



The WEEKLY

July 8th, 2022

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

INSIDE

MetroWest Will Honor Lifeflight FireMed

See attached
memo from
City Manager
inside

UPCOMING MEETINGS

July 12th –
7:00pm
Regular
Council
Meeting

July 26th –
7:00pm
Regular
Council
Meeting

August 9th –
7:00pm
Regular
Council
Meeting



In conversations with Metro West, they have indicated they will honor FireMed ground transport memberships through September 30, 2022. This is good news for citizens holding memberships with Life Flight Network FireMed. Whether you ride in a Baker City ambulance or in a Metro West ambulance, you are covered by your FireMed ground transport. Metro West will be offering LifeGuard, which is similar to FireMed. Information will be released as soon as it is available on this new service for ground transport. Life Flight memberships will still cover air transport and LifeGuard memberships will cover ground transport in the future.

The Baker City Motorcycle Rally is new to town this weekend. The rally is not the same as the Hells Canyon Motorcycle Rally. The new event was organized by Shameless Tees here in Baker City. A portion of Main Street between Auburn and Washington will be closed for the weekend.

The Hells Canyon Motorcycle Rally Organizers have reached out to Baker City and indicate they intend to return in 2023 to host a motorcycle rally. Thank you to all our event organizers who invest in Baker City.

Miners Jubilee will be here soon. The summer is shaping up to be a busy time for Baker City. We are fortunate the weather has been so pleasant this year. It makes it very enjoyable to be outside.

City Council will review information on Tuesday related to measure 109 and psilocybin services (drug mushrooms). The city has options to regulate facilities which manufacture and distribute the psilocybin producing fungi. They will also receive information related to FireMed, Anthony Silvers Tree Fund, and utility billing. Otherwise, the agenda is fairly light. – Jonathan Cannon, City Manager

Attached below is the **updated** internal staff memo that was sent by City Manager Jon Cannon regarding LifeFlight:



BAKER CITY, OREGON

P.O. Box 650, Baker City, OR 97814-0650
541-523-6541 Voice/TDD
www.bakercity.com

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL STAFF ANSWERING QUESTIONS REGARDING LIFE FLIGHT NETWORK/FIREMED MEMBERSHIPS

FROM: JONATHAN CANNON – CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: LIFE FLIGHT NETWORK/FIREMED MEMBERSHIPS

DATE: 07/01/2022 – AMENDED 7/7/2022

CC: IAN PHILLIPS – LIFE FLIGHT NETWORK REPRESENTATIVE

Baker City is receiving questions about Life Flight Network memberships. This memo is intended to assist staff in answering these questions. The memo is broken into two sections. Section one will provide information for staff to better understand Life Flight Network memberships moving forward. Section two will provide answers to frequently asked questions.

Section one

In October of 2011, Baker City entered into a contract with the Life Flight Network. Our role in the contract was to be the ground transport service provider known as FireMed. Baker City has met its obligations for the duration of the contract. Life Flight Network was notified in accordance with the contract that we will be terminating our participation in the contract and FireMed program beginning October 1, 2022. This means Baker City will no longer provide FireMed ground transportation for Life Flight Network. At this time it is unknown if Metro West will enter into a contract to provide ground transportation with Life Flight Network. Our understanding is that Metro West offers their own ground transportation membership program. I would anticipate they will offer this program instead of entering into a contract with Life Flight Network. Baker City has no control over the contract agreements between Baker County, Life Flight Network, and Metro West.

Section two

1. Will Life Flight Network still provide service in the Baker ASA?
 - a. Yes, Life Flight Network has indicated they will continue to provide air transports in the Baker ASA. Enrollees holding active memberships can still receive air transports and continue to renew their memberships.
2. Will Life Flight Network still provide Baker City FireMed ground transportation through September 30, 2022?

