

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail. Established 1874

Weekly Update December 23, 2016

Administration:

I am going to go out on a limb and predict that we are going to have a white Christmas here in Baker City this year. As I look out my window at City Hall, I see snow covered roofs, crystals in the air and a great view of the Elkhorn Mountains. Wintertime in Baker City can be a challenge but it is what gives us a sense of community and uniqueness.

I would like to thank all our citizens for their patience with the snow handling operations over the last couple of weeks. I have talked to many folks about various issues and concerns. I will reiterate that we have a very dedicated group of public works employees who are working extremely hard to clear our streets and cause as little impact to property owners as possible. If you have ideas on how we can accomplish this job more efficiently, stop by and visit.

If you are traveling this holiday season, go slow and have patience. If you are home, safe travels to your families trying to get here. Above all have a Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season.



City Council

January 10th Agenda Items:

- Oath of Office
- Goal Session Setting
- Board Appointments
- Anthony Silvers Street Tree Program Resolution



Finance:

Utilities

- ◆ 8 customers signed up for new water/sewer service and 10 customers disconnected service from December 16th thru December 22nd. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 3 was billed December 21st which included 490 residential and 49 commercial accounts. Within that zone, 101 customers (19%) are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Today Zone 7 will be billed which includes 538 residential and 27 commercial accounts. Within that zone, 119 customers (21%) are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Thirty-two residential customers (Zone 2 and Zone 6) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) six customers were actually turned off until their past due balance was paid.

Accounts Payable

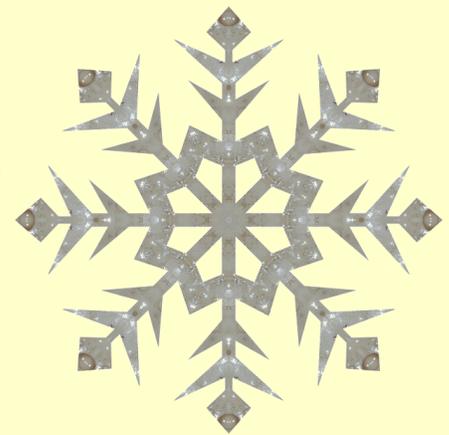
The second of two accounts payable check runs for the month of December was generated today.



Planning Department:

Land Use Decisions & Projects

- ◆ An application for a lot-of-record determination was approved for property located at 2637 14th Street within the Residential – Medium Density (R-MD) Zone.
- ◆ A sign permit application was approved at 1668 Valley Street (Suite B & C) for a multitenant sign and a wall sign within the Central Commercial (C-C) Zone. The subject property is also located within the Baker City Historic District and was subject to review by the Historic District Design Review Commission (HDDRC), as well.
- ◆ The Planning Commission approved a Conditional Use Permit for a ±30' x ±60' accessory shop at 403 2nd Street on December 14. Notice of the Planning Commission's decision has been sent out to property owners within 100 feet and anyone who participated in the hearing. The appeal period on the decision is open until January 4th, 2017.



Building Department:

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	1	2	1	4
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	0
Electrical	2	3	1	2
Mechanical	1	2	3	5
Plumbing	2	3	0	0
Fence	0	NA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	6	10	5	11

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:

- 1625 Hughes Ln., Baker City— 20x36 patio roof cover addition

COMMERCIAL PERMITS:

- 160 N Mill St., Sumpter— commercial building remodel

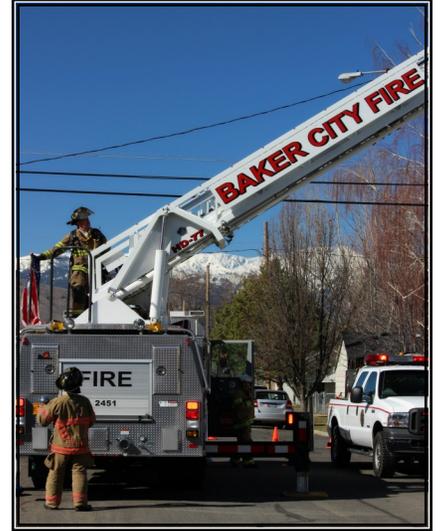
HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW: Next meeting is scheduled for December 28, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department office.



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 December 4th to December 10th the Fire Department responded to a total of **47** emergency alarms.



AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	32
Rural Calls	11
Patient Transported	31
No Patient Trip	12

TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 43

Airport Transfers	1
Out of Town Transfers	5
Motor Vehicle Accidents	5
Simultaneous Calls	10
Triple Calls	2

FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	1
Dispatched Alarms	3
TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES	4

- ◆ Fire—17th St.—Fire Alarm Activation
- ◆ Fire—17th St.—Smoke Alarm Activation
- ◆ Fire—Grove St.—Carbon Monoxide Detector Activation
- ◆ Fire—8th St.—Kitchen Fire

EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	20
Personnel Arrived for Cover	22
Incidents Not Covered	2

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE

This week the BCFD completed 6 hours of in-house training



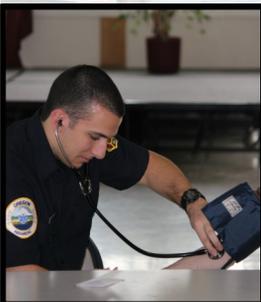
STATION MAINTENANCE

41 hours of station, apparatus and equipment maintenance including:

- Chaining up tires.
- Snow removal around station.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- BP checks at the senior center.
- CPR/First Aid training to Settler's Park employees.



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 27th.



"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 150 incidents and opened 17 new cases this past week.
 - One of these cases resulted in a probation violation arrest, where methamphetamine was found along with packaging material and other paraphernalia.
 - BCPD personnel impounded a dog that had previously been deemed dangerous, after the owner failed to meet requirements of the ordinance and to keep the animal contained.
- ★ 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 2 pending cases

Animal Violations and Complaints

- 2 dogs at large returned to owner
- 1 dangerous dog impounded
- 1 dog at large impounded
- 1 dog bite

Parking

- Followed up with 11 parking violations
- Issued 2 parking citations
- Orange tagged 1 abandoned vehicle

Miscellaneous

- Followed up on 2 snow complaints
- Followed up on 2 temporary use permits

Found Item

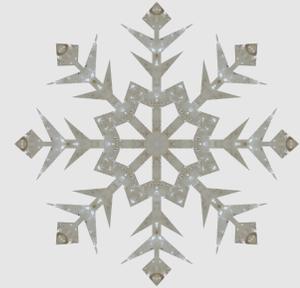
- 1 found Item returned to owner



Public Works: Streets

This time of year street maintenance pertains almost entirely to snow/ice control. Crews have been working diligently to keep Baker City streets passable.

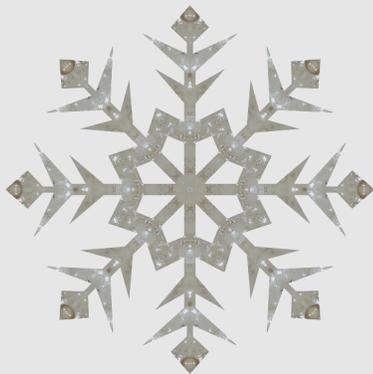
Below is a photo of some of the hundreds of dump truck loads of snow which have been hauled and dumped at the Baker County Fairgrounds.



Several backhoes are being used to clear staked driveways and street and alley intersections.

Here the motor grader is plowing one of Baker City's streets this week.

In addition to plowing with graders, truck and belly plows, the pick-up with a front plow is also being used to plow some of the streets.



Even though this appears to be a United States flag planted atop Mt. Everest...it's actually a snow berm pile that was hauled to the Ellingson Property on Broadway Avenue. The flag is on a flag pole located at property owned by Cascade Natural Gas Company.





Public Works: Streets Continued



Both snow dumping areas were filled with hauled snow last week. Additional areas were located (Baker County Fairgrounds and another section at Ellingson property). Those areas were cleared of ground cover snow so that the hauling trucks could travel quickly to and from dump sites without becoming stuck. Here the grader and a backhoe are being used to clear the additional Ellingson site.

Public Works: Snow Can Be Fun!



Even though the recent snows create hardship for citizens and the traveling public, younger (or younger at heart) folks are seen here enjoying the snow on one of the fairways at Quail Ridge Golf Course.

Public Works: Wastewater Department

Snow hampers access to wastewater manholes this time of year.

The Jetter truck had to be "chained-up" in order to successfully navigate some of the snowed over streets. Here the crew is cleaning a line near Cedar Street.





Public Works: Water



Additional water needed to be brought to town this week to meet customer needs. Tom went to the Goodrich Pipeline Diversion control structure and opened the control valve one full revolution as had been instructed by the Water Department Operator.

After the recent snowfall the Elkhorn Mountains appeared majestic on the drive to Goodrich.

Recent snowfall resulted in approximately 20 inches of light powder snow at the Goodrich pipeline diversion point.



An emergency water call was received at City Hall. A water line had broken under a house. A plumber responded to the call but could not locate the water meter in order to shut off the flow of water. Within a few minutes of Public Works arriving at the site the meter was located and the water turned off. The plumber can now begin repairs.

Ice build up on the Crossroads Art Center is causing some issues. Doug and Dennis are pictured working to determine where some of the roof drains are plugged.



