

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail. Established 1874

Weekly Update December 2, 2016

Administration:

The City Manager attended the Oregon Business Development Commission meeting in Portland this week. He visited with the Governor's Economic Development staff about the partnership between Chaves Consulting and the Oregon Health Authority to provide call center services for the State of Oregon. He stressed the importance of these jobs to rural Eastern Oregon and received assurances that the State recognizes the impact of these jobs. The reality is that the impact of one job in Baker City equates to over 150 jobs in the Metro area. Kudos to Chaves Consulting and all of our local businesses for their job creation efforts.

Community Development Coordinator Robin Nudd has been working with a high school class on assessing brownfields properties within the City. The students presented the concept to a number of business and civic leaders and are working on grant funding to pursue this project.

The annual Christmas parade and tree lighting is scheduled for Saturday night at 5:00 pm. Looks like the streetscape will be a winter wonderland with more entries than normal. Remember, tonight is First Friday Downtown with lots of fun things happening. Have a fun and productive weekend.

City Council

December 13th Agenda Items:

- EPA Community Assessment Grant Application
- Election Certification
- St. Alphonsus Bond Issuance
- 2017 Goal Setting & Orientation Discussion
- Outgoing Council Presentation



Baker City Boards & Committees:

The City of Baker City has vacancies on the following boards/committees:

- ◆ Airport Commission
- ◆ Tree Board
- ◆ Planning Commission
- ◆ Golf Board

Please check our website for additional information on our boards and committees or call Julie Smith at 541-524-2033.



Finance:

Finance Director

As of November 21st the City has received current year property taxes of \$1,148,192 and prior year taxes of \$48,101.

Utilities

- ◆ 27 customers signed up for new water/sewer service and 39 customers disconnected service from November 18th thru December 1st. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 3 was billed November 23rd which included 489 residential and 50 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 100 or 19% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Zone 7 was billed November 28th which included 538 residential and 27 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 116 or 21% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Zone 8 was billed November 30th which included 461 residential and 19 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 102 or 21% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Zone 4 was billed today which included 709 residential and 60 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 172 or 22% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ During the time period of November 21st through December 2nd, 25 residential customers (Zone 3 and Zone 7) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) two of those were actually turned off until their past due balance was paid.

Payroll

Seventy-three employees were paid November 25th including nine paid “volunteer firefighters” and the dangerous dog hearings officer. Of those 73 employees 68 or 93% are signed up for direct deposit.

LID Billings

- ◆ LIDs are billed every six months over a twenty year period. Interest is charged at the Local Government Investment Pool Rate plus 1% which is currently an annual rate of 1.92%. These LIDs can be paid off at anytime with interest charged through the payoff date.
- ◆ Three 2004 Birch Street LIDs were billed November 29th. The original assessment in 2004 for Birch Street improvements included four property owners for a total of \$90,416. The balance remaining is \$25,924 (including current interest due.)
- ◆ Thirty-five 2014 Resort Street Underground Utility LIDs were billed November 21st. The original assessment for relocating the utilities on Resort Street underground included sixty-three property owners for a total of \$294,879. The remaining balance outstanding is \$169,031 (including current interest due.)



Planning Department:

Public Meetings

- ◆ The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing and work session at 7:00 p.m. on December 14th to discuss the following:
 - ◆ A Conditional Use Permit CUP-16-106, for a ±30' x ±60' accessory shop at 403 2nd Street. This property is located within the Residential High-Density (R-HD) Zone. Signs have been posted at the property with notice of the upcoming hearing.
 - ◆ Work Session: Updates to the Baker City Development Code, namely revisions to Chapter 3.5 – *Signs* and the development of exactions criteria.

Land Use Decisions & Projects

- ◆ An ±864 square foot accessory structure was approved at 2425 8th Street in the Residential – High Density (R-HD) Zone.
- ◆ A Temporary Use Permit application was approved for 2705 Myrtle Street in order to site a travel-trailer on the property temporarily. The property is located in the Residential- Medium Density (R-MD) Zone.
- ◆ A Land Use Review application (LUR-16-111) for a ±2,363 square foot home and a ±576 square foot detached garage at 895 Scenic Vista Lane has been sent out for inter-departmental review. The subject property is located in the Residential – Low Density (R-LD) Zone.
- ◆ An appeal of a partition at 3510 Cedar Street was filed.
- ◆ Senior Planner Eva Henes attended a weeklong training for Managing Floodplain Development through the National Flood Insurance Program. The training has provided the department additional resources to help people who are located within a floodplain through the permitting process, as well as file applications with FEMA when needed.

