

# CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail. Established 1874

## *Weekly Update July 15, 2016*

### **Administration:**

The City Council had a brisk discussion on the appointment of a City Councilor to fill the seat vacated by Councilor Sandy Lewis. They ultimately decided to postpone until the July 26<sup>th</sup> meeting to fill the position. Loran Joseph and Chris Parker were the two candidates. Subsequently, Chris Parker notified the City that she was withdrawing her application at this time. The Council will still take applications for the vacant position until noon on July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2106.

The Arts Commission presented the Master Plan for Public Art to the Council. The Commission did an outstanding job of laying out a plan and vision for engaging the public and artists to display art in our community. The Council will be considering approving the Master Plan at our next Council meeting.

The Hells Canyon Motorcycle Rally took place this past weekend and though the weather front brought us a lot of rain, we had very few accidents, injuries or issues. The Miners Jubilee celebration will be in full swing this coming weekend. We will have a lot of class reunions and fun events around town. Come on out and enjoy the festivities and catch up with old friends. Have a safe and fun time.

### **Finance:**

**Finance Director**-The City has been working with a third-party ambulance billing provider, Emergency Revenue Resources, since June 1st. The transition went well and the next step will be to automate the transfer of the billing and payment information into the City's accounting system.

The Finance Department is continuing the process of transitioning from billing utility bills every other month to every month. This transition requires the meter reader to do extra readings in order to catch the readings up from 60 days in arrears to 30 days in arrears. We are on track to make the transition beginning with Zone 5 which will be billed July 22nd. The first cycle of monthly bills will be on the City's current utility billing form. Future billings will be on a new form that will provide additional information to customers.

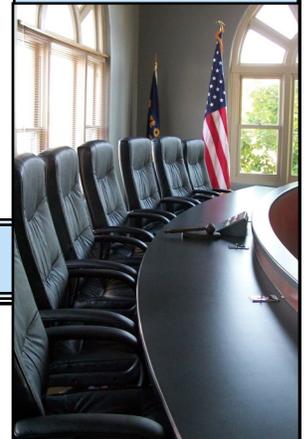
### **Utilities**

- ◆ Zone 3 was billed today which includes 497 residential and 50 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 95 or 17% are signed up for direct payment
- ◆ Twelve residential customers (Zone 2) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) three were actually turned off until their past due balance was paid.
- ◆ 101 late notices were sent July 12th.

### **City Council**

#### **July 26th Agenda Items:**

- City Councilor Appointment
- Board and Commissions Volunteers
- Justice Court Report
- Public Arts Master Plan



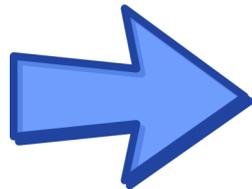


**Finance Continued:**

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

**Accounts Payable**-The first of two accounts payable check runs for the month was generated July 11<sup>th</sup> and an additional check run was generated July 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Accounts Receivable**-Monthly accounts receivable billings were sent July 10<sup>th</sup>. The billings were as follows:



- Cemetery - \$3,417
- Wastewater Maintenance and Dumping Fees - \$7,642
- Lien Searches - \$2,560
- Ambulance - \$274,363
- Golf Course Equipment Lease - \$5,085
- Airport Hangar Rent and Ground Lease - \$2,038
- Street Patching and Miscellaneous - \$3,396
- Radio Repairs & Replacements - \$3,000
- Miscellaneous - \$1,256
- Total Billed \$307,705**

**Building Department**



Property and Weed Abatement - \$4,948

**BUILDING PERMITS:**

- Unfortunately this week Accela (software used to run permit reports) was down. However, next week the building department will be combining this week's permits along with next weeks.

**Planning Department**

**Public Meetings**

The regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting for July has been cancelled. The Planning Commission will meet on August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in City Hall.

