

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail. Established 1874

Weekly Update January 6, 2017

Administration:

Wow!! This is like winters of old. January does not appear to be much different than December. This week's frigid temperatures have given us a reprieve from the snow, but it looks like next week will bring the return of snow. I want to thank all of the City crews for their efforts in trying to get a handle on the snow in our streets. I have been out touring and they have done a remarkable job of piling snow and trying to keep driveways open. And also a big thank you to all for your patience and understanding as we work to keep our streets safe and passable.

The City has been working hard to try to notify folks about our snow removal schedule. We have an updated schedule of streets to be plowed on our website at www.bakercity.com, as well as Facebook pages for the City of Baker City and the Baker City Police Department. Also, we used the 911 notification call line to target neighborhoods that were to be plowed. This is our attempt to let citizens know to move their cars so that they do not get buried with the snow berms.

These cold temperatures can be extremely dangerous. Make sure that you keep bundled up and warm. If you are out driving, give yourself plenty of time to get to your destination. Have a great weekend.

Finance:

The League of Oregon Cities recently completed a new website to educate citizens about property taxes and local budget law. This site includes information on how property taxes are calculated; the current complexities and inequities in property tax calculations (mainly due to Measures 5 and 50); and current efforts towards property tax reform. The site also includes information on the budget process, on shared state revenues and other state specific statistical information. If you are interested in learning more about any of these topics please visit <http://propertytax101.orcities.org>.

Utilities

- ◆ Five customers signed up for new water/sewer service and fourteen customers disconnected service from December 29th thru January 5th. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 1 will be billed today which includes 89 residential and 249 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 53 or 16% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Zone 8 was billed on the 4th and included 464 residential and 19 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 102 or 21% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ This week, 46 residential customers (Zones 7, 8 and 4) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) 9 of those were actually turned off until their past due balance was paid.

City Council

January 10th Agenda Items:

- Oath of Office
- Goal Session Setting
- Board Appointments
- Anthony Silvers Street Tree Program Resolution
- Update on MAO for Wastewater Treatment Plans





Building Department:

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	0	1	0	0
Manufactured Dwelling	0	2	0	0
Electrical	1	0	2	27
Mechanical	2	1	1	1
Plumbing	0	0	1	2
Fence	0	NA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	3	4	4	30

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:

- No residential permits were issued this week.

COMMERCIAL PERMITS:

- No commercial permits were issued this week.

HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW: Next meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department office.

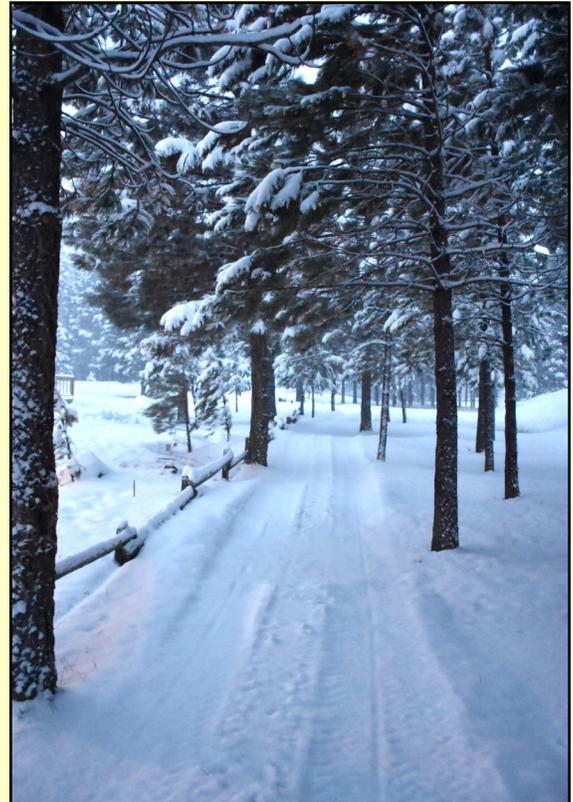
Planning Department:

Public Meetings

The Planning Commission will meet on January 18th, 2017 at 7:00 pm to hold a hearing on an appeal. A partition, case no. PP-16-091, was approved by the Planning Department on November 14th, 2016. The appeal was filed contesting the property boundary line displayed on the preliminary plat map submitted by the applicant.

Land Use Decisions & Projects

The Planning Commission approved a Conditional Use Permit for a ±30' x ±60' accessory shop at 403 2nd Street on December 14, 2016. The appeal period has ended and the decision is now final.





