

# CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail. Established 1874

## Weekly Update August 26, 2016

### Administration:

The City Manager, Economic Development Director and other members of the Economic Development Committee met with officials of Portland General Electric at the Boardman Coal Plant. The purpose of this meeting was to become familiar with plant operations and potential changes which will be happening in the next five years. The plant must eliminate the use of coal by the end of the year 2020. PGE officials are contemplating the use of biomass as an alternative fuel. We expressed interest in working with them to explore ways to extract woody biomass from Baker County forests and manufacturing a product which will compete with coal and bring jobs to Baker City residents. Though the talks were preliminary, they left the meeting with hopes of bringing a partnership together to explore options.

The City Council heard from representatives of the YMCA to work on a contract for the continuing operation of the Sam-O Swim Center. Many issues were discussed and the Council made it clear that they were willing to work with the YMCA on issues going forward.

The Memory Cruise is in town for the weekend. Come out to the park and check out all the beautiful old cars. Also, the Durkee Steak Feed is Saturday evening up at the Golf Course. Stop by, have dinner and catch up with old friends.

### City Council

#### September 13th Agenda Items:

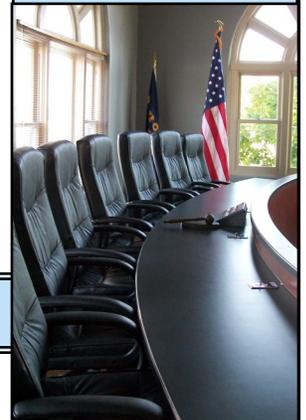
- Cured in Place Pipe Bid Award
- Pipe Bursting Contract Award
- Charter Franchise Ordinance
- Golf Course Manager Contract
- Boards and Commissions

### Finance:

**Finance Director:** Zone billings will now be on the following new form:

		<b>BAKER CITY</b>		P.O. Box 650 Baker City, OR 97814 541-523-6541
**SU - Setup Fee; DA - Deposit Applied; AD - Adjustment; LT - Late Fee; FL - Fire Line				
Billing Period: 7/12/16-8/12/16				
Present	Previous	1/2 Usage*		
3155	3125	15		
Base Water	Base Sewer	Sidewalk		
36.00	18.86	1.00		
Balance Forward:	.00			
Current Base Charges:	55.86			
Water Usage Charge:	9.12 *			
Other Adjustments:**	.00			
Total Amount Due:	64.98			
Billing Date:	8/25/16			
Message		Previous	Current	Total Due
		.00	64.98	64.98
Remittance—Please Return with Payment.				

During rate discussions, City Council directed staff to begin sending utility forms every month rather than every other month in order to make rate increases easier for customers to manage. The new forms were designed by the Finance Office in order to give more information to our customers while still using postcard forms to continue to save postage, office supplies and staff time. On the new form, water usage charges have been separated from base charges. In addition, billing information from frequently asked questions was added to the form.





**Finance Contd.:**

**Utilities**

- ◆ 8 customers signed up for new water/sewer service and 6 customers disconnected service from August 19th through August 25th. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 2 was billed the 22nd and included 454 residential and 13 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 79 or 17% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Zone 5 was billed the 24th and included 468 residential and 17 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 101 or 21% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Zone 6 was billed the 25th and included 485 residential and 60 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 89 or 16% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Late notices sent this week included 89 for Zone 4 sent the 23rd; 79 for Zone 5 sent the 23rd; 80 for Zone 6 sent today and 96 for Zone 7 also sent today.
- ◆ Three residential customers (Zone 7) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) one customer was actually turned off until their past due balance was paid.

**Payroll**-Seventy-six employees were paid today including eight paid volunteer firefighters, the hearings officer, one part-time administrative patrol officer, and one seasonal public works employee. Of those 76 employees 70 or 92% are signed up for direct deposit.

