

# CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail. Established 1874

## Weekly Update June 17, 2016

### Administration:

The City Council heard a report from representatives of the Oregon Restaurant and Lodging Association on the state of the tourism industry in Oregon. They shared with the Council that \$40 million dollars was generated in Baker County by restaurants and lodgers and over 650 jobs were associated with this industry. It is nice to know that they are healthy and growing. They also heard an update from the Economic Development Department. There are over 230 job openings in Baker County and businesses are finding it hard to find enough employees to fill these jobs with the skills required. Next week officially starts the event season with the Baker City Cycling Classic on the weekend of June 24-26. Then we move into the July 4th weekend, the Hells Canyon Motorcycle Rally, Miners Jubilee, Shrine Game and the Baker County Fair. It should be a busy summer with lots of fun activities. Councilor Lewis will be resigning as of July 13th, no longer a Baker City resident. The City Council will accept applications until July 7th for the partial term ending December 2016.

### Finance:

**Finance Director**-A public meeting will be held on June 28th at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers to discuss the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016. The 2016-17 approved budget is available online at <http://www.bakercity.com/2159/Budget-Board>.

As of June 9th the City has received current year property taxes of \$3,024,746 and prior year taxes of \$100,813.

The City has successfully transitioned its ambulance billings to Emergency Revenue Resources, LLC. The City Council approved their contract in May.

**Payroll** - Draw checks were issued June 15th.

#### **Utilities**

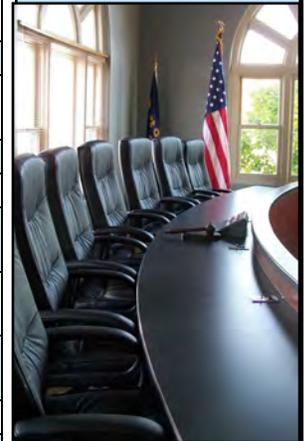
- ◆ 9 customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and 5 customers disconnected service from June 10th through June 16th. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 7 was billed today which includes 546 residential and 29 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 117 or 20% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Eleven residential customers (Zone 8) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) four were actually turned off until their past due balance was paid.
- ◆ 93 late notices were sent June 14th.

### City Council

#### **June 28th Agenda Items:**

- Interfund Loan
- Wastewater Effluent
- Railroad Quiet Zone Report
- Oregon Telephone Franchise Agreement
- 2015/16 Budget Changes
- 2016/17 Budget Adoption

Accounts Receivable	
Property and Weed Abatement	\$ 4,633
Cemetery	\$ 1,719
Wastewater Maintenance and Dumping Fees	\$ 6,863
Lien Searches	\$ 1,680
Ambulance	\$ 302,910
Golf Course Equipment Lease	\$ 5,070
Airport Hangar Rent and Ground Lease	\$ 3,120
Street Patching and Miscellaneous	\$ 3,191
Water Meters	\$ 588
Miscellaneous	\$ 888
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 330,662</b>





# **BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

## **RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:**

- 975 Quail Ridge Lane, Baker City – Steel deck addition & cool storage
- 49669 Brownlee-Oxbow Hwy, Oxbow – 20 x 30 garage
- 14529 Pine Creek Lane, Baker City – Interior remodel & reroof

## **COMMERCIAL PERMITS:**

- No new permits were issued this week.

### Permits & Inspections

	<b>Permits Issued City</b>	<b>Inspections City</b>	<b>Permits Issued County</b>	<b>Inspections County</b>
BUILDING	1	4	3	15
MANUFACTURED DWELLING	0	0	0	0
ELECTRICAL	4	4	3	11
MECHANICAL	0	1	0	2
PLUMBING	1	5	0	2
FENCE	1	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>30</b>

### **Historic District Design Review:**

No new information this week.

**Other:** No new information this week.

## **Consider volunteering with the Planning Commission!**

The Planning Commission currently has one vacancy. The Planning Commission consists of seven members with four-year terms. The role of the Planning Commission is to develop, maintain and implement the Baker City Development Code to protect the integrity of the community's planning process, and to foster the community's long-term interests. The Planning Commission also makes recommendations to City Council for zoning and code amendments, and any other matter relating to the planning and development of the city and surrounding area.

