



# The WEEKLY



June 17, 2022

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

## INSIDE

### Councilor Seat Vacancies

Baker City will have four vacant council seats! Closing date for Candidacy forms is August 19<sup>th</sup>.

### Jobs!

The City is hiring for police officer

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

June 28<sup>th</sup> – 7:00pm Regular Council Meeting



Featured Photo overlooking Baker City – Taken by Dallas Brockett, City Recorder

### City Manager's Update

On June 14, 2022 we celebrated Flag Day as a nation. I appreciate the information provided on the following two pages. It is made available from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. It is a good opportunity to see how Flag Day became nationally celebrated.

As I think of the flag which I stand before every month and say the pledge allegiance, I am appreciative for the nation for which it stands. In our history, we have examples where the presence of the flag inspired people to greatness. Fort McHenry inspired our national anthem. The Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington VA reminds us of the sacrifices soldiers made in order to raise the flag in Iwo Jima during World War II. Soldiers carry the flag into battle on their uniforms which in many cases provides freedom and relief to civilians and innocent people around the world. I have enjoyed seeing the flag as I return from out of country trips and feel welcomed home by its recognizable presence. During the Olympics I recognize the patriotic feelings many of our athletes feel as our flag is raised over the medals podium. I appreciate the patriotic feelings athletes from other countries exhibit as their flag is raised in like manner.

Baker City is preparing to release a newly formatted website. On that website a photo taken by the City Recorder will be included. That photo is included in this newsletter. It is a picture of Baker City with the mountains in the background. It is beautiful and provides an impressive perspective of our fair city. We live in a beautiful place. This picture can remind us all of just how fantastic this little corner of the United States is and can be.

As staff we are working to prepare information and ordinance amendments to present to City Council. This work is anticipated to improve our ability to beautify our city by providing better tools to staff for the cleanup of nuisance properties and uncontrolled weed growth. It will take some time for us to complete this work, but I anticipate it will make a difference across the entire city if accepted and implemented. Have a great weekend. – Jonathan Cannon, City Manager



## CELEBRATING AMERICA'S FREEDOMS

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
Washington, D.C. 20420

### The Origins of Flag Day



*That the flag of the United States shall be of thirteen stripes of alternate red and white, with a union of thirteen stars of white in a blue field, representing the new constellation.*

This was the resolution adopted by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777. The resolution was made following the report of a special committee which had been assigned to suggest the flag's design.

A flag of this design was first carried into battle on September 11, 1777, in the Battle of the Brandywine. The American flag was first saluted by foreign naval vessels on February 14, 1778, when the *Ranger*, bearing the Stars and Stripes and under the command of Captain Paul Jones, arrived in a French port. The flag first flew over a foreign territory in early 1778 at Nassau, Bahama Islands, where Americans captured a British fort.

Observance of the adoption of the flag was not soon in coming, however. Although there are many claims to the first official observance of Flag Day, all but one took place more than an entire century after the flag's adoption in 1777.

The first claim was from a Hartford, Conn., celebration during the first summer of 1861. In the late 1800s, schools all over the United States held Flag Day programs to contribute to the Americanization of immigrant children, and the observance caught on with individual communities.

The most recognized claim, however, comes from New York. On June 14, 1889, Professor George Bolch, principal of a free kindergarten for the poor of New York City, had his school hold patriotic ceremonies to observe the anniversary of the Flag Day resolution. This initiative attracted attention from the State Department of Education, which arranged to have the day observed in all public schools thereafter.

Soon the state legislature passed a law making it the responsibility of the state superintendent of public schools to ensure that schools hold observances for Lincoln's Birthday, Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day and Flag Day. In 1897, the governor of New York ordered the displaying of the flag over all public buildings in the state, an observance considered by some to be the first official recognition of the anniversary of the adoption of the flag outside of schools.

Another claim comes from Philadelphia. In 1893, the Society of Colonial Dames succeeded in getting a resolution passed to have the flag displayed on all of the city's public buildings. Elizabeth Duane Gillespie, a direct descendant of Benjamin Franklin and the president of the Colonial Dames of Pennsylvania, that same year tried to get the city to call June 14 Flag Day. Resolutions by women were not granted much notice, however, and it was not until May 7, 1937, that Pennsylvania became the first state to establish the June 14 Flag Day as a legal holiday. Flag Day is a nationwide observance today, but Pennsylvania is the only state that recognizes it as a legal holiday.

