County did verbally commit and placed in their budget \$100k dollars this fiscal year to help with the cost of ambulance service. We have received \$25K of that money and have been told that an additional \$50K is coming. We greatly appreciate those funds.

This leaves me to the fourth item that I wanted to present to City Council. City staff is working diligently to prepare the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The reality of that budget is that we are going to be short of funds to maintain ambulance service. Rising costs in materials and services, personnel expenses, and aging equipment are of concern. Furthermore, we are in need of additional personnel to cover the call volume of the service which will only exasperate the challenge. Baker City taxpayers cannot afford to continue to fund ambulance services for Baker County without a reliable and consistent funding mechanism in place. We are anticipating shortfalls between the cost of service and the revenues collected from the service which could approach a million dollars a year in the very near future.

This concerns me greatly because the potential impacts necessary to balance our budget and impacts to other city services is a very real concern.

At this point, can I answer any questions from City Council?

Recommendation:

I realize this report has been rather heavy in information, but I think everything shared is needed by Council.

I do have a recommendation for City Council. I have a letter that spells out the recommendation. I will pass this out to City Council and then read it for the benefit of the group and the only viewers.

(Pass out notification letter)

(Read notification letter)

The meat of this letter notifies Baker County that Baker City intends to no longer be the service provider for the Baker ASA. Baker County will now be responsible to find another Service Provider for the Baker ASA. This means the Baker City Fire Department intends to exit the Ambulance Service business completely and return to its foundation of fire protection.

This action means the city will, even with rising costs, be able to stabilize the budget for this upcoming fiscal year. ARPA funds are assisting us this year and next. We anticipate the following fiscal year in 2023-2024 to be tight and challenging once ARPA funds begin to fane, but staff will be looking to the future for long-term solutions to the challenges we face.

I recognize there will be questions related to this.

One, Does this mean an end to ambulance service in Baker City and Baker County. The answer to that is found in Oregon Law. OAR 333-260-0070 states that Baker County Ambulance Service Area Plan must address “Maintaining the existing level of service after notification that a provider is vacating an ASA.” This notification provides time for Baker County to release an RFP and seek a replacement service provider. They have navigated that process before so I am confident they can do so again.

Two, will Baker City provide ambulance service within Baker City Limits? The answer is no, Baker County by state statute is responsible for the ambulance service so we will look to them to maintain service within the City Limits.

With that, I ask Council to consider motioning and voting to instruct the City Manager to send the attached notification letter to Baker County.

At this point, can I answer any questions from City Council?

Potential Actions:

1. Motion and vote to instruct city manager to send the notification letter to county

Potential Motions:

1. Motion Option
 - a. I motion to instruct the City Manager to send the attached notification letter to the Baker County Board of Commissioners.



BAKER CITY, OREGON

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541-523-6541 Voice/TDD
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MAYOR

Kerry McQuisten

COUNCILORS

Shane Alderson

Johnny Waggoner Sr.

Joanna Dixon

Jason Spriet

Heather Sells

Dean Guyer

CITY MANAGER

Jonathan Cannon

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

Baker County Commissioners
Bill Harvey – Commission Chair
Bruce Nichols – Commissioner, Position 1
Mark E. Bennett – Commissioner, Position 2
1995 Third Street, Suite 150
Baker City, OR 97814

Baker County Commissioners,

Baker City has provided ambulance service for Baker County for more than a decade. Baker City strives to maintain the highest standard of care and an exceptional Ambulance Service. Throughout the years' Baker City and Baker County have operated on a handshake agreement. The city has worked to provide exceptional pre-hospital ambulance care with little monetary input from Baker County throughout the life of providing the service. City taxes and ambulance billing revenues provide the funds necessary to keep the ambulances rolling. In response to increasing call volumes, additional paramedics were hired utilizing a grant. The grant did not provide long-term funding for the additional paramedics. Baker County began providing monetary contributions offsetting the decreases to assist with the service. Baker City appreciates the monetary contributions over the last four years. The city recognizes the county was not required by a contract to provide funds but chose to do so regardless. Unfortunately, the contributions do not cover the budget shortfalls for operating such an expensive service.