Dennis used the bucket truck Thursday to clear snow and ice from a perimeter roof drain at Crossroads Carnegie Art Center. Melting snow and ice created a minor leak in this corner of the building. The drain was found to be open and flowing properly, but it appeared there may be a problem with the membrane seal around the roof drain. Once the warm weather returns, the drain will be further evaluated for any needed repairs.



Public Works: Shop



This truck was brought in so that we could reinforce the bed pad and repair chains.



The blower motor on the heater quit working. Scott is getting ready to install the replacement.



The grader was brought in so that we could replace the cutting edges, rubber guide on the wing and the valve for angling the blade. While in the shop we were able to repair the chains as well.



The airport grader's transmission started leaking hydraulic oil. It is scheduled to be brought into the shop for repairs.

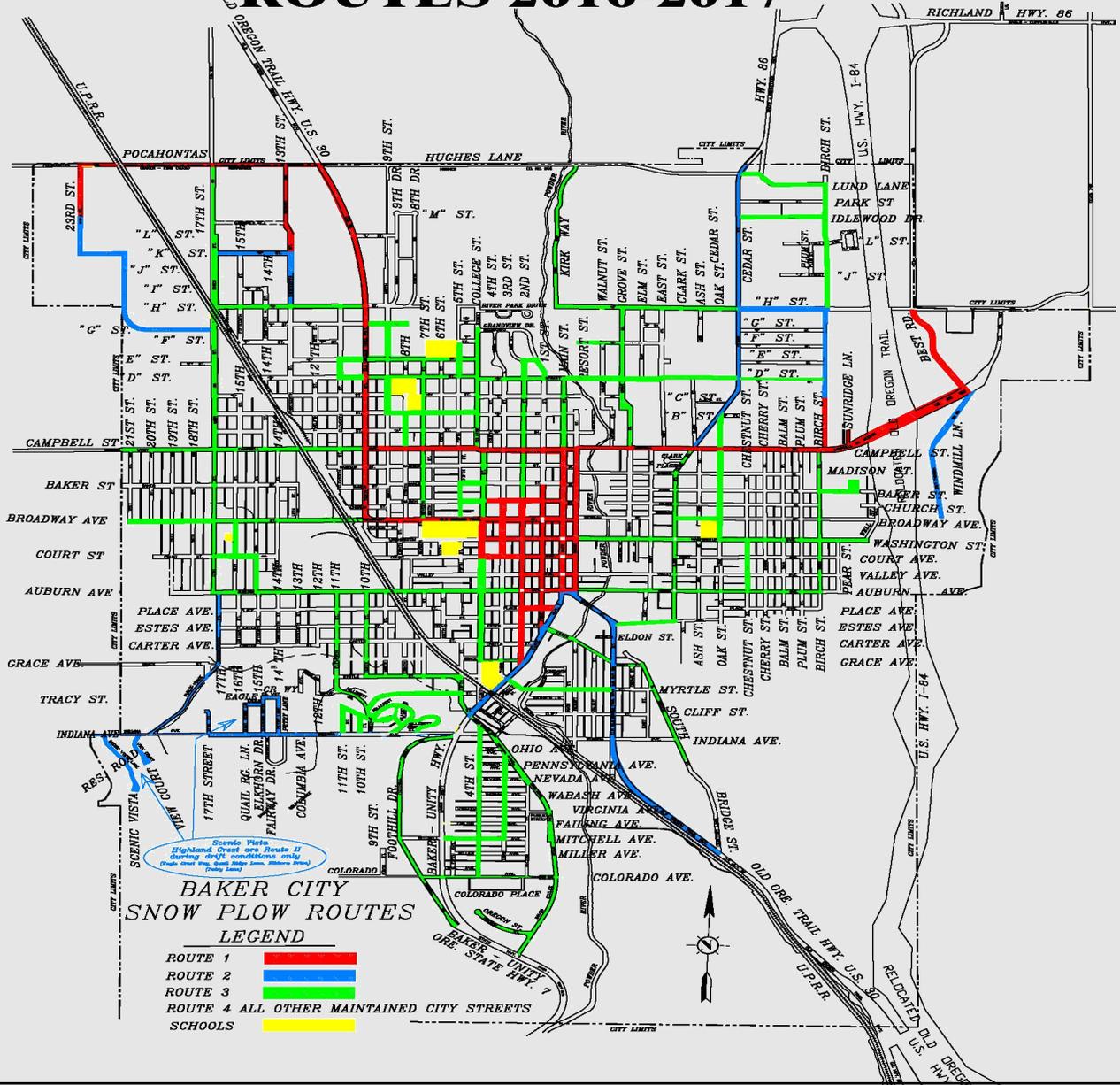


The alternator belt was adjusted and a tail light replaced on this truck.



Public Works: Snow Plow Routes

SNOW PLOW ROUTES 2016-2017



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.