**Projects and Land Use Decisions**

- An application to operate a short-term vacation rental at 2251 Indiana Avenue was approved. The property is located in the High Density Residential zone.
- An addition to a single-family dwelling has been approved for 3955 Indiana Avenue, in the Low Density Residential zone.
- A carport was approved at 840 Broadway Avenue. The property is located in the Medium Density Residential zone.
- A Temporary Use Permit request was approved to site a travel trailer for temporary occupancy at 2175 Clark Street. The property is located in the High Density Residential zone.
- A Temporary Use Permit request was approved to site a travel trailer for temporary occupancy at 1188 Washington Street. The property is located in the Medium Density Residential zone.
- A request for a ±2,040 sq. ft. covered storage area was submitted for 2795 10<sup>th</sup> Street. The addition is proposed to be connected to an existing manufacturing building located in the General Commercial zone. The request has been sent out for review by other impacted departments.



# Volunteer Here!

Currently the City of Baker City has several volunteer opportunities:

- ◆ **Historic District Design Review Commission** - The Historic District Design Review Commission was created to promote community participation in reviewing and approving applications submitted by the property owners wanting to alter structures within the Historic District. This commission consists of 7 members, 3-year terms. ( 1 vacancy )
- ◆ **Parks and Recreation Board** - The Baker City Parks and Recreation Advisory Board exists to promote and preserve parks and open spaces which are safe, provide beauty, enhance recreational experiences and are accessible to all members of the community. The Baker City Parks and Recreation Advisory Board shall permanently preserve, protect, maintain, improve, and enhance its natural resources, parkland, and recreational opportunities for current and future generations. This board consists of 7 members, 3 positions 3-year term and 4 positions 2-year term. ( 3 vacancies).
- ◆ **Planning Commission**-The Planning Commission consists of 7 members with 4-year terms. The role of the Planning Commission is to develop, maintain and implement the Baker City Development Code and Comprehensive Plan, to protect the integrity of the community's planning process, and to foster the community's long-term interests. The Planning Commission is a decision-making body that has the legal authority to make decisions on requests for land use and development. (1 vacancy).
- ◆ **Sam-O Swim Committee** -The purpose of this committee is to act as strong advocates for the Sam-O Swim Center, and work with the City Council as well as the city staff to ensure the Sam-O Swim Center remains a viable asset to the community of Baker City and Baker County. This commission consists of 7 seven members, 3-year terms ( 1 vacancy).
- ◆ **Tree Board** - The purpose of this board is for members to study, review, evaluate and make recommendations regarding landscaping activities in parks and within the public right of way adjacent to streets and in other public areas. Included in those activities is the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting, removal or disposition of trees and shrubs. This board consists of 7 members, 3-year terms (1 vacancy).





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

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

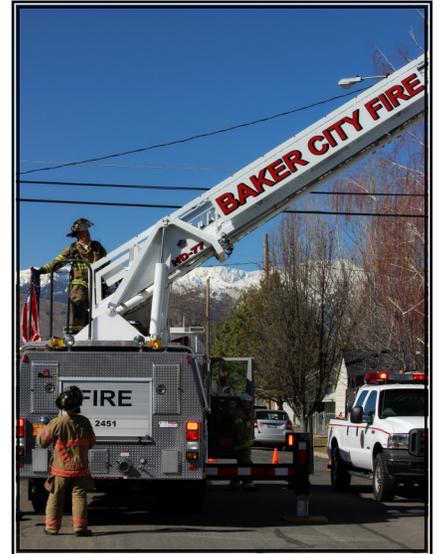
During the week of June 26th-July 1st, the Fire Department responded to a total of **27** emergency alarms.

## AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	18
Rural Calls	6
Patient Transported	17
No Patient Trip	7
<b>TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES</b>	<b>25</b>

## FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	2
<b>TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES</b>	<b>2</b>



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

- ◆ 1 False Alarm
- ◆ 1 City burn complaint

## TRAINING/MAINTENANCE

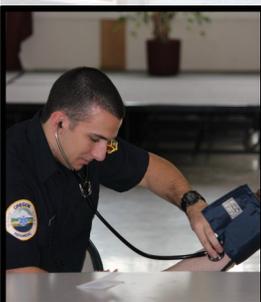
This week the BCFD completed **15** hours of in-house training.