The demand for Ambulance services within the Baker County Baker ASA continues to rise. There is a real need for additional paramedics to cover the increased call volumes. The grant previously utilized to hire additional paramedics is expired and the city bears the full cost of those staff members. Additionally, Baker City is facing current difficulties with the labor market and maintaining competitive salaries. The City anticipates significant increases in the personnel costs necessary to provide Ambulance services. The cost of medical supplies, ambulance equipment, and fuel is also increasing significantly every year.

Baker City finds itself unable to demand more from its taxpayers to provide a service that is the state-mandated responsibility of Baker County. Currently, there is not a significant and stable funding source available to Baker City which fully covers the cost of the Ambulance Service without city taxpayers heavily subsidizing the service for Baker County. The city taxpayers, City Council, and the Baker City budget cannot continue in this fashion.

Accordingly,

The City Council of Baker City at its regular meeting on March 22, 2022, voted to instruct Jonathan Cannon, City Manager to provide this notice to the Baker County Board of Commissioners.

The Baker County Board of Commissioners is hereby notified Baker City intends to terminate its Ambulance Service provided to Baker County for the Baker ASA as of September 30, 2022.

Baker City appreciates the opportunity to provide this service to Baker County and serve the citizens of Baker County including those within Baker City.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "JONATHAN CANNON". The signature is written in a cursive style with the first letters of each word being capitalized and larger than the rest of the letters.

Jonathan Cannon

City Manager - Baker City
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(541) 524-2040



BAKER CITY, OREGON

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MAYOR

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Johnny Waggoner Sr.

Joanna Dixon

Jason Spriet

Heather Sells

Dean Guyer

CITY MANAGER

Jonathan Cannon

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Will Baker City still have a Fire Department?
 - a. Baker City intends to maintain its Fire Department. Baker County will select a new ambulance service provider.
2. Who is responsible for Ambulance Service within Baker City?
 - a. ORS Chapter 682 and OAR 333-260 Baker County is responsible for providing Ambulance Service within Baker County including Baker City.
3. Can Baker City just provide Ambulance service for Baker City Residents?
 - a. Oregon State Law places the responsibility for Ambulance Service on Baker County. Baker City is not permitted to provide Ambulance Service within Baker City unless serving as the service provider to Baker County.
4. How much money does Baker City lose each year in Ambulance Service?
 - a. Ambulance Service is very expensive. Baker City does not collect enough revenue from ambulance billing to cover the cost of providing the service. The exact dollar amount varies from year to year and is increasing as service demands increase.
5. How much money does Baker County contribute to the Ambulance Service?
 - a. Baker County has contributed to the ambulance service in recent years. The amount varies from year to year. Baker County committed in its budget \$100,000 for the fiscal year 2021-2022. Baker City is always grateful for the contributions which offset the expenses of ambulance service.
6. Does Baker City have a contract with Baker County to provide Ambulance Service?
 - a. Baker City provides ambulance service without a contract. Baker County and Baker City have been in discussions for several years to come to a contractual agreement for services.
7. What will happen to Baker City Ambulance Medical Providers?
 - a. Baker City notified the IAFF local union representatives of its intent to exit the ambulance service business. Baker City will negotiate the impacts of the decision with the union.

8. Who will takeover Ambulance Service?
 - a. OAR 333-260-0070 states that Baker County Ambulance Service Area Plan must address “Maintaining the existing level of service after notification that a provider is vacating an ASA.” This notification provides time for Baker County to release an RFP and seek a replacement service provider. Baker County navigated that process in 2018.
9. How will medical calls be answered after September 30, 2022.
 - a. Baker County will select a new provider in accordance with the Baker County Ambulance Service Area Plan and OAR 333-260-0700.
10. How long has Baker City provided Ambulance Service for Baker County?
 - a. There is evidence that Baker City has provided some form of Ambulance Service within Baker City and Baker County as early as 1936.
11. Does this impact my lifeflight and firemed transport insurance?
 - a. Lifeflight and firemed will likely contract with a new service provider for ground transport.

We are Hiring!

Human Resources

We still have various jobs available at the city! Feel free to go to our website [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.

Temporary Public Works Laborer - Closes April 1, 2022 at 5 p.m.

The City of Baker City is seeking applicants for a summer temporary Public Works laborer. The individual must be 18 years of age or older and have a valid driver's license and a high school diploma or GED. In addition, they must be enrolled in a college or trade school for the fall 2022 semester.

