



The WEEKLY

May 20th, 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 multiple positions!

UPCOMING MEETINGS

May 24th –
6:00pm
City Council
Executive Session

May 24th –
7:00pm
Regular Council
Meeting



Photo taken by: Grace Switzler, Baker City

City Manager's Update

[Helpful Links with Information:](#)

[Website Ambulance Page](#)

Above is a link to our website which goes to a page with Ambulance Service Information. The city will be providing data, history, and facts regarding the current ambulance service. This will be periodically updated.



City Council will review the first draft of an RFP response at its regular scheduled meeting at 7:00 pm on May 24, 2022. I will be seeking additional instructions from Council regarding their desires for the response.

I expected as we move towards the September 30 end date of the ambulance service, our staffing numbers would diminish, as staff appropriately look toward their own future and seek other employment. With fewer paramedics and EMTs, our ability to maintain ambulance coverage will become increasingly difficult. A notification stating this expectation was sent to Baker County soon after City Council voted on March 22, 2022, to no longer be the service provider for Baker County. That notification informed the county we expected it to become increasingly difficult for us to maintain consistent ambulance coverage as staff found employment elsewhere.

The staffing level at the Baker City Fire Department is now down by three. This brings the city back to the same number of staff before the now expired SAFER grant allowed the city to hire three firefighters. Since hiring those three firefighters, our call volume has increased to a point where we really needed to hire three more above and beyond the SAFER hires. The union in 2021 requested that we hire three additional firefighters/paramedics. Budget constraints did not allow for this to occur.

With the retraction to pre-SAFER staffing numbers, Fire Chief Sean Lee at my instruction, just recently sent an email to Baker County. The email informed Baker County the time has arrived when they will need to begin to enact their plan to maintain service since they have been notified of the city's intent to vacate the ambulance service. Sending that email now ensures they have time to work through the details of the implementation of their plan. This ensures the ambulance service will continue to roll forth through this transition period. I know the emergency management director and the Baker County Board of Commissioners have been working hard to plan for this transition. This work will hopefully support a smooth transition to whoever is selected during the RFP process.

Last week I mentioned the city recorder created a webpage with ambulance information. Additional documents have been uploaded to that page this week. As time permits, we will continue to upload documents of interest.

Have a good 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] for more information on the following job opportunities.

Police Officer

The City of Baker City is accepting application for the position of Patrol Officer in the Police Department. For a complete position description and application, please click the links below or contact Stacy Spriet in Human Resources. The salary range is \$4,517-\$5,090 per month plus excellent benefits.

[JOB DESCRIPTION](#)

[APPLICATION](#)

Finance: Utility/Billing

Utilities 4/05/22-5/11/22

- 12 customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and 11 customers disconnected service from May 5th thru May 11th. This includes all service changes.
- Zone 1 was billed May 6th and included 96 residential and 256 commercial accounts. Of those accounts, 77 (23%) are signed up for direct payment and 27 (8%) are signed up for e-billing.
- Zone 5 was billed May 9th and included 470 residential and 17 commercial accounts. Of those accounts, 147 (30%) are signed up for direct payment, and 35 (7%) are signed up for e-billing.
- 3 residential customers (zones 2, 5, and 8) were shut off for non-pay. Of those 3, all paid and had services reinstated the same day.



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

DOXO

- As of 5/5/22 there were 760 customers who had signed up to use DOXO to pay their utility bills, as of 5/11/22, there were 763 total customers signed up. As of 5/12/22, there were 764 customers signed up.
- From 5/5-5/11, a total of 69 payments, in the amount of \$6,604.72, were made.

