



# The WEEKLY

June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

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

## INSIDE

### Ambulance Service Update

The City has a page of facts and information on the website.

### Jobs!

The City is hiring for police officer

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

June 14<sup>th</sup> –  
6:00pm  
City Council  
Work Session

June 14<sup>th</sup> –  
7:00pm  
Regular Council  
Meeting



**Featured Photo- Goodrich Reservoir, Taken by Public Works Staff**

### City Manager's Update

The City Recorder began in the fall of 2021 working with our website provider to prepare a revamp of the Baker City website. The city was eligible for a free update by the provider to the functionality and appearance of the website. I have seen the mockups. They look fantastic. They also simplify navigation to the most visited areas of our website. The next step is moving from mockups to the building phase. The website will be constructed offline based on the new mockups. Once built and the data is moved over, then it will be time for publishing.

Baker County hired AMR to assist with Ambulance Service in our county last week and into next week. We are appreciative of their assistance. They are running first out ambulance calls and you will continue to see them out and about in town at least into the beginning of next week. I have met the individuals providing the service. They are very nice and very professional and we are receiving reports that they are doing a good job. Many citizens in Baker City and Baker County have already met them in their capacity of providing the service.

The Baker City Fire Department is also providing ambulance service while Baker County has AMR assisting. Our staff are providing second out and backup assistance as requested. We will continue to do so at the direction of Baker County. I appreciate our team and their efforts to remain dedicated to a high standard of care and professionalism. They are working well with AMR and this is helping to ensure care is provided as needed.

The most important part of this effort is ensuring the ambulances roll out and Baker County citizens are taken care of. That is what is happening and I appreciate Baker County emergency management remaining dedicated to that endeavor. I also appreciate our partners such as North Powder, Richland, and Halfway providing Quick Response Units as appropriate in the county. A lot of good people are involved and helping. Thank you to all who are contributing.

Jonathan Cannon – City Manager

## Ambulance Service 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.

## Frequently Asked Questions

- ❖ **WILL THERE STILL BE AMBULANCE SERVICE?**
  - YES! Baker County is working to ensure ambulance service will continue within the Baker Ambulance Service Area
- ❖ **WILL THE FIRE DEPARTMENT STILL BE ABLE TO ENTER A BURNING BUILDING?**
  - YES! Our skilled Fire Department staff will still be able to enter a burning building to SAVE LIVES per OSHA regulations and laws, even with the proposed staff model. The proposed staff model actually offers MORE staff on duty to respond to fire calls. The City also has mutual aid agreements and great partnerships with other departments such as North Powder and Baker Rural Fire.
- ❖ **IS THE CITY HIDING MONEY?**
  - NO! The city is not hiding money just to cut ambulance. The city budget shows all available funds to be utilized to provide city services. There are no separate savings accounts or places to funnel money. The City only receives approximately \$2.9 million in property taxes for the general fund which is not enough to cover the police department, fire department, finance and administration.
- ❖ **WILL MY HOME INSURANCE RATES GO UP WITH LESS FIRE STAFF?**
  - Your home insurance rates are not anticipated to go up. Our discussions with ISO, indicate our ratings will stay the same.
- ❖ **HAS THE CITY BEEN ACTIVELY WORKING WITH THE COUNTY ON THIS ISSUE?**
  - Yes, very much so. Baker City and Baker County have met since at least 2016 regarding this issue. Since 1991, the city and county have had concerns for sustainable funding for ambulance service.
- ❖ **DOES THE CITY HAVE A CONTRACT WITH BAKER COUNTY FOR AMBULANCE?**
  - Currently, there is no contract between Baker City and Baker County regarding ambulance service. There have been several meetings and talks with the county to propose a contract, however no contract is in place at this time.
- ❖ **IS THE CITY REALLY CUTTING THE FIRE DEPARTMENT BY 50%?**
  - The city IS NOT cutting the fire department by 50%. There are 17 positions at the fire department. The city has been short staffed over the last year and not all positions have been filled. The target staffing model will include 10 positions. The new staff model is used by other Oregon cities, who have a greater call volume. Other than ambulance service, all other fire services will remain intact.
- ❖ **IS IT THE COUNTY'S RESPONSIBILITY TO PICK AN AMBULANCE PROVIDER?**
  - Yes, per Oregon State Statute, ORS 682.062, It is the county's responsibility to choose a provider for the Ambulance Service Area.
- ❖ **WHY HAS THIS NOT BEEN TALKED ABOUT BEFORE?**
  - There have been talks within the last 30+ years regarding finding a sustainable funding source for our ambulance service that dates to 1991. The documents available on our website, show the ongoing discussions of this issue.
  - News articles have also been added to our website page from 2002, 2016, 2017 and 2019.