Building Department

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	1	9	3	10
Manufactured Dwelling	0	3	0	3
Electrical	8	19	4	13
Mechanical	5	5	8	6
Plumbing	9	10	4	2
Fence	1	NA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	24	46	19	34

- RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:**
- 34366 Stices Gulch Rd., Baker City—New residence.
 - 2485 8th St., Baker City—New 24x36 detached accessory structure.
 - 43949 Pocahontas Rd.,—Baker City—New residence.
 - 45672 Lone Fir Rd., Halfway—New detached carport.

COMMERCIAL PERMITS: No new structural projects permitted this week.

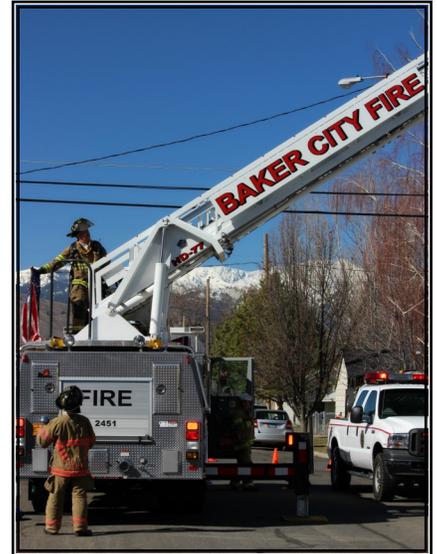
HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW: Next meeting is scheduled for December 7, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department office.



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 November 6th to November 12th the Fire Department responded to a total of **37** emergency alarms.



AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	29
Rural Calls	5
Patient Transported	25
No Patient Trip	9
TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES	34

FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	1
Dispatched Alarms	2
TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES	3



Airport Transfers	1
Out of Town Transfers	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1
Simultaneous Calls	5
Triple Calls	1

- ◆ Fire—Vehicle Fire/Campbell Street
- ◆ Fire— Structure Fire/Campbell Street
- ◆ Fire— False Alarm, Sprinkler Flow Alarm/17th Street

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE

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

- Vehicle Extraction
- Attendance at District 13 Training Association Meeting

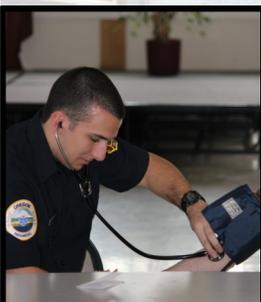
STATION MAINTENANCE

71 hours of station, apparatus and equipment maintenance including:

- Equipment and hose maintenance after Campbell Street general alarm fire.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- BP checks at the senior center
- Company inspections



The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am. Don't miss the next check on December 6th.



"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 320 incidents and opened 73 new cases these past two weeks.
 - Fourteen of these cases initiated investigations of alleged frauds & thefts.
 - Seven of these cases resulted in arrests for outstanding warrants and one for a parole violation.
 - BCPD officers investigated two reported thefts of motor vehicles. Both vehicles were recovered in Grant County and several suspects were arrested.
 - BCPD officers, along with the Baker County Major Crime Team, investigated a report of a man being shot in the leg. That case is still under investigation, but at this time it appears the wound was self-inflicted.
 - BCPD officers were involved in a low speed pursuit of a fugitive on a bicycle. That subject was apprehended and is facing additional charges.
- ★ BCPD officers served a search warrant at a Baker City residence and recovered property stolen in a commercial burglary.
- ★ Chief Lohner and Lt. Newman attended a meeting with Police Chiefs from La Grande, Nyssa and Ontario. Regional issues, reserve programs and other topics were discussed.
- ★ Chief Lohner and Lt. Newman participated in the Baker County Transportation Safety Committee meeting.
- ★ 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

Activity from 11/17/2016 to 11/23/2016

- Property Maintenance
 - Followed up on 1 pending case
- Animal violations and complaints
 - 1 dog at large impounded
 - 3 dogs at large returned to owner
 - Issued 1 citation for dog at large
 - Followed up on 1 animal complaint
 - Followed up with 1 barking complaint
 - Followed up with 1 kennel violation
 - Issued 1 citation for no livestock permit
- Parking
 - Followed up with 6 violations
 - Orange tagged 4 abandoned vehicles
 - Issued 4 parking citations
- Found Item
 - 4 found bicycles
- Development Code
 - Followed up on 1 fence violation

