

# CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail. Established 1874

## ***Weekly Update October 28, 2016***

### **Administration:**

Representative Cliff Bentz gave the City Council an update on transportation issues in his District as well as around the State. It was very informative and highlighted the challenges that cities, counties and the State face because of low resources and increasing costs for road materials. Baker City has fared better than many Eastern Oregon Cities but it is a struggle to keep pace. The Legislature has some tough decisions to make which will affect our ability to get goods to market and move our citizens about the entire road system. Let Representative Bentz know what you think.

As many of you have heard, Fire Chief Mark John has tendered his resignation and will be taking a job in Spokane Washington as an assistant Fire Chief. I want to thank Chief John for his service here in Baker City and wish him the best. We are currently going through the process for finding his replacement.

It looks to be a rainy weekend so stay safe and dry.

### **City Council**

#### **November 8th Agenda Items:**

- Public Arts  
Commission Vinyl  
Wrap



### **Finance:**

#### **Utilities**

- ◆ Eleven customers signed up for new water/sewer service and sixteen customers disconnected service from October 21<sup>st</sup> thru October 27<sup>th</sup>. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 3 was billed October 25<sup>th</sup> this zone includes 491 residential and 50 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 98 or 18% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Zone 7 was billed today which includes 539 residential and 27 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 119 or 21% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Seven residential customers (Zone 2) and were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) five were actually turned off until their past due balance was paid.

#### **Payroll**

Seventy-four employees were paid today including eight paid volunteer firefighters, two part-time building inspectors and the animal control hearings officer. Of those 74 employees 67 or 91% are signed up for direct deposit.

#### **Accounts Payable**

The second of two accounts payable check runs for the month was generated October 24<sup>th</sup>.



## Planning Department:

### Public Meetings

- ◆ The Planning Commission will hold the continuation of a public hearing and work session at 7:00 p.m. on November 9<sup>th</sup> to discuss the following:
  - ◆ Hearing: A potential violation of a condition of approval attached to Conditional Use Permit CUP-04-02, relating to the operation of four grass tennis courts located at 2995 Grace Street. This property is located within the Residential Medium-Density (R-MD) Zone.
  - ◆ Work Session: Updates to the Baker City Development Code, namely revisions to Chapter 3.5 – Signs and Chapter 4.3.130 – Preliminary Plat Requirements, as well as the development of exactions criteria for public developments within city limits.

### Land Use Decisions

- ◆ A property line adjustment has been approved to adjust the property line between two properties adjacent to David Eccles Road, to align with the Powder River. The properties are located in the Light-Industrial (L-I) Zone.
- ◆ An application to re-plat an existing property into two parcels has been approved at 3925 Grace Street, as no appeals were filed. The property is in the Residential – Medium Density (R-MD) Zone. The purpose of the re-plat is to separate four grass tennis courts from an existing single-family dwelling.
- ◆ A Temporary Use Permit application was approved for 1341 7<sup>th</sup> Street in order to site a trailer on the property while a home is re-built, replacing one destroyed previously by fire. The property is located in the Residential - Medium Density (R-MD) Zone.
- ◆ A Sign Permit application submitted by the Calvary Chapel Church was sent out for inter-departmental review on October 24<sup>th</sup>. The applicant proposes one multi-tenant sign and one wall sign. The property is located in the Central Commercial (C-C) zone at 1668 Valley Street.
- ◆ A property line adjustment application was sent out for inter-departmental review on October 24<sup>th</sup>. The properties are located in the Commercial General (C-G) Zone at 3100 H Street.
- ◆ A Land Use Review and a Floodplain Development Permit application were submitted for the construction of two accessory structures on property located at 403 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in the Residential – High Density (R-HD) Zone. These applications were sent out for inter-departmental review.