**More questions? Please send an email to [cityrecorder@bakercity.gov](mailto:cityrecorder@bakercity.gov)**

**Human Resources – Job Opportunities**

**We are Hiring!**



Feel free to go to our website [ [www.bakercity.com](http://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](#)

*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: Utility/Billing**

**Utilities 05/26/22-06/01/22**

- 14 customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and 10 customers disconnected service from May 26TH thru June 1st. This includes all service changes.
- Zone 4 was billed May 28th and included 741 residential and 63 commercial accounts. Of those accounts, 241 (30%) are signed up for direct payment and 48 (6%) are signed up for e-billing.
- Zone 8 was billed May 31st and included 482 residential and 20 commercial accounts. Of those accounts, 135 (27%) are signed up for direct payment, and 28 (6%) are signed up for e-billing.
- 7 residential customers (zone 4) were scheduled for shut-off due to non-pay(over 60 days past due). One residential customer paid their bill and had services reinstated. 5 residential customers have not yet paid or contacted the City. 1 residential customer was charged with theft of services, services have been turned off due to non-pay, and meter has been locked.

**DOXO**

- As of 6/1/2022 there were 774 customers who had signed up to use DOXO to pay their utility bills.
- From 5/26-6/01, a total of 35 payments, in the amount of \$3,010.32, were made.

## Police Department

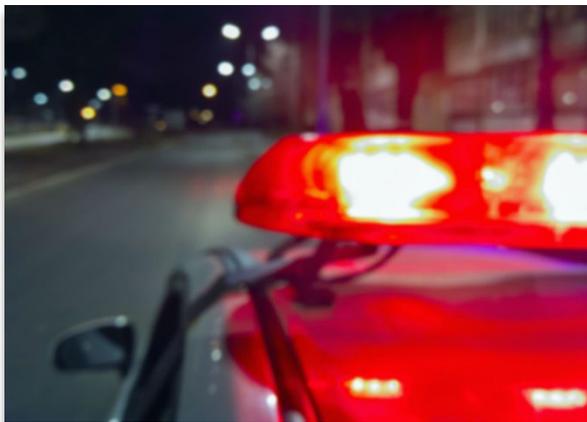


### BCPD Weekly Report

- During the previous week, BCPD opened 34 new cases and responded to 213 calls, making several arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers.
- BCPD Car Seat Technician Phoebe Wachtel was on hand to answer questions regarding child passenger safety during the recent MOP's (Mothers of Preschool) Community Resource Fair held at the Nazarene Church. Other community service organizations in attendance included the Baker County Library District, Baker Head Start, Intermountain ESD Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education, Eastern Oregon Child Care Resources and Referral, Baker County YMCA, Baker City Police Department and Baker County Health Department. For questions regarding your child's car seat, including help with proper fit and installation, please call the Baker City Police Department at 541-524-2014.
- Expect to see the Department's new speed radar trailer in different locations throughout the city this summer! This trailer, manufactured by MPH Industries, will be deployed in response to speeding complaints and in high traffic areas with additional safety concerns, such as in school zones and other areas with pedestrians present. If you have a traffic concern and would like to see the trailer in your neighborhood, please reach out to the Baker City Police Department at 541-524-2014.