Bernard J. Cigrand, a school teacher in Waubeka, Wisconsin, reportedly spent years trying to get Congress to declare June 14 as a national holiday. Although his attempts failed, the day was widely observed. "Father of Flag Day" honors have been given to William T. Kerr, who was credited with founding the American Flag Day Association in 1888 while still a schoolboy in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Both President Wilson, in 1916, and President Coolidge, in 1927, issued proclamations asking for June 14 to be observed as the National Flag Day. But it wasn't until August 3, 1949, that Congress approved the national observance, and President Harry Truman signed it into law.

### 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.

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

## COUNCILOR SEAT VACANCIES

Baker City will have four City Council seats become vacant at the completion of the 2022 calendar year. The terms run for 4 years for the three candidates with the highest votes, and 2 years for the candidate with the lowest votes.

If you are interest in running for City Council, please pick up the elections packet from Dallas Brockett, City Recorder/Executive Assistant, 1655 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Baker City, Oregon 97814. Packets can also be emailed if requested.

The city council meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Additional meetings may be called on an as-needed basis.

**Closing date for submitting completed candidacy forms is 5:00pm., August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022.** Eligible candidates will appear on the November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 ballot. Elected candidates will be sworn into office at the first meeting in January 2023.

If you have any questions, please contact the recorder's office at 541-524-2033 or by email at [cityrecorder@bakercity.gov](mailto:cityrecorder@bakercity.gov)

Dallas Brockett

City Recorder / Executive Assistant

(541) 524-2033

[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](#)

## Finance: Utility/Billing

### Utilities 06/02/22-06/08/22

- 10 customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and 12 customers disconnected service from June 9th to June 15th. This includes all service changes.
- Zone 6 was billed June 11th and included 485 residential and 64 commercial accounts. Of those accounts, 131 (24%) are signed up for direct payment and 50 (9%) are signed up for e-billing.
- Zone 2 was billed June 14th and included 471 residential and 14 commercial accounts. Of those accounts, 118 (24%) are signed up for direct payment, and 26 (5%) are signed up for e-billing.
- 16 residential customers (zone 6) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) Of those 16, 6 have contacted the city and made arrangements. The remaining 10 have not yet paid or contacted the city.

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 6/09/22 there were 788 customers who had signed up to use DOXO to pay their utility bills. As of 6/14/22 there were 792 customers who had signed up to use DOXO to pay their utility bills.
- From 6/9/22-6/15/22, a total of 68 payments, in the amount of \$6,368.32, were made.

**Building Department**

**Notice of grant opportunity for structures in the Historic District:**

Every two years, due to our City’s status as a “Certified Local Government”, we have the opportunity to award funds to property owners for repair/maintenance on historic properties. This is a matching grant opportunity with specific guidelines, and the application window is now open. For more information, please visit the Baker City website, and go to the Historic District Design Review Committee page. You are also welcome to join us at any HDDRC meeting, or call the Building Dept. 541-524-2054.

**Planning Department**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

The next regularly scheduled Planning Commission hearing is scheduled for July 20, 2022.

**APPLICATIONS**

- The Planning Department is reviewing an application to divide one property into three at 2845 Madison Street in the Residential High-Density Zone. Notice of the application and opportunity to comment was mailed to neighbors within 100’ of the project. All public comments will be accepted until June 29, 2022 at 5 PM.

## Police Department



### BCPD Weekly Report

- During the previous week, BCPD opened 42 new cases and responded to 184 calls, making several arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers.
- BCPD Sgt. Mike Regan and Officer Koby Essex responded to a report of a downed power line when a semi-truck, hauling heavy equipment, snagged a Spectrum cable line while driving along the truck route on Myrtle Street. This incident also resulted in a power line becoming entangled and caused significant damage to a power pole, triggering in a momentary city-wide power outage for most people. The driver of the semi-truck was not injured and remained on scene to assist with the investigation.
- Stoyan (Tony) Ivanov will be in the Baker City area over the summer selling educational books on behalf of Southwestern Advantage (an accredited business with BBB). Tony is from Bulgaria and is raising money for college. He has successfully completed all necessary requirements for a City of Baker City Peddler's Permit and has proper identification available. If you have any questions, please contact 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.