## Building Department

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	2	5	1	5
Manufactured Dwelling	0	2	0	1
Electrical	5	9	10	27
Mechanical	4	3	6	6
Plumbing	0	2	0	1
Fence	1	NA	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>40</b>

- RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:**
- 1809 Balm St., Baker City—  
New Residence
  - 1149 Church St., Baker City—  
Residential Addition
  - 18819 Alpine Ln., Baker City—  
Shop Remodel

**HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW:** Next meeting is scheduled for November 2, 2016, 8:00 a.m. in Building Department offices.



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 **October 9th—October 15th**, the Fire Department responded to a total of

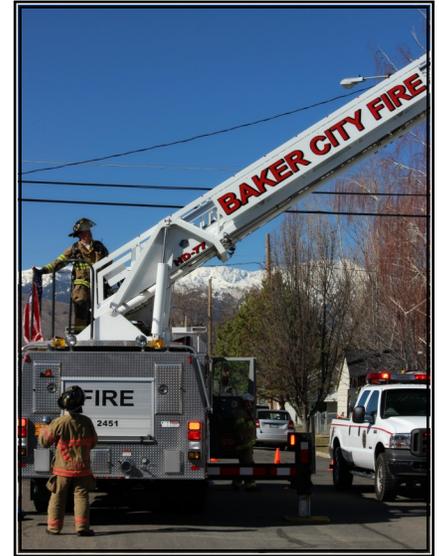
**35** emergency alarms.

## AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	25
Rural Calls	6
Patient Transported	22
No Patient Trip	9
<b>TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES</b>	<b>31</b>

## FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	1
Dispatched Alarms	3
<b>TOTAL FIRE</b>	<b>4</b>



Airport Transfers	2
Out of Town Transfers	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2
Simultaneous Calls	6
Triple Calls	0

- ◆ Fire— 8th/Burn Complaint
- ◆ Fire—Broadway/False Alarm
- ◆ Fire—Midway/False Alarm
- ◆ Fire—Chestnut/Structure Fire/General Alarm

## TRAINING/MAINTENANCE

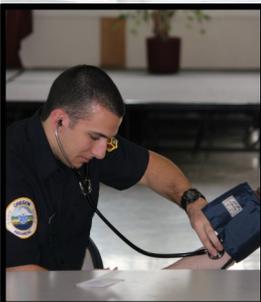
This week the BCFD completed **26** hours of in-house training. Fire – Pipeline emergencies and fire prevention.

## STATION MAINTENANCE

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

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

- ◆ BP checks at the senior center
- ◆ Company inspections
- ◆ Station Tour
- ◆ BHS football game standby
- ◆ Fire Prevention Week Activities



The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am. Don't miss the next check on November 1st.

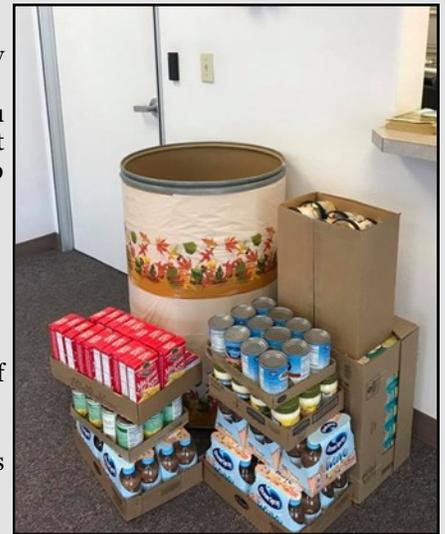


*"The mission of the Baker City Police is to work in partnership with our community members, to actively promote the safety and welfare of our citizens, along with enriching their quality of life through the delivery of professional police services."*