The Commission meets every third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers. To apply visit [www.bakercity.com](http://www.bakercity.com), boards and commissions or stop by City Hall, 1655 1st Street.





## **Planning Department**

### **Public Meetings**

The Planning Commission met on June 15th. The Planning Commission approved an application for a Conditional Use Permit and a Variance Request. CUP-16-043, for the construction of a ±1,280 square foot shop with a ±448 square foot awning at 2368 15th Street, in the Residential – Medium (R-MD) Zone. (VAR-16-045), for a freestanding sign exceeding 15 feet in height at 2400 Broadway Street, in the Commercial General (C-G) Zone. Notice of the decision was sent to landowner's within 100 feet of the property and the period of time to appeal the decision is open until 5:00 p.m. on July 1st, 2016.

The Planning Commission also held a work session to address proposed changes to the Baker City Development Code, specifically:

- Modifications to Chapter 3.5 – Signs
- Discussion of the occupancy of RVs as described in Chapter 4.9.100 – Temporary Use Permits
- Clarifications to Chapter 5.3 – Lots of Record criteria
- Discussion of accessory structure size restrictions in Chapter 2.2 – Residential Land Use Districts
- Proposed additions to Chapter 4.3.160 – Final Plat Requirements.

The next Planning Commission meeting will be on July 20th at City Hall.

### **Projects and Land Use Decisions**

A Property Line Adjustment application was finalized for a request by HFT2, LLC (Bob Haynes) to adjust the property line between two properties: Parcel 1, which is addressed as 3645 Cedar Street and Parcel 2, which is undeveloped and therefore does not have a given address, however, the property is accessed via Hughes Lane. Both parcels are located in the Residential Low-Density (R-LD) Zone.

The Post-Notice for a re-plat in the Residential Low-Density (R-LD) Zone to create three parcels from two was sent to adjacent landowners on June 9th. The decision will become final on June 23rd at 5:00 p.m. The subject properties are located at the corner of Colorado Avenue and Foothill Drive.

A Home Occupation Permit (HOP-16-052) at 2335 1st St. was approved.

A Home Occupation Permit (HOP-16-051) at 1605 3rd St. was approved.



The mission of the Baker City Fire Department is to protect the community through quality preparation and excellent service.

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of May 29th–June 4th, the Fire Department responded to a total of **31** emergency alarms.

## AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

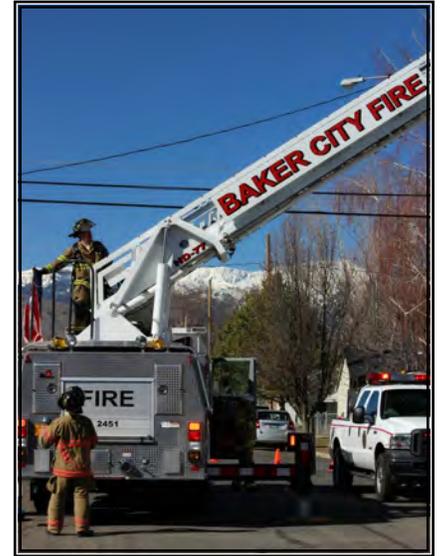
City Calls	22
Rural Calls	5
Patient Transported	17
No Patient Trip	10

**TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 27**

## FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	4

**TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES 4**



Airport Transfers	0
Out of Town Transfers	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1
Simultaneous Calls	2
Triple Calls	0

- ◆ Fire – 17th St. / Burn pile
- ◆ Fire – Cedar Ave. / False alarm
- ◆ Fire – Bridge St. / Carbon monoxide investigation
- ◆ Fire – Vista Heights / False alarm

## TRAINING/MAINTENANCE

This week the BCFD completed **10** hours of in-house training:

Fire – Hose operations  
EMS – EKG interpretation

## STATION MAINTENANCE

**33** hours of station, apparatus, equipment maintenance, and other activities.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

- ◆ BP checks at the senior center
- ◆ Business inspections
- ◆ Smoke alarm installations