Fire Department



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

19.0 Hrs.	Station and vehicle maintenance
10 Hrs.	Fire training
06Hrs.	EMS training
00 Hrs.	Safety training
00	Fire Prevention/Inspections
03	Community Events
05	Residential Burn Permits

05/17/2022-05/23/2022

**EMERGENCY RESPONSES**

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

<b>FIRE REPORTS</b>	05
General alarms	00
Dispatched alarms	05
<b>EMERGENCY MEDICAL</b>	13
In-City Responses	10
Out of City Responses	03
Transports	11
No Transports	11
Airport Transfers	00
Out of town transfers accepted	00
Out of town Transfers rejected	02
MVA's	01
Doubles (2 simultaneous)	01
Triples (3 simultaneous)	00
Quads (4 simultaneous)	00
MCI's	00
Public assist	00
<b>Emergency Call Back</b>	
Requests for cover	14
# of staff requested	20
Staff response for cover	07
No staff response for cover	07

Public Works:

**Public Works Weekly Update for 5/27/22**

**Street Department**

Drier weather this week allowed Public Works to begin painting Railroad Crossings and then crosswalks. Railroad Crossings are usually painted first for safety reasons.



Public Works:

A drainage issue was addressed this week where surface runoff from Clark Street had been running onto an adjacent property. Several cubic yards of material was removed and then a thin layer of crushed rock was placed on the surface to solve the problem



Public works has been working in cooperation with O.D.O.T. and their contractor (Wildish) to relocate water meters and fire hydrants as requested, in the vicinity of new ADA Ramps. The white circle shows where the existing fire hydrant will be relocated.



## Public Works

As we move into construction season - street maintenance becomes a priority. This particular street in South Baker shows severe distress with asphalt cracking and settled trench lines. It will take several tons of asphalt to fill low areas and a lot of crackfill work to prepare this street for chipseal treatment in August.



### Wastewater Department

The old Vi-Vax Push camera, which has been very dependable and useful in all sorts of weather for many years is starting to have some problems. The keyboard no longer is functional, and the computer no longer has the ability to record video. The unit with the sonde locator has proven invaluable on many projects.



Public Works

Public Works received a report of sewer water coming into the basement of a residence. Thinking that the problem might be caused by a city main line blockage, Public Works responded immediately to the location and used the video-inspection camera to check the lateral connection for any problem. As seen in the second photo the lateral was found to be open at its connection to the city maintained main line.



Public Works

Work began Thursday to install over 80 feet of 8" Sewer Main Line Pipe in an alley near Clark Street.