- a. Baker City Fire Med is the second dispatched provider in the Baker ASA until September 30, 2022. Any enrollee of Life Flight Network FireMed memberships that rides in a Baker City Fire Department ambulance will still be covered by the Life Flight Network FireMed agreements. Metro West is the provider that 911 Dispatch calls first to provide ambulance services. ~~Metro West does not honor Life Flight Network memberships.~~ Metro West indicated in a phone conversation on 7/6/2022 they will honor FireMed memberships until September 30, 2022. This means if you ride in a Metro West or Baker City ambulance your FireMed membership will be valid. If you receive a bill from Metro West and are a FireMed member then you should call Metro West at (541) 266-4300.
3. Will Life Flight Network still provide Baker City FireMed ground transportation after September 30, 2022?
 - a. No, Baker City FireMed ground transportation will cease beginning October 1, 2022. Metro West will offer LifeGuard Memberships which are very similar to FireMed Memberships. More details will be released as they become available on when and how FireMed customers can transition to LifeGuard.
4. Does Metro West offer a service similar to Life Flight Network FireMed?
 - a. Baker City understands Metro West does offer a service similar to Life Flight Network FireMed called Metro West Lifeguard. Metro West can be reached at their office at ~~(503) 648-6658 (541) 266-4300~~ and their website is ~~https://www.metrowest.us.com/~~.
5. What happens to my FireMed membership fees paid to Life Flight Network?
 - a. Baker City will work to refund unused membership dues to enrollees of Life Flight Network FireMed after October 1, 2022. Baker City understands Life Flight Network air transportation membership dues will remain with Life Flight Network since air transports will continue uninterrupted.
6. What happens to my Lifetime Life Flight Network membership?
 - a. Questions regarding Lifetime Life Flight Network memberships should be directed to Life Flight Network at 800-982-9299 or membership@lifeflight.org.

Finance: Utility/Billing**Utilities 06/02/22-06/08/22**

- 17 customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and 13 customers disconnected service from June 30th to July 6th. This includes all service changes.
- Zone 5 was billed July 5th and included 472 residential and 18 commercial accounts. Of those accounts, 143 (29%) are signed up for direct payment and 36 (7%) are signed up for e-billing.
- 6 residential customers (Zones 2, 8, and 4) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) Of those 6, 5 have contacted the city and made arrangements. The remaining 1 has been turned off for non-pay.

DOXO

From 6/30/22-7/06/22, a total of 51 payments, in the amount of \$4,780.89, 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

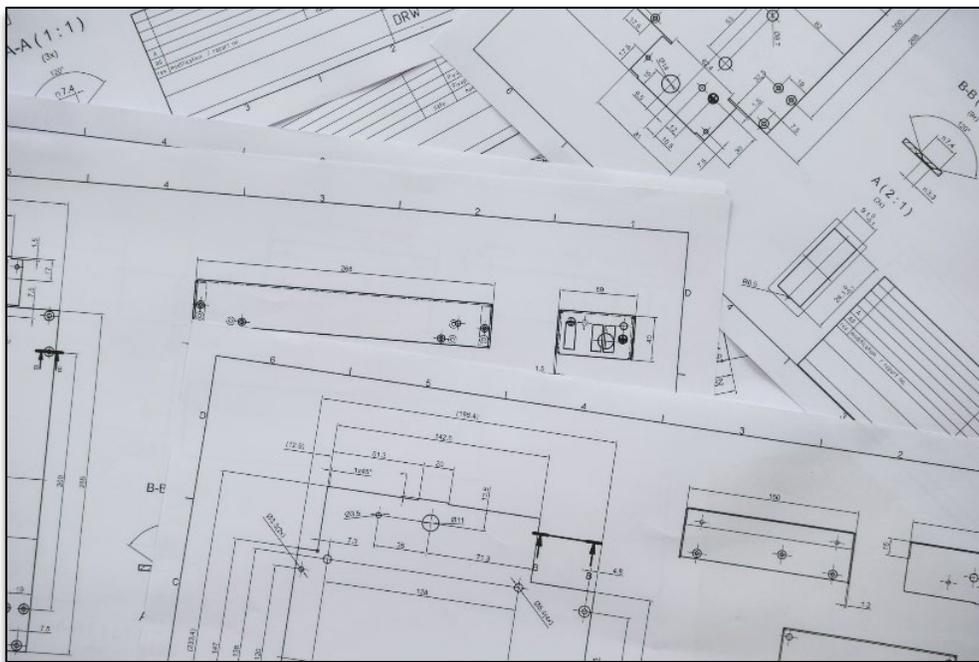
PUBLIC HEARINGS

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

- CUP-22-073: A conditional use permit to construct a 12-unit multi-family development on TL 400 of map 09S4008cb, east of the St. Alphonsus Emergency Room, off Midway Dr., in the General-Commercial Zone.