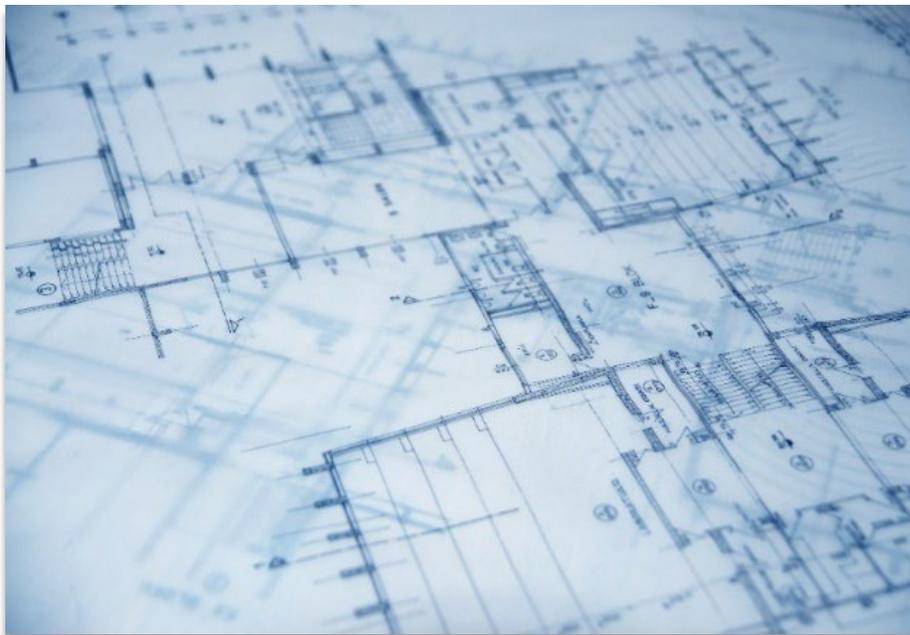
Planning Department

PUBLIC HEARINGS

The next regularly-scheduled Planning Commission hearing is Wednesday, June 15, 2022..

Applications

- A new 6-lot subdivision, The Foothills, was approved off of Foothill Drive and Colorado Avenue in the Residential-Low Density (R-LD) Zone. Notice of the approval with an opportunity to appeal was mailed to neighbors within 100' of the project and all who participated in the hearings process on May 9, 2022. The appeal period ends at 5 PM on Monday, May 23, 2022.
- A replat was approved to divide one property into two at 2275 Virginia Avenue in the Residential High-Density (R-HD) Zone. Notice of the approval with an opportunity to appeal was mailed to neighbors within 100' of the project on May 10, 2022. The appeal period ends at 5 PM on May 23, 2022.



Police Department



BCPD Weekly Report

During the previous week, BCPD opened 31 new cases and responded to 158 calls, making several arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers.

Officers responded to a report of a juvenile male with an arrow in his arm; however, upon arriving on scene, it was determined that the juvenile had not been shot with an arrow. Rather, a carbon-fiber style arrow had failed and fractured upon its release as the juvenile shot the bow. A fractured splinter of carbon-fiber arrow did cause minor injury and the juvenile was transported to the Emergency Room by Baker City Medics.

The law enforcement investigation of this incident determined that the injured juvenile was shooting a “kids’ style” compound bow and was the sole person shooting at a cardboard target in the back of a residence. The reported injury was determined to be accidental due to mechanical failure and we wish the injured juvenile a speedy recovery from the minor injury suffered.

The Baker City Police Department would like to remind people that shooting any type of bow and arrow (including crossbow) is prohibited in city limits. Baker City police have responded to past reports, throughout the city, over the years where arrows that have been accidentally released or have missed their intended targets with the potential to cause serious or fatal injuries to neighbors around them.

BCPD, in partnership with the Baker 5J School District, Baker County Sheriff’s Office, Building Healthy Families and ODOT, participated in the annual Walk and Bike to School Event held for students from Brooklyn Elementary School, South Baker Intermediate and the Baker Early Learning Center (BELC). Brooklyn and South Intermediate students meet at Geiser Pollman Park and students from BELC meet at the Sports Complex for their voyage to their individual schools while riding bicycles, scooters, roller blades or simply walking. Thank you to everyone who came out and participated in this fun end-of-the-year event!

BCPD staff attended the Eastern Oregon Law Enforcement Regional Block Training conference held in Baker City. This block-style of training provided an intensive approach to scenario-based and classroom-style instruction that included training modules in Defensive Tactics, Mental Health Awareness, Firearms, Ethics and Patrol Tactics Training. Courses were taught by instructors from DPSST (Department of Public Safety Standards and Training) and Billie Jo Nickens.