The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am.  
**Don't miss the next check on June 21<sup>st</sup>.**



*"The mission of the Baker City Police is to work in partnership with our community members, to actively promote the safety and welfare of our citizens, along with enriching their quality of life through the delivery of professional police services."*



# **POLICE** **DEPARTMENT**

*BCPD handled over 180 incidents and opened 33 new cases this past week.*

- ★ One of these cases resulted in the arrest of a Redmond man for Attempted Assault I, after he shot another man in the leg. The case is being investigated by the Baker County Major Crime Team, with Detective Jay Lohner as the lead investigator.
- ★ Sergeant Chastain's patrol team participated in Survival Skills Training (Defensive Tactics) and other trainings required by OSHA.
- ★ Chief Lohner and Lt. Newman travelled to La Grande for Sergeant Wayne Chastain's retirement celebration, subsequent to his retiring from the National Guard as a Sergeant-Major with over 20 years of service.
- ★ BCPD personnel participated in several briefing trainings, including a review of various Officer Safety topics.
- ★ BCPD Administrative Assistant/Car Seat Technician Phoebe Wachtel continues to assist families with car seat installations each week.

### **Code Enforcement Activities:**

#### **Property Maintenance**

Followed up on 2 old cases  
Closed out 1 case (property in compliance)  
Started 2 new cases

#### **Parking**

Followed up with 2 violations  
Orange tagged 2 abandoned vehicles  
Issued 1 parking citation

#### **Animal Violations and Complaints**

Followed up on 1 animal complaint  
1 dog at large returned to owner  
Approved 1 new livestock permit  
Followed up with 1 kennel permit application  
Closed out 1 Dangerous Dog case (dog removed from City limits)  
Issued 1 citation for no dog license

#### **Weeds**

Followed up on 7 new weed complaints  
Checked 35 properties for compliance

#### **Development Code Violations**

Issued 1 citation for no Temporary Use Permit

#### **Found Item**

1 found item

#### **Evidence**

Assisted processing evidence from one case



## Public Works

The City of Baker City's Public Works Department conducted a tracer study on Wednesday. The Oregon Health Authority periodically requires this study for all public water systems. The study requires higher than normal amounts of chlorine to be added to the water prior to its entrance into the chlorine contact chamber at the water treatment facility. The chlorine levels were still well within the required drinking water limits and it completed successfully. To the right, City Engineer Doug Schwin studies the movement of the chlorine.



Jake worked to adjust the flow while Tom removed a small log which had become lodged inside the outlet pipe at the Little Mill Creek Diversion.

Baker City recently requested that Goodrich Dam be safety inspected annually. On Tuesday, the State Dam Inspector, Baker County Water Master and Baker City personnel travelled to Goodrich Reservoir to inspect and discuss many aspects of Goodrich Dam safety. The State Dam Inspector did some work including measuring the freeboard of Goodrich Dam. To the right, avalanche and rock slide hazards affecting The Dam and Reservoir were discussed.





## Public Works



Crew of Justin, Karl and Scott worked to replace two valves on Valley Street Thursday. One of the valves leaked and the other was inoperable.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, a Public Works crew worked to connect a new 8" wastewater lateral into the biggest sanitary sewer line in the Baker City wastewater collection system. This line is a steel reinforced 36" diameter concrete pipe. The top of the pipe in this location is 15 feet below ground level. Soils were not cohesive, so cave-ins were a constant concern. Underground utilities in the area had to be carefully uncovered to prevent damage before major excavation could commence. To the right, Karl and Scott used the Vector Truck to expose a buried phone line while Justin and a fiber optics specialist worked to uncover a buried fiber optic line.



Scott worked successfully with a contractor on Valley Street Thursday to expose underground utilities (the contractor will be billed for the work).



## Public Works- Shop



Scott completed work on a shoring trailer this week. He replaced the pigtail, repaired the tail lights and pulled dents out of the left fender.

Wes and Scott performed a safety and service check on a city vehicle used for travel and public works jobs.



A Public Works truck had thrown a drive line so Wes and Scott repaired it and replaced all the u-joints. They also replaced the transmission output shaft seal and it is now back in service.