APPLICATIONS

- A new warehouse development was approved at 2890 Place Street, in the General Industrial (I) Zone. This approval included a variance for a reduction in setback requirements for the siting of the proposed warehouse.
- A new $\pm 2,380$ square foot dwelling with an attached garage was approved at 3365 H Street, in the Residential-High Density (R-HD) Zone.



Police Department**BCPD Weekly Report**

- During the previous two weeks, BCPD stayed very busy, opening 73 new cases and responding to 384 calls, making several arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers, in addition to responding to a report of a bear at the Quail Ridge Golf Course. BCPD law enforcement caught sight of the bear as it traveled through a residential area, eventually becoming treed by a Baker County Sheriff's Deputy at an apartment complex. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife biologist, Brian Ratliff, responded to the scene and tranquilized the bear. Additional assistance was needed to free the bear from the tree, but eventually, ODFW was able to load the bear in a trailer to be relocated in the Willowa Mountains.
- Detectives Zach Thatcher and Jared Wood attended Online Investigations: Tools, Tips and Techniques presented by SEARCH, The National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics and was hosted by the Albany Police Department.
- 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.



Fire Department



MAINTENANCE/TRAINING/ FIRE PREVENTION – INSPECTIONS/ COMMUNITY EVENTS

- 22.0 Hrs. Station and vehicle maintenance
- 0 Hrs. Fire training
- 2Hrs. EMS training
- 00 Hrs. Safety training
- 00 Fire Prevention/Inspections
- 02 Community Events
- 04 Residential Burn Permits

06/28/2022-07/04/2022

EMERGENCY RESPONSES

The Baker City Fire Department responded to a total of 6 emergency alarms detailed as follows:

FIRE REPORTS	09
General alarms	00
Dispatched alarms	09
EMERGENCY MEDICAL	01
In-City Responses	00
Out of City Responses	01
Transports	01
No Transports	00
Airport Transfers	00
Out of town transfers accepted	00
Out of town Transfers rejected	00
MVA's	00
Doubles (2 simultaneous)	00
Triples (3 simultaneous)	00
Quads (4 simultaneous)	00
MCI's	00
Public assist	00
EMS Assist	00
Emergency Call Back	
Requests for cover	03
# of staff requested	06
Staff response for cover	01
No staff response for cover	02

Public Works:

Water-Wise Lawncare

We need your help saving water this summer! Lawn irrigation is one of the main drivers of increased water use in Baker City this time of year. As temperatures rise and we reach the peak summer season, these tips can help you keep your grass looking great using less water.

How much and how often should I water my lawn?

Watering deeply but infrequently promotes deeper root growth, which leads to more drought-tolerant grass. Lawns typically need about 1 inch of water per week, applied either in a single watering or divided up into two shorter sessions. Use lawn watering gauges or empty tuna cans to measure how much water your sprinklers put out and then calculate how long to water. View this video for more information:

<https://bit.ly/3PbkEdl>



Looking for a simpler way to tell if your grass needs water?

Take a few steps on your lawn. Notice your footprints. If they stick around for a few hours, it's time to water. On the flip side, if your lawn is soggy or you see a lot of runoff, you may be overwatering.

What can I do to maintain my lawn and still be water-wise?

- Set lawnmower blades to a height of 3-4 inches to encourage deeper root growth and promote drought tolerance.
- Aerate your lawn regularly. Aeration strengthens roots and helps them grow deeper, which allows for better water absorption.
- Leave grass clippings on the lawn to provide a natural fertilizer and help the soil retain moisture.
- Look for ways to reduce your lawn's footprint. Consider replacing lesser-used or harder-to-water areas (such as borders, narrow strips, or steep grades) with low-water-use native plants and decorative groundcover. Adding pathways of gravel, pavers, or stepping stones also reduces the lawn area.

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