Planning Department Continued



Baker City Development Code Update

The Baker City Development Code (BCDC) was amended in 2015. During the adoption process, a court decision was released identifying principles that needed to be incorporated into the sign chapter. City Council adopted all of the proposed changes in 2015 except for the sign chapter, and in 2016, the Planning Commission began work to revise the sign chapter. During the Planning Commission's work sessions, other revisions were identified. Some of these revisions are more complex and **may have an impact on landowners**. Other revisions are needed, including inconsistencies and reference corrections, clarifications, clearer organization, and other minor corrections. These types of housekeeping revisions are straightforward and do not materially alter the Code.

Making changes to land use regulations is a Legislative (Type IV) procedure, which is considered initially by the Planning Commission with final decisions made by City Council. A list of revisions was developed during Planning Commission work sessions held in 2016 on January 20th, February 17th, March 16th, April 20th, May 18th, June 15th, August 17th, November 9th and December 14th. These changes include:

MINOR EDITS	REVISIONS	ADDITIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Inconsistencies and reference corrections</i> • <i>Clarifications</i> • <i>Clearer organization of definitions</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Revise Sign Code based on case law principles, as well as to increase readability and ease of use</i> • <i>Modify approval criteria for temporary occupancy of motor homes in residential zones</i> • <i>Clarify language in Lot-of-Record criteria</i> • <i>Clarify and increase size allowances for accessory structures in residential zones</i> • <i>Simplify submission requirements for site plans and preliminary plats</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Add proposed public dedications as part of requirements to submit a preliminary plat</i> • <i>Add requirement that City acceptance of any dedication be indicated on final plat</i> • <i>Add process for determining rough proportionality for development and required public improvements</i>

NEXT STEPS

- Get Input from the Public
- Public Open House on **January 25th, 2017**
- Planning Commission Hearing on **February 1st, 2017**
- Recommendation from Planning Commission
- City Council Hearings

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Request a presentation for your group
- Comment online or in person
- Read details of changes at the Planning Department office or on the website
- Attend the Open House on **January 25th, 2017**

For more information or to comment:

Visit us in person: 1995 3rd Street Baker City, OR 97814

Visit us online: <http://www.bakercity.com/2268/Baker-City-Development-Code-Update>

Email us: planning@bakercity.org

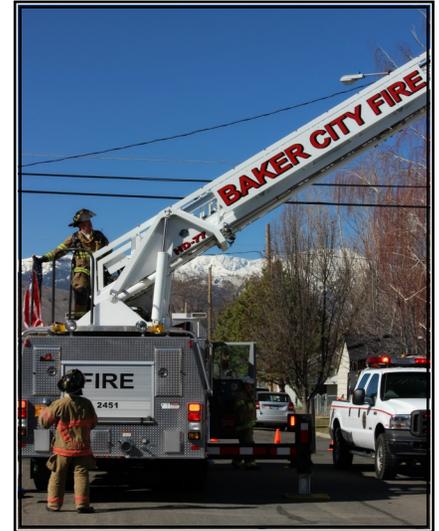
Call us: 541-523-8219



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 18th to December 24th the Fire Department responded to a total of **44** emergency alarms.



AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	34
Rural Calls	8
Patient Transported	32
No Patient Trip	10

TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES	42
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FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	1
Dispatched Alarms	1
TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES	2



- ◆ Fire—17th Street, Alarm Activation
- ◆ Fire—Main Street, Structure Fire



Airport Transfers	3
Out of Town Transfers	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	0
Simultaneous Calls	3
Triple Calls	0

EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	16
Personnel Arrived for Cover	14
Incidents Not Covered	3

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE

This week the BCFD completed 69 hours of in-house training.

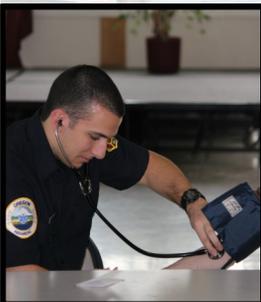
STATION MAINTENANCE

20 hours of station, apparatus and equipment maintenance. Additional tasks included:

- Snow removal around station.
- Application of visibility decals to rescue truck.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- First Aid training to local Cub Scouts.
- Juvenile fire intervention screening.
- Adopt-A-Hydrant program.



The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am. Don't miss the next check on January 10th.



ADOPT A HYDRANT

Enter to win \$25 gift certificates.

Baker City Fire and Rescue is asking for your help to shovel out your hydrant. With the recent snowfall our fire hydrants are getting harder to find.