Deadline for submitting applications is April 1, 2022 at 5 p.m. Applications can be printed by clicking the link above or picked up at City Hall, 1655 First Street. Questions can be directed to Stacy Spriet, 541-524-2036.

Code Enforcement Officer - Closes March 31, 2022 at 5 p.m.

The City of Baker City is accepting application for the position of Code Enforcement Officer in the Police Department. For a complete announcement, position description, and application, please click the link above or contact Stacy Spriet in Human Resources. The salary range is \$3,067-\$3,449 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.

Planning Department

PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at 6pm on April 20, 2022, in Council Chambers at Baker City Hall, to discuss:

- **CUP-22-026:** A conditional use permit to install an electronic reader board sign in place of the existing projecting sign at the Baker Elks Lodge in the Central-Commercial (C-C) Zone addressed as 1896 2nd Street.
- **CUP-22-029:** A conditional use permit to build an oversized accessory building in the Residential-High Density (R-HD) Zone addressed as 306 2nd Street.

APPLICATIONS

- A ±600 square foot accessory structure was approved at 1355 F Street in the Residential-High Density (R-HD) Zone.
- A ±1,643 square foot single family dwelling was approved within the newly recorded Silver Birch Subdivision at 655 E Street in the Residential-Low Density (R-LD) Zone.
- A ±420 square foot in-ground pool was approved at 2940 5th Street in the Residential-Medium Density (R-MD) Zone.
- A single-family residence was approved in the vacant upper floor of an existing commercial structure at 1829 Main Street in the Central-Commercial (C-C) Zone.
- A ±600 square foot accessory structure was approved at 2407 1st Street in the Residential-High Density (R-HD) 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://www1.bakercounty.org/JobPostings.nsf/xView.xsp>.

Police Department



- During the past two weeks, BCPD opened 62 new cases and responded to 359 calls, making several arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers.
- BCPD hosted a cub scout troop from Keating on a tour around the Police Department! Thank you for coming by and learning all about the police department.
- BCPD patrol officers assisted Baker City Fire and Rescue, on scene, during an early evening fire at the warm storage building located at the Public Works City Shops. Damage was sustained to the building and vehicles parked within the building, with one vehicle determined to be a total loss.
- Chief Ty Duby issued the following press release following the arrest of Jerry Ray Shaw, Jr., 40, on Monday, March 21st, 2022, at about 4:30 pm at the Baker City Police Department. Shaw was charged with Sodomy, 1st Degree; Sexual Penetration with Object, 1st Degree and Sexual Abuse, 1st Degree. He was transported to the Baker County Jail and lodged without incident. The alleged crimes involve one juvenile female. The investigation is ongoing.

Fire Department



MAINTENANCE/TRAINING/ FIRE PREVENTION – INSPECTIONS/ COMMUNITY EVENTS

15.0 Hrs.	Station and vehicle maintenance
12 Hrs.	Fire training
08 Hrs.	EMS training
05 Hrs.	Safety training
2	Fire Prevention/Inspections
0	Community Events
14	Residential Burn Permits

03/08/2022-03/14/2022

EMERGENCY RESPONSES

The Baker City Fire Department responded to a total of 40 emergency alarms detailed as follows:

FIRE REPORTS	04
General alarms	01
Dispatched alarms	03
EMERGENCY MEDICAL	34
In-City Responses	27
Out of City Responses	07
Transports	24
No Transports	10
Airport Transfers	02
Out of town transfers accepted	01
Out of town Transfers rejected	01
MVA's	02
Doubles (2 simultaneous)	04
Triples (3 simultaneous)	00
Quads (4 simultaneous)	00
MCI's	00
Public assist	00
Emergency Call Back	
Requests for cover	06
# of staff requested	08
Staff response for cover	04
No staff response for cover	03

Public Works:

Public Works Weekly Update for 3/18/22

Water Dept.:



A two-man crew traveled deep into the Elkhorn Mountains to Goodrich Reservoir to adjust water flows.

Public Works:



Replacement pictures of the 1968 broken fire hydrant.

Public Works

Wastewater Dept.:



Cascade Natural Gas has hired a contractor "Tru Pipe" to locate and mark several underground sewer main and service lines in town in preparation for new gas mainline installations.