**Building Department**

**COMMERCIAL PERMITS:**

- 146 Main Street, Halfway – Fire Alarm installation
- 520 E 3rd, Huntington – Fire Alarm installation in new dorms
- 300 Oregon Trail, Huntington – Temp office trailer

**RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:**

- 222 Bonanza, Sumpter – New residence
- 500 Broadway – 222 sq. ft. new addition to residence
- 1809 Balm Street – Demolish trailer
- 3955 Indiana Avenue – New residence
- 915 Petry Lane – Renovate attic area

	<b>Permits Issued City</b>	<b>Inspections City</b>	<b>Permits Issued County</b>	<b>Inspections County</b>
BUILDING	4	5	4	8
MANUFACTURED DWELLING	0	1	0	0
ELECTRICAL	1	4	4	2
MECHANICAL	3	3	1	1
PLUMBING	3	3	4	1
FENCE	2	NA	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>



## **Planning Department**

### **Public Meetings**

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on September 21st to discuss potential updates to the Baker City Development Code. Some proposed changes include an increase of the permitted height and square footage of accessory structures in residential zones, revisions to the Sign Code, consolidation and revision of site plan requirements, creation of a Conditional Use Permit process for Temporary Use Permits, and revisions to Lot of Record requirements within the City. The public is invited to attend and give input.

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

- A Sign Permit (SP-16-070) was approved to replace the face of an existing free-standing sign, located at 2212 10th Street for the Gas-N-Snack, in the Commercial General (C-G) Zone.
- Land Use Review (LUR-16-071) is being processed for a ±470 square foot addition to an existing building to create a tool room at the Powder River Correctional Facility, located at 3600 13th Street located in the Commercial General (C-G) Zone.
- Land Use Review (LUR-16-072) was sent out for inter-departmental review on August 19th. The applicant is requesting a ±132 square foot addition to an existing single-family dwelling, located at 2023 Balm Street in the Residential – Medium (R-MD) Zone.
- Land Use Review (LUR-16-076) was sent out for inter-departmental review on August 25th. The applicant is requesting a ±506 square foot attached carport to an existing single-family dwelling, located at 3665 9th Drive, in the Residential – Medium (R-MD) Zone.
- A Sign Permit (SP-16-073) was submitted on August 23rd to replace five existing wall signs, at 2505 Broadway Avenue. The subject property is owned by The Salvation Army Corp., and is located within the Commercial General (C-G) Zone.
- An application has been submitted to re-plat an existing property into two parcels. The subject property is located at 3925 Grace Street, and is also known as Tax Lot 801 of Map 09s40e19ad in the Residential – Medium (R-MD) Zone. The proposed re-plat seeks to separate the four grass tennis courts from the existing single-family dwelling.
- A meeting was held on August 22nd, 2016 between the Building Department and Planning Department to discuss streamlining public information and coordinating policy.





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 August 7th - August 13th, the Fire Department responded to a total of

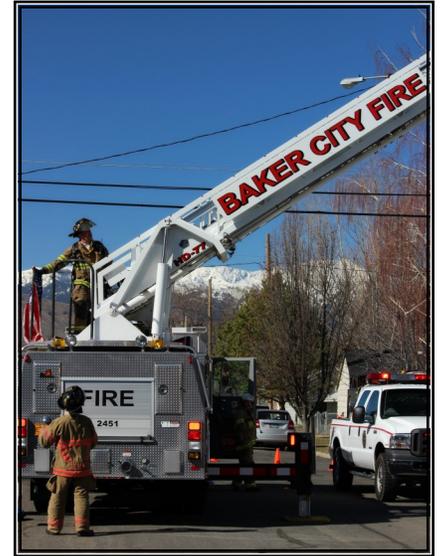
**37** emergency alarms.

## AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	30
Rural Calls	4
Patient Transported	24
No Patient Trip	10
<b>TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES</b>	<b>34</b>

## FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	3
<b>TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES</b>	<b>3</b>



Airport Transfers	1
Out of Town Transfers	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1
Simultaneous Calls	3
Triple Calls	0

- Fire – 3 still alarms, service calls

## TRAINING/MAINTENANCE

This week the BCFD completed **8** hours of in-house training.