Activity from 11/24/2016 to 11/30/2016

- Property Maintenance
 - Followed up on 1 pending case
- Parking
 - Followed up with 2 violations
 - Orange tagged 5 abandoned vehicles
 - Issued 4 parking citations
- Found Item
 - 1 found bicycle
 - 1 bicycle secured for safe keeping
- Animal violations and complaints
 - 1 dog at large impounded
 - 2 dog bite reports
 - Followed up with 1 animal complaint
- Development Code Violations
 - Issued 2 citations for no Temporary Use Permit



Public Works: Watershed



With this year's Mountain Pipeline project complete, the City is once again able to bring water to town from the Little Mill and Big Mill Creek diversions. Jake is shown making a slight flow adjustment at Big Mill Creek diversion earlier this week. Occasional flow adjustments are necessary to keep the amount of water entering the pipeline equal to the daily water demand in town.

Public Works: Parade

Glen is helping construct a decoration on the City's Christmas float that will appear in this weekend's parade.



Public Works: Parks Department



Ready for snow? Assistance may be available to those who are elderly or physically disabled and unable to remove snow that has accumulated at driveway approaches from City snow plows. To receive this snow removal assistance, you must apply for a snow stake in the Public Works Department at City Hall. Once priority streets have been plowed by crews, driveways of those that have received City-issued snow stakes will be addressed as time allows. Do you already have a snow stake? If so, it is necessary that you renew your snow stake request each year. Please call (541) 524-2047 or stop by City Hall.



Public Works: Wastewater

Crews worked on several different wastewater projects in the last week. The most challenging project was a 490 foot long "Pipe Bursting" project located in an alley lying north of Nevada Avenue in the South Baker area.



Thirteen pieces of 8" thick walled H.D.P.E. pipe 40 feet long were delivered to the work site last week in preparation for the project.



The crew from Cascade Pipeline Corporation connected the 40 foot long pieces of pipe by using a thermal method to fuse them together.



Justin is pulling the 490 foot plus long piece of fused pipe into position on 4th Street.



Pictured above the Cascade crew is pulling the pipe into place. Justin is operating the trackhoe while Doug inspects the work.



While the line was being fused and installed, crews worked to uncover existing laterals and underground utilities.



While the 8" pipe was being pulled into position Justin assisted the Cascade crew with a rented trackhoe.



Public Works-Wastewater Continued

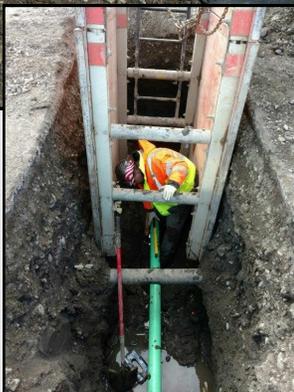


After the 490 foot long pipe was pulled into its final location, wastewater laterals had to be reconnected into the new H.D.P.E. line as shown here.

A resident living on 3rd Street called to request assistance with a sewer problem at their home.

The 6" diameter main line in the street was cleaned and the line was video-inspected to attempt to determine the cause of the problem.

Roots were observed growing into the main line from the residents' lateral. The lateral is scheduled to be replaced next week.



An old orangeburg lateral on Estes Street was replaced Thursday with a new 4" P.V.C. line between the main line located in Estes Street and the house.

Estes Street between Hwy. 30 and Resort Street was closed for most of Thursday. A plumber is scheduled to make the final connection Friday.

The main line was excavated and the new lateral installed by Blain, Karl and Jake F.



Public Works—Streets



Holiday decorations were installed and the tree was decorated this week in preparation for the Twilight Parade this Saturday and the Christmas season.

The tree at the Court Street Plaza was decorated by the crew of Keith, Glen and Scott. Larry Abell of HBC assisted the crew with the decoration efforts.

Pictured below Dennis and Glen work on a snowflake on Campbell Street.



Public Works-Water



A water leak was discovered near a residents water meter on "G" Street recently. It was not obvious if the leak was on the street side (City's responsibility) or on the house side (property owner's responsibility.) It was decided to use the Vactor truck to determine the location of the leak.

The crew discovered that the cause of the water leak was a broken connection where the copper line on the homeowners side of the meter box connected to the plastic line running toward the house. The leak was repaired by the homeowner's plumber this week.



Public Works-Shop

The Shop Crew went on site to charge the grader's battery and bring it back to town for repairs. The battery and work lights have since been replaced along with new a new windshield wiper.



Issues with the engine control module on the dozer will require Rowand Machinery to come over next week and diagnose and repair the machine.



The battery was replaced in this Public Works vehicle and it is back in service.



The right front headlight and a strobe light in the light bar was replaced on this police vehicle and it is back in service.