## STATION MAINTENANCE

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

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

- ◆ BP checks at the senior center
- ◆ Business inspections
- ◆ Smoke alarm installations
- ◆ Standby for Baker City Cycling Classic



The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am. Don't miss the next check on July 19<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 **250** incidents and opened **36** new cases this past week.

BCPD Officers made four DUII arrests last Saturday night. All of those arrested were local citizens.

- ✪ Four of these cases resulted in Assault investigations. Two arrests have been made in those cases.
- ✪ Two of the cases resulted in Peace Officer Mental Holds being placed on citizens, who are then transported to the hospital and evaluated by physicians and clinicians.
- ✪ One of these cases that started out as a reported Armed Robbery, ended with the arrest of a local man on a charge of Initiating a False Report.



BCPD full time officers and Reserve Officers assisted with traffic control and general safety during the 2016 Hells Canyon Motorcycle Rally. No HCMR related arrests were made. To the left, Reserve Commander Jerry Boyd with Reserves Zach Thatcher and Daniel Batchelor.

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 4 old cases  
Issued 2 citations for violations

Animal Violations and Complaints  
1 Barking dog complaint  
2 dogs at large returned to owner  
Followed up on 1 Dangerous dog case

Parking  
Orange tagged 1 abandoned vehicle  
Issued 2 parking citations  
Followed up with 4 violations

Weeds  
Checked 2 properties for compliance  
4 new weed complaints

Development Code  
Checked 2 fences for compliance

Found Items  
1 found item



## Public Works-Water



A call was received Thursday morning about a tree which had fallen completely across the Powder River a little upstream from Auburn Avenue. It presented a hazard for river floaters. The crew of Justin and Scott immediately went to the site and moved the tree to the West bank so it would no longer be a hazard. Public Works and Baker Valley Irrigation District often work together to try and keep the river safe for floaters.

Repair work on a fire hydrant on "H" Street started Wednesday. This hydrant was still operable but was very difficult to turn on and off. During the repair work the water supply line valve was turned off and the inner working mechanism was removed. Once it was determined which repair parts were needed they were promptly ordered. The hydrant will be put back in service once repair parts have been received and repairs completed. All other hydrants are operable at this time.





### Public Works-Stormwater



Justin and Scott worked to install two storm water collection catch-basins at the intersection of 13th and "G" Streets. An existing storm water main line is located through the intersection so the installation only involved placement of the precast catchbasins and the connecting piping. To the left, Justin is operating the trackhoe while Scott works with the shovel in the trench to uncover buried fiber optics and phone lines which cross the excavation site.

### Public Works-Wastewater

On Auburn Avenue there was a section of 8" concrete pipe which had settled over the years. This section of line had plugged in the past and led to sewer backups. The crew of Justin, Blain and Karl worked this week to replace 25 feet of the old line with new P.V.C. pipe. A backhoe, trackhoe and Vactor Truck were all utilized for the repair work. To the right, Karl and Blain measured the exact length needed for the repair.





## Public Works



A crew of Glen, Matt, and summer workers AJ and Stephen worked on replacing the roofing on the F.S.S. building at the airport. This project will be completed next week.

Crew of Blain, Karl, Scott and summer temp worker Riley used over 12 ton of hot "C" mix asphalt to patch several streets in town. Asphalt street repairs are typically done in two thicknesses "lifts" to assure maximum compaction of asphalt is obtained. To the right, Blain used the backhoe to place the asphalt while Karl, Scott and Riley worked to smooth out the surface.



There is a pedestrian access area along the front of a car dealership on Main Street. It was painted Thursday to encourage pedestrians to walk next to the building instead of in the Main Street travel lane. Matt started work at 4:30 a.m. to be sure to finish the painting project before the car dealer opened for business.



## Public Works



The motor in a patrol car needed repair. Scott and Wes found the water pump bearing was going out so they replaced it and it was put back in service.

An ambulance was brought over for service and a siren issue. The siren control box went out so a replacement was ordered. While Wes and Scott were servicing they found the rear end had large metal shavings in it but Ford will be covering the costs as it is still under warranty.



The driver's door hinge broke on a Public Works truck so Scott replaced the door pin in both the driver side passenger side doors.