Fire – SCBA use and RIT

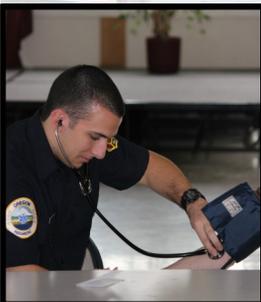
EMS – Protocols

## STATION MAINTENANCE

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

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

- ◆ BP checks at the senior center
- ◆ Business inspections
- ◆ Demolition Derby coverage



The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am. Don't miss the next check on August 30<sup>th</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 **200** incidents and opened **35** new cases this past week.
- ✦ One of those cases resulted in the arrest of a Baker City woman for multiple drug related charges.
- ✦ Two incidents commenced investigations for sex abuse.
- ✦ Three cases resulted in arrests for Probation Violations.

- ✦ BCPD was recognized by the Baker 5J School Board for service to the district.
- ✦ 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 Weekly Activity**

### **Property Maintenance**

Followed up on 4 old cases  
Started 2 new cases  
Closed out 2 old cases

### **Parking**

Orange tagged 1 abandoned vehicle  
Issued 3 parking citations  
Followed up with 8 violations

### **Animal Violations and Complaints**

Followed up on 1 barking complaint  
Issued 1 citation for dog at large  
2 dogs at large returned to owner  
1 dog at large impounded  
Followed up on 3 animal complaints  
Followed up with 4 Dangerous dog cases

### **Weeds**

Followed up on 3 weed complaints

### **Found Item**

1 found item  
1 found item returned to owner

### **Public Right-of-Way**

Followed up with 1 complaint



## Public Works-Wastewater



A wastewater line in the Hillcrest area was installed by a developer many years ago. It is made of Orangeberg pipe and is located in areas which are difficult to access. There was a section of this line that was completely packed with tree roots for a distance of approximately 20 feet. A three man crew worked a full day to remove the roots and restore flow in the line. Access into the line is through manholes situated in residents yards.

The line was exposed and the line breached as pictured to the right (Scott). New P.V.C. pipe was installed and the backyard was restored to the original condition.



Justin and Matt worked to improve a lateral connection in an alley lying between Valley and Court Avenue. The depth of the trench required shoring so that the work could be done safely. The line was repaired using P.V.C. pipe parts which should greatly improve flow characteristics.



## Public Works-Street



Crews crack-filled and patched Baker City streets this week. Crew of Karl, Glen, Scott, Jake F. and Riley worked to patch Grandview Avenue on Thursday. To the left, Karl, Glen and Riley are working to smooth the street surface around a wastewater manhole.

Crosswalks near Baker City schools were "freshened-up" this week in anticipation of the school year starting. To the right, Karl is instructing Jake F. (his first time using the sprayer) on the proper use of the Graco crosswalk painting machine.



A contractor paved a portion of the B.H.S. parking lot this week (left). Public Works used the asphalt zipper machine to help prepare the lot for the work.



# Public Works-Water



Sometimes property owners (and possibly plumbers) improperly connect onto water service lines. The water meters which Baker City Public Works installs are designed so that they can be easily changed when they need to be replaced. The service line from the meter to the house should connect just outside the water meter box (where the pipe end is left available). To the left, Justin and Matt are performing the repair on Colorado Avenue.



To the left is the incorrect connection where PEX piping was connected directly to the end of the meter. There would be no way to replace this meter other than cutting the PEX pipe. Above is proper connection, where the meter and yoke are supposed to be connected. By loosening nuts on each end of the yoke the meter can be easily replaced.



The mountain line project is proceeding on schedule. The road rehabilitation work between Little Mill and Big Mill Creek is complete and the pipe has been laid out and is now ready for installation. To the left, the grader is connected to the pipe trailer loaded with pipe.



## Public Works-Shop



Wes and Scott went up near Big Mill and installed a new air compressor and filled the hydraulics and antifreeze on the CAT grader.

Wes and Scott installed two electric fans on radiator to help it cool at an idle crack filling. They also serviced the transmission and returned it to service.



Wes and Scott picked up and serviced an ambulance and then returned it to the Fire Department for service.