# **POLICE** **DEPARTMENT**

- ❖ BCPD opened 31 new cases this past week including three arrests for outstanding warrants and/or detainees.
- ❖ The BCPD held a National Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup> from 10:30am to 3:00pm. This event, with assistance from Reserve Officers Tina Aldrich and Jacob Hobbs, netted approximately 21 pounds in unwanted or expired prescription drugs. This event, tentatively scheduled to take place twice a year in conjunction with nationally scheduled National Drug Take Back Day events, sponsored by the DEA, will replace the 24-hour collection/drop-box that had been in the lobby of the Police Department. This box, due to concerns regarding the handling of potentially dangerous or toxic substances that were deposited into the box, was removed earlier this summer. Although not yet scheduled, the next National Drug Take Back Day will likely take place next spring. More information regarding this date will be released as it becomes available.
- ❖ The BCPD continues to collect non-perishable food to be distributed to needy families in our community. If you'd like to contribute, please bring your donation of non-perishable items to the lobby of the Police Department Monday thru Friday from 8:00am-5:00pm, closed during the lunch hour. (Pictured to the right is the collection barrel full to brimming with collected donations!) Many thanks to those in the community who have already donated.
- ❖ Lieutenant Newman attended a meeting with Baker 5J school officials with the goal of creating partnerships with local agencies in providing new and engaging learning opportunities for students of the Friday and Summer Learning Academy.
- ❖ 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 6 pending cases
- Closed out 2 cases (properties in compliance)
- Followed up on 1 trash complaint

### Animal violations and complaints

- 2 dogs at large impounded
- 4 animals at large returned to owner
- Issued 2 citations for no dog license

### Parking

- Followed up with 4 violations
- Orange tagged 13 abandoned vehicles
- Issued 9 parking citations
- Multiple verbal warnings

### Found Item

- 1 found bicycle

### Development Code

- Followed up on 1 TUP violation
- Issued 4 citations for non-compliance with TUP regulations

### Kennel Permits

- Followed up with 2 kennel permits



## Boards & Committees



The City of Baker City is looking to fill one volunteer position on the Tree Board. The Tree Board is a three year term. Additional information regarding board duties and meeting times is available at [www.bakercity.com](http://www.bakercity.com) where you may also apply.

## Public Works: Safety Meeting

Fire extinguisher use was this month's Public Works safety topic. On Wednesday Fire Department staff presented a hands-on demonstration to Public Works staff of how to properly extinguish a fire. Scott Foss is pictured here showing no fear in his approach.



## Public Works: Sam-O Swim



Rick and Glen worked to replace several burned out light bulbs within the Sam-O Swim Facility. The T-5 fluorescent light bulbs over the pool are especially difficult to access.



### Public Works-Street

The O.D.O.T. striping crew worked in Baker City Monday painting streets on both designated State Highway Routes and on several miles of city streets. Some of the Baker City streets which O.D.O.T. stripes include: Cedar St., 1st St., Resort St., 2nd St., a portion of Broadway, Settlers Loop, Indiana Ave., Pocahontas, and a portion of Birch St.



The corner of 17th and Auburn has been striped after having been patched and widened on the inside of the corner.



The trees are quickly losing their leaves this month. For a short time both Baker City sweepers were being utilized to sweep streets until the older Regenerative Air Sweeper developed a mechanical problem causing it to be unsafe to operate. Pictured above on the right, Karl is operating the Mechanical Elgin Sweeper to clean the streets. The new Elgin Crosswind Regenerative Sweeper has been approved by Council action and has been ordered. Delivery time is expected to be early Spring 2017.

### Public Works-Watershed & Mountain Line Pipe Project



In this photo, Matt is checking grade with the laser while Justin excavates the trench for the next segment of pipe. Crews are now within about 400 feet of completing the installation to Big Mill diversion. Once the pipeline reaches Big Mill, crews will still need to install a manhole, replace a couple of culverts, test and flush the line, and make the necessary connections to the existing piping. Weather permitting, this work will be completed by mid-November.

## Public Works-Wastewater

A utility contractor working in an alley between First and Second Streets discovered a mystery vault and requested advice from Public Works. The concrete lined vault is over 10 feet deep and houses an old valve. The pipe inside the vault is believed to be the drain line for a swimming pool which was located in the current VFW Building dating back to 1912. The lid is badly corroded and unsafe and the valve is no longer in use. The contractor was allowed to fill the vault with crushed rock.