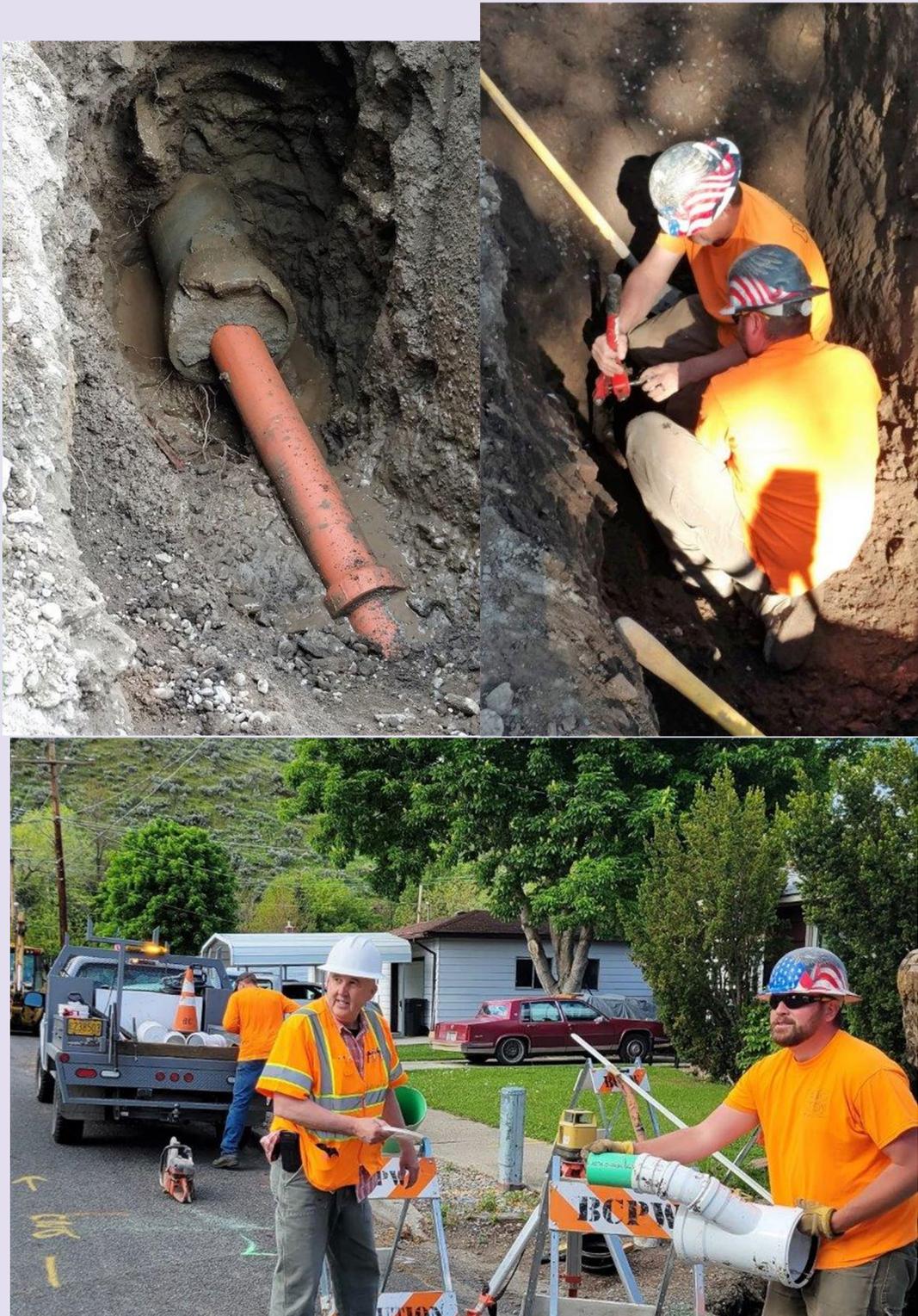


Additional pipe was ordered for the project.



Public Works

A sewer lateral serving a residence fronting Clark Street had to be severed and reconnected by using several different deflection fittings.



Public Works

Trench walls need to be constantly monitored. Here a crack developed in the wall of the excavation. By prying with a shovel, it easily fell into the trench.



Here the lateral serving the residence on the South side of the alley has been reconnected and the first joint of 8" Sewer Main Line pipe running west has been installed.



Public Works

Water Department

Maintenance work began on the Pipeline Road recently. The new 24" PVC Pipe will be transported to the installation site next week.



## Public Works

A resident came into the City Warehouse concerned about a section of sidewalk which had settled. It had become a trip hazard. It is thought to have settled as the result of water meter maintenance work. Work will be done Friday to raise the 10-foot-long section back up to grade.



(IMG953017, IMG953018 - an avalanche is visible in this photo, & IMG953022) With the heavy rains and melting snow over the last week trips were made to Goodrich Reservoir both Tuesday and Thursday. Measurements taken showed that the Goodrich Reservoir increased in storage by ten million gallons in only two days. The outlet control valve was adjusted to maintain a slow fill.

Public Works

An avalanche is visible in these photos



Public Works

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These photos are from Thursday's trip, you can see how much the ice melted in only two days!



Public Works



# Have a great weekend!



## Elected Officials

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

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

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

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