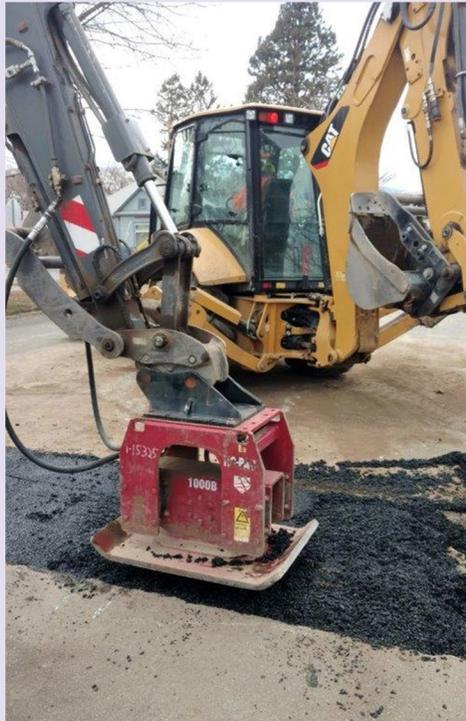
This week, Baker City Public Works crews replaced three wastewater service lines (laterals).



Public Works



Public Works



The first lateral that was installed was on Campbell Street, where two houses shared one lateral. Traffic control was set up, the street surface "zipped", the 15" terra cotta mainline tapped, the trench backfilled and compacted, and the surface temporarily patched using a Cold Mix asphalt product.

Public Works



The day after the lateral in the street was installed, a local contractor and plumber performed the excavation and plumbing work between the street curb and the house.



Public Works



Public Works



The second lateral was an emergency repair where the homeowner was completely out of service. The terra cotta lateral line had been infested with tree roots blocking flow in the line. A New 4" PVC pipe was used to complete the repair.

Public Works



By early afternoon the entire repair was completed, backfilled, and cleaned up. The surface of the street will be patched with hot asphalt once it is available from the La Grande Supplier.

Public Works



The third sewer lateral of the week was on North 3rd Street. This particular section of town appears to be pipe grade critical, whereas the piping leaving the homes has just barely enough grade to successfully allow wastewater to flow to the city through the mainline in the street. Precise elevations were measured to provide the best flow possible, because of the deep excavations and unstable soils trench boxes were used on all three projects to protect workers.

Public Works

Warehouse:

The Baker City Public Works Department suffered a fire Wednesday resulting in significant loss to the department. The fire was contained within the 40' x 40' heated building where the "Jetter" truck, Elgin Crosswind Sweeper, Asphalt emulsion tack trailer, Paint sprayer, Salt Spreader Truck, and other small equipment was located. From all appearances, it appears as if the fire started in the engine compartment of the "Jetter" truck after it was parked at the end of the work shift Wednesday. The truck worked properly and showed no problems throughout the entire workday.



The heat from the fire inside the building scorched the paint on the outside near where the "Jetter" was parked.

Public Works



The "Jetter" truck was a total loss. The Elgin Crosswind Sweeper was parked about 8' - 10' away and definitely suffered smoke and heat damage. Other equipment inside the building will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The fire was initially reported by a resident who was in the vicinity - A "thank you" goes out to her for spotting the fire and quickly calling 911. The citizen then called a Public Works Supervisor, who in turn, contacted a local resident who quickly responded by opening the locked entry gate right as Police and Fire Personnel arrived on the scene to enter the site. The Quick and professional response by the Police and Fire resulted in minimizing loss of equipment and the building. Thank you to the members of the Fire and Police Departments who responded and successfully extinguished the flames.



2022
Annual
Mt. Hope
Cemetery
Cleanup

April 1-April 15

Please remove all
decorative items
during this time.

Items may be
placed on grave sites
again beginning
April 16th.



Thank you for
your cooperation.

Have a great weekend!



Elected Officials

Mayor: Kerry McQuisten mayor@bakercity.gov

Acting Mayor: Joanna Dixon jdixon@bakercity.gov

Shane Alderson: salderson@bakercity.gov

Jason Spriet: jspriet@bakercity.gov

Johnny Waggoner Sr.: jwaggonersr@bakercity.gov

Dean Guyer: dguyer@bakercity.gov