The entry door into the old vault.

The view looking directly down into the old concrete vault.



A wastewater collection line on Clark Street was inspected this week. Because of the high flow in the line the jetter truck was used to create a vacuum within the 10" concrete pipe and lower the liquid level so that the line can be effectively inspected.



Rick operated the Vactor Truck while Keith (working in the van in the distance) performed the video-inspection.



Here you can see the jetter nozzle cleaning the line as the line is being inspected.

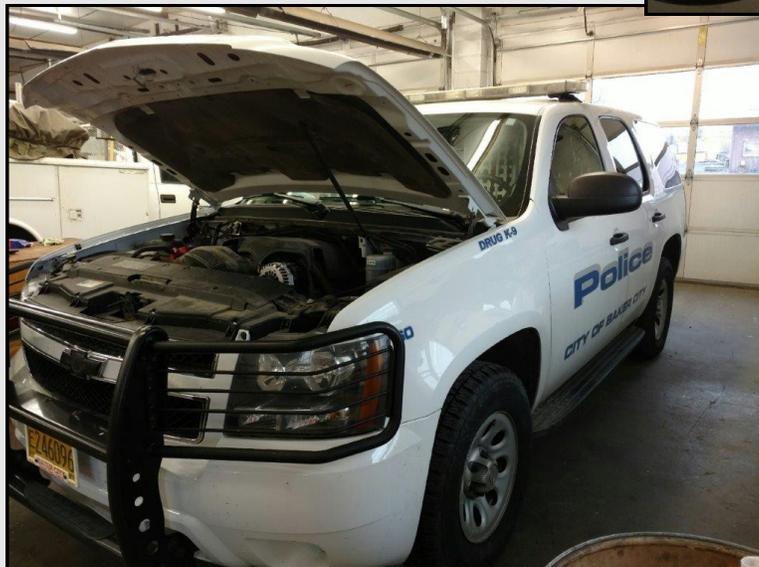


## Public Works-Shop



Tommy and Craig assisted Scott in placing the sander unit back on R-221 in preparation for cold temperatures and slick streets.

The brakes on one of the Police Cruisers were replaced.



Work was also performed on the flashing light bar and 12 volt battery on the police K-9 vehicle.

**Deciding Whether to Attend?**  
The Baker County Workforce Initiative  
events are focused on...

## BAKER COUNTY WORKFORCE INITIATIVE

A Series of Workforce Workshops and Seminars



### November 8th Meeting

November 8th, 2016

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Baker Event Center

2600 East St. Baker City, OR

8:00 am - 8:25 am **Registration**

8:25 am - 8:30 am **Introduction**  
Bill Harvey, Baker County Commission Chair

8:30 am - 9:00 am **Opening Speaker**  
Kim B. Puzey, Port of Umatilla General Manager

9:00 am - 9:30 am **Eastern Oregon Visitors Association**  
Alice Trindle

9:30 am - 10:00 am **Session 1 - Hospitality: Service that Sells**  
Value of Customer Service  
Creating a "Pop" Environment

10:05 am - 10:35 am **Session 2 - Hiring Employees & Employee Retention**  
Hiring Employees - Finding the Right Fit  
Employee Retention - Return on Investment

10:40 am - 11:10 am **Session 3 - Building Our Business Environment**  
Community Cross Selling  
Resources Available to You  
Value of Networking

11:10 am - 11:30 am **Closing Statements**  
Future Presentation and Summit Meetings

11:30 am - 12:00 pm **Networking Opportunity**

Business owners having  
trouble finding and  
retaining employees.

Business owners looking to  
get additional value out of  
their employees.

Business owners finding it  
difficult to motivate their  
workforce to be customer friendly.

### Partners

Baker City  
Baker County Chamber  
Baker County Economic Development  
Baker Technical Institute  
Basecamp Baker  
Blue Mountain Community College  
Blue Mountain Community College SBDC  
Business Oregon  
Department of Human Services  
Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association  
WorkSource Eastern Oregon