Fire Department



MAINTENANCE/TRAINING/ FIRE PREVENTION – INSPECTIONS/ COMMUNITY EVENTS

29.0 Hrs. Station and vehicle maintenance

03 Hrs.	Fire training
13Hrs.	EMS training
00 Hrs.	Safety training
02	Fire Prevention/Inspections
00	Community Events
06	Residential Burn Permits

05/10/2022-05/16/2022

EMERGENCY RESPONSES

The Baker City Fire Department responded to a total of 30 emergency alarms detailed as follows:

FIRE REPORTS 02

General alarms	00
Dispatched alarms	02

EMERGENCY MEDICAL 29

In-City Responses	25
Out of City Responses	04
Transports	19
No Transports	10
Airport Transfers	00
Out of town transfers accepted	00
Out of town Transfers rejected	00
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	17
# of staff requested	18
Staff response for cover	03
No staff response for cover	14

Public Works:**Public Works Weekly Update for 5/20/22****Water Department:**

Good progress was made on the Indiana Water Mainline replacement project despite the myriad of buried phone and fiber optic lines.

The line is currently being disinfected, once negative laboratory tests are received next week, the new line will be connected, and the old 16" cast iron line will be abandoned.



Public Works:

Another water leak (Birch & Valley) occurred this Sunday in the same area as the one last week. Here you can see water spraying from the corroded quarter size hole in the side of the pipe. The Valves in the area were turned way down to reduce pressure while the repair was made.



The Stainless-Steel Repair clamp stopped the leak. The pipe was found to be in poor condition. Ground water in the area was sampled Wednesday and sent to Magic Valley Laboratory for Corrosivity tests.



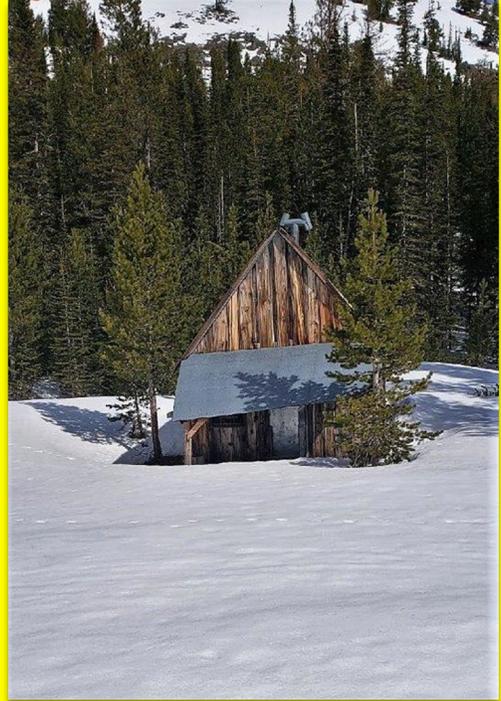
Public Works

Friday, a resident on Foothill Drive requested advice concerning a water leak they had in the copper line, that runs from the city water meter to the house. This line runs directly under the Chevron Petroleum Line. Copper lines rarely develop leaks. This leak may be the result of electrolysis. The homeowner was able to perform a temporary connection so that water could remain available until the permanent repair could be made next week.



Public Works

On Tuesday, a two man crew traveled to Goodrich Reservoir and along the pipeline Road to adjust water flows.



Public Works

Work to repair and rebuild fences protecting the Baker City Watershed from cattle trespass was performed this week.



Public Works

Storm Water Dept.:

Work was performed this week at the Park Springs Subdivision Project. A new manhole was constructed.



Contractor installed Stormwater Lines were video-inspected. Ground water in this area is not far from the ground surface.



Public Works

Wastewater Department

Video-inspection work was performed for 5J School District earlier this week. The City maintained sewer line in Broadway Avenue was inspected and found to be in excellent condition. The lateral from the Middle School Building was inspected using the ViVax Push-cam.



Public Works

Exact elevations were measured to determine if an existing two-story home could be served with a gravity sewer line. Calculations showed that if an 80 foot long 8" sewer line were installed at a 0.4% slope and a new 4" sewer lateral were installed at a 2% slope the lines would drain properly to the Clark Street sewer main line.

Installation work is planned for next week.



Public Works

Streets continue to be swept with the mechanical Elgin Sweeper until the Elgin Crosswind Sweeper is repaired.



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

Kenyon Damschen: kdamschen@bakercity.gov