- Jared Wood, a 10-year veteran of the Baker City Police Department, began transitioning from patrol officer to his new assignment this past week as the BCPD's Narcotics Detective, replacing Detective Chris Sells who left the department in April. As a member of the Investigation's Unit, Detective Wood will also serve as a member of the Major Crimes Team. Please join us in congratulating Detective Wood on his new assignment!

Fire Department



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

- 28.0 Hrs. Station and vehicle maintenance
- 04 Hrs. Fire training
- 06Hrs. EMS training
- 00 Hrs. Safety training
- 04 Fire Prevention/Inspections
- 07 Community Events
- 07 Residential Burn Permits

006/07/2022-06/13/2022

**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>       | 14 |
| In-City Responses              | 13 |
| Out of City Responses          | 01 |
| Transports                     | 08 |
| No Transports                  | 03 |
| Airport Transfers              | 00 |
| Out of town transfers accepted | 00 |
| Out of town Transfers rejected | 00 |
| MVA's                          | 00 |
| Doubles (2 simultaneous)       | 03 |
| Triples (3 simultaneous)       | 00 |
| Quads (4 simultaneous)         | 00 |
| MCI's                          | 00 |
| Public assist                  | 01 |
| <b>Emergency Call Back</b>     |    |
| Requests for cover             | 06 |
| # of staff requested           | 00 |
| Staff response for cover       | 02 |
| No staff response for cover    | 02 |

Public Works:

Public Works Weekly Update 6/17/22

Water Department:



A Public Works Crew began replacing the old concrete Mountain line pipe that is subject to leaking and root intrusions.

Exactly 956 feet of the 24" diameter Heavy Duty P.V.C. Pipe was installed in three days this week.



The huge inflow of rain and snow melt has slowed at Goodrich Reservoir this



Street Department:



The second concrete pour on an alley approach was completed Friday (a week ago). The alley will be opened for vehicular traffic this Friday.

Street patching was performed Thursday.



25.32 tons of Hot Asphalt was used to patch 8 different locations in town.





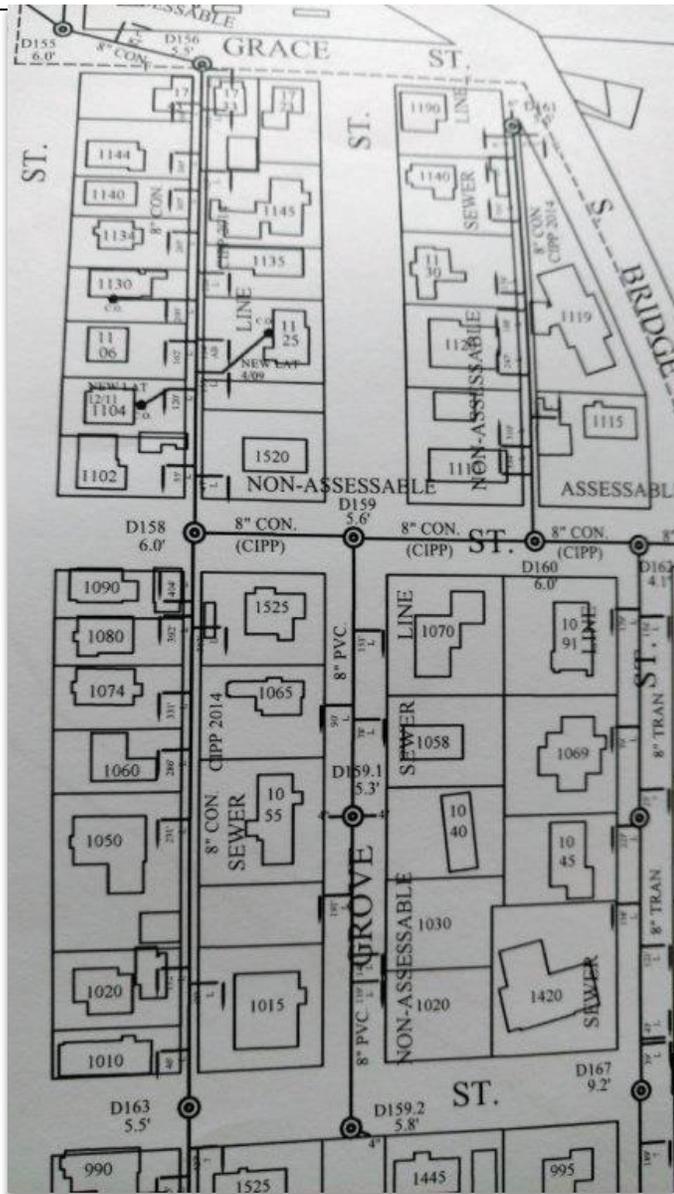
Trench repairs were needed for water leaks, sewer lateral repairs, Sewer lateral installations, Sewer main line installations, and Sewer Mainline repairs.