Entry Rules "It's Easy To Win"

- Shovel out around your hydrant and a path from the street to your hydrant
- Take a photo with you and your hydrant with the snow removed
- Include your name, contact info and street name of hydrant
- Post your photo to our **Baker City Fire and Rescue Facebook** page or email it to adoptahydrant@bakercity.com
- One entry per shoveled out hydrant
- Drawing will be held at the end of each winter month



Before



After

Our Proud Partners





"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 140 incidents and opened 24 new cases this past week.
 - Four of these cases initiated assault investigations and two of them resulted in arrests for Assault IV Domestic.
 - Two of these cases resulted in arrests for outstanding warrants and two others resulted in arrests for probation violations.
 - BCPD personnel served a search warrant at 2291 Orchard Street and seized 4 stolen firearms. The suspect in the theft of the firearms was later arrested for Aggravated Theft, Burglary I and Possession of a Controlled Substance (Meth).
- ★ BCPD completed two recommended policy revisions.
- ★ Chief Lohner and Lt. Newman attended the quarterly Major Crime Team 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

Property Maintenance

- Followed up with 2 pending cases

Parking

- Issued 3 parking citations
- Followed up with 17 violations
- Orange tagged 4 abandoned vehicles

Snow

- Followed up on 2 snow complaints

Animal Complaints and Violations

- 1 dog at large returned to owner
- Followed up with 2 dangerous dog cases





Public Works: Water

In the last two weeks there has been approximately a dozen frozen water meters. Three frozen meters alone were replaced on Thursday. Around six residences have frozen water lines between the city water meter and their faucets inside the house (usually the water lines are frozen under the house where it is exposed to cold air). Residents should call the water department at City Hall if they suspect that their water line is frozen. As a reminder, if residents have a history of frozen water lines they may want to let their taps run a thin stream overnight or if they plan to be away from their house for an extended length of time.

Public Works: Wastewater

A shipment of chemicals arrived this week for the Sam-o Swim Pool and the Lagoon. The semi truck was not able to access either site successfully because of the recent heavy snows. Jake cleared some of the snow away using a backhoe. Rick and Keith successfully shuttled the Chemicals to both facilities.



Public Works: Streets

Crews continue to work to keep Baker City streets passable. A CAT 140M grader was leased starting Friday of last week as the City's grader had a broken shaft. The leased grader is very effective at cutting through the hard pack snow. It is also very maneuverable.





Public Works: Streets Continued

Pictured below Justin is operating the leased grader in the Grandview neighborhood. Because the streets in the Grandview area are so wide the snow can be piled in the center which keeps the catch basins and the curb line relatively clear of snow berms. The piles in this area are getting extremely large.



Thursday morning Wes and Scott T. made the final repairs to the Baker City grader. This allowed two graders and four backhoes to plow city streets.

There is so much snow to plow that the four backhoe operators were barely able to keep up with the graders clearing street and alley intersections and as many driveway berms as possible. Progress is slow but steady. As much snow as possible is being plowed from the streets before the next storm arrives (Saturday and Sunday).





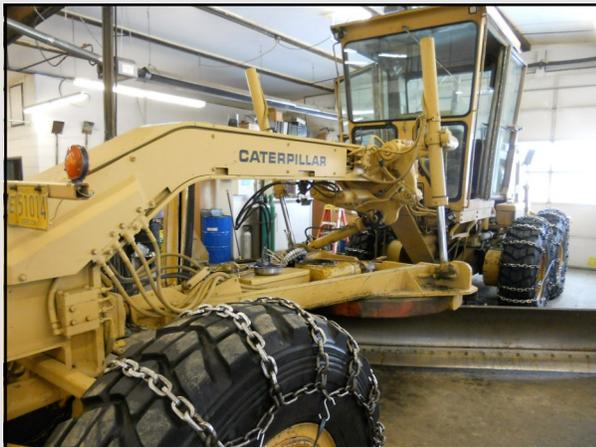
Public Works: Shop



Heater motors in two backhoes were replaced and they are back in service.



Between projects the shop stays busy by going through the equipment and servicing air systems and performing chain repairs. This will help to make sure equipment is ready for the next bit of snow.



We received the new circle gear box and motor for the grader. Installation was completed on Thursday and the grader is plowing once again.



The hydraulic spinner motor blew a seal out so it was replaced and it is back to work.



Public Works: Snow Plow Routes

SNOW PLOW ROUTES 2016-2017