Wastewater Department:

Public Works cleaned several wastewater collection lines in town this week.

Here the truck is being used to clean a line on 10th Street



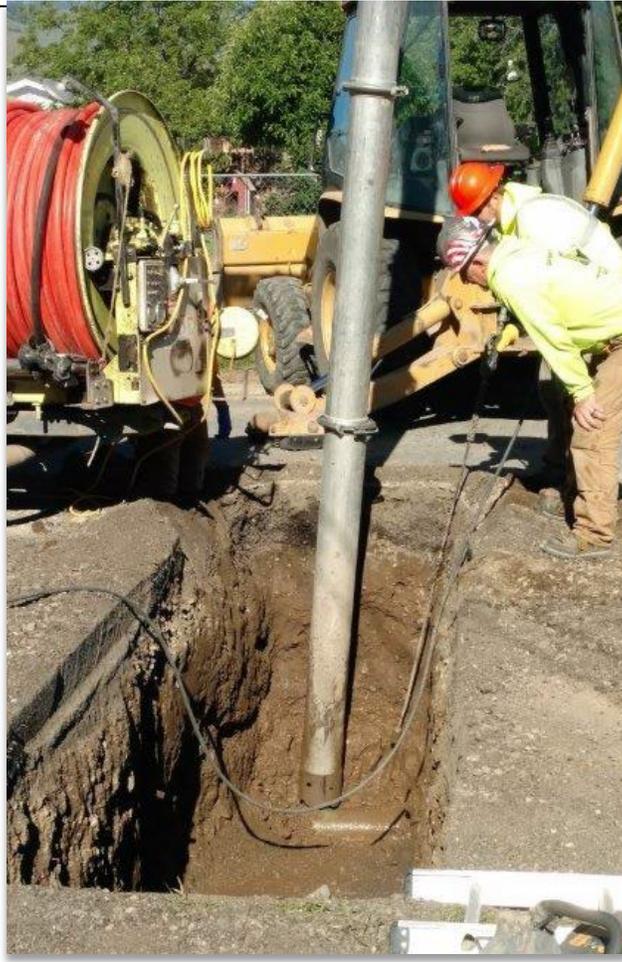


A call was received this week about a possible sewer system blockage at the intersection of Myrtle and Grove.

A Public Works Crew immediately responded to the site and discovered that a heavy build-up of Grease (probably cooking grease poured down the drain) had plugged the 8" sewer line.

A new Sewer lateral was installed for a house near the intersection of 6th and "E" Wednesday.





An unidentified 4" diameter pipe was uncovered during the excavation for the new sewer lateral. Electronic readings were taken on the outside of the pipe to verify that it was not a gas pipe before the pipe was cut out of the way.

Special plumbing parts had to be configured so the new 4" sewer lateral could cross under an existing 8"



The lateral was installed Wednesday, and the surface of the street was patched Thursday. That portion of the plumbing on the private property side of the project is scheduled for this Friday.



Reconfiguration of a lateral connection on 3rd Street began on Wednesday and will be completed Friday.





Public Works assisted O.T.E.C. Wednesday by closing a section of the Truck Route after a semi-truck snagged an overhead line and snapped a power pole.

# 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: [dgyer@bakercity.gov](mailto:dgyer@bakercity.gov)

Kenyon Damschen: [kdamschen@bakercity.gov](mailto:kdamschen@bakercity.gov)

